

The Protestant AND EVANGELICAL WITNESS.

"PROVE ALL THINGS: HOLD FAST THAT WHICH IS GOOD."—1. THES. v. 21.

Vo. 2.

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Saturday, January 26, 1861.

No. 30.

The Protestant,AND EVANGELICAL WITNESS,
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Advertisements inserted at the usual rates. [To prevent disappointment, all advertisements should be sent to the Office before 3 o'clock on Friday.]

'Behold I stand at the Door and Knock.'

In the silent midnight watch,
Lie thy bosom down;
How knocketh, knocketh, knocketh,
Knocketh evereth!
Say not 'tis thy pulses beating;
'Tis thy heart of sin;
'Tis thy Saviour knocketh, and knocketh,
Knocketh, and let me in!

Death comes down with reckless footstep
To the hall and bat;
Thou death will tarry knocking.
Where the door is shut?
Jesus waiteth, waiteth, waiteth,
But the door is shut;
Grieved, away the Saviour goeth;
Death knocketh in at last.

Then 'tis time to stand entreating.
Christ to let thee in;
At the gate of heaven beatng.
Waiting for thy sin
May; also, thy guilty creature!
Hast thou then forgot?
Jesus waited long to know thee—
Now he knows thee not!

Letters from the New Hebrides.The following Letters from Revs. Messrs. Gordon, Matheson and Johnston, which we copy from the *Presbyterian Record*, will be read with interest:

EDMOND, July 10, 1860.

REV. AND DEAR Sir:
I hasten to write you a few lines by a vessel just leaving for America, "joyful at the coming of a Saviour," as Mr. Messrs. Copeland and Johnston have come over to us, and are now waiting for a favourable opportunity to return. With us will go all the means of joy and gratification that the safe arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Johnston in health and strength at this refreshing season of the year. The difficulties in the way of meeting together are very serious here at present, but we must try and overcome them. After we meet, God willing, you will in due time have particulars in relation to our operations.

As we are sailing and medicine which have been sent by the faithful friends at home, we will leave for America to be used for his honor among this degraded people, we beseech you to pray that we may have wisdom to use these means, and at the same time we return our best thanks for such benefits. Mr. Gordon especially feels grateful and refreshed by the unexpected tokens of Christian regard from so many who, I am sure she would feel it a privilege to know him. His sisters in the kingdom of our Lord, and will herself acknowledge each by an early opportunity, God willing.

We, however, were not anxiously inquiring if the friends with you were or were not so caring for us; but one thing of more importance we have been inquiring for incessantly with anxious expectation of good things to come, and that is the progress of our beloved mission as it is continually descending elsewhere.

I would take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the Revs. Messrs. Weddell, McGregor, R. Murray, McCallum, Currie, Laird, Fraser, and Mr. James and other friends for their kind letters, till I have opportunity to write them. I can assure them that such letters are frequently blessed by God in the distribution of his grace, and are far beyond what they imagined.

I remain, dear brother, yours very truly,
GAELON N. GORDON.

Rev. James Bayne. J. W. MURRAY.

ten days. On Sabbath he accompanied his inland to some of his preaching stations. In the morning he conducts worship at his own station, and then itinerates through the remainder of the day—preaching in any village or settlement, in which he finds one, two or three persons assembled at public worship at his own station—men and women. The second Sabbath there were but 5 persons, and that they desired to absent him, but could not. They have frequently threatened to take his life. But with heroic faith and Paul-like courage and devotedness to his Master's service he remains at his post, and refuses to leave it. I trust God will effect a great work through our dear brother among this savage and cruel people, and we have reason to hope that he will succeed in his efforts. Since the events referred to above there has been a decided change for the better, which appears to be extending daily. But it is a most critical time.

A small event may lead to the most ruinous results—the death of the missionary and the exclusion of the gospel from Tanna. Many earnest prayers should be offered up by the friends of our brother.

As there is no harborage at Mr. Matheson's side of the island we did not see him, but made provision to meet on our return at Port Resolution.

