

The Provincial Wesleyan.

to leave or not. For my own part I shall ever remember him with a grateful heart, and an inclined to think with the Yankees, that his is the greatest intellect in the country.

Concerts and public entertainments of various kinds are crowding the halls of our city night, and every body seems in activity of preparation for the New Year. Since that little pocket edition of winter, of which I wrote you, we have had nothing which could be called winter weather.

Fires are very pleasant—cloaks and furs have become matter of form, but the grass springs up in the doorways, and many green leaves are yet peeping forth in city gardens. By way of compensation for the absence of the green, the trees are clothed in a most beautiful and brilliant frost of silver, Nature has given us, by blotting down day after day as they always meant to do, clothing the day in an impenetrable fog—converting the streets into sloughs of despond, and in fact making every thing negative but mud and water. No sun—no shine—no light—no joy, came in dull, cold, November, unless we except a few bright days which appeared like angel visitants to remind us of better things.

When this reaches you the holidays will probably have commenced, and each heart and home of the Province will be a representative of the good old times of "Merrie England." May the mistletoe and holly prove wands of enchantment, and may old St. Nicholas cause each little heart to beat for joy in the New Year wish of

MOLLY BAWN.
Cincinnati, Dec. 11, 1852.

Religious Items.

CONVERSION OF ROMAN CATHOLICS.—In the early part of the present year, the Rev. R. B. Knorr, the pastor of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, established a class for Roman Catholic inquirers, the result of which has been very successful. Up to the present time, upwards of thirty persons have publicly abjured the errors of Romanism and joined the Church of England. Two of those persons are now in training to become Scripture readers, and one has given up a situation of considerable emolument to proceed to Ireland as a Scripture-reader. He left London in the course of last week to enter upon the scene of his future labours.—*Record.*

ROMANISM ABANDONED.—On Tuesday evening, during divine service, seven persons abjuring the errors of the Roman Catholic Church, and conforming to the doctrines of the Church of England, at St. John's, in this town.—*Liverpool Courier.*

A great public meeting was held in Liverpool on the 23d ult. for the purpose of protesting against the practice of auricular confession, recently introduced into the Church in the diocese of Exeter and elsewhere. Resolutions agreeing with the object of the meeting were passed unanimously. The principal speakers were the Rev. Hugh McNeil and the Rev. W. Pollock.

SYMPATHY WITH THE MADRAS.—It is contemplated to hold a public meeting at an early day in the Metropolitan Hall, in reference to the Madras, whom it will be recollected have been condemned to imprisonment for reading the sacred Scriptures in Florence.

The Pope has resolved to send an apostolic delegate to the Haytian Government, and has named for the purpose Padre Spaccapietra, a Neapolitan, who is to be consecrated Bishop in *quibusdam*.

MISSIONARIES FOR OREGON.—The Rev. Messrs. Hines, of the Genesee Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, have been transferred to the Oregon Conference and will soon leave for their new field of labour.

LIBERAL BENEFACTORS.—The Church of the Puritans (Dr. Cheever's) recently contributed nearly \$1,500 to the American Tract Society in a plain collection; and the amount has been considerably increased by voluntary offerings. A gentleman in the city handed a check for \$1,000 to one of the officers of the society, unaccompanied as an expression of interest in its beneficent enterprises, and of gratitude for worldly property. Another citizen sent the Treasurer a donation of \$600 anonymously, and a lady gave a check for \$250, to aid in liquidating the Society's debt. There is more than occasion for multiplying these instances of Christian liberality, if the present scale of operations is to be sustained and the necessary expansion attempted.—*Communicated to the N. Y. Spectator.*

DEMOCRATIC STATISTICS IN THE UNITED STATES.—The census shows that there are thirty-six thousand and eleven church edifices in the United States. Of these, twelve thousand four hundred and eighty-seven, or about one-third, belong to the members of the various branches of Methodism; the own Baptists nearly one-fourth, or 8,791; the Presbyterians the next number, or 4,584; and if we count the Dutch Reformed, Congregational Lutheran and German Reformed, with the Presbyterian, (and the differences between these seem slight and unessential) the total is 11,112. But the estimated capacity of the Presbyterian and allied churches is greater in the average than that of the Baptist and Methodist Churches, so that while all the Methodist Churches will accommodate but 4,209,533 worshippers, and all the Baptist but 3,189,878, the Presbyterian and related churches afford room for 3,705,211 worshippers. The Catholics have but 1,112 churches, accommodating 629,590 worshippers. The Episcopalians have 1,822 churches, accommodating 625,213 worshippers. The average number that each church edifice can accommodate is 484; the total value of church property \$86,416,632; and of all the churches should be filled at one time, they would hold 13,849,896 persons—probably something near the total population that could at one time attend church.—*Zion's Herald.*

From Late Foreign Papers.

