

The Sabbath Recorder.

EDITED BY GEO. B. UTTER AND THOMAS B. BROWN.

"THE SEVENTH DAY IS THE SABBATH OF THE LORD THY GOD."

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WHOLE NO. 288.

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EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER OF MR. CARPENTER.

SHANGHAI, June 18, 1849.

To the Executive Board of S. D. R. Missionary Association.

Our last letter to you, sent per overland, left this port per steamer to reach Hong-Kong in season for the May mail. As there is a vessel about to sail from this port to the gold regions of California, we embrace this opportunity of writing again, although we have but little to say. That little, however, we trust will give you and all who hear it a thrill of joy. I allude to another instance of conversion from heathenism. The fall of our late teacher seems to have been made instrumental of the raising from spiritual death of I know not how many. It seemed to be blessed to Bro. Wardner's teacher, in bringing him to a decision. It was not without its influence upon his work and ours. All of us regarded it as a loud call to renewed faithfulness. It was the means of bringing us into a more intimate acquaintance with the relatives of the deceased, by which means a door has been opened for preaching the Gospel to them. One of them, the only son of Chung, has recently avowed himself a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. And this she has done under circumstances which encourage us to hope that she is sincere. The Lord has been better to us than we had dared to hope. A combination of circumstances has, in the providence of God, tended to this happy result.

1. The pleasant acquaintance we had contracted with her brother, of course, gave us and the doctrine we bring, a more favorable reception than we could hope for under other circumstances. 2. By visiting him in company with Mrs. C., this has obviated what otherwise would have been a formidable objection in the minds of the Chinese. 3. The individual alluded to is able to read, which, among Chinese females, is a rare accomplishment. She has learned the doctrine more from reading than from any thing that has been said to her. And being a woman of more than ordinary abilities, it has not required so long a time as is generally required for a heathen to unlearn his errors and learn the truth. 4. Last, not least, the Holy Spirit, we trust, has opened her mind and heart to understand and love the Scriptures. After all, time may show that we are deceived in this case; but at present we rejoice, thank God, and take courage. And our prayer is, that God would make this individual a missionary to the large circle of relatives in which she moves. Already she has begun this work, in making known to her aged grandmother, who is blind, the blessed Gospel. Of this and other things Mrs. C. will inform you, as her opportunities with the family are greater than mine. Brethren, we ask you to rejoice with us in these first fruits of our feeble labors in this land of heathenism. If angels rejoice over sinners who repent, why should we suppress our joy or our thanks to God? But we must pray and labor still. In this same family of which I have spoken above, idolatry is still practiced, and an opposition is felt, and in our absence expressed, to the Gospel of Christ. But they treat us kindly, and some of them, I hope, are thoughtful.

What shall I say concerning more enlarged operations? We have already written for means to publish tracts. We know not how spirited our brethren may feel in reference to the enlargement of operations here. But if they find it in their hearts to do so, and if the Lord gives them means for this purpose, we shall be truly thankful. Not only do we want tracts, but in a year from this, or at most in two years, if we are spared and prospered, we think we shall need another place for preaching, where we could gather larger congregations. Not that we would give up this, but occupy both. It has happened, that I have seen several sites that can be bought, and the best one, all things considered, is not half a mile from me, perhaps not more than a quarter of a mile. But it is on a street that is much traveled, and, for aught I can see, a good place for a house and chapel. The Episcopalians have purchased two sites within the city, and are building; the Baptists have purchased one, and are building; the London Society has had a chapel in the city perhaps three years; the American Presbyterians are about to obtain a site, probably in the city. The Methodists have come, and probably within a year or two will have one. The London Society's missionaries are so numerous here, that they will doubtless soon have other chapels within the city. And how long must we be confined to this little narrow space? It is a good place, but I hope it will soon be found to be too narrow; so that our means and our acquaintance with the language will be long made desirable to take a more prominent place in this city. People should wish to build a chapel here, we would suggest.

Whether a location not far from our present place would not be preferable to one so remote, it seems to us that by this century, our primary duty, to give all satisfaction as to the reality of our having passed from death unto life. From the examination, we felt inclined to hope for each one of them. The meeting was closed by a season of prayer, in which each of these three took a part.

The next day the teacher of one of the missionaries called on me. Although he had other business, he asked me why we kept a different day from the other missionaries. I explained the matter at some length, referring him to numerous passages of Scripture, which he read. He seems to be a candid man.

News has recently reached us, that the Rev. Mr. Farmer, of whom we have formerly written to you, died near Caylon, on his way homeward. The Rev. Mr. Spalding, an American Episcopalian, who arrived here soon after our arrival, is laid by with an affection of the lungs. He has been a remarkably healthy man until within a few weeks. Mr. Yates, of the Southern Baptist Board, is likely to lose the use of his eyes.

MISSIONARY EFFORT IN CHINA.
The English Correspondent of "The Independent," furnishes "Missionary Gleanings" of an interesting character, from which we copy what relates to China.

The first fruits of what we hope and believe will be a glorious harvest, are being gathered in China. A native Christian teacher, named Go-to, has entered into rest, after a short career, in which he exhibited Christian graces in a very happy degree.

Three years ago he first became a regular attendant at the missionary church at Amoy. He was then weary of idolatry, and looking for a better hope. He accepted the Gospel message, and found peace in believing, and was received into church fellowship early in March last year. He was greatly esteemed on account of his active piety; but his Christian course was short, and the termination of it somewhat sudden. The circumstances are narrated in a joint letter from the missionaries Young and Hyslop. These missionaries say:—

"Go-to departed this life on the 26th of December, 1848. On the preceding day he had been out as usual fulfilling his loved duties as distributor of tracts among his countrymen, and had called on us, stating the kind reception he had almost everywhere met with; the ready ear which had been given to his exhortations; and the eagerness evinced by many families to receive from him religious tracts. He then mentioned the joy he felt in seeing that *Tan-tai* continued to endure 'as a good soldier of Jesus Christ,' and the various sorts of persecution to which he had been subjected; observing, that these trials had only rendered him the more confirmed in the faith, and devoted to the service of the Lord Jesus."

"On the afternoon of that day, December 25th, Go-to was also with us in the chapel, and there he again gave his testimony before the congregation that the Gospel of Christ is unspeakably valuable and divinely excellent. It was while standing, during the closing prayer, that he was seized with a paralytic fit, which in a few hours proved fatal. As the doctor considered it inadvisable to remove him, he remained in the chapel until he expired the following morning. Though unable to speak a word after the disease attacked him, his consciousness so far returned that he was able, by signs, to express to us and to his sons, as we watched beside the couch, that his mind was in perfect peace, stayed upon the Lord."

"Though the call came to him suddenly, he appeared completely prepared to meet it. Only a few days before, while speaking to him on the subject of Christian experience, and remarking how unexpectedly the beloved missionary, Mr. Lloyd, had reached the end of his course, we asked him, how he thought he should feel were the Lord suddenly to call him out of the world? He said, 'I think I would not feel at all afraid—I should feel it to be joyful.' He had been lately making rapid progress in the divine life; his heart seemed to glow with increasing love to Christ; and most fervently did he desire that all his countrymen might know and love him too."

The funeral arrangements are described, and were in harmony with the Christian profession of the deceased; for, though they were thoroughly Chinese, everything connected with idolatrous rites and observances was excluded. A great many Chinese joined in the funeral procession, and listened to an address in Chinese, founded on 1 Cor. 15.

At Hong-Kong also, the missionary brethren are receiving encouraging evidences of the power of the truth. Three more converts have recently been added to the native church, one of them a man of cultivated intelligence, and qualified to labor with acceptance among his fellow countrymen. Two hundred miles from the colony Ha, Yik-Heem had heard that at Hong-Kong foreigners were teaching new truths there; a relative who had made a trading voyage brought back some tracts with him; one of them on the Publican's Prayer arrested the attention of Yik-Heem. In March he went to Hong-Kong, seeking for knowledge; he there found a colporteur, and the results are thus narrated by Dr. Legge:—

"Immediately after he found his way to the Bazaar chapel, and introduced himself to A-Sun, as a learner of Christianity. A-Sun brought him to Tsai-Schen's daily Bible class, at which and at every other service he continued a regular attendant. Being a scholar, he readily understood the Scriptures, and all our tracts. His progress in knowledge was rapid, and very delightful. He manifested none of the proud opposition which is generally shown by the learned Chinese. For a fortnight I read an hour every morning with him myself, when by six o'clock he was always waiting for his lesson; and I do not think I have ever had so much pleasure in communicating instruction. His heart seemed indeed to be opened to receive the truth in the love of it."

