Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1873.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

With the commencement of another year comes the week of prayer, in the holy exercise of which hundreds of thousands of devout and earnest Christians throughout the world gladly take part. It was a happy thought—probably a heaven inspired thought of the Evangelical Alliance twenty-six years ago to propose to Christian believers the observance of such a season of united devotion.

It was a most desirable thing that God's people should be brought into communication with each other under circumstances calculated to make them feel their oneness in Christ Jesus. It is a great misfortune for the cause of Christ when His professed followers, because of differences of opinion on religious doctrine or polity, regard each other with aversion and jealousy, and strive rather to hurt than help each other in the service of the Great Master. According to the course and constitution of nature, it is not indeed possible but that there should be differences of sentiment among men on religious questions. These questions have so many sides, they are surveyed from so many stand-points, through *media* of so many different degrees of density and by so many mental eyes all differing from each other in capacity and power, that it seems most unreasonable to expect all to see them in the same aspect or to think alike in regard to them. It is not probable that any scene in nature or even any work of art presents precisely the same appearance to any two human beings contemplating it. Still less probable is it that all men should see eye to eye and only the same things in the infinitely varied matter of religion, with its unscaled heights, its unsounded depths, its illimitable expanses and its unpenetrable mysteries. Men may pretend to think alike on religious subjects because they try not to think for themselves at all. They may fear to avow that they do not behold things in the same light as others who arrogate to themselves the right to dictate their belief. But true faith cannot be forced in any human soul whatsoever. Differences of religious opinion must exist. Every man has the God-given right to think and believe for himself. No other man has just authority to say him nay in the exercise of that right, but his Heavenly Father will call him to account for the manner in which he may use it. This is the fundamental principle of Protestantism, and it is truth itself.

But it cannot be denied that the right spoken of has often been recklessly exercised. And it must be admitted that men who freely use this right themselves sometimes think unkindly, speak uncharitably, and by acts show themselves to be enemies of those who have prayerfully and carefully exercised the same right. This circumstance has greatly hindered the progress of the Christian religion in the world. It has in an especial manner proved injurious to the interests of Protestantism, and has caused great lamentation among good men of warm love and wide sympathies.

In their distress on account of the effect caused by the exhibition of unchristian narrowness and bigotry by persons holding different religious sentiments, some saintly men have mourned that such differences are permitted to exist. It is in vain. Differences of this sort, we reiterate, must exist. But what need not exist, what ought not to exist is the strife and the uncharitableness of feeling and word and deed so frequently associated with the existence of those differences.

Perhaps in the present condition of things no better plan could be devised for counteracting bigotted tendencies among members of the Evangelical Protestant Communions than to bring them together yearly for a week of prayer, as suggested by the Evangelical Alliance. It is when Christian men, conscious of common necessities, together approach the footstool of the Common Father and in the same precious name plead the common promises, and together receive answers of peace and joy, that they gratefully recognize their brotherhood in Christ, and get rid of the feeling of estrangement and hostility which have injured them and the cause dear to them. Such a riddance of unchristian feeling does them great good. And their exhibition of an essential unity in the midst of a non-essential diversity of views on points not fundamental, cannot but have a most beneficial effect on all who witness it.

The season selected for this concerted approach to the Divine footstool is a most appropriate one. The heart-expanding memories of Christmastide, the subduing suggestions of a dying year, and the aspirations naturally awakened by the arrival of a new one, combine to prepare a good man's soul for fraternal Christian exercises.

The week of prayer has become an established institution. Its observance has no doubt operated most beneficially among multitudes of Christ's followers. We trust it is being widely observed this year, and that all who in any way participate in its exercises will greatly profit thereby, and that the prayers offered will be abundantly answered.

J. R. N.

UNITED STATES CORRESPONDENCE.

JOURNALISM.

There are some interesting facts respecting our journalism, worthy of note. *Zion's Herald*, the oldest Methodist paper in the United States—the first number bearing date Jan. 9, 1823, is to change its form again. A few years since it was changed to its present form, resembling Harper's Weekly; now it is to assume the quarto form, similar to that of all the Methodist Advocates, which will give it considerable more matter without increasing its size. Special care and effort will be given to it to preserve, and if possible, to increase its efficiency and power. Its editorial corps will consist of Rev. B. K. Peirce, D.D., managing editor; C. H. St. John, office editor; Rev. R. W. Allen, missionary editor, and Prof. Wm. N. Rice, scientific editor. Its editorial contributors consits of a large number of the best writers of the Church. Besides it will have a large list of general contributors, consisting of the leading influential writers of the country, such as Theodore L. Cuyler, Abel Stevens, Daniel Wise, Mark Trafton, Mrs. H. C. Gardner, Miss Anna Warner, &c. I am happy to say that its subscription list is increasing rapidly.

