

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NEW YORK EVANGELIST.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.

The House has made one more advance Six weeks hallowing and quarrelling have secured the election of a Speaker and a Clerk At this rate, the organization of the House may be fairly expected some time before the Anniversary. The strife for the Speakership had some dignity and meaning—that for the Clerkship had not much of the former, though deeply significant. The array of the South against the North was more unequivocal and decided than in the last contest. Mr Furnay, the Democratic nominee, professed Southern principles, ultra enough for any taste; yet he was abandoned by Southern Democrats for a Whig, solely and avowedly because that Whig was a Southern man. Indeed, it was repeatedly asserted that the South was determined to suffer the election of no officer who was not a Southern man. Northern men with Southern principles, once in such demand, are not to be trusted in these times when public opinion is awake, and the defence of slavery is becoming a matter requiring firmness. The position of the South excited a good deal of feeling; when Campbell's election was announced as secured by the defection of Southern Democrats from Fournay. Mr Wood, of Ohio, rose in great excitement and thanked the Southern wing of the party for having defined their position. The North would know how to act. It ought to be said, however, to the credit of the House, that amidst all the vexations of this controversy, breaches of order and decorum have been very few.

The Senate has meanwhile been at work with commendable diligence, and has on more than one occasion, been the centre of considerable interest. A great debate on the slavery question drew a thronged house, and was listened to with an eagerness that shows how deeply this question has sunk into the mind and heart of the nation. Indeed, it seems to be the subject uppermost in all minds. No question can be started which is not discovered to have relation to this; and no other subject seems to excite any interest, either in or out of the senate. On Friday, the Vermont resolutions on slavery, introduced by Mr Phelps, came up, and Mr Chase, of Ohio, made his debut on this subject in a very calm, considerate speech, which evinced great anxiety to avoid offence. The ground of Northern anti-slavery men was defined, as liberally as I have ever heard it, and the state of the question between the North and South fairly put. The South had no reason to complain; she has had her full proportion of influence and patronage; and now, why can she not meet this question in a spirit of compromise? He desired no aggression upon the South; he asked for no interference with slavery within the States where it is established by law; he merely wished to absolve the North from participation in its existence and extension. Mr Chase was replied to by young Mr Clemens of Alabama, in an excited and angry manner which became as violent and personal as could well be. Abolitionists—and this term would, according to Mr Clemens' definition, embrace well nigh the whole North—were denounced for everything but friends to their country, and placed in the lowest scale of his denunciation, with the exception of a class in the South itself, upon whom the full measure of his wrath was indignantly poured. That Southern class who were thus denounced by Mr Clemens, were those whom he charged with hesitation and a too great spirit of concession, and whom he represented as being afraid to take that stand for the protection of Southern rights that the exigencies of the times demanded. Mr Hale responded to Mr Clemens, in a speech full of sarcasm and wit. He was truly eloquent too, in replying to that portion of Mr Clemens, speech in which he represented the operatives in the New England factories and workshops as slaves! He paid a well deserved tribute to the industry, intelligence and frugality of the New England operatives. Mr Butler followed Mr Hale, declaring that the dismemberment of the Union was inevitable! The South had never desired disunion; she had borne and forborne, till forbearance ceased to be a virtue. Mr Davis also followed in the same tone and strain. Mr Calhoun seems to have surrendered. He said, on Tuesday, in the course of this debate, that he had "long and steadily resisted the current of abolition feeling, but he was now in despair, and it must roll on. Northern gentlemen admitted that the stream was too powerful there to be arrested. He would not say what the South would do, but doubted not when the time for action came, she would improve it in a manner worthy of her honor and virtues."

Senator Masson, of Va. also, and others from the South, now advocate the printing of the most obnoxious resolutions from the North, to give, as they say, to their constituents an opportunity to understand the real state of feeling in the country on this momentous question. This is a point of reasonableness to which they have for some time been arriving by slow stages, but it is a great gain for them. How nobly Gov Crittenden, of Ky, treats this subject in his message. The disunionists must not count on his support. Nor must they look to Louisiana for help.

On Monday, Mr Douglass, of Illinois, sub-

mitted a resolution instructing the Committee on the District of Columbia to inquire into the expediency of giving back to the State of Maryland all that portion of the Federal District not embraced in the corporation limits of the city of Washington, and also of granting to the city such legislative powers as are exercised by the Territorials of the United States.

Gen. Houston, of Texas, also submitted a preamble and resolution, setting forth that Congress has no power over the subject of negro slavery whatever, either in the States, Territories or District of Columbia, and pledging Congress in advance that if any of the Territories shall establish slavery in the formation of their State Government, such clause shall be deemed no objection to their admission as States into the Union. When that resolution is adopted by Congress, we shall no doubt hear of it by telegraph.