"After he had been here about six weeks he made application to be baptized, as he wished, he said, to go and preach the Gospel. This awakened a slight suspicion that he might be expecting to be employed as an evangelist to our mission, and his application was thus emanating from the hope of a livelihood as much as from the conviction of the truth. On being asked the meaning of the expression, however, he said that he was thinking of his wife and children, and brothers, and of all his relatives and acquaintances in his native place. His desire was to be baptized, that he might go home and tell them of the Savior. Subsequently it was represented to him on one occasion, that by becoming a Christian he would expose himself to much persecution and many difficulties. He might even find it impossible to collect a school in order to support his family. His reply to this was very fine. 'I now,' said he, 'know the true God. I learn in the Bible, that of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things. He feeds all creatures. I wish to do His will, and put my trust in Him. I do not trouble myself about the future. God will provide for me.'"

"We have been teaching the young, and praying that God would convert their hearts that they might, under our training, grow up to be servants of the Redeemer, and go forth to proclaim the truth. We have not labored in vain, nor prayed without being heard."

"Of six-and-thirty boys and young men in the Institution, eight are now recognized members of the Church of Christ, and there is reason to hope that their number will be largely increased. Of these eight, three go by the denomination of theological students. They are those who were with me in England. In a knowledge of English they are in advance of all the others; and I hope, in a few years, to see them preachers of the Gospel, in whom their friends, and the Church of Christ at large, can repose the fullest confidence."

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Reader, I have never seen this couple, but a mutual friend, two years since, spoke to me of their recent union, prospects of happiness, &c., and quoted this remark of the father. Two weeks since a paragraph in the newspapers informed me that the Supreme Court had granted them a divorce.

If we could gather up the sighs, tears, and anguish of desolate hearts which this offshoot of the novelist's brain has caused, then might we hope to stay the fatal progress of a theory so baseless, and the youthful mind might see that anything short of affection based upon virtuous principles, is but an idle fancy, and will perish with the using. But alas! the romancer's pen is so prolific, and these erroneous sentiments are so thoroughly disseminated, that we can scarcely hope that the narration of cases as strikingly sad in their results as in the present instance—results which might have been foreseen, or reasonably apprehended at the time by an unprejudiced mind—will cause our youthful readers to pause and consider before they allow this false sentiment to govern or lead them in their choice of a companion for life—yes, remember it is for life—for should a "divorce" follow, as in this wise, yet the parties concerned will feel its effects for life.

[Advocate and Guardian.]

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[Advocate and Guardian.]

THE PRATYING SCHOOL-TEACHER.—A moral young man was invited to teach a school, which a legacy had been left, on condition that all the teachers employed should pray in the school. He engaged with a determination to go through the form of reading a prayer, though conscious that he had no heart to pray. In entering on this heartless service, he was convicted of sin; began to pray, as he hoped, from his heart; and at his early death, he was preparing for the ministry.

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continued a regular attendant. Being a scholar, he readily understood the Scriptures, and all our tracts. His progress in knowledge was rapid, and very delightful. He manifested none of the proud opposition which is generally shown by the learned Chinese. For a fortnight I read an hour every morning with him myself, when by six o'clock he was always waiting for his lesson; and I do not think I have ever had so much pleasure in communicating instruction. His heart seemed indeed to be opened to receive the truth in the love of it."

"After he had been here about six weeks he made application to be baptized, as he wished, he said, to go and preach the Gospel. This awakened a slight suspicion that he might be expecting to be employed as an evangelist to our mission, and his application was thus emanating from the hope of a livelihood as much as from the conviction of the truth. On being asked the meaning of the expression, however, he said that he was thinking of his wife and children, and brothers, and of all his relatives and acquaintances in his native place. His desire was to be baptized, that he might go home and tell them of the Savior. Subsequently it was represented to him on one occasion, that by becoming a Christian he would expose himself to much persecution and many difficulties. He might even find it impossible to collect a school in order to support his family. His reply to this was very fine. 'I now,' said he, 'know the true God. I learn in the Bible, that of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things. He feeds all creatures. I wish to do His will, and put my trust in Him. I do not trouble myself about the future. God will provide for me.'"

"We have been teaching the young, and praying that God would convert their hearts that they might, under our training, grow up to be servants of the Redeemer, and go forth to proclaim the truth. We have not labored in vain, nor prayed without being heard."

"Of six-and-thirty boys and young men in the Institution, eight are now recognized members of the Church of Christ, and there is reason to hope that their number will be largely increased. Of these eight, three go by the denomination of theological students. They are those who were with me in England. In a knowledge of English they are in advance of all the others; and I hope, in a few years, to see them preachers of the Gospel, in whom their friends, and the Church of Christ at large, can repose the fullest confidence."

"LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT."
"Yes, I do believe there is such a thing as love at first sight," said a gray-haired sire some two years since, as he complacently gazed upon a delicate and youthful daughter who had just become the bride of a somewhat noted man in the city, of rather doubtful character; "for there was no such thing as turning our Anna after she had once seen him." Yes, and after a superficial acquaintance of a few weeks, with the necessary quota of professions of ardent attachment, the reluctant consent of her dotting parents was given, and the hand and heart of the unsophisticated maiden; nothing doubting that the fancy of her imagination, which she denominated "love at first sight," was sufficient to insure her happiness with a comparative stranger—"for he had fallen in love with her at first sight, therefore it would not fail."

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The Sabbath Recorder.

New York, December 27, 1849.

OUR CHINA MISSION.

Do our brethren really feel the importance of the missionary enterprise? About three years ago, we committed to the care of a kind Providence, a little band—two beloved brethren, and their wives—pledging to them our prayers, and our unwavering support, while they should preach the gospel in China. Our prayers have indeed gone up to God in their behalf, and our contributions have been steadily forwarded for their support; yet in both, it may be, that we have sown too sparingly. In one respect, at any rate, we feel disappointed. We had hoped that, before this, we should have been able to send out others to their aid. Yes, and they hoped so, too. They continue to indulge this hope; and their recent communications breathe more than an ordinary desire to welcome fellow-laborers to the field. Must we tell them that there is no prospect of meeting their desire? We are not willing to send them such news. We are not willing to say to them anything so disheartening. We fondly cling to the impression, that God has some one or more in reserve for this mission, whom he will bring to light by exciting in them strong desires for the work, and fitting them for it, when we in earnest prayer ask him to do so. The great Author of missions gave no reason to expect that laborers would be raised up till the church should set about praying for them. "PRAY ye the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth more laborers into the harvest." Probably we have been deficient in this respect. We have prayed for them who have gone into the field, but we have not been so earnest in praying for more. We think, not only that it is important to pray for more laborers, in obedience to the Saviour's injunction, but that it is a great mercy that God withholds them till we do pray for them. Neglecting prayer, we might, it is true, compass sea and land, with great zeal, to find men for this work, and perhaps we should succeed. But when we had obtained them, how would we know that they were God-given? Satan is sometimes permitted to interfere in this matter. True, he would rather have no missionaries at all; but if he can prevent it, he will exert what influence he can to induce those to thrust themselves forward, who are wholly incompetent to the work. It becomes us to be on our guard. If we ask not counsel of the Lord, we may be as much cheated as Israel was with the Gibeonites. But if we pray, and pray earnestly—if we wrestle with God in holy desires for this object, as well as exert ourselves to the utmost, when candidates present themselves, we may reasonably conclude that God, and not Satan, has given them to us. Desirable as it is to send out a reinforcement of our China mission, it would be better that the matter be delayed a dozen years, than to send out such as would be a reproach to the cause. Let us then betake ourselves to prayer. We are almost confident that there is a failure here. We know, that in the prayers offered by ministers on the Sabbath, there is not that prominence given to the subject which ought to be. We know, that in our social prayer meetings, and monthly concerts, it is too apt to be overlooked. And we fear, that the closet exercises of our people, if they could be laid open, would disclose too little attention to this important subject. We rest in the persuasion, that if our churches do their duty in the way of cultivating a missionary spirit, there will be forthcoming the men for China, and for Hayti, and for any and every other field which the Providence of God may direct us to occupy.

We are here constrained to put in a word, by way of stimulating our brethren to more liberal contributions. The necessity of giving our missionaries in China the means of operating more extensively than they have hitherto done, will be apparent from the perusal of Bro. Carpenter's letter published on our first page, as well as from other communications heretofore given. Other denominations are securing the most advantageous sites, for their houses of worship, which money can command, and, withal, are scattering their tracts with an unsparring hand. They have schools, and printing-presses, and all the appliances which are needed to give their missions the greatest possible efficiency. As far as they promulgate God's truth, we rejoice in their movements, and thank God that the heathen can, by any means, gain a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. We can not resist the impression, however, that the errors which their theology embodies, do much to neutralize the power of the gospel. Sunday-keeping, infant baptism, and a multitude of other things, being the offspring of Popery, do but contribute to give strength to the "man of sin," already too strong in "heathen lands." We care not so much for a direct conflict between our missionaries and those who uphold these traditions, but we do wish to see that system of religion, which we believe to be in accordance with the Bible, making rapid progress among the heathen. We do wish to see our denomination retrieving lost opportunities. We do wish our missionaries to be so abundantly furnished with facilities, that they shall not be hindered from doing whatever their better judgment may deem necessary to be done. It will not be out of place to state here, what we have said before, that we believe our missionaries to be prudent and economical in

their habits. For their personal wants they draw as sparingly upon their patrons, we think, as could be expected. Those of other orders live in a style far more expensive, and still are considered as having nothing but what is necessary to their comfort. Mrs. Carpenter fills a spare corner in one of her communications with some remarks upon this head, which will be read with interest. We copy for our readers, and hope that they will be stimulated to more zeal.

