

"Be ye also ready for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh."
Which of my readers would like when you die to have no Christ to love you? Seek him now before it is too late. His words are "Love them that love me, and they that seek me early shall find me."

Z. P. A.
East Port Medway, February 25th, 1857.
(Religious Intelligencer please copy.)

For the Christian Messenger.

Ghostly Instruction for the Indians.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

A tract was handed me the other day by an Indian, who said it was picked up in the road, and contained something about the Indians, and he was anxious to know what it was. The tract is entitled—

"Indulgences in the Arch-Diocese of Halifax."

And is signed, "GUILIEL ARCHIEP. HALIFAXIENS."
It goes on to sum up all the "indulgences" granted in the "archdiocese," the places where and the terms upon which, they may be had. Among other things it says:

"By virtue of powers from the Holy See, the Archbishop grants a Plenary Indulgence to all the faithful in the Archdiocese of Halifax on the Feast of St. Patrick the Apostle of Ireland, on the Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, and on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the B. V. Mary."

"His Holiness Gregory XVI. on the 23rd of Feb. 1854, granted a plenary Indulgence to all the faithful in the Diocese of Halifax, who, receiving worthily the sacraments of Penance and the Blessed Eucharist, shall visit any church in the Diocese on the 2nd of July each year, the Feast of St. Anne, the Mother of the Blessed Virgin, and there pray for some space of time, for the Propagation of the Holy Catholic Faith. This indulgence is applicable by way of suffrage to the souls in Purgatory. St. Anne is the Patroness of the native Indians."

"INDULGENCES FOR THE MIC-MAC INDIANS."

"At an audience on the 11th Feb. 1855, His Holiness at the entreaty of the Archbishop granted the following Indulgence to the Mic-Macs:—

1. Every time they devoutly receive the Sacraments of Penance and the B. Eucharist—a Plenary Indulgence.
2. When two or more families pray, or sing hymns together in the woods—an Indulgence of three years.
3. When in the absence of a priest, on Sundays and Holy days they recite public prayers, either in some church or in their wigwams, whether their prayers be accompanied by sacred canticles or not—an Indulgence of three years.
4. On any three days of each week, if they make an act of Faith with interior detestation of all heresy—an Indulgence of three hundred days.
5. Every time that through God's grace they reject the bribes that are offered them by Heretics, for the purpose of weakening their faith—an Indulgence of three hundred days.
6. At the hour of death, especially if no priest be present, a Plenary Indulgence, provided they kiss devoutly the Image of our Saviour crucified.
7. For every work of mercy, whether spiritual or corporal, done in favor of the Indians by any of the Clergy or Laity—an Indulgence of three hundred days."

These extracts will interest your readers. My friend the Rev. Tim Carthy, must admit that the Mic-Mac Mission has not been altogether without fruits, if it has been the occasion of the Mic-Macs obtaining so many precious indulgences, at so easy a rate. It is a little wonderful that the Archbishop did not obtain still further for them that after their death all their effects should not be sold by auction, as is the present custom, and the money given to the church to pay for Masses for their souls. But I reserve my remarks for a future occasion.

Hantsport, March 31.

S. T. RAND.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mic-Mac Mission.

DEAR BROTHER,

Please allow me to publish a few names in the Messenger which were accidentally omitted in the last Annual Report of the Mic-Mac Mission.

The following should have been inserted as "omitted last year."

Mahew Beckwith, 5s.; Leonard Eaton, 5s.; Benjamin Eaton, 5s.; Joseph Jackson 5s. All in Cornwallis.

Rev. N. Baker, *Taacoak*, per letter, 20s.

Should any further errors be discovered they shall be corrected in the next year's Report. It is next to impossible to avoid all mistakes in a long list of names. They will get misspelled, and figures will come out wrong. *Jehu* is sure to be John, Landers will appear Saunders, and *St. Croix* comes out *St. Crin*. Friends will have to pardon such trifling mistakes as those, until we shall have obtained an "Infallible press."

Yours truly,
S. T. RAND.

Hantsport, March 26.

Religious Intelligence.