Mr Crowell, of O. gave notice on Friday, that he should ask leave to introduce a bill to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia. I see not why this could not be done without "shaking the Union to its centre," since it is the best and most suitable thing for the inhabitants that could be done, though they ought to petition for it as a basis of action. The infamous slave dens ought to be broken up without delay. They are indeed a disgrace to the authorities that protect them, and to the country.

Mr Seward submitted a resolution directing the Committee on Public Lands to inquire into the propriety of setting apart a portion of the public domain free, for the Hungarian exiles.

Rev. C. M. Butler, Episcopal, has been elected Chaplain to the Senate, in place of Rev Mr Slicer, Wesleyan, by the casting vote of the Vice President.

VALUABLE PRESENT.—We learn that the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly has been notified, by the last mail, that upwards of one thousand seven hundred volumes of Parliamentary Works are now on their way to New York, which have been presented by order of the Speaker of the House of Commons, to the Library of the Canadian Assembly; they include a complete set of the Commons Journals from 1547, in 110 volumes; also a series of the Sessional papers from 1800 to the latest date, containing the whole of the valuable statistical and general information which has been from time to time laid before the House, together with Reports of Committees, Commissions of Inquiry, &c. &c. This is indeed a princely gift.—Pat.

INDIAN COUNCIL.—The Syracuse Journal says that a series of Indian councils have been held daily at the Onondaga Castle for the past fortnight. The writer says, "on Friday last was celebrated the important rite of sacrificing the White Dog! The customary victim was immolated on the flaming altar, with all the formality and circumstances of ancient usage among the Iroquois, in presence of a pagan portion of the nation, and numerous white persons, spectators. On Tuesday last, this crowning festival of the Indian year, after a continuance of nine days, was closed with the exciting and wonderful ceremony of the War Dance. These observances are continued in the midst of a christian community with all the reverence, solemnity and zeal of ancient times, with punctuality and devotion which shows the regard these people have for the institutions of their fathers, and with which tenacity they still cling to their ancient customs."

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH BETWEEN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.—The concession, signed by Louis Napoleon and the Minister of the Interior, M Dufaure, granting to Messrs J. Brett, Toche & Co. the right to establish an electric telegraph line between France and England, by a submarine communication across the Channel, arrived in town on Monday. The company propose to establish, by means of the electric telegraph, an instant communication between the two countries. The patentees guarantee that this telegraph shall, by the aid of a single wire, and of two persons only (the one stationed in France and the other in England) be capable of printing, in clear Roman type, on paper, 100 messages, of fifteen words each, including addresses and signatures, all ready for delivery in 100 consecutive minutes.

THE QUEEN DOWAGER'S FUNERAL.—Her death has bequeathed to us a memorable lesson and an important example, never, we hope, to fade from public memory, or to be lost on public habits. Her Majesty's unostentatious and private funeral will no doubt be followed by similar unostentatious and private funerals amongst the upper classes, and will, from them, descend to all. In this age of reform, perhaps no reform is more called for than one in funerals and undertaker's bills. We pity that class of tradesmen, doomed from this time as surely to decay as inn-keepers on turnpike roads, but no labour is so profitless, no money can so well be spared, none so unpitifully wrung from weeping children and friends, as the labor and money now wasted on the pomp and trappings of funeral woe. It is one of the last remains amongst us of a poor ambition to assure ourselves that we are of great importance; in reality, a pompous attempt to convey a contradiction to the sublime truth with which we commit the body to the grave, "Dust thou art, and to dust thou shalt return." —Economist.

PRODUCTIVENESS OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

The public will read with interest the following extract from an address of Professor Johnston, who has been engaged for several months past in exploring the Province and ascertaining its Agricultural capabilities. The Address was delivered at the city of St. John, December 27 1849:

"The present averages of the Province amount to the following produce per acre, viz:

Wheat, - - - bushels, 17 | Rye, - - - bushels, 18  
Barley, - - - - 27 | Potatoes, - - - - 201  
Oats, - - - - 33 | Turnips, - - - - 389

I will not now dwell on these averages, because time will not permit; but I will tell you what I have done with them in order to arrive at some idea of the productiveness of this Province. I have taken a similar average of the State of New York, as furnished by the latest and best authorities, and that average is as follows:

Wheat, - - - bushels, 14 | Rye, - - - bushels, 9  
Barley, - - - - 16 | Potatoes, - - - - 90  
Oats, - - - - 26 | Turnips, - - - - 88