"As a sort of stewardess of other people's bounty, I suppose I ought to speak of matters that come under this head. In reporting items home, I often feel distressed, lest those who read them, and know nothing of the facts, except that we are 'missionaries,' and buy such things, should be grieved at our apparent extravagance. For instance, a carpet must sound strangely to one who does not know that we are obliged to occupy the upper stories of the house, and that the lower stories cannot be made so tight but that the cold north-east monsoons sweep continually under our feet, with a chilling bleakness which not even the colder winds of our northern winters could exceed. We might have the lower ceiling plastered, but the expense would be considerable, and could not be available to us in case of a removal, which the carpet would. 'Globe lamps'—what extravagance, in the eyes of one who never knew the necessity of constant study to acquire a foreign tongue, and that nights, as well as days, we must ply our weary sight, where candles are either too expensive (foreign) or too unendurable (native) to admit of constant use, without much actual injury, or expense, the native candles emitting a most offensive smoke. 'Dishes'—cannot missionaries eat their rice from a bowl with chop-sticks like the heathen among whom they live? Perhaps so, but sometimes a missionary is so worldly minded as to wish a friend to partake of his rice with him, in which case he finds one bowl hardly sufficient for two. 'Butter and beef steak'—you call this self-denial do you? It may be that men and means are multiplying so fast at home, that it is not so important that the missionaries should take these palatable precautions to preserve their strength, supplies being so abundant that they may the more readily be spared. 'Boat hire and coolies' wages'—Is it not the missionary who says from his heart, 'Through cold winds and storms, o'er mountains I'll go, Press forward to glory, and leave all below?' True, he may not get there quite so soon, for the invigorating effects of the open air do seem to brace up his failing strength, and make him look upon the grave as farther off. But perhaps he may not be the less useful on that account, as he is constantly coming in contact with the heathen in all these excursions, and adding to his own means of usefulness. 'A new broadcloth coat, and a cambic dress'—unparalleled pride! very sad indeed, were it not that in these ports open to British trade, many articles, from not being subject to duty, are cheaper than a much coarser article would be at home, to say nothing of the danger and expense of transporting them to us. 'These remarks are not made because I participate a failure of confidence at home, but because I have not forgotten how such matters used to strike me before I knew for myself the truths as I have mentioned them.'

TWO REMARKABLE BOOKS.

To the Editors of the Sabbath Recorder.

A few words, if you please, for the benefit of the readers of the Sabbath Recorder, as to a couple of recent publications that have interested me much.

The first is NOEL ON BAPTISM, which has been looked for by thousands with peculiar interest, and has just now appeared. The present volume is upon the subjects of baptism, and the author informs us that he hopes, in another volume, to treat of the mode. No work has ever appeared on this subject, that will compare with this; and none has had a wider circulation than 'will this, except perhaps *Pengilly*. Noel is an independent witness; he writes as taught only from the mouth of God. Says he, 'I determined to form my judgment entirely by the study of the Scriptures, and of such authors as advocate the baptism of infants. To that determination I have adhered. And not having read a single Baptist book or tract, I publish the following work as an independent testimony to the exclusive right of believers to Christian baptism.' The work is logical but clear, critical but simple; and though learned in the best sense, is yet admirably adapted to general and popular use. The influence of this production must be of the widest and most convincing character, and no one can afford to fail of its perusal. I will just add, that the edition published by *Fletcher*, (141 Nassau St., New York,) is the most desirable of the three that have appeared. It contains an introduction by Dr. Dowling, which adds materially to its value, especially in America, besides a striking portrait of the author, which many will prize highly.

The other is a less popular (because purely philosophical) but not a less valuable work, in its department—*PAIN AND THE SOUL*. It was originally published by the Medical Class of the New York University, before whom the learned and celebrated Professor delivered it. It has since, and of late, been enlarged by the author, and is now issued in a desirable form, by the publisher of the work already referred to. It is a most triumphant vindication of the common belief as to the origin and character of the soul, against materialism, or the doctrine that the soul is of a like nature with the body, and that it derives its force, as says Liebig, (the master spirit of this school of physiologists,) 'from the chemical action which the elements of food and the oxygen of the air mutually exercise on each other.' This error is vastly more prevalent in some other countries than here, but even in our country is both taught and believed, and that

more and more extensively, though often under various modifications. The reader of this work will be well armed against it; and I would commend it as particularly worthy of the attention of ministers. It will furnish them with facts and arguments upon many points, such are not met with in any other work, and will amply repay a careful perusal.

A PASTOR.

REVIVALS.

It gives us pleasure to find in our exchanges frequent notices of revivals of religion in different parts of the country. The following have come before us during the past few days.

At Upham, Ohio, there has been a powerful work in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and upward of one hundred hopeful converts have joined the church within a short time.

At Sloansville, N. Y., a revival is noticed, in which about seventy persons have professed conversion. The latter communicating this intelligence, says that "within eight miles around, during a few months past, some three hundred souls have given evidence of conversion."

At Cassville, N. Y., as we learn from the Baptist Register, a deep religious interest has existed for some months past, and fifty-three members have been added to the Baptist Church.

The Baptist Church at Jay, N. Y., has enjoyed a pleasant revival season, in the course of which between thirty and forty persons, it is hoped, have passed from death unto life.

In Georgetown, Pa., there has been a precious work. Thirty-six have been added to the church, and a number more are seriously impressed.

In Salem, N. J., likewise, a season of refreshing is enjoyed. A number have been baptized, and there is still a number of inquirers.

A revival in Newton, Del. Co., Pa., is noticed in the Christian Chronicle, during which twenty-five were baptized. The same paper also mentions an interesting work among the students of the University at Lewisburg, Pa.

DEATH OF A BAPTIST PREACHER.—Eld.

John Peck, who for the last fifteen years has been identified with the Home Missionary Operations of the Baptist Denomination, died in New York City, on the 15th inst., aged 69 years. His remains were taken to Cazenovia, N. Y., for interment. Eld. Peck was born in what is now the town of Stamford, Dutchess county, N. Y., September 11, 1781. About the year 1796, when he was fifteen years of age, his parents removed to Norwich, Chenango county, N. Y. He became pious at an early age, and at about twenty-one was licensed to preach the Gospel. He was married at about twenty-three years of age, and soon after, in 1804, removed to Cazenovia, which was from that time his home. In 1806 he was ordained pastor of the Baptist church in that town, and continued in that relation until November, 1834, when he resigned his charge, and entered upon the agency for Home Missions. During the time of his residence at Cazenovia, he was a highly useful and respected minister; many revivals had been enjoyed by the church, and 640 persons had been baptized. A new church was organized in another part of the town by dismissions from this in 1820.

RIGHT OF SUFFRAGE TO WOMEN.—Wendell Phillips, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, and their friends, are circulating petitions in Massachusetts praying the Legislature

"That since the women of the State are made to pay taxes, and are held amenable to its criminal laws, they may be allowed a voice in the imposition and use of the first, and in the enactment of the second; and hence that they may be permitted to vote and to be eligible to office."

To some readers, says the N. Y. Tribune, this may perhaps seem inconsistent with the fact that these gentlemen are principled against "human governments," and consequently regard voting as a sin. They say, however, "that they are not asking women to vote, but only asking that they shall have the right to refuse to vote." "It is no virtue in one that cannot vote to abstain from it." Having secured to woman the right of suffrage, the petitioners propose to do their best to indoctrinate them in the virtue of making no use of it.

AMERICAN BETHEL SOCIETY.—The Society have employed during the season a larger number of chaplains and missionaries among sailors and boatmen than at any previous period; one on the Illinois and Chicago Canal; one at Chicago; one at Milwaukee; fifteen on the lake ports, canals, and rivers of Ohio and its vicinity; one at Buffalo; one at Oswego; twelve on the Erie Canal and its tributaries; one on the Northern Canal; one at Troy; one at Albany; one in the city of New York, among canal boatmen; three on the Delaware and Hudson Canal; two on the Delaware and Raritan Canal, and one on the Morris Canal—making in all forty-two. Fifteen have been young men from our theological seminaries.

THE 1st BROOKFIELD CHURCH.—We learn by a letter from Eld. Wm. B. Maxson, that this Church and Society have agreed upon a plan for the erection of a meeting-house to supply the place of the one recently burnt. It will occupy the old site at Leonardville, and will be 36 by 48 feet, with a tower, and without a gallery. The building is to be completed in August next. Meanwhile the meetings are held alternately in the Free-Will Baptist House at Unadilla Forks, and the Christian Chapel in Plainfield.

