

much as we know that our labour is not in vain in the Lord.

O, let every Christian who reads this in Nova-Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, as well as others who take the Christian Messenger, purpose in their hearts to send their mite by some means to the American Bible Union, to give the Word of God to those who have it not, and are perishing without it, both temporally and spiritually; and we who have it, may God give us grace to make a good use of it, else our condition will be worse than theirs.

May God incline the hearts of all who read, to seek to promote His glory and the welfare of their fellow men.

A HELPER IN CHRIST JESUS.

Berwick Female Seminary.

According to previous notice a small number convened at the T. H. in Berwick on the 30th July. Meeting organized by the appointment of Elder James Parker of Bill Town as Chairman and Elder T. H. Porter of Sackville as Clerk. Prayer by Elder T. H. Porter.

Meeting addressed by Elders W. Chipman, W. G. Parker, J. Parker and T. H. Porter, Dea A. Parker and several others.

A Constitution was prepared and adopted.

Moved and adjourned to meet the 20th day of August next at 2 o'clock, P. M., at Berwick, the day previous to the close of the Female School for the present year.

THEODORE H. PORTER, Clerk.

Berwick, July 30, 1856.

Extract of letter from Rev. W. Chipman.

DEAR BRETHREN,

"It was contemplated that there would have been a public meeting, but the two previous days being unfavourable for securing hay, and the day of the Meeting being fine, the farmers very generally were necessarily engaged—besides the day was exceedingly warm and oppressive for man and beast, which probably detained several ministers and others resident at a distance, and although the meeting was small in comparison with what was expected, yet under the circumstances it was thought advisable to form the Society and a Constitution—yet as the object aimed at is one of great importance, the outlay necessarily large, and therefore much strength and united effort so highly necessary, it was thought best to adjourn the meeting as above named, in the hope then of having a more enlarged meeting, consultation, concurrence, and co-operation, and from thence to proceed to the adoption of the most ready measures to realize funds to carry our plans into effect. Therefore I again earnestly solicit the attendance at the adjourned meeting of a large number of those interested in said object.

As the contemplated meeting will probably be the last previous to immediate action, a full attendance, and free discussion are exceedingly desirable.

Yours truly,

WM. CHIPMAN.

In behalf of many others.

P. V., July 31st, '56.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, AUGUST 13, 1856.

We find the New York and Boston papers, both religious and secular, filled with matter growing out of the resignation of Dr. Maclay of the Presidency of the Bible Union—In answer to the Doctor's Pamphlet specifying his reasons for his retirement, is an elaborate defence published by the principal officers of the Union, in which they go at length into most of the charges made against the society; and again are letters from Dr. M. and communications on one side and the other. The Union accuse Dr. Judd, who had until lately taken a prominent part in the management of their affairs and had also been acting as a Revisor, but had lately taken offence and was no longer connected with them, of being the prime mover in the matter of Dr. Maclay's secession. We have before said, that as regards ourselves, we felt convinced that it would be neither prudent nor profitable, under the circumstances, in which our numerous readers are situated, some bolding views more favourable to the Union and

others to the American and Foreign Society, and many like ourselves contributing to the funds of both, to take up the championship of either. We most sincerely believe that both have the glory of God and the good of men at heart, and can only lament that they are not striving together to attain their common end. We are well aware that some of our warmest friends differ with us as to the course we have deemed it, on this point, right to pursue, but we can respect their zeal without being convinced of the justice of their opinion. We do not believe that any minister of Christ, out of these Provinces, enjoys a larger share of the love and esteem of the whole Denomination than the venerable Father whose name is so immediately connected with this unhappy difference. How far, with most undoubted Christian honesty of purpose, he may be acting under any serious misapprehension in regard to the proceedings of the Union Board, we are as yet unable to form a correct opinion. One of the most serious charges against the Board is that of employing incompetent Revisors. This might well happen without any very serious charge against them in the course of the long and difficult task they have undertaken. Some of those employed we know are eminently qualified—others may be much less so, but until some further results appear than have as yet come before the public, it might be premature to judge to whom or to what extent to impute the blame. Deeply as we feel the importance of a faithful revision of the sacred volume, we cannot feel justified from all that has yet transpired, to hazard a condemnatory opinion of the zealous and excellent men who are at the head of the Bible Union or of the venerable and beloved Brother who has withdrawn from their ranks—We cannot believe we are acting wrong in advising our readers to pursue a like course, and carefully to avoid cherishing a spirit in any degree inconsistent with a calm and prayerful examination of the subject when the whole shall have been brought before them. We should greatly deprecate anything like a partizan spirit growing up in our churches, on this matter, feeling assured that it must ultimately lead to anything rather than the advancement of truth and righteousness.