We left Tanna at midnight, and reached Dillon's Bay Saturday evening too late. It was with peculiar and interesting feelings that I set out the last night, the last arranged for leaving at midnight, but when he came to collect his boat's crew we found that, owing to their having indulged too freely in the use of hussos during the former part of the evening, they were utterly incapable of managing a boat. He therefore remained until the following morning, left after breakfast, and arrived home safely about mid-day.

As regards the events upon this side of the island the prospects are at present very dark and discouraging—more so than for some years past. Several circumstances have combined to lead to this sad state. One great barrier in the way of the spread of the gospel here is the want of efficient teachers, persons of intelligence and piety, capable of instructing by their example as well as by their precept. We have had no want of teachers being here, but will naturally expect also here of schools having failed in their trial, but such has not been the case upon Tanna. In October, 1854, two teachers were stationed at Asukaraka. Several others have since followed, and have been located at different villages. When we came here last year we were not a little surprised to find that not one native had been taught to read the first 100 letters of the Alphabet. After being here two months we succeeded in opening two schools, one at our own station and the other at Asukaraka. The former I superintended myself, the latter was conducted by Talip. Since we left both schools have been broken up, and not one of those who then attended now attend a lesson. At all the villages at which teachers have been placed, the natives have been a greater or less extent, abandoned by the teacher. At one village, of which Namua is the principal chief, neither he nor any of his people has attended worship during the past six months. At Asukaraka the teachers had been allowed to remain unmolested since October 1854 and Yarot, the principal chief, was very kind, supplying them with food, and encouraging them in their labours. From the hands of his son, a native, we had but 9 men and 12 women at service, and last Sabbath 14 men and about the same number of women as on the preceding day. O that the Spirit of God may speedily be poured out upon this dark, dark Isle of the sun! O that He may soon breathe upon those dry bones and that among them some symptoms of spiritual life may soon appear! Were it not for the assurance that God has truly given this dark Isle to his chosen people of Tanna, that in its swarthy hills and dales and in a part of his inheritance, where the hearts would surely soon fail and be disengaged on account of the trials and the difficulties which on every hand beset our path. But, though our prospects be neither high nor cheering, we would still hope in God, in a God all sufficient, even in that God whom we may pray would be glorified by conversion to himself of all kinds, nations, tongues and peoples.

It is to be regretted that they meet with powerful opposition and that their work was greatly retarded by foreigners (Europeans).

Tuesday, 11th. This morning we are preparing to leave for Asukaraka, in company with Mr. Gordon. I have written this letter to you in haste, as an opportunity to forward it to you will be lost.

At Edmonda, the Chinese, by way of China, has just offered itself.

I can say little about myself. I feel more and more that I will be happy in the work. Though deep spiritual darkness broods over these fair isles, and dangers surround, yet I would not be disengaged; for Christ has said, "Preach the gospel to every creature, and lo! I am with you always." When the brethren meet, my particular field of labour will be divided upon them. My prayer is that we may all be in the same spirit.

It is to be hoped that I will be loaned upon Tanna. Let the friends at home remember that it is the opinion of the missionaries that, humbly speaking, the lives of the natives are in great jeopardy on Tanna. The sickness which has been prevalent in the country, the natives attribute to the displeasures of the gods on account of the new religion. They tell Mr. Paton that the death of his wife is an evidence that Christianity is not good. And Mr. Paton says that when he accompanied Mr. Matheson to his station, on his return, the heathens appeared greatly enraged, and said that he had come to bring sickness and death. When the brethren meet, my particular field of labour will be divided upon them. My prayer is that you know not our circumstances here, how it is possible that you can pray aright for us. Do not suppose I am disengaged in the least. All I hold is full of hope, and full of work. Come not to pray for us fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters, and will all be well. Do not sink into ease or indifference, or into the other extreme—despair. They were all terrified, and thought that no man's life would be safe. I merely state these things that you may know how to comfort us. If you know not our circumstances here, how it is possible that you can pray aright for us. Do not suppose I am disengaged in the least. All I hold is full of hope, and full of work. Come not to pray for us fathers, mothers, brothers and sisters, and will all be well.