SUNDAY IN CANADA.—Rev. Joel Fish says that in Canada East the notice of all Sheriff sales must be read at the church door on the Sunday, even among Protestants. There can be no lawful sale on any day, unless the notice thereof has been read upon the Sunday. But in the French country the matter is worse yet. All auction sales of real estate must be made at the door of the Parish Church, immediately after service. The following he cut from a Montreal paper, a little while ago:—

"Farm for Sale.—Will be sold by public auction, at the door of the Parish Church, in this city, on Sunday, the 22d of September, that farm, &c. Conditions made known at the time of sale."

Such advertisements are not unfrequent.

SUNDAY IN NEW ORLEANS.—Not long ago a meeting of the citizens of New Orleans was held in one of the churches of that city, the object of which was the adoption of measures to cause a better observance of the Sunday. Judge McCaleb, of the U. S. District Court, presided. Speeches were made, and the desecration of the Sunday by military parades, the theaters, &c., was condemned in unqualified terms. It is time a movement like this should take place in that city, if the people would have the Sunday observed at all.

THE CHRISTIAN REVIEW.—This able Quarterly of the Baptist Denomination, enters upon its fifteenth volume with the new year, 1850. It is to be edited by Rev. Sewall S. Cutting, assisted by Prof. Wm. Gannett, of Brown University, and with the advice of Rev. Drs. W. R. Williams and A. C. Kendrick. Published by Colly and Ballard, 122 Nassau Street, New York, at \$2 per year. We should be glad to hear of some of our churches making their ministers new-year presents of the price of subscription.

FATHER MATHEW IN WASHINGTON.—The Irish "Apostle of Temperance" spent last week at Washington, where considerable attention was shown him. A resolution offered in the Senate, to admit him to the privileges of a seat within the bar, gave rise to a warm discussion, in which some of the Southern Members denounced the reverend father as hostile to the "peculiar institution." However, the resolution passed by a vote of 33 to 18.

BAPTIST COLLEGE IN MISSOURI.—The Provisional Committee on the College reported to the General Association of United Baptists in Missouri, at their annual meeting in August that about \$60,000 had been secured for the erection and endowment of a college, and a resolution was adopted to prosecute the work of obtaining subscriptions till \$100,000 were secured.

BREACH OF PROMISE.—SUNDAY CONTRACTS.—A suit for damages for the breach of a marriage contract, was lately tried in Philadelphia, where the defense set up was that the contract was made on Sunday, and therefore void. On this point the Judge's charge to the jury is thus reported:—

"That the law in regard to Sunday contracts did not extend to contracts of marriage, which by many religious sects were considered as solemn sacraments, to be only sanctioned by impressive ceremonies. The contracts made on Sunday which are void are those relating to worldly business. To hold that marriages solemnized on that day were void, would be to disturb thousands of marriages which have been contracted, and to render illegitimate a very large number of citizens. The jury found a verdict of \$3,000."

CELEBRATION AT PLYMOUTH.—The first day of January next will be the fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of the Rev. Dr. Kendall as Pastor of the first Church in Plymouth, which took place Janu 1st, 1800. A ministry extended over so long a period in the same parish is very unusual. Few connections between pastor and people have been characterized by more uninterrupted harmony and good feeling, and though the venerable gentleman has reached the age of four-score years, his ministry may yet be far from its termination. The Parish are making arrangements for an appropriate celebration of the Semi-Centennial Anniversary, and Dr. Kendall has accepted an invitation to preach on that day. There will also be a collation in the evening at the Samoset House.

DEPARTURE OF MISSIONARIES.—Four Missionaries appointed by the Church (Episcopal) Missionary Society, sailed from Providence on Monday, of last week, in the brig *Smithfield*. They are destined to Africa, and design to locate at Cape Palmas and vicinity. Their names were as follows: Rev. E. W. Henning and lady, Providence; Miss Martha Willford of Geo.; Rev. E. W. Stokes, (colored), of Providence. Mr. Henning has spent several years in the African Mission, and returns now with a fresh reinforcement to his field of labor. Mr. Stokes, originally from England, and formerly Rector of Christ Church in Providence, now goes forth to spend the remainder of his life on the sickly coast of benighted Africa. In company with the above, three Missionaries sent out under the patronage of the Southern Baptist Board of Foreign Missions, are destined to the interior of Africa. Their names were, Rev. Thomas J. Bowen of Geo., Rev. Harvey Goodale of Mass., and Robt. T. Hill (colored) of Va. These Missionaries are appointed to a field of labor which as yet has been unexplored by the agents of any Missionary Society.

ORGANIZATION OF CONGRESS.

After three weeks of balloting and debating, the House of Representatives has succeeded in electing a Speaker. It was accomplished about six o'clock on Sabbath evening last, by adopting the plurality principle. On the sixty-fourth ballot, Mr. Winthrop, of Massachusetts, the whig candidate, received 100 votes; while Mr. Cobb of Georgia, the democratic candidate, received 102 votes, and was accordingly declared Speaker, after which the House adjourned over to Monday.

On Monday, the President's Message was delivered, and after the customary votes Congress adjourned till after the Holidays. [As the people will feel a peculiar interest in this first regular Message of the President, we set aside other matter to give the document entire this week.]

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Sixty years have elapsed since the establishment of this Government, and the Congress of the United States again assembles, to legislate for an empire of freemen. The predictions of evil prophets, who formerly pretended to foretell the downfall of our institutions, are now remembered only to be derided, and the United States of America, at this moment, present to the world the most stable and permanent Government on earth.

Such is the result of the labors of those who have gone before us. Upon Congress will eminently depend the future maintenance of our system of free government, and the transmission of it, unimpaired, to posterity.

We are at peace with all the world, and seek to maintain our cherished relations of amity with the rest of mankind. During the past year, we have been blessed, by a kind Providence, with an abundance of the fruits of the earth; and, although the destroying angel, for a time, visited extensive portions of our territory with the ravages of a dreadful pestilence, yet, the Almighty has at length destined to stay his hand, and to restore the inestimable blessing of general health to a people who have acknowledged his power, deprecated his wrath, and implored his merciful protection.

While enjoying the benefits of amicable intercourse with foreign nations, we have not been insensible to the distractions and wars which have prevailed in other quarters of the world. It is a proper theme of thanksgiving to Him who rules the destinies of nations, that we have been able to maintain, amid all these contests, an independent and neutral position toward all belligerent powers.

Our relations with Great Britain are of the most friendly character. In consequence of the recent alteration of the British navigation acts, British vessels, from British and other foreign ports, will, (under our existing laws,) after the first day of January next, be admitted to entry in our ports, with cargoes of the growth, manufacture, or production of any part of the world, on the same terms, as to duties, imposts, and charges, as vessels of the United States with their cargoes; and our vessels will be admitted to the same advantages in British ports, entering therein on the same terms as British vessels. Should no order in council disturb this legislative arrangement, the late act of the British Parliament, by which Great Britain is brought within the terms proposed by the act of Congress of the 1st of March, 1847, it is hoped, will be productive of benefit to both countries.

A slight interruption of diplomatic intercourse, which occurred between this Government and France, I am happy to say, has been terminated, and our Minister there has been received. It is, therefore, unnecessary to refer, now, to the circumstances which led to that interruption. I need not express to you the sincere satisfaction with which we shall welcome the arrival of another Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from a sister republic, to which we have so long been, and still remain, bound by the strongest ties of amity.

Shortly after I had entered upon the discharge of the Executive duties, I was apprised that a war-steamer, belonging to the German Empire, was being fitted out in the harbor of New York, with the aid of some of our naval officers, rendered under the permission of the late Secretary of the Navy. This permission was granted during an armistice between that Empire and the Kingdom of Denmark, which had been engaged in the Schleswig Holstein war. Apprehensive that this act of intervention, on our part, might be viewed as a violation of our neutral obligations, incurred by the Treaty with Denmark, and of the provisions of the act of Congress of April 20, 1818, I directed that no further aid should be rendered by any agent or officer of the Navy; and I instructed the Secretary of State to apprise the Minister of the German Empire accredited to this Government, of my determination to execute the law of the United States, and to maintain the faith of treaties with all nations. The correspondence which ensued between the Department of State and the Minister of the German Empire, is herewith laid before you. The execution of the law and the observance of the treaty were deemed by me to be due to the honor of the country, as well as to the sacred obligations of the Constitution. I shall not fail to pursue the same course, should a similar case arise with any other nation. Having avowed the opinion, on taking the oath of office, that, in disputes with conflicting foreign Governments, it is our interest, not less than our duty, to remain strictly neutral, I shall not abandon it. You will perceive, from the correspondence submitted to you, in connection with this subject, that the course adopted in this case, has been properly regarded by the belligerent powers interested in the matter.