The R. M. Steamer Canada arrived on Friday last at a few minutes past noon. She had on board twenty-two passengers—and £2,500 in specie.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's Budget has encountered much opposition, and is doomed—without the recess which is approaching, to encounter more. There are some good points, but there are also some great defects in the new financial system. Amongst the most favourable may be noticed the distinction which is drawn between incomes derived from pecuniary resources, and incomes based on fixed property.

It is currently reported that Mr. Peto, M. P., has purchased the building known as the Dorrans, Regent's park, for the purpose of erecting a Baptist chapel. The purchase money is said to be about £4,000.

It is stated in "Herald's Journal" that the underwriters of Lloyd's have insured the income of gold to the extent of £6,000,000, decline to go further.

Most painful rumours are current respecting the fate of Sir Montague Chapman, but there is no foundation in the rumour, as the gentleman had not been taken ill. His illness was not so severe as to have the least effect on his health.

The historians Prescott and Macaulay have been elected honorary members of the Royal Irish Academy, which now numbers among its members all the most distinguished men of letters in Europe.

The Liverpool Corn market, in common with others of the chief markets in the kingdom, has been much excited this week and an advance of 2s. 2d. per qr has taken place on Wheat, and 2s. 2d. 6d. per barrel and sack on Flour.

The proposed gradual reduction by Government of the duties on foreign goods, especially in Congress and Orange Franks, and prices have advanced.

Rates of Foreign Exchanges are a little lower. The British Funds have not exhibited much variation during the past week.

Consols were steady and closed as follows:—For Money, Account, 101 1/2; Money, 101 1/2; 1/3 and Quarter per Cent, 103 1/2; Bank Stock, 22 1/2; Exchequer Bills, little, long and short, 50 1/2.

The market for Foreign Securities has been rather dull, although there is no change in prices worthy of note.

There is nothing particular to notice in the Railway and miscellaneous Share markets; the latter has been generally very active during the week. In Gold Mining Shares there is less speculation, and prices have declined.

Freights to the United States have not varied much this last week, rates being generally well supported.

Franco-Louis Napoleon has assumed the title of "Napoleon, by the grace of God and the national will, Emperor of the French."

The civil list of the new emperor will, it is calculated, be about 30,000,000 francs, everything included. The ex-king Jerome will probably have a donation of 2,000,000, and his son 1,000,000 as an allowance for a royal family.

The balloon La Terrible, which ascended from Vanguard, on Thursday week, with 40,000 printed proclamations of the empire, to scatter over the line of its route, descended safely in one of the eastern departments.

The representative of the King of the Two Sicilies has been the first Foreign Minister to resign since Napoleon's fall. The Marquis de Casar, a despatch which left Paris on Monday, says—"The Government of her Britannic Majesty has just acknowledged the Empire officially." Lord Cowley, the English Ambassador, was received today by the Emperor Napoleon, to whom he presented the letters that accredit him again in the quality of Ambassador to the Emperor.

The Emperor was proclaimed on Sunday in the various parts of the neighbourhood of Paris.

The Belgian Ambassador proceeded on Tuesday to the Palace of the Tuileries, and presented, with some ceremonial as the English Ambassador yesterday, his letters accrediting him as Minister Plenipotentiary to the Emperor of the French.

Orders have been sent to strengthen the fortifications on the western coast of France, and the measure is said to be "an answer" to the announced addition of the British army.

The Minister announces, in his non-official part, that the Emperor will restore to liberty, to their families, and to their country, all those suffering from the consequences of civil discord, excepting such as have been guilty of crimes requiring immortality, on the sole condition of submitting to the national will, and engaging not to commit hereafter any act against the government of the Elect of the country.

Spain.—The Spanish Cortes had been dissolved.

The dissolution of the Spanish Cortes and the opening of the new Chambers in the month of March shows that either Mr. Bravo Murillo has receded before the consequences of an unconstitutional reform of the fundamental code of the country, or that he only means to gain time, and try to secure a Cortes more favourable to his views.

Belgium.—The law on the press has passed the Belgian Chamber. An amendment was accepted, that no prosecution for offences committed by the press against a foreign government will be commenced, unless the government so attacked shall demand it.

Italy.—A letter from Milan, of the 26th Nov., says—"Every one here is in a state of depression—Yesterday evening the sentences of the political prisoners at Mantua were published. Ten of the accused are sentenced to death, the remainder to the galleys for various periods. Count Romilli, member of the Chamber of Deputies, has already left Vienna, to employ the Emperor's clemency."

General Intelligence.

Domestic.