Our weekly official press consists of the *Christian Advocate*, New York city; *Western Christian Advocate*, Cincinnatti, Ohio; *Northern Christian Advocate*, Syracuse, N. Y.; *Pittsburg Christian Advocate*, Pittsburg, Pa.; *North-western Christian Advocate*, Chicago, Ill.; *Central Christian Advocate*, St. Louis, Mo.; *California Christian Advocate*, San Francisco, Cal.; *Pacific Christian Advocate*, Portland, Oregon; *The Methodist Advocate*, Atlanta, Ga.; *Zion's Herald*, Boston, semi-official; *Christian Apologist*, (German,) Cincinnati, Ohio; *The Messenger*, Swedish, Chicago.

The monthlies are as follows: *The Ladies' Repository*, Cincinnatti, Ohio; *Golden Hours*, for youth, Cincinnatti, Ohio; *Sunday School Advocate*, New York; *Sunday School Journal*, New York; *Missionary Advocate*, semi-monthly, New York; *Good News*, New York. We publish but one Quarterly, "The Quarterly Review," New York.

Besides, there are a number of un-official Methodist weeklies—I mean such as are not issued by order of the General Conference—among which are, "The Methodist," New York; "Buffalo Christian Advocate," Buffalo, New York; "Christian Messenger," Vermont.

All of our periodicals are doing well, and some of them have an extensive circulation. The "Christian Advocate," of New York, leads in the number issued, sending out weekly nearly fifty thousand copies. The "Western Christian Advocate" comes next in the extent of its circulation. Next comes the "Methodist," and though unofficial, its circulation is very large, and rapidly increasing.

THE NEW YORK INDEPENDENT

is an independent religious weekly, and in many respects is the leading journal of its class in the country. Henry Bowen, Esq., its publisher and proprietor, is a gentleman of tact and enterprise, thoroughly acquainted with religious journalism both in its editorial and publishing departments, and spares no pains or expense in making his paper the first religious weekly of the land. Its editorial corps, for ability, is second to no other of any religious weekly. Wm. Hayes Ward, the managing editor, is yet a young man, but possessed of superior talents and admirably adapted to his post. Rev. Washington Gladden furnishes the religious editorials and editorial paragraphs. Dr. Coan is perfectly at home in literary criticism, and sustains his department with great ability. Dr. Spear understands the political movements of the country, and furnishes his readers with just what they want to know of the political world from a religious paper. The venerable Dr. Leavitt, thoroughly acquainted with the religious world, supplies the ecclesiastical record. Its corps of correspondents embrace the ablest writers of the country. Hon. Henry Wilson, Vice-President of the United States elect, is writing for it the History of the Slave power, continued through many numbers. It is the largest sheet of any of our weeklies, and is to assume at the commencement of the New Year, a more convenient form—that of Harper's Weekly. But in

INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM

the Messrs. Harper & Brothers take the lead. Their "Monthly" has a circulation of about one hundred and forty thousand copies. The expense of its issue is immense. Each number has 160 pages of the greatest variety of matter, furnished by the most distinguished writers of the age, and is profusely illustrated by the best artists. Its current topics prepared with great care, and its poems from the most popular and brilliant writers, gives it great value. It has "five editorial departments covering every matter of current interest in Art, Society, History, Science, Literature, and Anecdote." On the literary and artistic features alone, the publishers expend fifty thousand dollars annually. Their "Weekly" has a circulation of about one hundred and sixty thousand, and is an "illustrated record and commentary upon the events of the times," and treats on every topic of interest to the country. Their "Bazar" the last to enter the field, and necessarily more circumscribed in its topics, has gained within a short time a circulation of nearly one hundred thousand. It is a Home Journal, describing and illustrating everything that is calculated to make home pleasant and attractive. While it charms in its style and illustrations, it is pure and moral in its tone, enriching the intellect and heart. It is a treasure to social and domestic life.

A NEW LITERARY UNDERTAKING.

Messrs. Appleton & Co., are preparing a new edition of their "New American Cyclopedia," which will be issued in numbers. This work was published some years since at great labor and expense, and was received with great satisfaction by the public. It was regarded by far the best work of the kind accessible to American readers. But important changes have taken place since its issue, and the publishers have arranged to give it a thorough revision, and to accomplish this work several literary gentlemen have been employed, and no pains or expense will be spared to make it as perfect as possible. Its issue will commence, we learn, in a few weeks, when the public will have an opportunity of appreciating its value.

THE NEW MISSIONS,

which the General Missionary Committee at its late meeting in New York, authorized, viz, Bombay, Central Africa, Mexico, Canton Province and Japan, are receiving special attention by the missionary authorities, and missionaries will be sent to those fields as soon as possible. Four are to be sent to Japan, and Dr. Wm. Butler is to take charge of the Missions in Mexico. The Italian mission is to be reinforced, and Mr. Spencer has already left for that field. Our missionary work, foreign and domestic, is advancing as never before, and the Church is rallying to its support. A million of dollars is the least we ought to raise for it as a Church the present year, double that sum would come nearer to our duty.