On Thursday, the 6th instant, I left Mr. Geddie's in the John Knox, for the purpose of visiting the neighboring islands. Mr. Copeland accompanies me and has chief command of our little vessel. During the night we reached Fortune, and, not succeeding to get any natives to come off, we lay-to all night. The next morning a number of canoes came off to us. We had on board the natives who had been ordered to leave the island some months ago. These seemed pleased to see the teacher, and wished them to return. The teachers themselves are willing to return, and we hope they will be received in their respective stations soon. I was much grieved to see the natives apparently much more anxious for worldly honors than for spiritual salvation.

Yours truly, J. W. MURRAY.

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parties who practised the Constitution to the support of slavery are traitors—not only to the liberties of millions of enslaved countrymen, but traitors to the Constitution itself, which they have sworn to support. “A government of my country; the word Slave is not to be found. I read, ‘We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice—, etc., establish justice— to promote the general welfare, as to secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.’”

Mr. Housack concludes his appeal in the following strain of eloquence:—

“Part of which is false, and from your reading and interpretation of the law, the jury have found me guilty of carrying out the great principles of the Declaration of Independence—yes, guilty of carrying out the still greater principles of the Son of God. Great God, can these things be? Can it be possible? What country is this? Can it be that I live in a land boasting of freedom, of equality, of justice, of truth?—that I stand here, in this hall, in this pia-cow down and worship this great image set up in this nation? Yes, the jury say guilty, but recommend me to the mercy of the court. Mercy, sir, is kindness to the guilty. I am guilty of no crime: I therefore ask for no mercy. No, sir, I ask for no mercy; I ask for justice. Mercy is what I ask for; justice is all I ask. Justice in the courts of my beloved country is all I ask. Justice is the inhuman infamy that has been wrong, not me.”

“My feelings are at home. My wife and my children are dear to my heart; but, sir, I have counted the cost. I am ready to die, if need be, for the oppressed of my race; but slavery must die, and when my country shall have burst through the terrible conflict which the destruction of slaves will bring, when the strength of the greatest struggle shall be completely written, the answer of Jim Gray will be considered as having done honor to God, to humanity, and to themselves.”

“I am told there is no appeal from this court, yet I do appeal to the court of high heaven, when Judge Drama-

well, and Judge Clinton, the recorder, and the recorder, will all have to stand at the judgment seat of the Most High.”

Treasury.

The Atonement of Christ.

Throughout the Mosaic economy, the doctrine of an atonement was set forth in lively colors by the bleeding victims on the Jewish altar. Apostles spoke of it in the most unequivocal terms, and apostles called it as the fundamental article of Christianity: yes, the excommunication of John, “Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world,” was but the echo of what patriarchs, priests, and prophets had proclaimed ages before.

A very distant view of the perfections of Deity, connected with a little acquaintance with human depravity, will convince any man, whose eyes are not blinded by the gaudy of this world, to receive the sentiments of the apostle, “that without shedding of blood there is no remission; and this sober truth admitted will render the stonement of Christ an essential doctrine.”

The victim which infinite wisdom appointed was no other than the coequal Son of God; and because Deity could not suffer, body and spirit, for him, the perfect humanity might bleed in sacrifice, and that the sacrifice might be acceptable and meritorious by virtue of its union with the Deity. An angel, nay, all the angels in heaven, would not have been a sufficient sacrifice for man: the guilt is infinite, and the stonement must be infinite; too; therefore, none but an infinite Being could become the victim. “Here is love,” unparalleled love, “not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”—Iron.

Spiritual Joy.

We attempt to give a blind man an idea of the purple blush of morning, or of the glorious beauty of the rainbow, our attempt will be a vain one. So also if we attempt to give an unconverted man an idea of spiritual joy—of joy in God—the attempt will be equally vain. He can understand that an escape from the anger of God may be a subject of rejoicing. He can understand that the favor of God is a thing to be desired, an account of the pain it may deliver from, and the happiness it may occasion. But this is not to have an idea of joy in God—of spiritual joy. This must be felt in order to be understood.

There is such a thing as joy in God—something distinct from the emotion awakened by a view of evils avoided and advantages secured. It is the highest joy the soul can experience. How seldom is it experienced! How seldom is it sought!

