

Charles II. was always in want of money, and cared not by what means it was obtained. It is said that on one occasion he sent to Mr. Kiffin, and asked the loan of forty thousand pounds. The Baptist merchant replied that he had not then as large a sum at command, but that if his majesty would accept ten thousand pounds, as a gift, he was heartily welcome. The king took the money, and Kiffin, as he was accustomed to say, saved thirty thousand pounds by his liberality, for Charles would have forgotten to pay the debt.

Several attempts were made to involve the good man in trouble. He was summoned before the Lord Mayor, during the Protectorate, for preaching against infant baptism, but the prosecution was not pressed: had it been, Cromwell would have probably quashed it. On some occasions, after the Restoration, he endured brief imprisonment, pending investigation. At one time, he was charged with uttering treasonable words in a sermon; at another, by means of a forged letter, with being privy to an insurrectionary design; at another, with having hired two men to kill the king. But his innocence was so clearly apparent that he escaped. Doubtless it was by the good hand of God upon him. "My Lord Arlington hath told me," he observes, "that though, in every list of disaffected persons brought him, who ought to be secured, my name was always amongst them, yet the king would never believe any thing against me; my lord Chancellor also, the Earl of Clarendon, being very much my friend."—(Life, p. 46.)

In 1679, when the Conventicle Act was renewed, in a severe form, an attempt was made to bring Mr. Kiffin under its lash. "It pleased the Lord," he says, "that the laws now began to be put in execution against dissenters; and as I was taken at a meeting, I was prosecuted, for the purpose of recovering from me forty pounds. This sum I deposited in the hands of the officer; but finding some errors in the proceedings, I overthrew the informers on the trial. Though the trial cost me thirty pounds, it had this advantage, that many poor men who were prosecuted upon a similar charge were by this means relieved, the informers being afraid to proceed against them."—(Ibid, p. 58.)

Four years after, they tried again, but with no better success. "It pleased the Lord, presently after the death of my wife, that I was again prosecuted by the informers for three hundred pounds, the penalties of fifteen meetings. They had managed this matter so secretly, as to get the record in court for the money; but finding there were some errors also in that record, they moved the court, Judge Jenner being on the bench, to amend the record. Some of my friends, who were in court, moved that I might be heard before that order was made. In this way I came to the knowledge of the prosecution, and having employed able counsel, they pleaded that the record could not be mended; and after several hearings before the court, the informers let the suit fall." (Ibid, p. 59.)

Had there been more Kiffins in England at that time, the informers' trade would have been less gainful. Persecutors revelled in ill-gotten riches. They will at length appear before a "judgment seat" where there will be found no "errors in the record."

The remainder of Mr. Kiffin's history must be reserved for another letter.

Yours truly,  
MENNO.  
From my Study,  
July 17, 1858.

### Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JULY 28, 1858.

We regret to learn that the great effort to lay the Atlantic Telegraph has, for the present at least, proved a failure. Our extracts will give all the particulars yet known. A renewed attempt is spoken of, but from all that has transpired, we have not much hope of a favourable result, if the trial should be made. We have little doubt but that sooner or later this great enterprise will be carried through, but as yet the obstacles presented by the vast ocean depths that lie between the old and new world, the uncertain nature of the bottom, and the force of the ocean wave are such, that we fear some longer time must elapse, before science, wonderfully advanced as it is, will be able to compete with and conquer all the difficulties.

The latest European accounts by way of New York give nothing new. A very con-

siderable amount of excitement still prevails in England as to the activity that prevails in France in the increase of their Army and Navy, especially as the most bitter feeling towards Great Britain is pretty generally prevalent in the French papers, even such as are supposed to express the views of Government. The truth is, the Legions of France want human blood to appease their thirst for glory, and it may have become a state necessity for Louis Napoleon to gratify the wish. We fear the moral feeling of the French people would oppose but a weak barrier to the rampant lust for war, which, for these two centuries past, has been the predominating characteristic of the nation. Still we know not upon what pretext a war could be brought on, and we trust the good providence of God will avert so terrible an infliction on the world.