SEVERAL NEW BOOKS,

have been given to the public recently, some of which deserve special notice. "*Sunday Half Hours with great Preachers.*" is the title of a volume of 850 pages from the press of *Messrs. Porter & Coates.* Brief biographical notices are given of the "great preachers," by M. Laird Simons. The book contains fifty-two sermons, admirably selected, representing all ages of Christianity, and all denominations of Christians. The sermons contain a choice selection of biblical and theological literature, unsectarian, that will be read with pleasure and profit by all, whatever may be their denominational attachments. It is illustrated with beautiful steel portraits of D'Aubigne, Henry Ward Beecher, Jonathan Edwards, Bishop McIlvaine, &c. The book is worthy a place in every Christian family.

"*The History of the great Reformation in Europe in the times of Luther aad Calvin,*" by J. H. Merle D'Aubigne, D. D., has just been issued by *Messrs. Win. Flint & Co*, in one volume, making 1014 pages, and is executed in most excellent style. It comprises the history of the reformation in Germany, Switzerland, Geneva, England, France, Italy, &c., through the labors of Luther, Calvin, Melancthton, Erasmus, Zwingle, Favel, Wickliffe, Tyndale, Cranmer, Latimer, Berguin, Olivetan, Roussel, Fryth, Bucer and many other reformers. D'Aubigne is well known as an historian. His History of the Reformation is immortal. This is by far the best form in which it has been issued; here you have it in a compact form, plain, beautiful type, with over sixty illustrations, embracing the portraits of the principle Reformers. The publishers have done the public great service in issuing this great work in a form so elegant and readable. No. family library should be without it.

The same publishers have brought out a work of more than ordinary interest, entitled, "Explorations in Africa, by Dr. David Livingston and others, giving a full account of the Stanley-Livingston expedition of search under the patronage of the New York *Herald*," edited by L. D. Ingersoll. It includes a biographical sketch of Dr. Livingston, Mr. Stanley, Dr. Barth, Baker, Burton, Speke, DuChaillu, and others connected with the discoveries in Africa, and a historical and geographical view of the continent. The work will be read with interest at the present time. Its stirring, startling disclosures, and the important information it communicates respecting one of the most important discoveries of modern times, will cause it to be read generally by the people. Its maps and illustrations are exceedingly valuable.

"Journalism in the United States, from 1690 to 1872," by Frederic Hudson, is one of the excellent books just issued by the Messrs. Harper and Brothers. It commences with the "Initial Newspaper" of America, published in Boston by Mr. Harris, called "Publick Occurrences," and then notices the "Colonial," "Revolutionary," and "Political Party Press," giving a brief history of, and anecdotes relating to newspaper experience. It is a History of Journalism in the United States, and will be sought for and read as but few books have been of recent issue. As a book of reference, it is invaluable. They have also issued Elisee Reclus' great work, "The Ocean, Atmosphere, and Life," being the second of the series of his descriptive history of the Globe. All who read the author's previous work, "The Earth," will not fail to read this. It is a treasury of facts respecting the life of the Globe which all should have by them. It is illustrated with 250 maps and figures, some of which are printed in colors.

Messrs. Robert Carter & Brothers, have published some of the best books of the season; among which are "Tales of the Warrior Judges," by Dr. Macduff. "The Kings of Israel and Judah," by the author of the "Peep of Day." "Studies of Character," by Dr. Guthrie. "The Beatitudes of the Kingdom." "The Songs of the New Creation," by Bonar. "The Master's Home Call," by Bickersteth. These works are admirably adapted to the family and Sunday School libraries. We know of no publishing house in the country that issues a purer or more interesting and instructive literature for families and Sunday Schools; any work with their imprint, stamps it as suitable and profitable to be read by all.

CECIL.

IN MEMORIAM.

"Pallida mors æequo pulsat pede
Pauperum tabernas regumque turres."

We have just crossed the threshhold of another Year, and have left without the old year amid all its recollections of sunshine and shadow. There have been many bright spots in the life of each of us, during the past year's short career; there has been sorrow and mourning too, in many a household. Fire and famine and sword have done their deadly work as perhaps never before, and grim pestilence has stalked through the land, robbing many a circle of its pride and hope. Alike from palace and from cottage have its victims been claimed, and all society has had to contribute its quota. Looking at the terrible death record of the past twelve months, it would seem as though a holocast had been offered up through the world and we feel, in the immunity from it of our own country that the lines have indeed fallen to us as a people in pleasant places." And yet we are not without cause of mourning. Many are no longer with us, whom we were wont to grasp by the hand, and whose kindly smile was upon us a year ago—Heart strings have been broken and family ties severed, in many a house around us—childhood with its innocent prattle and happy face, that gladdened our hearts but a little time ago, have each passed its last mile stone and laid down its burden, while old age, that had been waiting and watching for a sight of the river as it crept down its rugged banks, has at length reached the shore and been ferried across, through the mists of death to the other and well known side.