Professing Christians, do you know anything of this joy. You are constrained to use language relating to it. Does that language express a reality relating to it? Do you not know what it is to rejoice in God?

If you are a Christian, how pawsit not aim at the highest joy within your reach!

THE
Protestant & Evangelical Witness.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1861.

Intellectual Culture.

The mind of man is noble. It peculiarly distinguishes him from the other inhabitants of earth. It elevates him in the scale of creation, and constitutes his crowning excellence. Hence, the great importance of mental improvement, and the duty of assiduously cultivating the intellectual powers. When allowed to lie dormant, these do not tend much to exhibit man's excellence and superiority. When he remains in a state of ignorance, he acts very much from blind impulse. He is influenced by passion; he is guided by prejudice. Hence, he is frequently swayed into error, and his actions are neither creditable to himself nor beneficial to his race. But when his understanding is rightly informed, and his intellectual powers are well cultivated, he is, to a great extent, elevated above the pernicious influence of blinded passion, and freed from the ensnaring trammels of popular prejudice. His views are extended beyond the narrow circle of selfish existence; and his principles are founded on the unerring dictates of truth, and the sober deductions of reason. He becomes acquainted with the laws of nature in all their variety of her operations, and perceives beauty, and harmony, in the processes of her development. Exhibitions of her crowning maturity, is the ar-
eola of her numerous parts.

One of his adaptation to confer such advantages upon man, is the establishment of a College in our state; we have

on account of the want of time, and the want of money.

“To promote moral improvement, and the

intellectual culture of the young men of the

native land. We have a decided advance in our

country. Properly conducted, and

mentally attended, it cannot fail to be successful.

During a number of years, I have conducted a

series of lectures, to the youth of Wales,

Charlottesville, and many other places.

“The College is a decided advance upon those

which are now in existence, and the

Mathematical, and the other sciences, are taught

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EUROPEAN NEWS.

ITALIAN AFFAIRS.

When we hear in the present day of the appearance of a new Emperor of the French, it is interestingly instructive to the Empire of the French, a brother of the well-known stamp is now the avowed medium which chooses for the dissemination of his views, and for the ventilation of a policy which has affected so often, and so seriously, the interests of Europe at large. This is the fact which gives to the essay "L'Empereur François Joseph et l'Europe," which has just issued from the Paris press, such interest. It is a remarkable document, which would attach to it on the ground of its own intrinsic literary merit. Notably the production of M. Daverney, of St. Sulpice's library, and M. Pichot, one of the numerous successful capitalists of the second Empire, it is more than suspected that it may in reality claim the signature of M. Macqueron, the Empereur's secretary. It is a remarkable article, written with the tact and courtesy of his master, and may be supposed to embody his views as to the most feasible and satisfactory solution of the matters of which it treats. Whether the projects which are broached in it are altogether practical, yet remains to be seen. At present the ventilation of the whole question is all that can be desired.

The audience of the wide sea of that public opinion which the Emperor has always professed to respect, and the light breezes or powerful currents which may affect its course will be, we may be sure, narrowly scrutinized by one of the keenest observers of the present age.

Profiting greatly among all the rams of Venice, the Italian revolution is rapidly making in all probability, towards the assembling of that Haydn Congress which has been so often talked of, but which is still only in embryo.

The recognition by Europe of the annexation of Savoy and Nice is still the darling scheme of Louis Napoleon; and this, as it is well aware, can never be obtained, except upon the footing of a single nation.

What that plan may be, we do not yet know. Unquestionably, however, it will be a bold one.

In the present moment, it is only so in the brain of its author, nor is it unlikely that a shadowy outline has been left to be filled up according to the turn which events may hereafter take. It does not, however, follow that suspicions as to the source from which they may have emanated, are to be regarded as well founded.

At present, however, the Federal troops have descended upon the fort in Pensacola Harbor, except Fort Pickens, where they are concentrated. Three hundred men have gone from the fort to engage in the service of the United States.

Wednesday, Jan. 16.—Late events in Charleston harbor have now become a mere question of time is the deliberate opinion of every one who has studied, in all its numerous bearings, the present state of Italy. In what precise manner an important change may be ultimately effected, is of course a matter of small importance; but such a concession, important as it may be, should not be purchased at the cost of a bloody war, will be the wish of all who have the good of either party at heart. Austria can hardly fail to see the immeasurable strength which will be added to her position, were this thrown in her side quite suddenly, and not in a manner not diametrically opposed to the national honor.