Although a Minister of the United States to the German Empire was appointed by my predecessor, in August, 1848, and has, for a long time, been in attendance, at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, and although a Minister, appointed to represent that Empire, was received and accredited here, yet no official Government as that of the German Empire has been definitely constituted. Mr. Daniel, our Representative at Frankfort, remained there several months, in the expectation that a union of the German States, under one Constitution or form of Government,

might, at length, be organized. It is believed, by those well acquainted with the existing relations between Prussia and the States of Germany, that no such union can be permanently established, without her cooperation. In the event of the formation of such a union, and the organization of a central power in Germany, of which she should form a part, it would become necessary to withdraw our Minister at Berlin; but while Prussia exists as an independent Kingdom, and diplomatic relations are maintained with her, there can be no necessity for the continuance of the mission to Frankfort. I have, therefore, recalled Mr. Donelson, and directed the archives of the legation, at Frankfort, to be transferred to the American legation at Berlin.

Having been apprised that a considerable number of adventurers were engaged in fitting out a military expedition, within the United States, against a foreign country; and believing, from the best information I could obtain, that it was destined to invade the Island of Cuba, I deemed it due to the friendly relations existing between the United States and Spain; to the treaty between the two nations; to the laws of the United States, and, above all, to the American honor, to exert the lawful authority of this Government in suppressing the expedition and preventing the invasion. To this end I issued a proclamation, enjoining it upon the officers of the United States, civil and military, to use all lawful means within their power. A copy of that proclamation is herewith submitted. The expedition has been suppressed. So long as the act of Congress of the 20th of April, 1818, which owes its existence to the law of nations, and to the policy of Washington himself, shall remain on our statute-book, I hold it to be the duty of the Executive faithfully to obey its injunctions.

While this expedition was in progress, I was informed that a foreigner who claimed our protection had been clandestinely, and, as was supposed, forcibly carried off in a vessel from New Orleans to the Island of Cuba. I immediately caused such steps to be taken as I thought necessary, in case the information I had received should prove correct, to vindicate the honor of the country, and the right of every person seeking an asylum on our soil to the protection of our laws. The person alleged to have been abducted was promptly restored, and the circumstances of the case are now about to undergo investigation before a judicial tribunal. I would respectfully suggest that, although the crime charged to have been committed in this case is held odious, as being in conflict with our opinions on the subject of national sovereignty and personal freedom, there is no prohibition of it, or punishment for it provided in any act of Congress. The expediency of supplying this defect in our criminal code is therefore recommended to your consideration.

I have scrupulously avoided any interference in the wars and contentions which have recently distracted Europe.

During the late conflict between Austria and Hungary, there seemed to be a prospect that the latter might become an independent nation. However faint that prospect at time appeared, I thought it my duty, in accordance with the general sentiment of the American people, who deeply sympathized with the Magyar patriots; to stand prepared, upon the contingency of the establishment by her of a permanent Government, to be the first to welcome independent Hungary into the family of nations. For this purpose, I invested an agent, then in Europe, with power to declare our willingness promptly to recognize her independence, in the event of her ability to sustain it. The powerful intervention of Russia, in the contest, extinguished the hopes of the struggling Magyars. The United States did not, at any time, interfere in the contest; but the feelings of the nation were strongly enlisted in the cause, and by the sufferings of a brave people, who had made a gallant though unsuccessful effort to be free.

Our claims upon Portugal have been, during the past year, prosecuted with renewed vigor, and it has been my object to employ every effort of honorable diplomacy, to procure their adjustment. Our late Charge d'Affaires at Lisbon, Hon. George W. Hopkins, made able and energetic, but unsuccessful, efforts to settle these unpleasant matters of controversy; and to obtain indemnity for the wrongs which were the subjects of complaint. Our present Charge d'Affaires at that Court will, also, bring to the prosecution of these claims ability and zeal. The revolutionary and distracted condition of Portugal, in past times, has been represented as one of the leading causes of her delay in indemnifying our suffering citizens. But I must now say it is matter of profound regret that these claims have not yet been settled. The omission of Portugal to do justice to the American claimants has now assumed a character so grave and serious, that I shall shortly make it the subject of a special message to Congress, with a view to such ultimate action as its wisdom and patriotism may suggest.

With Russia, Austria, Prussia, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, and the Italian States, we still maintain our accustomed amicable relations. During the recent revolutions in the Papal States, our Charge d'Affaires at Rome has been unable to present his letter of credence, which, indeed, he was directed by my predecessor to withhold until he should receive further orders. Such was the unsettled condition of things in those States, that it was not deemed expedient to give him any instructions on the subject of presenting his credential letter, different from those with which he had been furnished by the late Administration, until the 25th of June last; when, in consequence of the want of accurate information of the exact state of things, at that distance from us, he was instructed to exercise his own discretion in presenting himself to the then existing Government, if, in his judgement, sufficiently stable; or, if not, to await further orders. Since that period Rome has undergone another revolution, and he abides the establishment of a Government sufficiently permanent to justify him in opening diplomatic intercourse with it. With the Republic of Mexico, it is our true policy to cultivate the most friendly relations. Since the ratification of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, nothing has occurred of a serious character, to disturb them. A faithful observance of that treaty, and a sincere respect for her rights, cannot fail to secure the lasting confidence and friendship of that Republic. The Message

of my predecessor to the House of Representatives, of the 8th of February last, communicating, in compliance with a resolution of that body, a copy of a paper called a Protocol, signed at Queretaro on the 30th of May, 1848, by the Commissioners of the United States and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Mexican Government, having been a subject of correspondence between the Department of State and the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of that Republic accredited to this Government, a transcript of that correspondence is herewith submitted.

The Commissioner on the part of the United States for marking the boundary between the two republics, though delayed in reaching San Diego by unforeseen obstacles, arrived at that place within a short period after the time required by the treaty, and was there joined by the Commissioner on the part of Mexico. They entered upon their duties; and, at the date of the latest intelligence from that quarter, some progress had been made in the survey. The expenses incident to the organization of the commission, and to its conveyance to the point where its operations were to begin, have so much reduced the fund appropriated by Congress, that a further sum, to cover the present fiscal year, will be necessary. The great length of frontier along which the boundary extends, the nature of the adjacent territory, and the difficulty of obtaining supplies, except at or near the extremes of the line, render it also indispensable that a liberal provision should be made to meet the necessary charges during the fiscal year ending on the 30th of June, 1851. I accordingly recommend this subject to your attention.

In the adjustment of the claims of American citizens on Mexico, provided for by the late treaty, the employment of counsel, on the part of the Government, may become important for the purpose of assisting the Commissioners in protecting the interests of the United States. I recommend this object to the early and favorable consideration of Congress.

Complaints have been made in regard to the inefficiency of the means provided by the Government of New Grenada for transporting the United States Mail across the Isthmus of Panama, pursuant to our Postal Convention with that Republic, of the 6th of March, 1844. Our Charge d'Affaires at Bogota has been directed to make such representations to the Government of New Grenada as will, it is hoped, lead to a prompt removal of this cause of complaint.

The sanguinary civil war with which the Republic of Venezuela has for some past been ravaged, has been brought to a close. In its progress the rights of some of our citizens resident or trading there have been violated. The restoration of order will afford the Venezuelan Government an opportunity to examine and redress these grievances, and others of longer standing, which our representatives at Caracas have hitherto ineffectually urged upon the attention of that Government.

The extension of the coast of the United States on the Pacific, and the unexampled rapidity with which the inhabitants of California, especially, are increasing in numbers, have imparted new consequence to our relations with the other countries whose territories border upon that ocean. It is probable that the intercourse between those countries and our possessions in that quarter, particularly with the Republic of Chili, will become extensive and mutually advantageous in proportion as California and Oregon shall increase in population and wealth. It is desirable, therefore, that this Government should do everything in its power to foster and to strengthen its relations with those States, and that the spirit of amity between us should be mutual and cordial.

I recommend the observance of the same course toward all other American States. The United States stand as the great American power to which, as their natural ally and friend, they will always be disposed first to look for mediation and assistance, in the event of any collision between them and any European nation. As such we may often kindly mediate in their behalf without entangling ourselves in foreign wars or unnecessary controversies. Whenever the faith of our treaties with any of them shall require our interference, we must necessarily interpose.

A Convention has been negotiated with Brazil, providing for the satisfaction of American claims on that Government, and it will be submitted to the Senate. Since the last Session of Congress, we have received an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, from that Empire, and our relations with it are founded upon the most amicable understanding.