The art of effective writing, public speaking or teaching, whether in the form of narrative, or more strictly of a didactic character, consists in presenting pictures, such as will leave distinct impressions on the minds of the reader or hearer. According as this is done with fitly chosen words and well arranged sentences, so as to produce more or less vividness, do we consider the ability of the writer or speaker for the work which he proposes to accomplish. It is a study of no ordinary interest to notice the varieties, in this respect, which present themselves on every hand. Whilst some writers scarcely ever bring out a clear view of what is before their own mind so as to make a lasting impression on the minds of their readers, others by each sentence, like a touch from the hand of a master, bring in a new subject to their picture, and cast a fresh light upon it, so as to deepen the impression, until it is permanently secured, to be recalled at any future time in connection with some other idea associated with it.

It will be readily admitted that our most powerful and useful preachers have excelled in these two particulars. First, In forming a clear conception in their own minds of those facts they wish to present, and so grouping their illustrations as to throw into the strongest light the particular point they intend to produce the greatest effect. Secondly, In conveying to their hearers such impressions as will expell all other thoughts from their minds, and rivet their attention to that one point.

Ideas are sometimes given in too great abundance. We are expected to pass on to a new one before we gain a clear perception of that under consideration, and in consequence of there not being sufficient time and language to bring out the idea and impress it upon the mind, before it is interfered with by our being called to look upon some other object, we are left without any distinct apprehension of what is in the mind of the speaker or writer, because of the interference of one with another, and from a want of harmony and consecutiveness in the whole. We may refer to Mrs. Stowe, Macaulay and other popular writers,

and to Gough and Spurgeon as speakers, to illustrate these remarks. The charm by which they command so much attention, is, that they exhibit facts and circumstances with all the vividness of life and reality. May we not also refer to the Great Teacher. How often He exclaimed "Behold the fowls of the air." "Behold the lilies of the field." "Behold a sower, &c. &c." The gospel recognizes this feature in human nature. We are called upon to "Behold the Man,"—To look to the victim of our crimes, and "believe and live." How much more effectual might we expect the preaching of the cross to be, if we had more of this picturing out before the minds of the hearers.

We have been led to these thoughts by the beautiful tale given on our fourth page. Whilst it presents a series of the most striking pictures, we see in it all the naturalness and reality of life and death, and we doubt if any one could read it without having impressed on his mind, perhaps for life, the several clear and distinct but beautiful exhibitions it contains. We almost hear the hoarse voice of the bayman call from the window of that ill-shapen house, as the sun is pouring its hot, red rays on the opposite side of the street, and on the bay in the distance. After listening to the conversation between them, now clearly we perceive his features, as the same coarse hardened sinner approaches the writer with clenched fist, until arrested by the tremulous voice of the dying wife.

We might proceed with similar remarks on each change in the affecting narrative, but none would be more truly sublime than that intended by the writer to stand out the most conspicuous of the whole—the bowing of that proud though ignorant infidel, before this last display of the value of real religion—and his confession that he had been fully conscious of its existence in her who was now passing away to her glorious rest. The triumphant display, in her last moments, of victory over death and the grave, and the evidence of the Saviour's presence with that suffering christian, as she was passing through the dark valley, or rather over the narrow stream which separates this vale of tears from that land of beauty, joy and blessedness is another picture of surpassing loveliness, which shows the skill of the writer, and his power of using the principles to which we have attempted to call attention.

Dalhousie College.

The Witness of last week gave a column and a half of explanation of the position in which Presbyterians stand, with regard to the recent movements in connexion with this Institution, and concludes with the following paragraph.

"In view of these, and other difficulties connected with the proposal of the Governors, the three bodies have chosen each its own course with respect to Dalhousie College. The Church of Scotland, we believe, has agreed to petition the Legislature to increase the revenues of the College by a grant from the Treasury, in order that, in addition to the present course of instruction, the higher branches of learning may be taught. The Free Church has also determined to petition the Legislature, but its request will be that the College may be remodelled. We fear that both these movements will prove abortive; for the friends of all the Denominational Colleges in the country, will combine to hinder anything which might render Dalhousie College a more dangerous competitor. The Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, while unable to accept the proposal of the Governors, will sincerely rejoice if the prosecution of those changes which have been commenced, should enable it to avail itself of Dalhousie College, for the supply of that course of instruction which it requires; though it feels itself obliged, in the meantime, to carry out its own Educational schemes as if they were its sole dependance."

Fire Engines. Accident.

The whole of the city Fire Engines were taken out on the Common, on Friday last, for the purpose of trying their respective forces; preceded by a couple of pipers, many of the Firemen being dressed in uniform. A great crowd of citizens accompanied them. There were nine engines in all, including a small "Perry engine," owned by Mr. John P. Mott, of Dartmouth, which was worked by boys, the sons of Firemen. One of the engines was worked by Artillerymen; and another, by soldiers of the 62nd and 63rd Regts. After putting themselves and their engines through a variety of exercises with quite satisfactory results, the whole party returned to town. As they were doing so, two of the divisions engaged in racing their engines down the hill near the Ball Court. The consequence was that a soldier of the 62 Regt., named Demaine, was run over and had both thighs dreadfully crushed. We hope that this will prove a salutary warning, and in future prevent this foolish practice which is quite common, but perfectly unnecessary.

