

light, pleasant, and sweet is his yoke! Is any like unto God most high, who supports and refreshes the tempted, who heals the stricken and wounded, and restores them altogether? None is like unto him. Learn, my most beloved brethren, how gracious the Lord is; how faithful and compassionate is he who visits his servants in their trials; he who humbles himself, and condescends to stand by us in our huts and mean abodes. He grants us a cheerful mind and a peaceful heart." The letter is dated "from the most delightful pleasure-garden, the prison called Leonia, the 12th of July, 1557."—(Baptist martyrology ii. 114, 122.)

You will read with much interest the following extracts from letters addressed by a pious mother to her children, "written hastily"—in prison—"trembling with cold."

"Love one another without strife or wrangling. Be affectionate the one to the other. The wisest must bear with the dull and admonish them with kindness. The strong must have compassion on the weak, and assist him with all his power from love. * * * * Love your enemies, and pray for them that speak evil of you, and make you suffer. Rather suffer wrong than do wrong. Endure rather grief than put another to grief. Be yourselves reproached rather than reproach another. Be rather belied than belie another. Let what is yours be taken from you rather than take what is another's. Be rather stricken than strike another. * * * * Oh, my dear lambs, mind that you spend not your youthful days in vanity or pride; nor in tippling or feasting; but in sobriety and humility, in the fear of God, diligent in all good works, that you may be clothed with the adorning of the saints; that God may make you meet, by his grace, to enter into the marriage of the Lamb, and that we may see you there with joy. Your father and I have shewn you the way, with many others besides. Take the example of the prophets and apostles. Even Christ himself went this way; and where the Head has gone before, there must the members follow."—(Martyrology ii. 289-301.)

The husband of this good woman had won the crown of martyrdom before her. She followed soon after, and joined her companion before the throne. There, "the noble army of martyrs" praise God. "They have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." May we meet them there!

From my Study. Yours truly, MENNO. May 16, 1857.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, MAY 27, 1857.

Baptist Seminary, Fredericton, N. B.

THE REV. CHARLES SPURDEN who has filled the office of Principal of this Institution with so much ability and efficiency for the past fourteen years, has determined on revisiting his native land, and as he might possibly remain in England, has tendered his resignation to the Directors. The domestic affliction he has suffered for some years past, has induced him to take this step, for the purpose of recruiting health and spirits.

The Board of Directors on the receipt of his letter of resignation, met in Brussell's Street Chapel, St. John's, and after several addresses on the subject, unanimously passed the following resolutions:

1. "On reading the letter of the Rev. C. Spurden, tendering the resignation of his situation as Principal of the Seminary at Fredericton, and after due deliberation thereon, Resolved unanimously, That the Rev. C. Spurden be requested to continue his services in the Seminary; that from his long and faithful attention to the duties of his situation he is and ever has been fully entitled to the entire confidence of the N. B. Baptist Education Society, and that we should feel it to be a very serious loss, both from our Christian affection for him as a brother in the Lord, and for his able and useful services, if he should still think it necessary to act upon his tendered resignation; and that we are perfectly willing he should have such leave of absence as the health of his family requires, should he consent to continue as Principal of the Seminary.
2. That we, the Directors of the Society, pledge ourselves to use immediate efforts to carry out the plan formerly adopted, of raising the money necessary to pay off the debt.
3. The Directors do not feel that any change of the locality of the Seminary has been decided upon, but merely that a committee has been raised to enquire as to the advantages or disadvantages of making such change, and report at the next meeting of the Society.
4. That this meeting desire to express their

affectionate sympathy with Mrs. Spurden as regards her state of health, and sincerely trust after a visit to her native country, she may be spared to return with restored health and spirits.

5. That this Board recommend that Brother Ring, or some other agent, should he refuse, be employed by the Managing Committee to raise the money to pay off the debt."

In reply to these resolutions, Mr. Spurden has consented to let his resignation lie in abeyance, and will return in time to resume his duties at the commencement of the July term, 1858, or if he should judge best to settle in England, would endeavour, if it were the wish of the Directors, to select a suitable successor.

In common with our New Brunswick Brethren and very many in Nova Scotia, we ourselves should exceedingly regret to hear of Mr. Spurden's determination to leave that province. His commanding talent, his high Christian character, and his gentlemanly deportment, eminently qualify him for the very important position he has so long filled, and we fear it would not be easy to find a successor who would in every respect supply the vacancy which his removal would occasion.

Reflections.

On reading over the proof-sheet of "Selections," given on the fourth page of our present number, we were struck with the singular appropriateness of each piece to follow its predecessor, so as to form a series of eight pictures of the Christian's life from the earliest to the latest period. As these pieces, gathered from various sources, had all accidentally assumed this orderly position, we thought it might not be inappropriate to give our reflections, in something like the regular shape which they took on first observing this peculiarity. We have first:

"The Baby is dead." Here we see the beginning of life. How frail! What danger surrounds the early life of all, even the greatest of men!

Secondly, "The Infidel and the Christian child." Here we may see the power of gospel truth. Even in the hands of a child it is made sufficient to destroy the sophistries of profound infidelity.

