



Provincial Wesleyan

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The death of Nicholas, the accession of Alexander, the probable influence of these events upon the present war, are the topics that have attracted so much of nearly to engross the public attention of Europe.

When the announcement first was made that the great depot was no more, it was attended by circumstances which induced in many minds the suspicion that some foul means had been employed to accelerate his end.

We give but little credence to such a statement, and we place but little confidence in the disposition of Alexander, once seated on the throne of Russia, to abandon the designs of aggrandizement which have proved hereditary in the family of the Romanoffs.

Nicholas was born at St. Petersburg, on the 7th of July, 1796. He was the third son of the Emperor Paul, by his second wife, Mary of Wirttemberg.

In July, 1817, he married Charlotte Louise, the eldest daughter of Frederick William of Prussia, and sister of the present King. Four sons and three daughters are the issue of this marriage.

At the time Nicholas had little expectation of obtaining the Imperial Crown; but in the year 1825, his eldest brother, the Emperor Alexander, died at Taganrog, in the Crimea, it is supposed by poison.

Nicholas has been described as a man of a strong and energetic mind, and of a high and noble character, who was distinguished by his talents, his industry, and his energy.

As might well delight the admirers of what is rich, varied, and picturesque in nature. The noble river itself, receiving its fifteen hundred miles of tributary streams—now hemmed in by craggy and restless eminences, forcing onward its ample volume with rapid and turbulent speed, as it impinges on the stubborn barrier which it is its purpose to break through, dashing, dashing, rushing through its narrow pass, and over its rocky bed, impatient to disengage itself from its restriction—and then widening away, quietly, smoothly, and for a time entirely relieved of all its freight impulses, is an object of imposing grandeur. Here the eye can trace its channel colored cast, rendered additionally striking and beautiful by the symmetrical maple tree and the graceful elm, with apparent ease and carelessness, hanging out her branches in rich festooning, the one representing the geometry, and the other the poetry of the North American forests—bounds for some short time the sight of its course.

The accession of Alexander Nicolavitch has been hailed with jubilation acclaim by many who regard it as the precursor of peace. Mild and pacific in his principles, and all along opposed to the monstrous aggression which has marked the close of his father's reign, it has been generally supposed that the new Emperor would signalize his own inauguration by a reversal of the policy of his ancestors.

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New Brunswick.

LETTER FROM REV. R. KNIGHT. MR. EDITOR.—Among the many excellent articles which have recently enriched the columns of your admirably conducted journal, none can contain more of local interest than those which present to view the prosperity of the cause of Christianity in these Districts, and the deep debt which the cause of Foreign Missions has on the minds of our friends, and the members of our Societies.

With this conviction, I now take the opportunity of accomplishing what I have for some time purposed,—to give you an account of the success which has attended our efforts in the New Brunswick District; but more especially those Circuits where I have been personally engaged.

As might well delight the admirers of what is rich, varied, and picturesque in nature. The noble river itself, receiving its fifteen hundred miles of tributary streams—now hemmed in by craggy and restless eminences, forcing onward its ample volume with rapid and turbulent speed, as it impinges on the stubborn barrier which it is its purpose to break through, dashing, dashing, rushing through its narrow pass, and over its rocky bed, impatient to disengage itself from its restriction—and then widening away, quietly, smoothly, and for a time entirely relieved of all its freight impulses, is an object of imposing grandeur.

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Latest European Intelligence.

Our latest dates are to the 17th ult., we make the following extracts: The last advices from the Crimea inform us of very decided progress with the siege. All that portion of the city which abuts on the French position has been destroyed, and the more thickly inhabited quarter which, from its position, occupies the artillery of the assailants most fully, had been set on fire to a very great extent, by means of a new French rocket.

A letter from before Sebastopol, of the 17th ult., in the Courier de Marseille, says: "At this moment the attention of the Generals is turned towards Balaklava, where the Russians appear disposed to attempt a coup de main. It appears from a reconnaissance made in the environs of the place, that a Russian corps, about 20,000 strong, is encamped to the east of the plains of Balaklava, and all around the village of Tebourgnou. These measures of the enemy cause the English to reflect, and they are most actively strengthening the fortifications of Balaklava. The French are doing the same at Kamiescha, in order to be tranquil at the south side, and in order afterwards to carry on their siege operations towards the north side, so as to intercept all communications with Sebastopol, and thereby completely invest it. The Russians continue to lavish their balls and shells. Night and day their guns fire on us but without much effect. On the 10th they threw 400 shells into our works in the space of two hours. The Allies scarcely fire in return. Since their sortie on the day the Grand Dukes arrived, no attack of decided importance has been made."