I need make no comment on the averages; you will draw your own conclusions. But in order to test this result, I have taken three of the most productive counties of the State of New York, viz: Genesee, Ontario and Niagara, and have contrasted their average produce with the average of the whole of New Brunswick. In Genesee the average is thus:

Wheat, - - - bushels, 14 | Rye, - - - bushels, 10  
Barley, - - - - 15 | Potatoes, - - - - 125  
Oats, - - - - 23 | Turnips, - - - - 105

The average thus arrived at was a result which to me was very unexpected and surprising. I then turned up the Report of the Ohio Board of Agriculture, in which I found a series of returns from the Secretaries of the different Agricultural Societies in that State for the year 1848. I took the average of those returns for the whole State of Ohio, and contrasted them with those of New Brunswick. The averages for Ohio are as follows:

Wheat, - - - bushels, 15 | Rye, - - - bushels, 16  
Barley, - - - - 21 | Potatoes, - - - - 69  
Oats, - - - - 33 | Turnips, - - - - [not returned]

MIRACULOUS ESCAPE OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.—The following, reported to be from a local paper, gives the startling particulars respecting a miraculous escape of His Royal Highness the Heir Apparent has recently had from the discharge of a gun:

"It is with deep emotion of gratitude to an overruling Providence that we are about to lay before our readers the following startling incident, and which, but for a merciful interposition, might have had the result of plunging a whole nation into mourning. A few days ago his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was permitted to accompany his royal parent in one of his shooting excursions in the neighborhood of Osborne, Her Majesty also, with her usual royal attendance, being present as a spectator of the sport. It appears that just as Lord Canning was about to shoot a hare a bird fell from the gun of another of the party, and the Prince of Wales, running forward in playful eagerness to pick it up, placed himself exactly between Lord Canning's gun and the hare he was about to shoot. When Colonel Grey, observing the danger, rushed forward so as to cover with his person the object of a nation's hope, and in doing so received in the skirt of his coat upwards of twenty shots from Lord Canning's gun, which but for Colonel Grey's promptitude would in all probability have taken effect on the head and face of the Prince of Wales. The shot which was communicated to the whole of the royal party was electrical. Lord Canning, not knowing what mischief he might have perpetrated, fell down in a fainting fit at the moment of the discharge of his gun; while Lady Canning, who was of the party, observing her noble husband fall, was impressed with the idea that his gun had burst, and was for a few moments in a state of indescribable suspense. The sensation of the whole party, especially of Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, when it was ascertained that no real mischief had ensued from the discharge, may be readily conceived. Colonel Grey's coat having fortunately been of sufficient thickness to prevent the shots penetrating his body.

The following resolutions relative to the slavery question have been brought forward by Mr. Cass in the United States Senate:

"It being desirable for the peace, concord and harmony of the Union of these States, to settle and adjust amicably, all questions of controversy between them, arising out of the institution of slavery, upon a fair equality and just basis, therefore—

First—Resolved, That California, with suitable boundaries, ought, upon her application, to be admitted as one of the States of this Union, without the imposition by Congress of any restrictions to the exclusion or introduction of slavery within those boundaries.

Second—Resolved, That as slavery does not exist by law and is not likely to be introduced into any of those territories acquired by the United States from the Republic of Mexico, it is inexpedient for Congress to provide, by law, either for its introduction into, or its exclusion from, any part of the said territory; and that appropriate Territorial Governments ought to be established, by Congress, in all of the said territories, not assigned as the boundaries of this proposed State of California, without the abolition of any restriction or condition of slavery.

Third—Resolved, That the western boundary of the State of Texas ought to be fixed on the Rio del Norte, commencing one marine league from its mouth, and running up that river to the southern line of New Mexico, thence with that line eastwardly, and continuing in the same direction to the line established between the United States and Spain, excluding any portion of New Mexico, whether lying on the east or west of that river.

Fourth—Resolved, That it be proposed to the State of Texas, that the United States will provide for the payment of all that portion of all the legitimate and bona fide public debts of that State, contracted prior to its annexation to the United States, and for which the duties of foreign imports were pledged by the said State to its creditors, not exceeding the sum of ——— dollars, in consideration of the duties as pledged, having been no longer applicable to that object after the said annexation, but having thenceforward become payable to the United States; and upon the condition also, that the said State shall, by some solemn and authentic act of her Legislature, or of a Convention, relinquish to the United States any claim which it has to any part of New Mexico.

Seventh—Resolved, That more effectual provision ought to be made by law according to the requirements of the Constitution, for the restitution and delivery of persons bound to service or labor, in any State, who may escape into any other State or Territory of this Union.