It is to be hoped that the Emperor will be induced to make his peace with the State troops.

Wednesday, 11th.—Florida receded yesterday, at noon, by a vote of 62 against 7.

The Arsenal at Chateauguay has been seized by order of the Governor, or pretence that Government officers were shown to enter the arsenals.

High importance was attached to the possession of such a fortification between Ste. Thérèse and Gas. Scott

at a private dinner party. Mr. Tocqueville expressed the hope that the people of Chateauguay would sink the Star of the West.

Gas. Scott with much earnestness asked whether it was possible for Mr. Tocqueville, an American, and doctor, to be sent to him.

Mr. Tocqueville replied that he had no objection to his being sent to him.

Gas. Scott said he was responsible for what he said, and Mr. Tocqueville remitted that the matter is in the hands of the government.

It is intimated in official circles that the steamer Boston and Harriet Lane will accompany the Star of the West in her next effort to enter Charleston harbor. It is presumed that the Star of the West will convey the troops to Fort Sumter, as he is believed to be below deck, while the Brooklyn will lay outside of the harbor in case of fire.

Jackman, Min., Jan. 16.—The order for the immediate cessation of the State passed the Convention yesterday by a vote of 84 against 16.—All the prominent buildings in the place were illuminated. Canons were fired, and other demonstrations followed.

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Wednesday, Jan. 11.—The Alabama Convention passed the economic ordinance at half past two o'clock this afternoon.

Cannons were fired, bells rung, and great enthusiasm manifested generally.

The Star of the West, Jan. 11.—Under Order of Gen. Scott a detachment of fifty Federal troops, under Lieut. Robinson, took possession of the Subtreasury, Custom House and Post Office early this morning. Everything is quiet.

The latest addition from Charleston report that the steamer Boston, having been sent to the aid of the rebels from Washington, has arrived at the port of New York.

The steamer Star of the West returned here on Saturday evening, having brought reinforcements from New York.

The soldiers at Gosport were sent yesterday, to New York, from Washington that they are not to be sent back—Jan. 16.

In Virginia, the question of Secession is to be submitted to a vote of the people, to be taken at the time the delegates to the convention are selected. If a fair majority is allowed, this will give opportunity for the formation of whatever conservative and anti-revolutionary sentiment there is in the State.—B. Jan. 16.

The coal impudence of the rebels at Charleston is really amazing. Yesterday Gov. Pichot had the effrontery to telegraph to this city for publication that trade was destroyed at Charleston, and that no vessel would be fired at unless it brought reinforcements to Fort Sumter. He states that he will not risk his life in attacking the fort.

He also states that he will not allow his men to attack the fort unless he is compelled to do so.

The steamer Star of the West, Jan. 16.—The rebels are not altogether so obstinate as could be wished. The accession of Central Italy and the Legations to Sardinia, while they have enormously increased his prestige as a diplomatist, have materially diminished his influence as a Minister. There are those among the Deputies from the new provinces who are both envious of his fame and jealous of his influence. A number of the malcontents are certain to be immediately incorporated with the forces of the King of France.

The whole Massinian party are against him to a man, and will infallibly make common cause with his opponents upon every division.

It is to be hoped that he will even be able to command a majority in the New Chambers. If he does so, he will still have a few supporters, however, comprising their opposition to him, if upon no other point. At the head of one section of his assailants are M. Riesco and M. Pelli, who have taken more or less offense at not having been sufficiently consulted. At the head of another is his old enemy, M. Rattati, the leader of the Left. The Minister is thus placed between two fires, and it is difficult to tell which will prove the greater.

Strong to say, they proceed to the full as much from the policy of Sardinia as from that of Austria.

Looked at simply in a financial point of view, the gain to Austria which would accrue from such a policy would be itself enormous. Besides the immense reductions which might be made in the military budget, no additional revenue could be derived from the two or three hundred millions of francs which would be given up by the fall of the Monarchy.

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