Among the many, who have left to be no more with us forever, and whose loss we mourn, is one the recollection of whose kindly presence, and the sad circumstances attending whose early and sudden demise are so fresh in our mind as to deserve something more than a mere passing notice. But a year and a half ago, a young man freighted with high hopes, and all the affection and pride which loving hearts could bestow, came into our midst, for the purpose of better prosecuting the study of medicine—a profession which he had chosen as his life's work. A stranger among strangers, he quickly won the esteem of all with whom he came in contact, by his kindly disposition and unassuming manner—A west Indian by birth and education he yet combined with the fine feelings and warm sympathetic nature of his native people, all the manly bearing and generous spirit of the Northman—Such was Frederick Meltcherson, jr. to those who knew him best. Having received his early training on the Island of Antigua, and to which his father is Danish Consul, Mr. Meltcherson after his arrival at Nova Scotia, became a student in the medical department of Dalhousie College, having matriculated in the fall of 1871. Here he soon endeared himself to professors and students, by his regular attendance at lectures and his kindly disposition; and it was while in the performance of his regular college work that he met with the accident which cut short a life so favourably and so fittingly begun. Among his fellow students particularly, he seemed to be a favourite, and was elected on several occasions to positions of honor among them, the last of which that of Vice President of the college debating club, he held at the time of his death.—

It will be one ray of comfort to his sorrowing relatives in their far-off island home, to know, that though their "darling Fritz," sickened and died among strangers, yet loving hearts anticipated his every comfort, and kind hands ministered to his every want. Tender fingers smoothed the wrinkled brow, and moistened the parched lips, and when the worst had come—when the clammy dew of death had settled upon cheek and brow, and the light of life went out forever, the silent sympathetic tear welled up from many a sorrow-burdened heart, to the memory of the man, with whom they had so often taken sweet counsel, and whom they were to know no more on earth forever.

The Rev. Mr. Read, pastor of the Grafton St. Wesleyan Church, of which Mr. Meltcherson was a regular attendant, was unremitting in his attention during his illness, and to whom he gave undoubted evidence of the hope that was in him, that it was given unto him to "eat of the hidden manna" and to receive "the white stone with a new name." Mr. Meltcherson was member of St. Andrews Lodge of Freemasons of this city, the members of which, to whom he was very generally endeared, were unceasing in their care and watchfulness over him during his sickness, and under whose immediate direction the funeral obsequies were conducted. His remains were interred at Camp Hill Cemetery on the 1st inst.—the twenty-second anniversary of his birthday,—and were followed to the grave by the large number of his Masonic brethren representing the various lodges in the city, the Medical Faculty, the Medical and Art Students of Dalhousie College, and a large number of Citizens. After the last rites of the Church had been performed at the grave, the worshipful master of St. Andrew's Lodge read the solemn and impressive charge from the Masonic Burial Service, and not man left the grave in which were deposited the remains of him who had been a week before in health and strength among us, who did not hold in grateful rememberance the many virtues, and cherish the memory of his presence with us.

We can safely leave our dear departed friend now, in the hands of the Omniscient God in whose presence his spirit is, and whose we are, trusting that when we too shall have been called hence to mingle in the spirit world, it shall be a reunion, that knows no separation and that it may be said of us as we feel it can be said of him who has just gone before "The Sun shall be no more thy light by day, neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee; but the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory."

N. Z.

From the N. B. Reporter.

OPENING OF THE NEW CHURCH AT MARYSVILLE.

It was a glorious Sabbath morning, the sun shone brightly and there was more of pleasantness in the atmosphere than we have enjoyed on any morning since the earth received its snowy vesture in November last. It has been announced all abroad that on Sunday, the 5th inst., the new and magnificent church just erected by Alex. Gibson Esq., was to be dedicated to the Worship of the Divine Being, and as the beauty, we might say magnificence, of the structure had been depicted in glowing colors by those who had previously visited it, it was anticipated very naturally that there would be a crowded congregation on the occasion of the Dedication, especially as three of the most popular preachers in the Conference had been announced to occupy the pulpit during the day. The anticipation was literally verified, and at an early hour the roads were thronged with sleighs, sledges and pedestrians all hurrying towards the central point of attraction, Fredericton contributing a large proportion of the congregation, His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, among the rest.