In the early part of the week a telegraphic message stated that the Grand Duke Michael had been blown up with the Malakoff Battery. This has not been confirmed. A Malta letter of 28th February states that at a council of war, at which Omar Pasha was present, it was agreed to attack Lippard's army, and in the event of success, to invest Sebastopol before attacking it.

Menshikov has sent the following despatch to his Government:—On the night between the 21st and 22nd February we effected a rout on the left bank of the fortifications of Sebastopol. This was done so promptly and unexpectedly that we received no annoyance from the Allies. On the night of the 24th and 25th the Allies attacked the redoubt with considerable force. Two regiments repulsed them. The enemy lost 600 men. The mining operations of the Allies have been suspended. Up to the 25th February nothing new had occurred at Eupatoria.

With reference to the above, a despatch from the French Admiral Baudin, of Feb. 24th, states, that on the previous day the French had destroyed the works round the Malakoff Tower but with great loss. The second edition of the Times contains the following version of a portion of the despatch published in the Monitor:—During the night between the 23rd and 24th February, the second corps of the French army carried the important works of the counter approach established by the garrison of Sebastopol opposite the French works. The loss of the French consisted in some hundreds wounded.

We have a letter despatch from Lord Raglan, dated the 24th Feb., in which, after his usual notice of the variability of the weather, he describes the severe brush between the French and Russians, in which General Monto was wounded. He also mentions with great satisfaction the resumption of his command by Sir George Brown, the gallant General being restored to 'perfect health.' The despatch concludes with the following:—The railway is getting on remarkably well, and the exertions of Mr. Beattie, who is superintending the works, are unremitting, and entitled to great praise. The casualties from 17th to 24th are one killed and seven wounded.

Letters from Eupatoria, received at Constantinople on the 18th ult., state that Omar Pasha was then at the head of 42,000 excellent troops. The remainder were shortly expected. It was hoped that on the first of March the entire Ottoman Army would be assembled at Eupatoria.

A letter from Vienna says—Olga has been transferred into a fortified place. All the war-houses have been made into military depots, and Odessa, which was the centre of maritime commerce, has become the pivot of the operations of Prince Gortschakoff and Prince Menschikoff. If the Russians do not evacuate it voluntarily—which is scarcely probable—Admiral Lyons will immediately proceed to effect its destruction. The Allies also intend to bombard Tebedoa, an undertaking with which Admiral Baudin will be charged.

The Baltic Steam Fleet.—The Times says:—The fleet which is to proceed to the Gulf of Finland, on the opening of the navigation, under the command of Admiral Richard Dundas, consists of 20 sail-of-the-line, all capable of being propelled by steam power. Of these ships ten are three-deckers, but only two of these, the Duke of Wellington and the Royal George, are first rates, the remaining eight being all new, or nearly new, ships of 91 and 81 guns. Then come ten more ships-of-the-line, two-deckers, or third and fourth rates, carrying 70 guns, and the services of which were terminated in the late Baltic expedition. The number of steam frigates and corvettes will be increased to no less than 35; and, in addition to these vessels, the fleet will contain eight mortar boats, carrying one 18-inch gun each, 20 steam gun boats, carrying two of three guns, and five heavy floating batteries, plated with wrought iron on their decks and sides, and intended to be taken into action without rigging aloft. These batteries carry twelve guns each, which may, however, all be fought on either side of the vessel. This fleet, that is required to encounter the Russian navy, if it should venture to put to sea, is to blockade the whole Baltic coast, if necessary; to carry the arms of the Allied Powers into the shallow waters which have heretofore been the place of refuge for the enemy; and to assail the forts and strong places on the coast which have not yet been exposed to any real attack.

Prussia.—The Nouvelle de Hamburg gives an account of the terms at present put forward by Austria as the basis of a treaty with France. (1) Prussia accepts the interpretation of the 29th December, and is to be admitted to the joint

Horton and Cornwallis Circuit.

MISSIONARY MEETINGS.