There seems no longer any reason to doubt that very extensive Gold deposits have been found on Fraser's River, a large stream running north and south on the main land opposite Vancouver's Island, within the British territory, and near the boundary between that and the United States. Vast numbers from California and elsewhere are crowding to the spot, and if the deposits are at all as extensive as is reported, it will doubtless be the means of filling both the main and Vancouver's Island with a large population. The soil is said to be remarkably fine, and covered with forests of noble timber, the climate mild, and the country altogether one of the most eligible on the shores of the Pacific. One of the immediate results would be the opening up an intercourse with Upper Canada.

The July term of the Supreme Court under an enactment of the last Session of the Legislature, commenced on the 21st inst. The term is exclusively appropriated to law arguments in cases of more or less importance, a large amount of which has accumulated within the last two years.

### Temperance.

PROHIBITION VS. LICENSE.

The rapid progress which Temperance principles are making may be distinctly seen in the action taken to meet the evils of intemperance by legislation, and the renewal of attempts to stop its ravages whenever those laws which are in operation have been found ineffectual to accomplish the object. The difficulty of applying an efficient remedy to meet this gigantic evil has been felt by legislators ever since the commencement of the Temperance reform.

The efforts which have been made to defeat the laws enacted for suppressing the traffic in intoxicating drinks, and also to evade these provisions after they were enacted, have been no less active and determined than hitherto they have been successful.

Open opposition to lecturers advocating total abstinence was formerly the mode of manifesting antipathy to the reform. This phase of the subject has passed away and the advocates of the traffic now have no objection to a stringent license law, and even profess to encourage moral-suasion so long as they can place that in a position of antagonism to legal prohibition. They know well that no law of this character has yet been devised which has been an effectual check to the business. The efforts to make legislative enactments such as would prove a permanent check to intemperance by prohibiting the traffic have hitherto been comparatively a failure. A brief trial has, however, been made in several places in the United States and in New Brunswick. We in this province have not been without laws devised with a sincere desire to hinder the sale; which if carried into execution would in a great measure have banished intemperance; yet the enemies of the cause have hitherto been as keen in devising methods of destroying them or of preventing them becoming law, as the friends have been in their preparation. The latest instance of this has been in attempting to make the prohibitory law a party measure. By this means Representatives have been compelled to choose between voting against their political friends or their temperance principles, and as might be expected the latter has in many cases prevailed.

The recent action on this question in the State of Maine is, we consider, a more thorough development of Temperance principles than has hitherto been tried, and an expression of the people's opinion which rises far above all previous action. It places the question beyond all cavil and doubt, as to the real voice of the people.

A vote of six to one in favour of prohibition is so decisive that it must silence objectors. This, we trust, will prove to be the returning wave of the tide, which is to sweep the desolating scourge from our midst, whilst at the same time it relieves political parties from having to deal with a subject which has ever presented to them almost insurmountable difficulties.

We believe it is vain to ask the Legislature for a law for which so many, and some even sound temperance men affirm and believe we are not ready. If we are to wait for the time to come when all our legislators, or even friends of the cause, are agreed in this particular before we ask for a legislative enactment, we may then consider the case as hopeless. Let us ask our Legislature to give the whole people a fair chance of choosing between a prohibitory and the present license law, which would be the best test of the people's readiness for such an enactment, and we should be able to leave their wishes without interfering with party politics. We should then have a fair field for temperance men and far greater encouragement for them to spread their doctrines.

From a late Boston paper we take the following result of the polling in the State of Maine, upon the simple question of License or Prohibition:—

For License. 5,912. For Prohibition. 28,864.