About 10 o'clock we came in sight of the Church, and had just time to observe that externally it was a beautifully porportioned structure, painted a pure white, octagon in form, with a lofty spire rising from a richly carved and ornamented turret to the height of 156 feet, this turret constituting we found the vestibule of the Church, and that the main building was surmounted by a lantern of amber colored glass, sustained by Gothic columns, and that the site was a most commanding one, overlooking the village which has grown into existence by the almost magic touch of the master mind of the founder of Marysville.

The style of the whole building is Ornate Gothic, which is scrupulously adhered to throughout, and manifested to the admiring beholder on view of the entrance tower rising in octagonal pinnacles with pointed and ornamented arches and recessed Gothic windows. The doors are of black walnut and ash, with carved columns and richly ornamented. Passing through the vestibule which is lightened by double Gothic windows, and through another set of richly carved folding doors, we stand within the nave of the church, lost in sudden admiration and amazement as its incomparable beauty bursts upon our view. Here we have in design all that taste could suggest and art devise, in architecture a richness of elaboration which is perfectly gorgeous, and in painting that harmonious blending of color which giver delight to the eye and imparts to the feelings such pleasurable emotions. Not having access to the architect, Matthew Stead, Esq., of St. John, anything like an adequate description is clearly beyond our power. We have seen some of the finest churches in the Dominion and in the United States, including the celebrated Chapel of the Jesuits at Montreal, but nothing to exceed in elegance of design and execution the little Church at Marysville.

Standing at the entrance door and the astonishment of the coup d'œil having passed away, we observe the frescoed dome, the ornamental columns, the richly stained Gothic windows, the elegant pulpit Tabernacle, the cushioned pews and carpeted aisles, all lighted by the amber colored rays peering through the elegant lantern that graces the dome. The prevailing color on the walls is a pale drab, the pillars of a darker shape. In the angles of the outer wall are ribbed columns, partially showing in the interior crowned with ornate capitals, and from these to the columns supporting the dome spring pointed arches, richly stencilled and painted. On these latter columns the caps are elegantly carved, the shadows touched with gold. From these spring, as we have already said, the vaulted dome, with grained arches, frescoed in most elaborate style. The interior of the dome displays scrolls or medallions, gold stars on an azure ground, with smaller scrolls in garnet surmounting the larger in intermediate spaces. The glance upward from the centre of the Church, so indifferently portrayed in this imperfect description is simply magnificent.

In the eastern end of the Church and extending over the vestibule, preserving the same style of grained arches and Gothic windows, is the organ gallery, where we found an instrument which could not have cost less than $4,000. On this occasion it was skilfully played by Mr. E. Cadwallader, of Fredericton. The organ loft will accommodate about 30 singers. If in this splendid edifice there be anything which the most correct taste would have to regret it is that the magnificent East window of stained glass, carved and decorated with *fleurs de lis*, and costing not less than $1,000, is for the greater part concealed by the organ. Possibly this may yet be remedied. At the opposite end is the pulpit or tabernacle, in a semi-circular recess, three Gothic Pyramids rising above the reading desk, the central Pyramid inlaid, with the word's in Gothic characters "Lead me to the Rock that is higher than I." On the platform are three richly cushioned carved chairs, all in keeping with the style of the architecture. This tabernacle is exceedingly chaste and elegant, and amid all the beautiful appointments of the building was especially admired. A door leads from the platform to the vestry, filled with reversible seats, and capable of seating about 100 persons. The Reading Desk is of black walnut, inlaid with ash and comparatively plain, but unique. The windows of the Church are double Gothic, of stained glass, and bearing on either side of the central stile appropriate scripture texts—"Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord." I am the resurrection and the Life," and the like. The frame work of the windows is highly ornamented, with a surrounding of fleur-de-lis in relief. The pews converge towards the tabernacle are uniformly cushioned and grained in black walnut and ash. There are no doors, but at each entrance a carved octagonal post with walnut cap rises about a foot above the level of the pew. It is unnecessary to say these seats are *all free*. From the centre of the lantern there is an elegant chandelier pendant, in blue and gold, containing a double row of lamps, each row twelve in number. This chandelier is at once a costly elegant ornament, and a useful appendage. The Tabernacle and Organ loft are lighted by triple brackets in keeping with pendant. The aisles running along the internal walls, and leading from the vestibule to the pulpit, are carpeted with Brussels carpeting, and covered with hemp matting. The building is about 60 feet in diameter, and capable of seating about 350 persons. It is heated by a furnace in the basement, arranged on the latest and most approved system.