The following we have just received from an esteemed friend in the country. The information it conveys of the decease of the Rev. John E. Cogswell is indeed sudden and unlooked for, and will be deeply felt by a numerous circle of relative and sincere friends in many parts of the country. As an earnest and active Minister of Christ his loss will be long and deeply lamented. His call was doubtless unexpected, though not unprepared for; as his well established character for deep piety and christian zeal afford the best assurance that his change is from a warfare with sin and sorrow to a participation in those glorious realities which "eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man to conceive."

"We deeply regret to hear of the very sudden and melancholy death of the Rev. JOHN E. COGSWELL of River Philip, who was found last Wednesday at 5 o'clock, P. M., lying dead on the road about half a mile from his own house. In the morning he complained of feeling unwell, and in the afternoon procured some medicine, and was walking home from the Post Office, when it is supposed he fell lifeless, as from the attitude of the body it is not probable he moved a limb after his fall—from the bruise on his forehead he did not appear to have used his hands as a protection, and it is not likely that his death was hastened by the fall.

The cause of his death is supposed to have been an affection of the heart. A Coroner's inquest was held on the body. The Jury brought in the verdict that deceased died by the visitation of God.

He leaves a wife and four children to mourn their loss."

We tender our most sincere condolence to the family.

The Rev. S. N. Bentley arrived in Halifax last week, and entered upon his pastoral labours in connection with the North Baptist Church, last Sabbath. We trust he may be greatly blessed in his labours and meet with success, at least equal to that at Liverpool, and that that church may soon be directed to a permanent successor.

European news by the Atlantic & Asia at New York to the 23rd and 26th ult., has been received. The most important is that which concerns the revolt in Spain, which it appears has again overturned the constitutional administration, and thrown power into the hands of the minions of despotism. Gen. O'Donnell, who appears to have led the movement, was minister of War under the late administration, but was in reality its chief enemy, and has now succeeded in expelling from the councils Espartero, the only man who of late years has evinced either honesty or patriotism in this debased and ill-starred country. The revolt is in progress in most parts of the country, and as the nobility, and wealth, and priesthood of the Kingdom are all leagued in an unholy alliance against liberty and religion, there seems little chance of their ever taking permanent root in Spain. Still there is a great body of well intentioned, and intelligent men among the middle classes, who are willing to sacrifice anything they possess in the cause of freedom, but there is also a vast mass of ignorance, superstition and venality, at the command of any unprincipled leader who has sufficient ability to turn it to account. The Spanish Royal family is hopelessly vicious, corrupt and licentious, and if the seeds of a better state of things shall in the inscrutable designs of Providence, ever produce their proper fruits, it will most probably be after long years of bloodshed, dissension and misery. The crimes of former days and the natural results of a general debasement of all moral and religious character in every rank of life, are being visited upon this hopeless country, without much prospect of alleviation or remedy. A French army had been ordered to the borders of Spain, to watch the contending factions. The Kingdom is declared under martial law, and the Cortes or Representative Body are said to have assembled at Saragossa. A conflict had taken place at Madrid between the National Guards and Gen. O'Donnell's troops, in which the former were worsted and about 200 killed.

With the exception of continued symptoms of insurrection and popular discontent in many parts of Italy and Sicily, there is nothing else in the papers of much interest. Several large failures of Manufacturing and Mercantile Houses in different parts of England had taken place. There are very favorable accounts of the crops throughout the Kingdom.

Latest news on 7th page.

Gen... F... The "Col... its readers... be discontent... It affords... at Milton... the Rev. M... there. We... profitable... LAST we... per was dis... congregati... than eight... manifestati... ing of the... The new... Lock, own... Port, sail... commanded... ist Church... piety, has... posed she... port. By... involved i... and sancti... fatherless... occurrence... death."—C... Lock's I... DROWN... Schooner... from New... —Jb... DROWN... board the... throwing... the steam... his balanc... tely drow... years of a... ly residen... stand his... made to f... successful... S... The ste... Fall River... New York... near Point... side, send... bars to th... escaped t... sangers a... more or... fourteen... immediat... the other... River, w... the State... old, and... vious; i... inches le... Fourt... injured, CONG... week, th... alteration... ducing t... 000 to \$... solved to... was intr... 000 a ye... There... the pa... 275 boy... over the... children... The... the mu... was dis... from C... of the g... ance C... SER... contain... serious... Vt. I... a Mr... that if... On F... to cross... attack... knife, pierce... the pi... out an... West... follow... either... Th... Me., shade... 105... and i... Th... three... been... slaug... of m... porti... of the... 05 fl...