

of missions before him, to which he replied, "I wish, first of all, to offer thanks to God for the compassion he has shown to us, that in his mercy he put it into your hearts to send the missionaries to us to make known the way of salvation. I feel that in addressing you I am speaking to those who have felt the love of Christ in their hearts, and while I thank you as being the means of having sent to us the message of salvation, I have one thing on behalf of myself and my friends to ask of you, which is, that in your prayers to God, you will remember our country; that you will plead with God for that dark land, that God may permit us to return there in due time, and to be the means of making known to our countrymen the way of salvation. Our lives are in the palm of the hand of the Almighty: we are safe under his protection, but we ask the prayers of the christians of this land that God may in due time restore us to that land to be a blessing there, and in return for your prayers for us, we will continue in prayer for you, that the holy spirit may enable you to persevere to the end." (Loud cheers.)

The Doxology was then sung, and the Rev. Henry Townley concluded by prayer this most interesting service.

The Wesleyan.

HALIFAX, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23.

From the Colonial Pearl.

ITEMS—FOREIGN, DOMESTIC, &C.

The arrival of the Great Western at New York, 16½ days from England, has furnished news from Europe some days later than that in our last.

BRITISH.

THE weather had, providentially, cleared up in England, and harvest operations were going on under promising appearances. Throughout the continent of Europe the prospect was good, so that, most happily, scarcity from short crops, need not be feared in any part of Europe or America: another year has been crowned with goodness.

Parliament was expected to be prorogued on the 27th.

A great boon has been given to the people of England; the new Postage Bill had received the Royal assent. By this, the postage on single letters, to every part of the kingdom, is reduced to one penny! double letters in proportion! This is a good work in every sense of the word. It relieves from a burden which pressed on a great source of the pleasures and morals and affections: intercourse between separated friends and relatives.

The Chartist agitation appears to furnish nothing new of importance. Several of their leaders had been tried, convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for periods up to two years. The Rev. Mr. Stephens was among the number.

The Canada Act received the Royal assent on Aug. 17.

MORE STEAM.—The government had arranged for establishing a steam communication twice a month with the West Indies and some southern ports of the United States, and once a month with Mexico. £240,000 a year, for 10 years, will be the cost to government. By October 1841, it is said, there will be 13 large steam ships running across the Atlantic, not one of which will be smaller than the Liverpool. The four Halifax Steamers will be ready early in 1840. These are gigantic efforts in civilization. The horizon for enterprise and intellect, expands, with these advances, as if new creations had taken place.

The House of Lords had agreed to an Address to the Crown requesting the appointment of a commission to enquire into the existence of poverty and disease in several parts of the kingdom.

Mr. O'Connell gave notice that he would move, that the independence of Texas should not be recognized unless with the consent of Mexico, and unless the abolition of slavery and the making the slave trade piracy were parts of its constitution,—also, that he would move steps towards the obtaining a portion of the northern territory of Mexico, to be used as an asylum free state for persons of colour.

The Great Western experienced a severe gale, in which some damage was done to her deck works, and three men were driven from the wheel.

A temporary Act passed the Imperial Legislature, compelling Captains of vessels laden with timber from any port in British North America, to procure a certificate from the Clearing Officer that all the cargo has been placed below the deck.

The Thames Tunnel is completed to within 5 feet of the Middlesex side, so that passage, under the Thames, to and fro between its banks, may be soon expected as one of the common place characteristics of wonderful London.

RAG FAIR.—Late London papers state, that Rag Fair is to be abolished. The assemblage thus denominated, met in one of the back streets of the eastern part of London, and formed one of the strange sights which amused visitors to the metropolis. At a certain hour of each day, Sundays excepted, the perambulating Jews congregated from all quarters, on this spot, exhibiting the articles which they had picked up during the day, and making sales of them to collectors of such wares, and to other purchasers. In this street, which generally went by the name of Rag Fair, many persons kept stores for laying away the articles purchased, and at about the hour appointed, the doors of these receptacles used to be thrown open, their owners taking post at the thresholds, there to examine the garments presented to their notice. Then a system of haggling and huckstering would proceed until the bargain closed,—and either the Jew walked away to another market with his *ole'clo*, or the merchant flung his purchase behind him into the dark house at whose door he stood. The noise and bustle, and the masses of hard-cunning countenances, Hebrew, Irish, Scotch and English, which might be met daily in this market, formed a curious feature of the great metropolis. Its suppression will make a great change in the neighbourhood;—the Jews expressed much concern and repugnance respecting the reformation, considering that ancient usage was almost equal to a charter.

UNITED STATES.—The Great Western Steamer, trader on the Lakes, was destroyed by fire near Detroit, recently. She cost \$100,000. No insurance.

The yellow fever has been committing dire ravages in New Orleans. Many fled from the city, but numbers fell victims to the disorder, which, it appears, preyed on all alike, the stranger and the acclimated. The sickness was abating at last accounts.

CANADA.—The trial of Jalbert for the murder of Lieut Weir was preceeding at Montreal and excited intense interest. On the jury were eight Canadians, two Scotchmen, and one Irishman. An effort was made to get the prisoner the benefit of Lord Durham's amnesty, on his pleading guilty. This was overruled. Jalbert is about 65 years of age. The jury