This model of Church Architecture, the crowning act of Mr. Gibson's munificence since his establishment at Marysville, was opened for Divine Service on Sabbath morning last. The church was crowded although not to excess, and at 11 o'clock precisely the dedication service commenced. Within the Tabernacle were seated Rev. Messrs. Currie, Gaetz, McKeown, Wesleyans, Rev. Mr. Gunter, Free Baptist, and another Minister whose name we did not learn. At the hour appointed, and as the great bell in the tower gave its final stroke, Mr. Currie rose and from the Wesleyan Church Service read

"The Scriptures teach us that God is well pleased with those who build Temples to His name. We have heard how he filled the temple of Solomon with his glory, and how in the second temple He manifested Himself still more gloriously. And the gospel approves and commends the Centurion who built a synagogue for the people. Let us not doubt that He will also favorably approve our purpose of dedicating this place in solemn manner for the performance of the several offices of religious worship; and let us now devoutly join in praise to His name, that this godly undertaking hath been so far completed: and in prayer for his further blessing upon all who have been engaged therein, and upon all who shall hereafter worship His name in this place."

After which the choir sang the 541st hymn in the Wesleyan Hymn book, commencing—

Lord of the worlds above,
How pleasant and how fair
The dwellings of thy love,
Thy earthly temples are!

And then the Rev. Mr. Wilson offered up an earnest prayer, appropriate to such a goodly occasion. The choir then sang, "The Lord hath chosen Zion," and sang it very nicely indeed, their voices possessing a freshness and earnest simplicity of articulation which we do not always find in choirs of much greater pretentions. This portion of the service was conducted by Mr. David Pugh, Mr. Cadwallader, as already stated, presiding at the organ. After the anthem, Mr. McKeown read a portion of the 6th chapter of Chronicles, containing a part of the dedication service at the great Temple and Solomon's glorious invocation. Mr. Gaetz followed reading a portion of the 10th chapter of Hebrews and then the choir sang the hymn—

"Great God thy watchful care we bless,
Which guards these sacred courts in peace"

Mr. Currie, who had the honor of preaching the dedication sermon then announced his text—Isaiah 60 Chap, 13th verse—"And I will make the place of my feet glorious." Just as the last word trembled on the lips of the preacher occurred a most beautiful coincidence. At that instant the sun shone out with unusual splendor, and a burst of run-light filled the sacred edifice. It streamed in through the Gothic windows, poured down through the frescoed dome, lighting up the gorgeous adornments of the sanctuary, glinting on the gilded pinnacles of the Tabernacle, and illuminating the countenance of the preacher, while the congregation, in sudden amazement, recalled the times when God visited his people in the Shekinah of his Glory, and answered their supplications by Urim and Thummim.

We have before us a pretty full report of the sermon, but find its publication beyond our limited space. Suffice it to say that it was just what we should have anticipated from such a man on such an inspiring occasion. At its conclusion, and after the choir had performed that beautiful Anthem "Jerusalem my glorious home," Mr. Gibson rose and standing in the central aisle, facing Mr. Currie, said—

"I hereby present this Church to the Methodist Conference of Eastern British America, to be dedicated to the worship of Almighty God."

The Congregation then rose, and Mr. Currie read a portion of the Dedication Service after the formula of the Wesleyan Church:

"It is meet and right, as we learn from the Holy Scriptures, that houses erected for the public worship of God should be specially set apart and dedicated to religious uses. For such a dedication we are now assembled. With gratitude, therefore, to Almighty God, who has signally blessed this enterprise of erecting this Church, we dedicate it to His own service, for the reading of the Holy Scriptures, the preaching of the word of God, the administration of the Holy Sacraments, and for all other exercises of religious worship and service, according to the discipline and usages of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. And as the dedication of the Temple is vain without the solemn consecration of the worshippers also, I now call upon you all to dedicate yourselves anew to the service of God. To Him let our souls be dedicated, that we may be renewed after the image of Christ. To Him let our bodies be dedicated, that they may be fit temples for the indwelling of the Holy Ghost. To him may our labors and business be dedicated, that their fruit may tend to the glory of His great name, and to the advancement of His Kingdom."

Then the Congregation were requested to kneel while Mr. Currie read the Dedicatory Prayer, after which the Choir sang a Hymn, the Benediction was pronounced and the congregation dispersed either to their respective homes or to enjoy the unlimited hospitality of the good people of Marysville.

In the afternoon Rev. Mr. McKeown, and in the evening Rev. Mr. Gaetz preached to crowded congregations. The sermons in each instance were replete with eloquence and fervor, and were altogether appropriate to the occasion.

Miscellaneous.