How Mr. How's Return.—The report in quarters likely to be best informed is, that Mr. How has been quite successful in providing funds for constructing our Provincial Railroads. There appears to be no doubt whatever, that the Messrs. Sykes & Co. are men of capital, and equal to the fulfilment of any engagement that Nova Scotia may be proper to enter into with them for constructing public works. We are also given to understand that arrangements have been made whereby any amount of money may be obtained in England at 6 per cent, on Provincial security, if that method shall be preferred, and Rail Roads let in sections, or otherwise. It has also transpired that the British Government expresses a perfect willingness to re-open negotiations for building the old Northern Line to Quebec, upon equally favourable terms as those previously expressed, if it is desired. How far the action of Nova Scotia and Canada, already taken, may tend to embarrass such a measure we cannot pretend to say.

We furnish the above as items of interest, gathered from the most reliable sources within our control.—*Provincial.*

The Rev. Richard Smith, rector of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Nova Scotia stands free from prosecution on any quarter, and to dispose of with dignity and independence.

We understand that Mr. Howe had an interview with the Earl Derby, and three or four with the Colonial Secretary. We are pleased to learn that the Government have re-opened the negotiations, and that Her Majesty's Ministers will be prepared to give the most favourable consideration to any propositions which the Province may make in due form, on the basis of Mr. Robinson's Line.

The responsibility, resources, and capacity of Messrs. Sykes, Brookfield and King, have been ascertained to be all that their best friends could wish.—*Chron.*

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BANKER ABERNETHY, dated at St. Louis, La. 8.50, Long 23, E. N. W. 1, 2500 from Halifax—all well—but very uncomfortable from the state of the stores—deficient in quantity and bad quality; water rotten and maggoty—everything beastly. A. M. C. D.

We understand that our venerable Chief Justice, who is in the habit of distributing meals and other necessities to the poor at the return of religious persons, has been very successful in his Christmas season, relieved a large number of distressed persons, and that yesterday his Lordships bounty in the way named.—We are surprised that no public provision has ever been made, by law, for the maintenance and employment of the vagrant poor in our community, as in other countries. The heavy tax levied upon individual charity, in the relief of beggars, is a testimony of the Legislature to remedy.—*Presbyterian Witness.*

ANAPOLIS, Dec. 21.—The house of Capt. Wm. Parker, in Granville, was burnt to the ground last night, and the greater part of the furniture was also consumed. Capt. P. was absent from home—at St. John.—*Ed. to Yorkmouth Herald.*

United States.

The engines of the caloric ship Ericsson were worked at New York during ten hours on the 20th, making nearly six miles half-ton per minute. This was performed upon 420 pounds of coal, carefully measured, and supplied to the furnace each hour. During the whole time the machinery was in operation, the furnaces being worked at full draught, the fire continually augmented. Such results exhibit a remarkable degree of the economy of this wonderful machinery. When the engines shall have been worked sufficiently to put them in perfect working order, the trial trip we understand, will be made.

The Crystal Palace stock, in New York, which cost per share when first issued at \$250,000, sold last week at \$100 per share. This would seem to be the greatest confidence in the success of this great enterprise.

Choiera was raging to an alarming extent in Polk County, Texas; nearly 60 slaves on one plantation had fallen victims to the scourge.

Boston, Dec. 20, 1852.—On Saturday, the President elect, accompanied by the Hon. Amos Lawrence, and President Hopkins, of Williams College, visited the Mather School in South Boston. General Pierce addressed the children, in language calculated to make a lasting impression, in favour of republican institutions, good order and moral integrity. He remarked that "the success and honour of our country depends upon such men as his own exercise. Everybody before me whether of an American or foreign origin, is here fitted to become an American citizen, and so let him improve his opportunities that he may become a blessing and an honour in support of his country." He concluded with an earnest appeal to the boys to be industrious in the improvement of their present advantages.

ESOLIN BUTLER OF BOSTON BRAND.—There were 1053 bushels of butter brought to this port by the last steamer from Europe. It is generally the most delicious sort. At the same time there are some of the inferior quality, brought from Hampshire, in order to obtain a market. Butter can be brought from the most distant counties in England, and sold at a lower price than what is demanded in this vicinity. The English article is generally much superior. We must import butter if we want it for twenty five cents a pound, retail.—*Free.*

GEN. PIERCE'S CALIFORNIA RISE.—Through the courtesy of Messrs. Jones, Ball & Co., the celebrated California gold, presented to General Pierce by a number of citizens of San Francisco, was exhibited to us this morning; and a marvel of art it truly is. It is of the finest gold, weighs 16½ ounces and would be a very becoming ornament for the little finger of the "King of the Giants," whom we read of in fairy tales. The ring is a beautiful specimen of the art of the jeweller, and represents a scene characteristic of the modern Opium. They must have artists of skill in San Francisco to have produced such a work. The cost was about \$300, and the value of the gold is upward of \$100. By touching a spring, a lid flew up, and you saw embedded various specimens of California ores.—*Boston Traveller.*

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