Eighth—Resolved, That Congress has no power to prohibit or obstruct the trade in slaves between the slaveholding States, and that the admission or exclusion of slaves brought from one into another of them, depends exclusively upon their own particular law.

Respecting General Taylor's policy on this subject the Courier and Enquirer observes:

"We have already expressed our conviction that the policy marked out by General Taylor for settling the vexed question of government in the territories, will receive the full and entire concurrence of the American people.—

Besides being eminently just in itself, it furnishes the only feasible method of escaping from the evil which the designs of slaveholders and their adherents have laid upon the country. In both respects, it can be said to conform itself to the sentiment and approval of all who love the Union and desire to see it preserved.

Whatever difference of sentiment may exist as to the results of the question before us, it is clear that its agitation has involved the country in very great excitement.—The temper displayed at Washington indicates a state of feeling which can safely be relied upon or disregarded. Whether right or wrong, the representations from the Southern States seem determined to arrest the wheels of government, and compel a virtual suspension of all its functions, if Congress persist in excluding slavery by positive legislation from the free territory of the United States. The course which they have adopted on this subject—the temper which has marked their action and language, and the very offensive character of the position they have assumed, have not left the North in a very compliant mood. The feeling is very general among our Northern members that they have fights, as well as the South;—and that there is no good reason why they should be abandoned.

General Taylor calls upon both parties to drop the subject of dispute between them. He declares that it is not necessary for Congress to take any steps to provide government for these territories—that the people of that region have laws already for the regulation of their domestic and social relations, and that the Federal Government have provided them the means of protecting themselves from the attacks of hostile Indians. They need no other government until they shall frame one for themselves, in order to their admission as States into the Union. With that Congress has no right to interfere. It is the right of the inhabitants of every section of this country, to create such a Constitution for the regulation of their domestic affairs as they see fit. This right, which is theirs according to all the fundamental principles of our republican government, General Taylor declares they shall enjoy. He will do nothing himself, nor will he encourage anything in any quarter, designed or calculated to deprive them of it. Whenever they are ready for admission as sovereign States into the Union, he calls upon them to frame such a Constitution as they desire, to make such laws for the regulation of their affairs as they see fit. With such a Constitution, if it be republican, as of course it will, their admission is almost certain. And General Taylor remarks further, that whatever conditions, contrary to their will, Congress may seek to impose upon them, they can easily repeal them after their admission, by changing the Constitution and making it to conform to their principles and their sentiments. Until that time shall come, General Taylor thinks that they may be safely and wisely left to the protection of the laws which they enjoy already."

PROSPECTUS OF "THE WATCHMAN."

RELIGIOUS AND LITERARY JOURNAL, PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE CITY OF TORONTO.

This Journal will vindicate the great principles of Protestantism; but especially that form of Protestantism termed dissent or non-conformity. The equal civil rights of the several sections of the Christian Church, the support of the Gospel Ministry by voluntary contributions, the introduction of lay agency into all the Councils of the Church, are some of the positions which will be advocated in the Watchman. Error and sin, wherever existent, or however high the earthly authority by which they may be sanctioned, will be fearlessly exposed; but party politics will never be admitted in the columns of the above Journal.

The Watchman will not be the official organ of any religious community; yet the undersigned will feel great pleasure in inserting brief notices (if furnished) of the progress of evangelical denominations. Especially is it expected that in the absence of a connexional organ, the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion Church, will consider this Journal their medium of acquainting the public with their operations and progress.

Great care will be taken to render the Watchman not only unobjectionable, but interesting and instructive as a family newspaper. It is intended that this periodical shall maintain a position equally distant from the airy region of romance and the spiritless monotony of an uninteresting compilation. The following plan of Departments has, after much consideration, been adopted.

- 1. THE MISCELLANEA—containing original and selected articles—religious, moral, literary, scientific, &c.
- 2. THE FAMILY CIRCLE—in which the duties, responsibilities, advantages, &c., &c., of this most ancient compact will be discussed.
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- 5. ECCLESIASTICAL.—or an index of the progress or decline of evangelical Christianity in the world.
- 6. THE WATCHMAN or principal editorial department—containing a faithful testimony for the truth, a solemn protest against the prevailing errors in the doctrines, practice, polity, &c., of professedly Christian Churches; also a review of news.
- 7. GENERAL INTELLIGENCE—containing Provincial, American, British and Foreign news. Special attention will be paid to the proceedings of the Canadian parliament.
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By engaging in this enterprise, the undersigned places himself under heavy responsibilities—moral, literary and financial; and he is fully aware that without divine assistance and the hearty co-operation of brethren in Christ and personal friends, those responsibilities will be extremely burdensome.

The Watchman will be published every Monday evening, by and for the undersigned.

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