

Parliament has already given a proof of its disposition to afford to undertakings of this description, which are calculated to be beneficial to the Province, such aid as can be properly given to them, without impairing the Provincial Credit, or encouraging improvident speculation. I feel confident that in any further legislation which you may see fit to adopt on this subject you will adhere to the principles of this judicious Policy.

A considerable increase in correspondence has, I am happy to inform you, taken place since the new Postage Law came into operation. This fact, which furnishes conclusive proof of the advantage accruing to the community from the measure, warrants moreover the expectation that the receipts of the Department will before long recover from the depression consequent on the adoption of greatly reduced rates of postage.

Under the operation of the measures which have been recently adopted by the Legislature of the several North American Provinces, the intercolonial Trade is assuming proportions of increasing magnitude and promises to become a considerable branch of our Industry. I shall lay before you a Despatch in which Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies submits for consideration a proposal for the construction of a Railway between Halifax and Quebec or Montreal, which has an important bearing on this subject.

The dispute respecting Boundary, which has been so long pending between Canada and New Brunswick, has been productive of much inconvenience to both Provinces, and of no small hardship to those who are interested in the Territory which is the subject of conflicting claims. In accordance with a suggestion made by the Secretary of State, I requested the Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick to meet me here last autumn, with the view of arranging the details of a scheme of arbitration for the settlement of this question. The report of the arbitrators, who were appointed in pursuance of the agreement entered into at that time by the Governments of the two Provinces, will, I have reason to believe, be presented at an early period.

With the concurrence of the Executive of this Province, permission has been granted by Her Majesty's Imperial Government to the Government of the United States to erect a Light House on the Horse Shoe Reef in the Niagara River at the outlet of Lake Erie which is likely to prove highly advantageous to the Shipping that frequents those waters.

It is yet too early to speak with confidence of the results of the great Exhibition which is now being held in London. From the reports which have reached me, however, I have reason to hope that Canadian produce and industry will be found to have been not unworthily represented on this interesting occasion. Much credit is due to those who have exerted themselves for the promotion of this object.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly.

I have received a communication from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, which I shall lay before you, intimating that Her Majesty has been pleased to receive very graciously the Address on the subject of the Clergy Reserves, which you entrusted to me for transmission last Session—and stating the views of Her Majesty's Imperial Government on the subject of that Address.

I shall direct the accounts of Revenue and Expenditure and the Estimates for the year, to be laid before you, and I rely on your making the necessary provision for the exigencies of the Public Service, and the maintenance of the Provincial Credit.

Honorable Gentlemen, and Gentlemen,

A measure will be submitted to you for effecting a reduction in certain charges provided for by the Civil List Act of 1846, and I shall lay before you the correspondence which has passed between this Government and the Secretary of State on the subject.

I again recommend to your consideration the important subject of an increase in the Parliamentary Representation of the Province.

The expediency of amending the School and Municipal Laws of Eastern Canada in some of their details, with the view of securing in a more ample manner for that section of the Province the benefits which these enactments are designed to confer, will probably engage your attention.

As the Province advances in wealth and population, and the authority of the local Parliament is extended and confirmed, the responsibilities which attach to Members of this Legislature become necessarily more onerous. The people of Canada, while they justly appreciate the requirements of an age of progress, are attached to their institutions, and faithful to their early traditions, and I am confident that you will earnestly endeavour, in humble reliance on the Divine blessing, to promote in this spirit their best interests.

Review.

MESHULLAM! or, TIDINGS FROM JERUSALEM.