Thirdly, "A beautiful idea." Here we see the ever-expanding nature of our actions, whether they be good or evil. We can no more alter the nature or consequences of what we do, than we can stay the progress of a mighty river, or the roaring cataract. Once a sinner, always a sinner. "Except a man be born again he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God."

Fourthly, "The prayer-meeting." Here is the source of much spiritual strength and enjoyment. The true object of social religion is given in the experience of the pious cartman. When well conducted no religious meeting is so calculated to afford refreshing to the spirit and benefit to the soul. We often lose much from forgetfulness of the promises left by Jesus, that where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them.

Fifth, "Fidelity." This shows the happiness which may be secured by Christian society and friendship. We should endeavour to be friends as well as to have friends. The highest earthly happiness may be found in the cultivation of true friendship, having religion for its foundation, and practising faithfulness and fidelity one with another.

Sixth, "A pastoral letter." We see here the necessity and true position of the Christian ministry, in order to complete church order and activity. Where this state of feeling exists between those in the ministry and their people, the work of Christ, for which the church on earth is constituted, is carried on harmoniously. There is an essential connexion between a devoted minister and a prayerful church. When the people of God pray for their minister, he feels strong to labour and bold to declare the truths of God's Word.

Seventh, "Living and Dying." A further step is here taken, and the connexion between the present and future shewn. We often see a cloud drawn over the last days of even good men, yet if their lives have been a manifestation of christian principle and obedience, we need not be disturbed even if they are removed by some dispensation of Providence for which we cannot now see the reason. "What we know not now, we shall know hereafter."

Eighth, "Recognition in heaven." In this paragraph we have the climax of all the preceding; the perfection of happiness which has been experienced only in drops and at intervals in this life. The full enjoy-

ment of all that has been desired upon earth.

"A hope so much divine May trials well endure."

The enigma of human life is here solved. The object of earthly existence is shewn to be the preparation for a higher state, where the experience of blessing is not subject to the fluctuations of time and circumstance, but where all is peace and joy and love, and that for ever and ever. "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." "The gift of God is eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ."

THE Sittings of the Easter Term of the Supreme Court are just terminated. The causes which have come on for trial, with two or three exceptions, have not been of much importance.

A man named Thomas Small, a native of Prince Edward's Island, who was tried for Burglary and Robbery on Oliver Pettipas, of Chizencook, in December last, and acquitted under very doubtful circumstances, was again indicted and tried at the present Sittings for a similar offence in the house of Mr. Campbell, at the S. E. Passage. He entered the house on the night a barn of a Mrs. McNab was burnt down, and while Mr. C. was abroad at the fire, and after violently threatening Mrs. Campbell, and robbing her of a trifle, which was all the money in the house, he left with a trunk of clothing. These, however, were afterwards recovered, and Small taken into custody. The Jury convicted him upon the most convincing evidence, and he was sentenced by the Court to five years imprisonment at hard labour in the Penitentiary. He is evidently a bold and hardened villain.

Honora Healy was indicted for the murder of a man named Murphy. She and her husband kept a shanty on the Rail Road and had several boarders. There had been drinking in the evening, and after she had gone to bed, and the rest of the party had retired to rest up stairs, her husband and Murphy were left alone. It appears, although the evidence was confused and somewhat doubtful, that the deceased had been in bed with the prisoner, and that on discovering it, she got up and attacked him with a club or billet of wood, and after knocking him down, inflicted a number of heavy blows, by some of which on his head he was deprived of his life, and his body, on examination, appeared a mass of bruises. There seems to have been but little noise or alarm, and several of the inmates up stairs were not awakened by it. Those who came down saw Mrs. Healy, beating the deceased, and much enraged. Healy, the husband, has absconded. The Jury, after some hours deliberation, brought in a verdict of "Murder," but recommended the Prisoner "to mercy," as having perpetrated the act "without forethought or premeditation."

The only civil trial of much interest was an action brought by Mr. Stanford, Tanner, of Dartmouth, against the Inland Navigation (Canal) Company, for Damages in diverting a water course, by which he complained of being very seriously injured in his business. The Jury when we went to press, had not returned a Verdict.

THE R. M. Steamer Niagara arrived on Tuesday, the 19th inst. Nothing further had transpired relative to Chinese affairs at Canton. An insurrection of the Chinese had taken place at Sarawak in Borneo, where Sir James Brooke is the Rajah, or governor over a large native population. The Insurgents at first succeeded in getting possession of the place, and expelling Sir James and the few English residents, but after numerous acts of the most wanton cruelty, were themselves driven out by Sir James and a body of the natives, whom he had succeeded in rallying. They were afterwards pursued, and between two or three thousand perished by the sword or by drowning and starvation.

Lord Elgin has left on his mission to China. The French government are about sending out a force to act in alliance with the English against the Chinese.

Another battle has taken place in Persia, before the news of the Peace concluded in Paris between that Power and England, had reached. A large Persian force had been completely routed with much loss, by a very inferior one commanded by Sir James Outram, one of our East Indian Generals.