Your attention is earnestly invited to an amendment of our existing laws relating to the African Slave trade, with a view to the effectual suppression of that barbarous traffic. It is not to be denied that this trade is still, in part, carried on by means of vessels built in the United States, and owned or navigated by some of our citizens. The correspondence between the Department of State and the Minister and Consul of the United States at Rio de Janeiro, which has from time to time been laid before Congress, represents that it is a customary device to evade the penalties of our laws by means of sea-letters. Vessels sold in Brazil, when provided with such papers by the Consul, instead of returning to the United States for a new register, proceed, at once, to the coast of Africa for the purpose of obtaining cargoes of slaves. Much additional information, of the same character, has recently been transmitted to the Department of State. It has not been considered the policy of our laws to subject an American citizen who, in a foreign country, purchases a vessel built in the United States, to the inconvenience of sending her home for a new register, before returning her to proceed on a voyage. Any alteration of the laws, which might have a tendency to impede the free transfer of property in vessels between our citizens, or the free navigation of those vessels between different parts of the world, when employed in lawful commerce, should be well and cautiously considered; but I trust your wisdom will devise a method by which our general policy in this respect may be preserved, and at the same time the abuse of our laws by means of sea-letters, in the manner indicated, may be prevented.

Having ascertained that there is no prospect of the Union of the five States of Central America, which formerly composed the

Republic of that name, we have separately negotiated with some of them Treaties of Amity and Commerce, which will be laid before the Senate.

A contract having been concluded with the State of Nicaragua, by a Company composed of American citizens for the purpose of constructing a ship canal through the territory of that State, to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, I have directed the negotiation of a Treaty with Nicaragua, pledging both Governments to protect those who shall engage in perfect the work. All other nations are invited by the State of Nicaragua to enter into the same Treaty stipulations with her; and the benefit to be derived by each from such an arrangement will be the protection of this great inter-oceanic communication against any power which might seek to obstruct it, or to monopolize its advantages. All States entering into such a Treaty will enjoy the right of passage through the canal on payment of the same tolls.

The work, if constructed under these guarantees, will become a bond of peace, instead of a subject of contention and strife, between the nations of the earth. Should the great maritime States of Europe consent to this arrangement, (and we have no reason to suppose that a proposition so fair and honorable will be opposed by any,) the energies of their people and ours will cooperate in promoting the success of the enterprise. I do not recommend any appropriation from the National Treasury for this purpose, nor do I believe that such an appropriation is necessary. Private enterprise, if properly protected, will complete the work, should it prove to be feasible. The parties who have procured the charter from Nicaragua, for its construction, desire no assistance from this Government beyond its protection; and they profess that, having examined the proposed line of communication, they will be ready to commence the undertaking whenever that protection shall be extended to them. Should there appear to be reason, on examining the whole evidence, to entertain a serious doubt of the practicability of constructing such a canal, that doubt could be speedily solved by an actual exploration of the route.

Should such a work be constructed, under the common protection of all nations, for equal benefits to all, it would be neither just nor expedient that any great maritime State should command the communication. The territory through which the canal may be opened ought to be freed from the claims of any foreign power. No such power should occupy a position that would enable it hereafter to exercise so controlling an influence over the commerce of the world, or to obstruct a highway which ought to be dedicated to the common uses of mankind.

The route across the Isthmus, at Tehuantepec and Panama, are also worthy of our serious consideration. They did not fail to engage the attention of my predecessor. The negotiator of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was instructed to offer a very large sum of money for the right of transit across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. The Mexican Government did not accede to the proposition for the purchase of the right of way, probably because it had already contracted with private individuals for the construction of a passage from the Guasacualco river to Tehuantepec. I shall not renew any proposition to purchase, for money, a right which ought to be equally secured to all nations, on payment of reasonable toll to the owners of the improvement, who would, doubtless, be well contented with that compensation and the guarantee of the maritime States of the world, in separate treaties negotiated with Mexico, binding her and them to protect those who should construct and to secure the completion of the communication through the territory of Mexico than any other reasonable consideration that could be offered; and as Mexico herself would be the greatest gainer by the opening of this communication between the Gulf and the Pacific Ocean, it is presumed that she would not hesitate to yield her aid, in the manner proposed, to accomplish an improvement so important to her own best interests.

We have reason to hope that the proposed Railroad across the Isthmus at Panama will be successfully contracted, under the protection of the late treaty with New Grenada, ratified and exchanged by my predecessor on the 10th day of June, 1848, which guarantees the perfect neutrality of the Isthmus, and the rights of sovereignty and property of New Grenada over that territory, "with a view that the free transit from ocean to ocean may not be interrupted or embarrassed" during the existence of the treaty. It is our policy to encourage every practicable route across the Isthmus, which connects North and South America, either by Railroad or Canal, which the energy and enterprise of our citizens may induce them to adopt that policy, especially in consequence of the absolute necessity of facilitating intercourse with our possessions on the Pacific.

The position of the Sandwich Islands, with reference to the territory of the United States on the Pacific; the success of our persevering and benevolent citizens who have repaired to that remote quarter in christianizing the natives and inducing them to adopt a system of government and laws suited to their capacity and wants; and the use made by our numerous whale-ships of the harbors of the islands as places of resort for obtaining refreshments and repairs, all combine to render their destiny peculiarly interesting to us. It is our duty to encourage the authorities of those islands in their efforts to improve and elevate the moral and political condition of the inhabitants; and we should make reasonable allowances for the difficulties inseparable from this task. We desire that the islands may maintain their independence; and that other nations should concur with us in this sentiment. We could in no event be indifferent to their passing under the dominion of any other power. The principal commercial States have in this a common interest, and it is to be hoped that no one of them will attempt to interpose obstacles to the entire independence of the islands.

The receipts into the Treasury for the fiscal year ending on the 30th of June last, were, in cash, forty-eight millions, eight hundred and thirty thousand, ninety-seven dollars and fifty cents, (\$48,830,097.50); and in Treasury notes funded, ten millions, eight hundred and thirty-three thousand dollars, and eighty-two cents, (\$8,333,667.82).

The accounts and estimates which will be submitted to Congress in the Report of the Secretary, show that there will probably be a deficit, occasioned by the expenses of the Mexican War and Treaty, on the 1st day of July next, of five millions, eight hundred and twenty-five thousand one hundred and twenty-one dollars and sixty-six cents, (\$5,828,121.66); and on the 1st day of July, 1851, of ten millions, five hundred and forty-seven thousand and ninety-two dollars and seventy-three cents, (\$10,547,092.73); making in the whole a probable deficit, to be provided for, of sixteen millions, three hundred and seven thousand and thirty-nine cents, (\$16,375,214.39). The extraordinary expenses of the War with Mexico, and the purchase of California and New Mexico, exceed in amount this deficit, together with the loans heretofore made for those objects. I therefore recommend that authority be given to borrow whatever sum may be necessary to cover that deficit. I recommend the observance of strict economy in the appropriation and expenditure of public money.

I recommend a revision of the existing tariff, and its adjustment on a basis which may augment the revenue. I do not doubt the right or duty of Congress to encourage domestic industry, which the great source of national as well as individual wealth and prosperity. I look to the wisdom and patriotism of Congress for the adoption of a system which may place home labor, at last, on a sure and permanent footing, and, by new encouragement of manufactures, give a due and increased stimulus to agriculture, resources and the extension of our commerce. Believing that to the attainment of these ends (as well as the necessary augmentation of the revenue and the prevention of frauds) a system of specific duties is best adapted, I strongly recommend to Congress the adoption of that system, fixing the duties at rates high enough to afford substantial and sufficient encouragement to our own industry, and at the same time so adjusted as to insure stability.

The question of the continuance of the Sub-Treasury system is respectfully submitted to the wisdom of Congress. If continued, important modifications of it appear to be indispensable. For further details and views on the above and other matters connected with commerce, the finances and revenue, I refer to the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury. No direct aid has been given by the General Government to the improvement of agriculture, except by the expenditure of small sums for collecting and publishing agricultural statistics, and for some chemical analyses, which have been, thus far, paid out of the Patent Fund. This aid is, in my opinion, wholly inadequate. To give to this leading branch of American industry the encouragement which it merits, I respectfully recommend the establishment of an Agricultural Bureau, to be connected with the Department of the Interior. To elevate the social condition of the agriculturalist, to increase his prosperity, and to extend his means of usefulness to his country by multiplying his sources of information, should be the study of every legislator, and a primary object with every statesman.

No civil government having been provided by Congress for California, the people of that Territory, impelled by the necessities of their political condition, recently met in convention, for the purpose of forming a constitution and State government, which, the latest advices gave me reason to suppose, they have accomplished; and it is believed they will shortly apply for the admission of California into the Union, as a sovereign State. Should such be the case, and should their constitution be conformable to the Constitution of the United States, I recommend their application to the favorable consideration of Congress.

The people of New Mexico will also, it is believed, at no very distant period, present themselves for admission into the Union. Preparatory to the admission of California and New Mexico, the people of each will have instituted for themselves a Republican form of Government, "laying its foundation in such principles, and organizing its powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness."

