

to send up signals, the *Gull* had to reply, and thenceforward to continue repeating them until the attention of the Ramsgate look-out should be gained, and a reply given.

"The steam tug *Aid*, which always attends upon, and takes in tow, the Ramsgate lifeboat, soon hove in sight, going to the rescue, thus showing the great value of steam in such matters. Having learnt the direction of the wreck from the mate of the light-ship, they proceeded on their course."

The life of the crew of every light-ship is pretty much the same on Sunday. At dawn the lantern is lowered and cleaned, and prepared for the next night's work. At 8 A. M. all hands must be on the alert, the hammocks stowed, and breakfast served. At 10.30 the men assemble for prayers, and the captain or mate perform divine service. After sunset the men meet again for prayers. With the exception of the services, the routine on week-days is the same as on Sunday. The captain and mate take turn and turn—a month on board and a month on shore; the men do duty for two months on board for one on shore; and, monotonous as their life may seem to the uninitiated, it is doubtful whether there is not a beneficial moral activity in existence on a floating light that tends to elevate the character of both officers and men.—From "The Sea." By Cassell and Company.

THE PRAYER MEETING.

If possible, get every one to take some part. If the experienced ones are brief, there will be time for all, and the timid ones will not feel that in offering a few simple words of prayer they are laying down a copper coin beside the golden contribution of another. No Christian can come with the purpose of being a mere spectator, without doing a wrong to the Church and to himself. That each one should give according as God hath prospered him, is the true rule for the prayer meeting no less than for the contribution box. Are you self-distrustful and shrinking? Do not think you must say some great thing; say some little thing that you believe and feel. If you only knew how much it would cheer your pastor; how much it would lift the meeting out of its well-worn track! At least bring a verse of Scripture or a hymn. Who knows but that the stripling with his smooth stone in the sling may fell some giant that was assailing another's soul and had not been vanquished by all the hosts of the Church? It is a deplorable spiritual waste that the voices of ladies are seldom heard in some prayer meetings. They who are the life of other social gatherings, why should they be silent in the social meetings of the Church? I cannot doubt that often, when in the midst of more extended utterances, the voice of a few short, even trembling sentences, the Lord who sits over against the treasury says tenderly that she "hath cast in more than they all."—*Advance*.

WHAT WE NEED.

When I go to the house of God, I do not want amusement. I want the doctrine which is according to godliness. I want to hear the remedy against the harrassing of my guilt and the disorder of my affection. I want to be led from weariness and disappointment to that goodness which filleth the hungry soul. I want to have light upon the mystery of providence; to be taught how the judgments of the Lord are right; how I shall be prepared for duty and for trial; how I may fear God all the days of my life, and close in peace. Tell me of that Lord Jesus "who his own self bore our sins in his body on the tree." Tell me of His "intercession for the

transgressors." as their "advocate with the Father. Tell me of His Holy Spirit, whom they that believe in Him receive to be their preserver, sanctifier, comforter. Tell me of His presence and sympathy and love. Tell me of the virtues, as growing out of His cross, and nurtured by His grace. Tell me of the glory reflected on His name by the obedience of faith. Tell me of the vanquished death, of the purified grave, of a blessed resurrection, of a life everlasting, and my bosom warms. This is Gospel; these are glad tidings to me as a sufferer, because glad to me as a sinner.—*Dr. John M. Mason.*

CURRENT EVENTS.

DOMESTIC.

Over forty new buildings have been erected at Sussex during the past year.

The Epizoo has killed off several horses in Halifax recently.

Commencing this morning, Dec 1st, the steamer for Digby and Annapolis sails at 7 o'clock local time.

The collector of water rates at Halifax is kept busy cutting off the water on the premises of delinquent tax payers. Some taxes are in arrear five years.

D. W. Clark & Sons will commence the work of building the freight sheds on the Government piers at Digby next week.

In the breach of promise suit, for \$5,000, brought by Miss Faulkner against young Mumford, of Dartmouth, a verdict has been given for \$400.

A public meeting is to be held in Bostwick's Hall, Portland, N. B., on Wednesday evening to consider the proposed new street or bridge between St. John and Portland.

It has been decided to rebuild the Halifax Poor Asylum on the former site. Tenders are to be invited for the construction of a building not to cost more than \$50,000.

President Arthur has presented a gold watch and chain to Captain T. W. Churchill of the Yarmouth ship *Jessie Burrill*, in recognition of his humane services in rescuing the crew of the American brig *Jennie Morton* at sea on the 19th of Feb., 1882.

Three whales, the largest of which showed 50 feet out of water, came up the Petitcodiac River by the morning tide, nearly to the public wharf. They are now at the mouth of the river and several enterprising townsmen are trying to capture them. A good many drove down through the day to see them.