A CONTRIBUTOR to the Western Christian Advocate gives the following statements of religious matters in the Island of Jamaica: "Church of England, 28 churches, 61 chapels. These are capable of seating 30,5000 persons. The ordinary attendance is 15,000. Including a provisional bishop and two archdeacons, there are 62 of the clergy. The Church of England, in Jamaica, has been recently disestablished. The stipends of the present incumbents are paid by the Government only while they continue in the island, or during life. Aside from this, all state aid ceases. The communicants are about 14,000. The Wesleyans have 29 ministers 16,000 members. They have 83 chapels, with sitting capacity for 38,000 persons, and an average attendance of 35,000. Their Church property is worth $500,000, upon the whole of which the indebtedness will not exceed $15,000. The contributions for religious and educational purposes average $2,50 per year per member. The Presbyterians have 29 churches; ordinary attendance, 7,500. They have 22 ministers. The Baptists have 98 chapels, with capacity for 54,000 persons; 43,000 usually attend; 37 ministers, mostly natives. There are various other religious bodies, less numerous than those named. All these Churches sustain schools as a regular part of their Church work. These schools are supported, in part, by the Government, in part by fees, and in part by Church collections and appropriations. In the Church of England, the Wesleyan, Presbyterian, and Baptist Churches, and in some of the others, the ministers preach in gowns. In the Wesleyan Churches, Wesley's abridged Church of England service is read. At first this seemed rather offensive to me, but now I am very fond of it. I could wish that the custom prevailed in the United States. All the hymns are lined out by the officiating minister. Though there are organs and choirs in many of the Churches, all the congregations sing. The singing is very hearty and full of harmony. The tunes are the old tunes, such as American Methodists were accustomed to sing fifty years ago. The Sunday-morning service usually lasts from 11 o'clock until 1. There is much of simplicity and fervor among the Wesleyans. They evidently enjoy religion in its life and power."

ST. JOHN, N. B. BIBLE SOCIETY MEETING.

The meeting of the New Brunswick Branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society took place at the Mechanics' Institute last evening. All the available sitting room was occupied and the doorways were besieged by a number of persons anxious to gain admittance.—The number of those present was about 1,000 persons, and the meeting was acknowledged to be one of the most interesting that has ever taken place in the city. By the absence of Mr. A. Russell, the agent of the Society, who was a passenger by the train which is detained at Moncton, the audience missed the usual elaborate and lengthy report which that gentleman is accustomed to read. In his absence, Mr. Thomas McLellan, presented a synopis of the work that has been accomplished.

In the absence of the President Dr. Botsford, who is at present suffering from illness, H. W. Frith, Esq., occupied the Chair. The opening hymn beginning with the words "With one Consent let all the Earth," was first sung, after which the Rev. Mr. Daniel read the lesson from the 19th Psalm, and offered prayer.

We are sorry that the limited space at command this morning prevents a publication of a report of all the speeches which were made by the movers and seconders of the resolutions which are given below. Most of the speakers dwelt on the encouraging fact that the Bible is now printed in so many different languages, and brought within the reach of persons of every position, not only in countries nominally Protestant, but in those from which it has long been banished, and in lands that until recently never heard its glorious truths. In no land is the circulation of the Bible now prohibited by law, and even in Rome it is freely exposed for sale and as freely purchased and read.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted after being spoken to by the gentleman named.

Moved by Mr. W. Elder, seconded by the Rev. G. Schofield,—

Resolved, That an abstract of the proceedings of the parent Society be printed under the superintendance of the Committee.

Moved by Rev. Mr. Mckay, seconded by Rev. R. Brecken, and

Resolved, That as "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul, and the testimony of the Lord is sure making wise the simple," we cannot too zealously engage in circulating the revelation of the grace of God.

Moved by the Rev. G. M. W. Carey, seconded by Dr. Waddell, and

Resolved, That we must acknowledge the goodness of God in granting such markod success to the operations of the British and Foreign Bible Society at a time when the various obstacles to the reception of His word are being removed among the nations.

Moved by Rev. H. P. Cowperthwaite, seconded by Rev. G. J. Caie, and

Resolved; That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Ladies' Association, to the several Branches in connection with this Auxiliary, and to the many collectors who have been engaged in the great work.

After the passage of the second resolution, a collection was taken up amounting to $89, after which a hymn was sung, and the other resolutions were moved, spoken to, and adopted, and the meeting closed by singing the dexology.

The whole proceedings were of a very interesting character, and the addresses were highly applaudd.—*News.*

General Intelligence.

THE SMALL POX.—This dreaded disease, which seems to have entrenched itself in Boston, is, we are sorry to say, working its way insidiously thence into several places in both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Without yielding to any unmanly fears about it, every person ought to prudently guard against its approach. Every one, old and young, should be vaccinated at the earliest possible period.