Extract of a letter from Rev. Dr. Cramp:

"Our meetings were held all the week, and were well attended, except one day, when there was a snow-storm. There was much seriousness. Several members have returned after long absence and neglect of ordinances, and a spirit of enquiry is spreading among the young. The meetings are to be continued this week, and will be productive, I am inclined to think, of many accessions."

There were full 300 persons at our Conference yesterday. The service continued nearly four hours. Six proposed themselves to the church and were accepted. One, who had been received before, was added to them, and the seven were baptized this morning. One of them is the younger brother of Rev. E. B. DeMill, who came to the college at the beginning of this Term. Another is one of Mr. Armstrong's daughters, and granddaughter of Father Harding.

The meeting-house was crowded this morning, and such an assemblage gathered round the table as I have never seen before. It is a great day with us.

You inserted, two or three weeks ago, a letter from Mr. Henry Hall, giving an account of a revival at the Mountain, West Cornwallis. The work has continued to go on, and the whole number baptized is now fifty. Last Lord's-day, 70 members sat down at the Lord's Table; whereas, three months ago they were reduced to about 12, and not more than half of them would sometimes be at Conference. This is a remarkable case."

"May the 'God of patience' strengthen and bless you!"

Acadia College, April 5th, '57.

Extract of a letter from Canso:—

"You will be glad to hear that quite an encouraging state of religious feeling is enjoyed by the Baptist Church in this place. I administered the ordinance of baptism last sabbath, and two more will follow in the same ordinance to-morrow. Some have been restored, and the church has been considerably revived, and several are enquiring the way to Zion. I have no time to enlarge.

I am, Sir,
Very truly yours,
J. C. HERD.

YARMOUTH.—Interesting revivals are progressing in different parts of Yarmouth County. At Beaver River quite a number have been baptized by Brother Delong, and at Tusket Lakes by Brother Tabor. Yesterday Brother Goncher baptized 8 at Chegogan, and Brother Tabor 6 at Chebogue. We have also had baptism in town the last three Sabbaths, and more are expected.

HENRY ANGELL.

BILLTOWN.—Rev. James Parker, of Billtown, writes:—"I have baptized three since the protracted meetings, and three have been restored to the Church. I expect to baptize again next Sabbath."

Provincial Parliament.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

FRIDAY, March 27.

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERY.

Hon. Mr. Fairbanks presented a petition relative to these fisheries, from the Mayor and ninety-six others, merchants, &c., of the city of Halifax.

Hon. Mr. Fairbanks said, this appears to me to be one of those questions in which not only Newfoundland, but all the British colonies are concerned. I have often regretted that the fisheries of these Provinces have not met with that care and attention, and have not been sustained in the manner which so great an interest requires. We have generally been too yielding on these matters. Not only the people of Newfoundland will suffer from the effects of this convention, as it will largely interfere with the Labrador Fishery, if not destroy it. This is one of the most important questions which has for a long period come before the Legislature. I trust that every colonial legislature will accede to the prayer of this petition.

Hon. Mr. McCully—I quite agree with the principle which the hon. gentleman has just laid down. I only wish that he would carry it out in a more extended form. The same argument applies to the mines and minerals, which were bartered away without our consent. I am sorry that the principle is not better understood abroad that the privileges of this country, whether fishing or mining, constitutionally belong to its inhabitants.

WOODEN BUILDINGS IN HALIFAX.

Hon. Mr. Archibald, chairman of the committee to whom was referred the bill to limit the erection of wooden buildings in the city of Halifax, reported favorably. The bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be read a third time on a future day.

MONDAY, March 30.

RIVER FISHERIES.

Hon. Dr. Grigor—I beg leave to call the attention of the house to the report of the Warden of the River Fisheries for the county of Halifax. This report contains a large amount of valuable information. The warden (Captain Chearnley) has performed his duties with great tact and considerable success. The obstacles he had to encounter were of no ordinary magnitude, the correcting of old abuses which had been allowed to exist for years, &c. The necessity for such an appointment as this was evident. Salmon were at one time as abundant in this province as mackerel or codfish are now, and places which are now abandoned by the finny tribe formerly teemed with fish. I am happy to observe that Captain Chearnley states that there is an increase in the quantity of fish this year. The vast importance of these fisheries may be inferred from the extensive market and the almost unlimited demand which exists for fish in the United States. With these views, I beg leave to lay on the table the resolutions which I hold in my hand, and which I shall move on a future day.

CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

Hon. Mr. Tobin, by command of His Excellency, laid on the table of the house the report of the Central Board of Agriculture for the past year.

The report states that our provincial agriculture is steadily improving, and that the bounty of the Legislature is duly appropriated and rightly applied. It is worthy of note that, while many countries enjoying a high agricultural reputation have abandoned the potato culture as hopeless, Nova Scotia has exported vast quantities of the article. It is stated that light sandy soils are the best lands for potato culture, especially if the use of recent and stimulating manures is avoided. The ravages of the wheat fly, it is said, may be prevented by the late sowing of early varieties of wheat, of which the best kinds are the Golden Straw and Black Sea, which if sown about the first of June, ripen well, and are not liable to rust in the straw, and also escape the fly. Experimental farms are recommended by the report.

The report laments the death of James N. Shannon, Esq., for many years a highly intelligent and useful member of the Board.

PROTECTION OF MARRIED WOMEN.

Hon. Mr. McCully said there is scarcely a will comes into the office over which I have the honor to preside, where property is devised to a married woman, that it is not thought necessary to vest the property in trustees and to throw around the property an order of technicalities in order to protect it. Why should this be necessary? Why should not the testator have the power of doing that directly which he now does indirectly?—Whatever might be said of this bill, when I first had the honor of introducing it, it cannot be said to be novel now. A bill of this kind has been enacted in New Brunswick, and has been in operation there for several years.

The first clause provides that the real and personal property belonging to a woman before or accruing after marriage, except such as may be received from her husband while married, shall be owned as her separate property.

The second clause enacts that in case of abandonment or desertion of any married woman by her husband, she may recover and receive in her own name, for any person indebted to her in her separate capacity for services performed by, and debts due to her, or damages for injuries to herself or her separate property.

The third clause states that in case any married woman is compelled by the drunkenness or worthlessness of her husband to support herself and family, and has acquired property, that such property shall vest in and may be recovered by her, and shall be at her disposal, and shall be subject to the law of descent, as if she were an unmarried woman, and shall not be subject in any way to the debts, interference, or control of her husband.

TUESDAY, March 31.

GOVERNOR'S ASSENT TO BILLS.

His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, attended by his staff arrived at the Council Chamber at 3 P. M. His excellency being seated on the throne, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod was directed by the hon. President to inform the House of Assembly that it was his Excellency's will and pleasure that they should immediately attend him. The House of Assembly having arrived, His Excellency was pleased to give his assent to sixteen bills, being all the bills passed by the other branches of the Legislature during the present session.

THURSDAY, April 2.

The bill to limit the erection of wooden buildings in the city of Halifax was read.

Its leading provisions are that no wooden buildings exceeding 37 feet in height shall hereafter be erected in the city; that all wooden buildings having a post of greater height than 16 feet, shall have a brick stone end wall; and shall also have a portion of the roof flat, with a scuttle therein.

Hon. Mr. McCully thought that the bill arbitrary in many of its provisions, that it would prevent entirely the erection of three story wooden houses, and would bear very hard on industrious and enterprising mechanics. The Hon. gentleman also thought that it would have the effect of raising rents.

Hon. Mr. Fairbanks took an entirely different view. He thought there was no very great difference between the cost of wooden and of stone or brick buildings, and that the former were much more expensive to maintain and keep in repair than the latter.

Hon. Dr. Grigor thought the bill would be a hardship to many owners of small lots. He characterized the bill, as the bill of the mason and brick-layer.

Hon. President observed that he was amused by the remark of the hon. doctor that brick buildings were not more fire proof than wooden ones. He considered the best proof of the contrary, was that while he was required to pay only 7s. 6d. per cent. for insurance on a stone building, 25s. per cent. was demanded on a wooden building.