MR. EDITOR.—The Missionary Meetings for this Circuit closed at an early date of the present month, and I now lay before your readers, as far as ascertained, the result of these services. We have six Churches, placed at suitable distances, within the thirty miles which is likely the extent of country over which we have to travel in preaching Christ,—and ministers therefore feel some little anxiety about weather, state of roads, and probable financial success on such occasions. In each of these respects we had during our late meetings to submit to some disappointment: on two, out of the six evenings we could not expect large attendance, because of the unpropitious character of the weather; but the congregations at the other meeting were discouragingly small, and the subscription lists, made out at the close of each service, not in advance of those of last year. The Agricultural interest in this part of the Province was never, it is presumed, in such a prosperous condition as now; and for this, together with other reasons, we were expecting an improvement in the Missionary receipts, when compared with those of last year. It seems however that worldly prosperity does not always induce large audiences or augmented income, even when the cause advocated is of high importance, and I had to wonder in some of the meetings at the small attendance, and consequent absence of names from the subscription list upon which names I had fully calculated; what the result will be from the private appeals which we shall have to make before District Meeting, I cannot say; but, altho' I expect to see some improvement upon the receipts of previous years, I must think, that for Wesleyans to absent themselves from these meetings, and thus deprive themselves and families of the information which the ministers of the Circuit have assembled to afford, must be discouraging to some extent, and I would not allow that the cause of some of the people are not in the right place upon the subject of Christian Almsdeans.

I hope that my successors on the Circuit will reap the advantage of this protest against the apathy of some, I now record with much satisfaction, the hearty concurrence of many of our people with those endeavours to collect the means of continuing the war which is now waging against idolatry, superstition, and sin, in the high places of the foreign field.

Some of our old friends have augmented their gifts, and others have volunteered for the first time their christian offerings;—while we have to record to Mr. Joseph Vincent the credit of presenting the sum of £20, which I believe is the largest sum of our foreign agencies that was ever given at one time upon this Circuit. The brethren, England, Lockhart, Spangale and Harris, as well as some of our lay friends, delivered excellent and stirring addresses upon the subject, which would have done good to our congregations had they been present upon these occasions, and which, if published, would grace the columns of your excellent and popular periodical.

Revival on the Woodstock Circuit.

DEAR SIR,—Believing that any intelligence respecting the progress of the cause of God will prove interesting to the numerous readers of the Provincial Wesleyan, I send you the following notice of a gracious work now in progress at Victoria Corner, about eleven miles from this place.

Judging from the signs of the times, and the attention which marked the hearing of God's Word, as well as the impressions which seemed to be produced, that the time to favour our Zion in that locality had come, we commenced a series of meetings for the purpose of seeking more fully the divine blessing. The interest which the members of our Church, as well as the community generally, felt in the meetings, gave us ground to hope that the pleasure of the Lord was about to be manifested in a manner which would be a blessing to the souls of the people.

Accompanied by Brother Allen, my worthy Superintendent, conscious that it was not by might or power, but by the spirit of God, we repaired to the place of prayer. It was indeed a solemn season,—the influences imparted led us to hope, as has been the case, that these would be the droppings before a more plentiful shower.

Subsequent gatherings have been marked by the outpouring of God's spirit. Many have testified that the Lord is gracious. It was indeed a pleasant sight to behold not only the young, but the middle aged and gray headed unitedly seeking the mercy of God; and yet more delightful is it to hear many of them declare the wonderful works of God in bringing them from darkness into light, and turning their hearts from the power of Satan unto God.

Some whose lives were fast falling into the service of sin, have at length had their feet turned into the way of God's testimonies, and they now feel by happy experience that religion brings peace to the soul, and gives rest to the conscience. The work continues to progress,—and we hope that many more will ere long be brought into the liberty wherewith Christ makes them free who receive his Gospel in the love thereof.

The interest felt throughout the Circuit generally in the means of grace, encourages us to labour on in this good work, although sometimes weary in it; but never weary of it. For past tokens of the divine approval, we thank God and take courage. May his work prosper yet more and more. WILLIAM TWEDDY. Woodstock, March 19th, 1855.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND THE JEWS OF GERMANY.—While Lord John Russell was passing through Magdeburgh, Dr. Philippon, editor of the Gazette des Israelites, sent an address to him, signed by several of his co-religionists, thanking him for his liberal and enlightened views on the Jewish question, and the moral wants of man everywhere, their prayers may mark the necessary energy, supposing them to be presented to God for the speedy introduction of the latter day glory.

Our Missionary Anniversary in Lower Horton, was held at the close of some extra evening services which had been continued for near four weeks; in these meetings much good was obtained to some of our Church Members, and a number of penitents were brought into the glorious liberty of the Gospel;—and previous means was regarded