We regret to learn that Mr. Lewis W. Carvell, Railway Superintendent, is in a very delicate state of health at Ottawa. He has been far from well for some time, and does not seem to improve even with the greatest care. Paralysis threatens him.—*Globe.*

THE BRANCH LINES.—The contract for the Branch Lines of Railway to Souris and Tignish has been awarded to Messrs Schreiber and Burpee at the rate of $14,840 per mile. This is about $995 per mile higher than their contract for the main line. But considering all the circumstances of the case, we believe they will have much less profit on the Branches than on the first contract. The quantities of earth and earth excavation are greater on the Branch Lines, the bridges are larger, the fence is much more expensive, and the sleepers are to be of juniper or cedar. Besides this, the high price of iron, and the tightness of the money market at present, have operated against the Branches. There were twelve tenders for the Eastern Extension, and seven for the Western. Finley McNeill, Esq., of Summerside, put in a lower tender than the above figures, but it was defective in several important particulars. We shall endeavor to give further information in our next.—*The Patriot.*

The small pox in Boston proves to be of a very malignant type. For three months ending Dec. 31st, out of 1793 cases, there were 523 deaths. The recent destruction by fire of the small-pox hospital has placed the Health Commissioners of that city in a most embarrassing position. They have no place in which to treat patients. At a recent meeting of the Common Council the necessity for procuring another hospital was discussed; but curiously enough, no decision was arrived at. So far, the authorities have higgled over this matter in a shameless manner. The vaccinating corps have been entirely insufficient.

TEA MEETING.—The ladies of the Wesleyan Church, Dartmouth, intend holding a tea meeting in the basement of the church, on Thursday evening next, the 16th inst. The proceedings will be enlivened by "choice music and pleasant readings."

The Postmaster General of the United States has decided that he will hold Postmasters liable on their bonds for losses of registered letters traced to their offices.

The Fredericton *Reporter* says," There are no grounds at present for the assertion that the Botsford embroglio has been settled by the re-appointment of that gentleman, and the nomination of Mr. Bliss to the Cerkship of the House of Assembly, Mr. Wetmore resigning. Although this solution of the difficulty has been talked of we believe it is not yet accomplished."

Alfred F. Street, Esq., of the firm of Needham & Street, was on New Year's day appointed to the office of Collector of Customs in this City, in place of T. R. Robertson, Esq., who retires on an allowance.

Some fears have been expressed for the safety of the Guysborough Packet "British Pearl," Capt. Hadley, which left Guysborough for Halifax some days ago. We are informed by Capt. Reddy, of the schr. "Mary Louise" at this port from Canso, that the "British Pearl ran into Liscomb harbor on the night of the 7th, and while lying at anchor was struck by a sheet of ice. She immediately filled with water, when Capt. Hadley slipped his chains, and ran her ashore to prevent her sinking in deep water. She would probably be saved, and after repairing damage would start for Halifax.—*Express 9th inst.*

OPENING OF THE ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.—The second session of the second Parliament of Ontario opened in Toronto on the 8th inst. In the speech from the throne the Lieut. Governor congratulated the province on the continued prosperity enjoyed during the year; expressed general approval of the working of the Act of Union; announced the accumulation of a surplus of more than $4,000,000; informed the House that measures would be brought down to provide for the equitable distribution of this surplus and for the settlement of the Municipal Loan Fund indebtedness; declared that the various railway projects aided in the previous session were making progress and that more would be brought under consideration; recommended increased facilities for procuring immigrants; suggested a variety of improvements in educational institutions and in the working of the School Law; proposed the establishment of an asylum for inebriates and another for idiot children; and promised measures for the promotion of certain legal reforms. Correspondence on the subject of the northern and western boundaries of the province is to be laid before the House. Reference is made in the speech to the Arbitration difficulty between Ontario and Quebec, now before the Privy Council, and also to the joint commission for surveying the boundary line between them. The public accounts for the year are promised, and the hope expressed that the members will apply themselves to the discharge of their duties with patriotism and earnestness.—*St. John Telegraph.*

From Daily News, 6th Jan. 1873.

THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.—This company has in full operation 321 miles of road, and a distance of 200 miles more is constructed. Arrangements have been perfected for pushing the construction vigorously during the past year. On the opening of spring upward of 500 miles of road will be in regular operation. Of the 10,000,000 accruing to the company in connection with the portion of the road, now virtually constructed, some 2,000,000 acres are in the market, and the average price thus far realized is $5.66 per acre. The managers of the road report that on the completion of the Minesota section of the road a large and satisfactory business was done, including local traffic and the carrying trade of the North western British settlements and the Hudson Bay Company, and that the Pacific end, extending from Puget Sound to the Columbia River, has a profitable business heretofore done by the coasting steamers. The company now receive first mortgage bonds at the price of $110 in exchange of lands, and cancel the bonds thus received. The intimation is officially made by its President, Gen. George W. Cass, that the management may discontinue early this year, the issue of their 7-30 gold bonds, and commence issuing a six per cent gold bond. The Directors now consider the credit of the road so well established as to justify this reduction.

The St. John Police Court investigation into the charge against John C. Brown, for defraud-