Hon. Dr. Grigor would merely remark that it was matter of history that Halifax, which was a wooden city, had been most remarkably preserved from fires, and had suffered less from that cause than many cities built of brick and stone.

Hon. Mr. Bell stated that both experience and observation convinced him of the value of brick ends in houses, and that the recent great fire was a striking proof of this.

Hon. Receiver General thought the bill would be a great public benefit, and that the fact stated by the President, of the difference in the rates of insurance which he paid, was a proof of the superiority of brick over wooden buildings in case of fire. The hon. gentleman also stated that in England, where houses generally are built of brick or stone, only 1s. 6d. or 2s. per cent. is paid for insurance.

Hon. Mr. McCully said the bill will have the effect of increasing rents 10 per cent.

KNOX'S FREE CHURCH, BADDECK.

The bill to incorporate the trustees of Knox's Free Church at Baddeck, in the county of Victoria, was read.

The third clause of this bill enacts that meetings of the trustees may be held as often as necessary for transacting business, provided that due notice of such meetings be given from the pulpit, and provided also that one of the ministers of the Free Presbytery of the district preside at such meetings.

Hon. Mr. Morton moved that part of the third clause be struck out, so as to make the bill conformable to the acts of incorporation of other religious bodies, and to leave the trustees at liberty to manage their worldly business without the intervention of a clergyman.

Hon. Mr. Bell—I am glad to see this motion made. I think that people should manage their own affairs exclusive of clergy of all denominations, and should not be dictated to in such matters by any clergyman.

Hon. Mr. Kieth observed that the trustees of St. Andrew's Church managed all the temporal affairs of the church without the interference of the minister.

Hon. Mr. Archibald explained that the bill had been drawn up by the people whom it concerned, as they wished it to pass; that according to the organization of the Free Church, a minister generally presides over the meetings of the trustees of their congregations; that they cannot even hold a meeting for the purpose of selecting a minister, unless a clergyman presides.

Hon. Mr. Morton stated that as the bill stood, the trustees could transact no business unless a minister of the Presbytery presided; and that there was not an act on the statute book which went to that extent.

Hon. Mr. Archibald would not oppose the amendment, but still thought that the bill was drawn in accordance with the organization of the Free Church.

Hon. Receiver General seconded the amendment, which then passed without division.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THURSDAY, April 2.

Hon. Mr. McKinnon, by command, laid on the table the election writs for Annapolis and Pictou, with the Sheriffs' return thereon.

The Hon. Attorney General and the Hon. Solicitor General advanced to the Clerk's table, and the usual oaths were administered by the Hon. Hugh Bell, commissioner for that purpose, whereupon the hon. gentlemen took their seats.

Mr. McLellan moved that the resolution he had laid upon the table some days previous, with reference to the ballot, be taken up.

Mr. Young suggested that the discussion had better be postponed until after all the members of the new government had arrived.

Mr. Howe thought it would be but fair to all parties to name a day for taking up the question. He then asked the hon. leader of the government if he was prepared to bring down the papers connected with the Mines and Minerals.

Hon. Attorney General stated that as soon as the absent members of Government arrived there would be a meeting of the Cabinet, when arrangements would be made for immediately prosecuting the business of the house with vigor; and he had no doubt the papers inquired for would be brought down forthwith. At present he had not had an opportunity of reading them.

It was resolved that the question of the Ballot be the order of the day for Saturday.

Mr. Wade asked leave to introduce a bill to amend section 6 of the New Practice Act, in reference to affidavits to hold to bail.

Mr. Howe thought a bill of this kind should be brought in by the Crown officers and not by private members.

Mr. Wade did not agree with the remarks of the last speaker. He thought it was competent for any member to introduce measures of this kind.

Hon. Attorney General stated that it would be necessary to postpone the ensuing Easter Term of the Supreme Court at Halifax. He would consult with the Judges, and ascertain to-morrow what would be the most convenient time to insert in the bill. In the meantime he would move the first reading of the bill.