Mr. Evelyn Denison, member for Northamptonshire, has been chosen Speaker of the House of Commons without opposition, in place of Mr. Shaw LeFevre, elevated to the Peerage, by the title of Lord Eversley.

Mary, Duchess of Gloucester, the last remaining of the thirteen children of George the Third, died on the 30th ult, in her 81st year.

The Grand Duke Constantine, brother of the Emperor of Russia, who has been on a visit to the French Emperor, is about to visit the English Court.

General Intelligence.

Foreign and Domestic.

Mrs. Jeffery's property in Pleasant St. was sold on Friday, to James Donaldson, Esq., for the sum of £3,400.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, HALIFAX, May 20, 1857.

APPOINTMENTS.

To be a Gauger and Proof Officer for the Port of Halifax—Mr. Joseph W. Quinan.

To be the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane—James Ratchford De Wolf, Esq., M. D.

To be a Deputy Surveyor of Crown Lands in the County of Shelburne—Mr. John Farth, in the place of Mr. Alex. Hamilton.

To be Justices of the Peace:

In the County of Cape Breton—Augustine McGilvray, (Grand Narrows,) John Dowling (George's River,) Michael McKenna, (North Bar,) Michael Tracey, do., Donald John McNeil, (Sydney Mines,) Alexander McInnis, (Sydney,) Donald Macaulay, (Miro River,) Caleb Huntington, do., and Alex. J. Ball, (North West Arm,) Esquires.

In the County of Pictou—Andrew Hunter, (Barney's River,) John F. McDonald, (New Glasgow,) James Fraser, do., Basil Bell, do., Henry Elliott, (Pictou,) John H. Lane, do., John Gray, (West Branch, East River,) Peter G. Campbell, (E. Branch, E. River,) William Ross, (Mount Dalhousie,) Angus McLeod, (Mill Brook,) John Ross, (West Branch, River John,) David A. Ross, (Salt Springs,) and Donald McDonald, (Cape John,) Esquires.

In the County of Halifax—Henry Henricsey, Esquire.

To be an additional Coroner in the County of Halifax—Edward Jennings, M. D. Esquire.

To be the Judge of the Court of Probate of Wills for the County of Shelburne—Alexander McNaughton, Esquire, in the place of Henry Wm. Smith, Esquire, resigned.

To be the Board of Commissioners of Schools for the north district of the County of Pictou, the previous Commission being hereby cancelled.—The Reverends Charles Elliott, Andrew Herdman, James Bayne, Murdoch Sutherland, Andrew McArthur, and James Crichton and Wm. Gordon, Esquires.

The following gentlemen have been appointed Consular Agents in Nova Scotia, by the United States Consul at Halifax:—

- Windsor—D. E. Geldert, Esq.
- Liverpool—J. D. Davis, Esq., M. D.
- Yarmouth—L. S. Balkam, Esq.
- Digby—John C. Wade, Esq., M. P. P.
- Annapolis—Geo. R. Grassie, Esq.
- Ragged Islands—John Locke, Esq.
- Barrington—J. Robertson, Esq.
- Shelburne—Cornelius White, Esq.

The Morning Journal has a caustic article on Rum, in connection with Railroad works and rioting. He says:

"We believe that in Canada there is a law making the sale of ardent spirits within several miles of the work, severely penal. Such an enactment would have been supported by all parties in our House, and would have been quite as useful as much that was said and done during the Session. Whatever people may say against a general Prohibitory Law, there would have been little objection to one for the Railroad, and we think both sides of the House are culpable, knowing the evils, for not trying such a remedy. Better that, than to wait for more riots, and broken heads, and demolished shanties, and Railroad trials, with all which Rum had much more to do, than creeds and Religion. If the wise Senators had attempted a "Railroad Temperance Association" it might have been fully as profitable as another that was much talked of. But the Session is over and the Demon that stalks supreme along the lines of march, has nothing to fear until next winter. Yet the Railroad Board or the Contractors may do something."

"The magistrates, too, in each district may do much to enforce the License law.—The owners of land upon which these vile shantie grogeries are erected, may do something—by giving the sellers no spot for the soles of their dirty feet. Temperance agents may do something. A large proportion of the laborers and of the panderers to their drunken habits, are said to be Roman Catholics. Let the oft talked of "Supremacy" of the Pope, and Archbishop, and Priest, be evinced, in curing this dreadful state of things, and they will find many to thank them, who yet would not kiss the Pope's toe.

"We commend the whole subject to the careful consideration of the government, in which there are some men that have shown themselves determined foes of Intemperance, and staunch supporters of Temperance organizations."

WHAT RUM WILL DO.—We understand that sometime last week, a wretched woman living on the line of railroad had become so maddened by the delirium of drink, that she actually threw her child into the fire, where it was burned to death. We presume she is in custody, but it would be well if those who added fuel to her ever burning brain, by helping her to the accursed thing, and thus became accessory to the murderous deed, could also be made to feel their share in the business.—Journal.