

"Yes—Stephen. He was one of the largest-hearted men I ever knew. We all owe something to Stephen." Then he added in a tone of regret, "He had but one fault."

The light fell in pencil rays through the trees. I sat in silence enjoying the refreshing coolness.

The man resumed the subject: "He had great ability, Stephen had. We sent him to the Legislature three times. They thought of nominating him for Governor. But," he added sadly, "Stephen had one fault."

I made no answer. I was tired and watched the people slowly disperse, leaving the sexton to his solitary work.

"A very generous man Stephen was. Always visited the sick—he was feeling—when any one was in trouble. The old people all liked him. Even the children follow him in the streets,"

"A good man indeed," said I indifferently.

"Yes; he had only one fault."

"What was that?" I asked.

"Only intemperance."

"Did it harm him?"

"Yes, somewhat. He didn't seem to have any power to resist it at last. He got behind-hand and had to mortgage his farm, and finally had to sell it. His wife died on account of the reverse; kind of crushed and disappointed.

Then his children, not having the right kind of bringing-up, turned out badly. His intemperance seemed to mortify them and take away their spirit. He had to leave politics; 'twouldn't do, you see. Then we had to set him aside from the church; and at last his habits brought on paralysis, and we had to take him to the poor-house. He died there; only forty-five. There were none of his children at the funeral. Poor man, he had only one fault."

"Only one fault!"

The ship had only one leak, but it went down. The temple had only one decaying pillar, but it fell.

"Only one fault!" Home gone, wife lost, family ruined, honor forfeited, social and religious principles abandoned; broken health, poverty, paralysis and the poor house.

One fault, only one.—*Youth's Companion*.

THE EASIEST WAY TO HELL!

A man need not set fire to his shop in order to become bankrupt; he need only close his doors and neglect his business to be ruined. He need not be a murderer and a downright scoundrel to find the lowest place in perdition; all that is necessary is to neglect what the Saviour has commanded. Dives was not condemned for being a villain, but simply for neglect of duty. Neither was it a crime for him to be rich; but for choosing his "good things" in this life, and being indifferent about the next. "In hell he lifted up his eyes being in torment"—Luke xvi. 19-31. The slothful servant did not waste his talent, but buried it. That he was honest is not to be questioned. "Lo, there thou hast that is thine;" yet weeping and gnashing of teeth followed his stupid indifference—Matt. xxv. 14-30.—"None of those men who were bidden" to the great supper were allowed to enter, because they treated the invitation with indifference, and the doors were shut against their base ingratitude—Luke xiv. 24. In the Saviour's account of the judgment, the only charge against those on the left was their neglect of duty. "I was hungry, and you gave me no meat," &c.—Matt. xxv. 42. The Scriptures do not teach that the enormity of sin will render salvation impossible. Publicans and harlots enter; while many, seeming not far from the kingdom, are shut out, because they stood carelessly in the door, and would not enter. Jesus says, "You would not come to me that you might have life." The Jews denied and crucified the Saviour, and there are thousands who shudder at the thought; yet with these same persons the commands of Jesus are of no more authority than the conjectures in a stale almanac. The Jews were

open and defiant in their deadly enmity; but now the Saviour is treated with that calm indifference—if not silent contempt—for which there is no excuse. "He that is not for me is against me." Gentle reader, if you are not for the Saviour—no matter what respectability or virtue you may have—you yet lack one thing—and that one thing is everything—devotion to Christ. A failure here, is a failure of eternal life.—O. A. CARR—in the *Apostolic Times*.

CURRENT EVENTS.

DOMESTIC.

The Nova Scotia coal mine at Maccan, N. S., is on fire.

The post office at Maitland, Yarmouth county has been made a money order office and commenced business on the 16th inst.

It is seldom that so much activity has been observable in the ship yards about Courtenay Bay as is prevailing there at present.

The 19th regiment has been ordered home, and it is likely they will leave about the 16th prox. It is understood that no relief will come out.—*Halifax Herald*.

Spruce grown on Grand Manan is said to be equal to oak and superior to hard pine for strength. It requires double work in fashioning, and has acquired a great reputation among shipbuilders.

Roger Amerau, the Nova Scotian, charged with murdering Mrs. Carleton at Waterton, Mass., was released on Saturday. The evidence against him was insufficient to warrant his prosecution.

Mise Slocum, a beautiful young woman, an adopted daughter of Mr. John Walsh, of Digby, died suddenly last Wednesday evening, from taking a spoonful of poison in mistake for some medicine which had been prescribed for her.

OTTAWA, January 17.—At three o'clock this afternoon the Marquis of Lansdowne, our new Governor-General, formally opened the second session of the fifth Parliament of Canada, with the usual stereotyped, though brilliant ceremonies, and amid the customary din and excitement.