By awaiting their action, all causes of uneasiness may be avoided, and confidence and calm feeling preserved. With a view of maintaining the harmony and tranquility so dear to all, we should abstain from the introduction of those exciting topics of a sectional character which have hitherto produced painful apprehensions in the public mind; and I repeat the solemn warning of the first and most illustrious of my predecessors against furnishing "any ground for characterizing parties by geographical discriminations."

A Collector has been appointed at San Francisco, under the act of Congress extending the revenue laws over California, and measures have been taken to organize the Custom Houses at that and the other ports mentioned in that act, at the earliest period practicable. The Collector proceeded overland, and advices have not yet been received of his arrival at San Francisco. Meanwhile, it is understood that the customs have continued to be collected there by officers acting under the military authority, as they were during the administration of my predecessor. It will, I think, be expedient to conform the collections thus made, and direct the avails, (after such allowance as Congress may think fit to authorize,) to be expended within the Territory, or to be paid into the Treasury, for the purpose of meeting appropriations for the improvement of its rivers and harbors.

A party engaged on the coast survey was dispatched to Oregon in January last. According to the latest advices, they had not yet returned, and directions have been given to them, as soon as they shall have fixed the positions of the two light-houses, and the buoys authorized to be constructed and

placed in Oregon, to proceed without delay to make reconnaissance of the most important points on the coast of California, and especially to examine and determine on sites for light-houses on that coast, the speedy erection of which is urgently demanded by rapidly increasing commerce.

I have transferred the Indian Agencies from Upper Missouri and Council Bluffs to Santa Fe and Salt Lake; and have caused to be appointed sub-agents in the valleys of the Gila, the Sacramento, and San Joaquin rivers. Still further legal provisions will be necessary for the effective and successful course over the new Territories.

I recommend the establishment of a branch mint in California, as it will, in my opinion, afford important facilities to those engaged in mining, as well as to the Government in the disposition of the mineral lands.

I also recommend that commissions be organized by Congress, to examine and decide upon the validity of the present subsisting land titles in California and New Mexico; and that provision be made for the establishment of officers of Surveyor General in New Mexico, California, and Oregon, and for the surveying and bringing into the market the public lands in those Territories. Those lands, remote in position and difficult of access, ought to be disposed of on terms liberal to all, but especially favorable to the early emigrants.

In order that the situation and character of the principal mineral deposits in California may be ascertained, I recommend that a geological and mineralogical exploration be connected with the linear surveys, and that the mineral lands be divided into small lots suitable for mining, and be disposed of, by sale or lease, so as to give our citizens an opportunity of procuring a permanent right of property in the soil. This would seem to be as important to the success of mining as of agricultural pursuits.

The great mineral wealth of California, and the advantages which its ports and harbors, and those of Oregon, afford to commerce, especially with the islands of the Pacific and Indian Oceans, and the populous regions of Eastern Asia, make it certain that there will arise, in a few years, large and prosperous communities on our Western Coast. It, therefore, becomes important that a line of communication, the best and most expeditious which the nature of the country will admit, should be opened, within the territory of the United States, from the navigable waters of the Atlantic or the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific. Opinion, as elicited and expressed by two large and respectable Conventions, lately assembled at St. Louis and Memphis, points to a railroad as that which, if practicable, will best meet the wishes and wants of the country. But while this, if in successful operation, would be a work of great national importance, and of a value to the country which it would be difficult to estimate, it ought also to be regarded as an undertaking of vast magnitude and expense, and one which must, if it be, indeed, practicable, encounter many difficulties in its construction and use. Therefore, to avoid failure and disappointment; to enable Congress to judge whether, in the condition of the country through which it must pass, the work be feasible, and if it be found so, whether it should be undertaken as a national improvement or left to individual enterprise; and in the latter alternative, what aid, if any, ought to be extended to it by the Government, I recommend as a preliminary measure a careful reconnaissance of the several proposed routes by a scientific corps, and a report as to the practicability of making such a road, with an estimate of the cost of its construction and support.

For further views on these and other matters connected with the duties of the Home Department, I refer you to the Report of the Secretary of the Interior. I recommended early appropriations for continuing the river and harbor improvements that have been already begun, and also for the construction of those for which estimates have been made, as well as for examinations and estimates preparatory to the commencement of such others as the wants of our country, and especially the advance of our population over new districts, and the extension of commerce, may render necessary. An estimate of the amount which can be advantageously expended within the next fiscal year, under the direction of the Bureau of Topographical Engineers, accompanies the Report of the Secretary of War, to which I respectfully invite the attention of Congress.

The session of territory made by the late treaty with Mexico has greatly extended our exposed frontier, and rendered its defense more difficult. The treaty has also brought us under obligations to Mexico, to comply with which a military force is requisite. But our military establishment is not materially changed, as to its efficiency, from the condition in which it stood before the commencement of the Mexican war. Some addition to it will therefore be necessary; and I recommend to the favorable consideration of Congress an increase in the several corps of the army at our distant Western posts, as proposed in the accompanying Report of the Secretary of War.

Great embarrassment has resulted from the effect, in the army, heretofore given to brevet and staff commissions. The views of the Secretary of War, on this subject, are deemed important, and if carried into effect will, it is believed, promote the harmony of the service. The plan proposed for retiring disabled officers, and providing an asylum for such of the rank and file as from age, wounds, and other infirmities occasioned by service, have become unfit to perform their respective duties, is recommended as a means of increasing the efficiency of the army, and as an act of justice, due from a grateful country to the faithful soldier.

The accompanying Report of the Secretary of the Navy presents a full and satisfactory account of the condition and operations of the Naval service during the past year. Our citizens engaged in the legitimate pursuits of commerce have enjoyed its benefits. Wherever our national vessels have gone they have been received with respect, our officers have been treated with kindness and courtesy, and they have, on all occasions, pursued a course of strict neutrality, in accordance with the policy of our Government. The naval force at present in commission is as large as is admissible, with the number of men authorized by Congress to be employed. I invite your attention to the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy, on the subject of a re-organization of the Navy in

its various grades of officers, and the establishing of a retired list for such of the officers as are disqualified for active and effective service. Should Congress adopt some such measure as is recommended, it will greatly increase the efficiency of the Navy, and reduce its expenditures.

I also ask your attention to the views expressed by him in reference to the employment of war steamers, and in regard to the contracts for the transportation of the United States' mails, and the operation of the system upon the prosperity of the Navy.

By an act of Congress, passed August 14, 1848, provision was made for extending post-office and mail accommodations to California and Oregon. Exertions have been made to execute that law; but the limited provisions of the act, the inadequacy of the means it authorizes, the ill adaptation of our post-office laws to the situation of that country, and the measure of compensation for services rendered by those laws, compared with the prices of labor and rents in California, render those exertions, in a great degree, ineffectual. More particular and efficient provision by law is required on this subject.

The act of 1845, reducing postage, has now, by its operations during four years, produced results fully showing that the income from such reduced postage is sufficient to sustain the whole expense of the service of the Post-Office Department, not including the cost of transportation in mail steamers on the lines from New York to Chagres and from Panama to Astoria, which have not been considered by Congress as properly belonging to the mail service.

It is submitted to the wisdom of Congress, whether a further reduction of postage should not now be made, more particularly on the letter correspondence. This should be relieved from the unjust burthen of transportation and delivering the frank matter of Congress, for which public service provision should be made from the Treasury. I confidently believe that a change may safely be made, reducing all single-letter postage to the uniform rate of five cents, regardless of distance, without thereby imposing any greater tax on the Treasury than would constitute a very moderate compensation for this public service; and I therefore respectfully recommend such a reduction. Should Congress prefer to abolish the franking privilege entirely, it seems probable that no demand on the Treasury would result from the proposed reduction of postage.

Whether any further diminution should now be made, or the result of the reduction of five cents, which I have recommended, should be first tested, is submitted to your decision. Since the commencement of the last session of Congress, a Postal Treaty with Great Britain has been received and ratified, and such regulations have been formed by the Post Office Departments of the two countries in pursuance of that treaty, as to carry its provisions into full operation. The attempt to extend this same arrangement, through England, to France, has not been equally successful; but the purpose has not been abandoned.

For a particular statement of the condition of the Post Office Department, and other matters connected with that branch of the public service, I refer you to the Report of the Postmaster-General. By the act of the 3d of March, 1849, a Board was constituted to make arrangements for taking the 7th census; composed of the Secretary of State, the Atty General, and the Postmaster-General; and it was made the duty of this Board "to prepare and cause to be printed such forms and schedules as might be necessary for the full enumeration of the inhabitants of the United States; and also proper forms and schedules for collecting in statistical tables, under proper heads, such information as to mines, agriculture, commerce, manufactures, education, and other topics, as would exhibit a full view of the pursuits, industry, education, and resources of the country." The duties enjoined upon the Census Board, thus established, having been performed, it now rests with Congress to enact a law for carrying into effect the provision of the Constitution which requires an actual enumeration of the people of the United States within the ensuing year.