From the Journal of a Believer, recently returned from the Holy Land. PHILADELPHIA, published by the Author. 1851.*

From Jerusalem, westward to the pillars of Hercules—northward to the Frozen ocean—and on this Continent wherever the white man has lifted axe or spade, you cannot find the people who do not turn towards that Zion, the joy of the whole earth, with feelings of interest; to which all that is poetical in their constitutions lends romance, and all that is religious in their natures gives intensity. It would not suit the limits or design of the *Observer*, to analyze the feelings which swelled the impassioned enthusiasm of the Crusades, and which linger unquenched even amongst the tamest and lowest forms of corrupt Christianity, both eastern and western. The holier romance of pure Christian affection, which, without superstition, delights to hang around the footprints of patriarch and prophets—the heroes and heroines of sacred story—to gaze with mysterious awe on those spots where heaven came down and touched the earth; and with melting tenderness, to haunt the hallowed ruins of Bethlechem and Bethany—lose itself in deep musings around Gethsemane and Calvary,—and from the mount of Olives, trace a pathway of light up to Heaven's gate—will find a readier sympathy with those whom we address.

Wherever the belief in the return of Him, who ascended from Mount Olivet, and the expectation of the day when He, as king, shall establish His throne, and His saints shall reign with Him on the earth, have been received, there has uniformly followed a peculiar interest in Judea and the Jews. We do not inquire into the reason: we simply state the fact, and point, as important illustrations of it, to the missions and commissions, the tours and researches, which, of late years, have enlisted the purest devotion, the holiest sympathies of Christendom.

Many of our readers will think it going too far, but we can cite an abundance of facts to substantiate

the assertion, that in our day, it is an invincible symptom of the revival of true religion amongst any people, that they begin to manifest a solicitude about the dispersed of Israel, and a love, even for the stones and rubbish of Jerusalem. It has been so in Germany, wherever the spiritual has forced its way up through the rank undergrowth of rationalism. It was so in Scotland, when the spirit of the Free Church awoke, amid the death-like slumbers of moderatism. It has been so in England, wherever the lofty devotion of the Evangelicals have risen above the gross and grovelling formality of an establishment as insolent as it is corrupt. And it has been so, though but to a limited extent, in the United States, wherever the love of Christ has risen superior to the love of sect, and the glory of God has taken precedent of the interests of a denomination, and the pride of the Republic.

We do not forget that this lively interest in the Jews and their land, is always immediately connected with some scheme of the interpretation of prophecy, which looks with confidence towards the grafting in again of the natural branches into the good olive tree. But, it is worthy of remark, that a very wide-spread expectation on this subject exists, not only amongst the students of God's word, but in quarters where we might expect to find the least sympathy with their holy enthusiasm. The Jews themselves have certain vague, but yet earnest expectations, that the set time to favour Zion is at hand. All over the east, there seems to be a consciousness that great events are maturing, of which the Holy Land is to be the theatre or the object. The Greek Church, on the one hand supported by the Czar, and the Roman Catholic Church on the other, operating through the Catholic powers of Europe, are contending with embittered zeal for the possession of the Holy Sepulchre and other sacred localities. The purpose of the Crusades is to be revived, but it is to be pursued in the way of diplomacy, and not by war.

Few of our readers, probably are aware of the extent to which the interests and anticipations of Christians above mentioned, have resulted in practical endeavours for the conversion of the Jews, and the amelioration of their condition; for our religious, or as they should rather be called, our sectarian journals, strangely slight the missions and philanthropic labours of many devoted men in this most interesting field. We, therefore, embrace the more gladly an opportunity of directing attention to the unpretending little volume, the title of which stands at the head of these remarks. It is the production of a Christian lady, who, without any sickly sentiment, has lived through, and written out a brief chapter of true romance, and who has found out and brought to light a true Christian hero, who is fighting a great battle, and doing a great work in the cause of Jewish regeneration. Some of our readers would, doubtless, set down her character as fanatical, and her errand as Quixotic. But, in our opinion, the lady who could unostentatiously prosecute such an undertaking—who went to Jerusalem, and discovered Meshullam, and appreciated his character, and who so well pleads his cause, has the instincts of a heroic nature, and the heart of a Christian.

* The copy of the work before us was procured at the office of the *Advent Harbinger*, Rochester, N.-Y. Price 25 cents.