A correspondent of the *Telegraph* of Cape Traverse writes:—The work on the branch is nearly completed and is a credit to the engineer and contractors, Messrs. Gray and Wheaton. Superintendent Coleman's special train, in charge of conductor McKenna and driver Bell, passed over the road Thursday, the 20th inst., at the rate of thirty miles per hour, to the entire satisfaction of the superintendent.

The five men at Sambro Island, N. S., who manned the rescuing boat the morning after the disaster to the steamer "Daniel Steinman" are to be presented by the Belgium Government with gold medals in the form of a Maltese cross with the King of the Belgians' monogram in the centre and suspended by a ribbon of the national colors. Each medal is accompanied by a beautifully illuminated diploma.

FOREIGN.

In the Chamber of Deputies, to-day, Nov. 27th, M. Clemenceau attacked the Government and denounced the ministers at whose opinion he charged had been committed so many diplomatic and military faults since signing of the Tientsin convention. He said that Minister Ferry had committed a veritable political crime in refusing to make peace upon the basis of that convention, and in declining the Chinese indemnity of 3,500,000 taels. France, M. Clemenceau said, did wrong in accepting the mediation of England, for the latter's disinterestedness was open to suspicion. He said that Prince Bismarck was a most dangerous enemy, but was a still more dangerous as a friend. It was necessary to beware lest the French dignity and honor should be compromised.

The Chamber of Deputies to-night voted the first Tonquin credit of 16,000,000 francs, and afterwards the fresh credit of 43,000,000 francs. Vote of confidence in the Government was also unanimously adopted.

The latest messenger who has arrived at Cairo says Khartoum was illuminated upon the tidings reaching there that the British expedition under Gen. Wolsley was en route for their relief. Everybody in Khartoum reveres Gen. Gordon, and his orders are implicitly obeyed. The Mahdi has announced that he will not make any attack upon Khartoum during the present month because it would be contrary to the law of the prophet.

It is stated that General Gordon has captured a Krupp gun from the rebels and that 500 of the Mahdi's followers have joined Gordon's forces.

The Mudir of Dongola has congratulated Gen. Wolsley upon the rapidity of the advance of his army, which has been unprecedented.

The British force now in Egypt numbers 16,000 men, including 9,000 troops south of Assouan. There are only two regiments remaining in Cairo. The leaving of such a small garrison there is thought to be unwise.

A man who arrived at Cairo from Khartoum states Gen. Gordon has in his army 2,000 Turks and 6,000 blacks, besides a large number of Arabs. He has also a plentiful supply of provisions and ammunition. The Mahdi's people are deserting and fleeing to the hills, having lost faith in the false prophet.

A messenger from Gen. Gordon has reached Merawo, and is expected, hourly, to arrive at Dongola.

Advices from Khartoum state that the Mahdi continues to summon Gen. Gordon to surrender, and that the latter replies by firing into the enemy.

Complete official returns of cholera in the Province of Naples, show that there were 14,037 cases and 7,576 deaths, of which number 12,402 cases and 6,629 deaths were in the city of Naples.

UNITED STATES.

The new anæsthetic for the eye, hydrochlorate of cocaine, was used for the first time at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Nov. 28th. The patient is 72 years old, and the operation was the removal of a secondary cataract, and was a brilliant success. The patient felt no pain whatever.

The true history of the murder committed at Bladensburg, Ohio, a few days ago, and telegraphed over the country as a Prohibitory outrage, is as follows:—A wholesale liquor dealer of Mount Vernon sent a stock of liquors here, and put them in charge of the murdered man. On the night of the Democratic jollification a crowd became drunk and noisy, and anon, in endeavoring to put them out of the saloon, received the fatal injuries. While he was unconscious, and the extent of his injuries were unknown, the crowd of drunken ruffians gutted the saloon. Not a sober man took part in the outrage.

A fatal disease prevails in portions of Virginia and Kentucky, and nearly 300 deaths are reported therefrom. The disease is attributed to the prevalence of mineral poison in drought dried waters. Patients usually die or recover within a week. In some cases death ensues within 24 hours or even sooner. The country is entirely demoralized and business interests are neglected. Cattle are also dying in the same section.

The *Courier-Journal* recently sent a staff correspondent to investigate the reported ravages of the dread disease in eastern Kentucky and western Virginia. The correspondent sends the following: "W. C. Lester, a prominent attorney of this place, has just arrived from Mt. Pleasant, the county seat of Harlan, where he has been for two weeks past. Mr. Lester has information of the prevailing plague principally from Harlan, Letcher, Perry, Leslie and Bell counties. The epidemic is rapidly spreading in Harlan county. In a district covering the southern portion of Letcher and Perry, the whole of Leslie and north and east portion of Bell counties, the plague has obtained a foothold but reports as to its violence are very conflicting. Lester thinks that the deaths run up into the hundreds, while the number of those attacked cannot be estimated. Lester further says that no one seems to know the exact nature of the pestilence. Most of the people called it "flux," and it is probably a very aggravated form of that disease. If not fatal in three or four days, the patient, as a rule recovers."