Among the duties assigned by the Constitution to the General Government is one of local one limited application, but not, on that account the less obligatory; I allude to the trust committed to Congress as the exclusive legislator and the sole guardian of the District of Columbia. I beg to commend these interests to your kind attention. As the National Metropolis, the City of Washington must be an object of general interest; and, founded as it was under the auspices of him whose immortal name it bears, its claims to the fostering care of Congress present themselves with additional strength. Whatever can contribute to its prosperity must enlist the feelings of its Constitutional guardians, and command their favorable consideration.

Our Government is one of limited powers and its successful administration eminently depends on the confinement of each of its co-ordinated branches within its own appropriate sphere. The first section of the Constitution ordains that "All legislative powers therein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives." The Executive has authority to recommend (not to dictate) measures to Congress. Having performed that duty, the Executive Department of the Government cannot rightfully control the decision of Congress on any subject of legislation, until that decision shall have been officially submitted to the President for approval. The check provided by the Constitution in the clause conferring the qualified veto, will never be exercised by me, except in the cases contemplated by the fathers of the Republic. I view it as an extreme measure, to be resorted to only in extraordinary cases—as where it may become necessary to defend the executive against the encroachments of the legislative power, or to prevent hasty and inconsiderate and unconstitutional legislation. By cautiously confining this remedy within the sphere prescribed to it in the coterminous expositions of the framers of the Constitution, the will of the people, legitimately expressed on all subjects of legislation, through their constitutional organs, the Senators and Representatives of the United States, will have its full effect. An indispensable to the preservation of our system of self-government, the independence of the Representatives of the States and the people is guaranteed by the Constitution; and they owe no responsibility to any human power but their constituents. By holding the Rep-

resentative responsible only to the people, and exempting him from all other influences, we elevate the character of the constituent and quicken his sense of responsibility to his country. It is under those circumstances only that the elector can feel that, in the choice of the law-maker, he is himself truly a component part of the sovereign power of the nation. With equal care we should study to defend the rights of Executive and Judicial Departments. Our Government can only be preserved in its purity by the suppression and entire elimination of every claim or tendency of one co-ordinate branch to encroachment upon another. With the strict observance of this rule and the other injunctions of the Constitution—with a sedulous inculcation of that respect and love for the Union of the States, which our fathers cherished and enjoined upon their children, and with the aid of that overruling Providence which has so long and so kindly guarded our liberties and institutions, we may reasonably expect to transmit them to their innumerable blessings to the remotest posterity.

But attachment to the union of the States should be habitually fostered in every American heart. For more than half a century, during which kingdoms and empires have fallen, this Union has stood unshaken. The patriots who formed it have long since descended to the grave; yet still it remains, the proudest monument to their memory, and the object of affection and admiration with every one worthy to bear the American name. In my judgment its dissolution would be the greatest of calamities, and to avert that should be the study of every American. Upon its preservation must depend our own happiness and that of countless generations to come. Whatever dangers may threaten it, I shall stand by it and maintain it in its integrity, to the full extent of the obligations imposed, and the power conferred upon me by the Constitution.

Z. TAYLOR.

WASHINGTON, December 4th, 1849.

BARRIED.

In Plainfield, Otsego Co., N. Y., Dec. 12th, by A. B. Spaulding, Esq., Mr. JOSHUA G. Sisson, of Plainfield, and Miss LOUISA CLARK, of Brookfield.

In Truxton, N. Y., on the 16th inst., by Eld. J. R. Irish, Mr. EDWARD BURTON, of Truxton, and Miss ELIZABETH RICHMOND, daughter of Roswell Richmond, of Truxton.

DIED.

At Adams Center, N. Y., on the 11th inst., of a chronic pulmonary affection, Rev. GILES M. LANGWORTHY, in the 55th year of his age. His funeral was attended on the 13th inst., by a large concourse of people. Brother Langworthy embraced religion in early life, and united with the 2d Seventh-day Baptist Church in Brookfield, Madison Co., N. Y. He soon became eminent for his devoted piety; and, possessing high intellectual and literary qualifications, he was subsequently employed as teacher in the Deaneville Institution, where he did himself credit. His ardent love to God and to his fellow men, together with his intellectual and literary endowments, seemed to point him out as a fit subject for the ministry. He was accordingly ordained to the work of the ministry, when about 37 years of age. His first pastoral charge was of the 3d Church in Brookfield, where he labored devotedly till the winter of 1845, at which time he received a call from the Church at Adams, and has since had the pastoral charge of the Adams Church until the past year, when his health had become so much declined as to render constant preaching impossible. During this time he made a tour to Ohio, Rhode Island, and New Jersey, for his health, and to use what little strength he had in the great work to which he was called. For the last six months he was able to preach but little, though he continued to do what he could. His health had long been on the decline, though able to be about until the last week of his life. In Adams his labor has been crowned with success, and he was universally esteemed. By his death, his widow feels severely the loss of a tender and loving companion; the Church has lost an able and beloved minister, and the community is deprived of the society of one in whom they all confided.

Comm.

In Honesfield, Jefferson Co., N. Y., on the 16th inst., of a paralytic affection, caused by bronchocoe of long standing, Mrs. JUDITH M., relict of the late Stephen Clarke, aged 60 years, died. She was a devoted Christian, and became a member of the Seventh-day Baptist Church in Scott, at the time of its organization. Subsequent to the death of her first husband, (the late Deacon Holly Maxson,) she remained a widow for several years, after which she married and removed to Jefferson County. When the Church in Honesfield was organized, she became a member of it, and continued such till her death. Her end was characterized by resignation to the divine will, and by a serene and certain hope of a blissful immortality. Mrs. C. lived to see all her children, five in number, converted, and active in the cause of religion. In the late revival in Honesfield, several of her grand-children were brought into the church; indeed, all but one of them, who have attained sufficient age, are now impaled in its bosom. For the last few years Mrs. C. has suffered much affliction; but the dispensation which bested surviving friends mourn, has brought her acquainted with unending felicity.

J. G.

In Pawcatuck, R. I., Dec. 16, MARTHA G. BARNES, aged 23 years, wife of Matthew Barnes, who sailed from Pawcatuck for California, about six weeks previous to her death. Sister Barnes was a member of the 7th Seventh-day Baptist Church in Pawcatuck, N. Y. Although for a number of days previous to her death she labored under a slight mental derangement, yet previously she gave good evidence that her heart had felt the power of renewing grace, and that death had been won for her.

At Sutter's Fort, Upper California, in April last, of scurvy, ISAAC ROGERS, formerly of Waterford, Ct., aged 45 years, 6 months. He leaves a wife and three young children at Salt Lake, an aged mother, and an older son, Bro. Lester T. Rogers 2d, at Waterford, Ct.

In Christiansburg, Dan Co., Wis., November 24th, NANCY BARCOCK, wife of Elkanah Barcock, in the 39th year of her age. Her husband, daughter of Elkanah and Nancy Barcock, died October 28th, in the 17th year of her age.

LETTERS.

Wm. B. Maxson, James R. Irish, Charles M. Lewis, Asa West, A. B. Spaulding, John Whitford, Geo. Grandall, W. M. Farnsworth, L. Grandall, Charles Potter, C. Chester, Joseph Goodrich, J. T. G. Bailey.

RECEIPTS.

The Treasurer of the Seventh-day Baptist Publishing Society acknowledges the following sums from subscribers to the Sabbath Recorder:

David Maxson, Adams, \$2 00 of Vol. 6 No. 52
Joseph Green, " 2 00 " " " 52
J. R. Green, " 2 00 " " " 52
E. R. Maxson, " 2 00 " " " 52
H. Babcock, Brookfield, " 2 00 " " " 52
H. M. Babcock, Florence, " 2 00 " " " 52
M. Wells, Jr., DeRuyter, " 2 00 " " " 52
James Mancy, " 2 00 " " " 52
John Cottrell, Mill Grove, " 1 00 " " " 52
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Gideon Woodson, " 2 00 " " " 52
A. W. Coon, Milton, Wis., " 1 00 " " " 52
C. W. Church, Rockville, R. I., " 2 00 " " " 52
Clark Saunders, " 2 00 " " " 52
Sam'l Grandall, Jr., " 2 00 " " " 52
Of M. Stillman, Lincolnton, towards Pub. Fund, \$4 00

BENEDICT W. ROGERS, Treasurer.

Geo. B. Utter acknowledges the receipt of the following sums on old accounts of the Sabbath Recorder or accounts previous to the close of Vol. 5:

Fitch Brown, Milton, Wis., \$4 00 of Vol. 5 No. 52
Abel Babcock, " 2 00 " " " 52

Central Association—Semi-Annual Meeting.

The Semi-Annual Meeting of the Central Seventh-day Baptist Association, will be held, with the first Seventh-day Baptist Church in Waterford, N. Y., on the fourth day of the month of January, 1850, commencing at 10 o'clock A. M.