METHODISTS UNITING.—Notice is given that application will be made to the Legislature of the Province of Quebec, at its next sitting, for an Act to ratify and confirm the union of the Methodist Church of Canada, the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, the Primitive Methodist Church in Canada, and the Bible Christian Church of Canada, under the name of "The Methodist Church," according to the basis adopted by the four denominations, and the rules, regulations and discipline also adopted by the four denominations in a general convention assembled at Belleville on the fifth day of September, 1883, and to vest in the said Methodist Church all the property now vested or held in trust for each of the said churches upon such trusts as may be in said Act declared, and to confer upon the said church such other powers as may be requisite.

FOREIGN.

At London, Jan. 27, the wind blew a hurricane all night. Much damage was done in London; many persons were injured. The glass roof of the Westminster Aquarium was demolished, and several persons were hurt. A printing office on the Haymarket was unroofed and a boy killed by the falling debris. Many vessels were wrecked off the coast and a large number of lives lost. The only Provincial ones were the brig, Jonathan Wier of Moncton, and the Herbert Beech of Yarmouth.

Reports from all parts of the kingdom agree that the gale of Saturday was unparalleled in severity. At Hastings the sea dashed over the streets, making walking dangerous. At Monmouth Wye and Monnow the river overflowed its banks and high waves flooded Southampton and East Bourne, which suffered severely. At Torquay there were many casualties; many boats were swamped. Shops on the Isle of Wight were closed early on Saturday owing to the hurricane. At Newry, many houses were unroofed and the police barracks rendered untenable. At Leeds the roof of a dwelling collapsed, killing the daughter of a workman and injuring four sons. The Free Thinker Hall there was com-

pletely demolished. The hurricane demolished an iron chapel at Newcastle, the falling roof killing a woman and two children.

The boring of a tunnel under the Mersey between Liverpool and Birkenhead, which was begun in 1879, was completed last week. It is for railroad purposes, with a length from shaft to shaft of over four-fifths of a mile; its estimated cost is \$4,330,000.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted at a meeting held in General Assembly's Offices, Belfast:—"That having considered the proposals in the *New York Observer* for a re-union of the Scotch-Irish Presbyterians of the United States and the Colonies, &c., at the time of the meeting of the General Council of the Alliance of the Reformed Churches in Belfast, we approve generally of the proposal, and are of the opinion that two meetings should be held—the one in the forenoon and the other in the evening of the 4th of July, the day next after the closing of the Council—when addresses shall be delivered by persons representing the United States, Canada, Ireland, Great Britain, and her colonies. That we are prepared to co-operate with our friends in America and the colonies in making the necessary arrangements." Dr. Watts is to communicate this decision to the friends in America and the colonies.

VIENNA, Jan. 27.—A despatch received here early this morning reports the Austrian village Prasadorf on fire, and a violent gale blowing.

UNITED STATES.

A car load of sixteen mules arrived on Jan. 6, a Fort Scott, Kan., frozen to death.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 6.—The thermometer at 4 o'clock this morning registered 13 degrees above zero—the coldest weather here in 135 years.

GLOUCESTER, MASS., Jan. 3.—The record of losses in the Gloucester fisheries the past year shows 17 vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 1,119, valued at \$91,300, were lost. Insurance upon same, \$76,972. Two hundred and nine fishermen lost their lives, forty of whom are known to have left widows and the number of fatherless children of which there is a record is 68. Seventy-one men capsized or gone astray in dories have been rescued, many after hardships defying description. Total losses in New England fisheries besides Gloucester are 12 vessels, 645 tons, and 17 lives.

A despatch from St. Paul, Minn., says: The coldness of the weather along the railroad lines today is indicated by the following figures: On the Manitoba lines, all divisions, 35° to 30° below zero; on the Northern Pacific, 42° to 38° below; from St. Paul to Fargo, on the Dakota division, 40° below; on the St. Paul and Duluth, 38° to 25° below, the latter for Duluth; on the Omaha line, eastern division, St. Paul, 30° below; New Richmond, 36° below; northern division, 40° to 30° below; St. Paul division, 36° to 22° below; Brainard at noon, 32° below.

All trains arriving at Chicago are greatly delayed. Eleven miles southwest of the stockyards, on the Wabash road stands a train of 20 cars of live stock. The train was snowed under on Tuesday night, since which the animals have been without food or water. Although several engines were sent down the train could not be reached and the party returned, several of them being badly frost-bitten. It is believed that the stock perished to-day.

At Utica, N. Y., Jan. 31, a house occupied by an aged couple named Clinton Norwich, was burned. The old couple perished in the flames.

On Jan. 31, the south bound accommodation train on the Indianapolis & Chicago Air Line met with a terrible accident at Broad Ripple Bridge, seven miles from Indianapolis. The engineer had gone to the baggage car for a drink of water, leaving the locomotive in charge of the fireman. When the engine had reached the centre of the bridge the fireman felt the structure sinking. He at the time had his hand on the throttle, which he opened, giving the locomotive all available steam. The engine sprang forward with great force, breaking the couplings between the tender and baggage car. The locomotive kept the track, but the baggage, and smoking cars and passenger coach dropped through the bridge and were piled up in a mass at the foot of the pier. Six persons were killed.

M. de Lesseps has been invited to undertake to complete the canal which is to make St. Petersburg a seaport and independent of Cronstadt.