We are happy to observe that the efforts now being made on behalf of the College, however praiseworthy such may be, do not divert the attention of our brethren of the Education Society from the Academy, but that they now resolve upon an upward and onward path. Every man qualified to judge correctly in such matters must feel that if the Baptists of Nova Scotia are determined to provide for the country high educational institutions, the work must begin in the Primary School, and prominently appear in the Academy. That is, we must begin at the lowest point and work upwards, lay the foundation broad, deep, and solid, and the structure erected upon it will be valuable and durable.

We often, and perhaps not without reason, fear that many of our esteemed brethren almost forget that they have an Academy of their own in Horton. This conclusion is forced upon us from the fact that appears from year to year in the Report, that the average attendance is about Fifty. Fifty from almost as many thousands recognizing themselves as Baptists in principle, and attached to Baptist Institutions is by far too low a number. One hundred would be too low.

Gentlemen conversant with the educational interests of the Province repeatedly state that Horton Academy will bear an honourable comparison with any other Academical Institution in the Lower Provinces; it has facilities that few possess, together with a central and healthful locality. With such facts before us we are often surprised, and as often lament, that Baptist youths do not go to Horton in larger numbers.

While the endowment for the College is being completed the Executive Committee and other friends, continue their labours to elevate and enlarge the Institution. Aim and resolve to fill it with pupils. Have at least one hundred there, and in a short space of time it will tell most effectively upon the College and Theological Institute, all the students of which, with very few exceptions must be had from the Academy.

Aside from the above consideration, there is a large number of young men who do not contemplate a College course, who, nevertheless, require a thorough education, and will have it. If such is not supplied at Horton they will seek it, perhaps, in another country. Provision ought and must be made for such, or our country may lose many of its most promising young men.

We believe the staff of Teachers is most efficient and the effort of the Committee untiring, and would therefore urge our brethren to put their shoulders to this work. Brethren sustain your Academy, and the Academy will fill your College.—Com.

NEW TEMPERANCE HALL AT HAMMOND'S PLAINS.—Quite an interesting meeting took place on Thursday last, at Hammond's Plains, for the purpose of dedicating the new Temperance Hall recently erected in that thriving village. A number of friends from the city attended by invitation. They proceeded to Sackville in the steamboat, and were there met by a cavalcade of twelve carriages, and conveyed to the cheerful residences at the Plains, where they were entertained with all the delicacies of the season. The meeting commenced about 1/2 past 6, by a Temperance

ode, and prayer. The Worthy Patriarch of the June Rose Division, Mr. D. Thompson, presided. After a few appropriate remarks from the chairman, brief addresses were given by the Rev. Mr. Porter, the father of the Temperance cause in that neighbourhood, the Rev. Mr. Martell, Messrs. Brown, Howe, Thompson, Ackhurst, Shean, Barratt, Davison, Selden, Harrington, and Wetmore. Some of the speakers expressed surprise to find such a thriving, beautiful district. Having had an impression that the people were principally belonging to the sable part of the human family, they were not prepared to find themselves surrounded by so many fair ones in their comfortable homes who would compare well with the most favoured parts of the province.

A brief interval was made in the meeting, when coffee and cakes were handed round to the company.

The audience were delighted during the evening with the sweet strains of the cornet played by two of the brethren from the city.

The meeting continued till after 10 o'clock, when some of the visitors preferring to return by daylight were hospitably entertained for the night, and were brought on their way early the next morning. Others who chose a moonlight excursion arrived at home when the clock was among the "wee sma' hours of mornin'."

We were glad to learn that the collection amounted to about £15, which will enable the friends to finish the Hall.

An interesting feature in the building is that the lower part is to be used as a school-house. The appropriate combination of education and temperance is here as in many other places, a mutual benefit to the rising generation and the more advanced part of the population. The occasion was one of much pleasure to all concerned.

WE have been favoured with a pamphlet just published in New York, by our friend and townsman, James Whitman, Esq., on the subject of the late question of Search of American Vessels by British cruisers. It contains a lucid and satisfactory statement of the true merits of the question, and affords ample evidence, if any more were wanting, of the senseless and unprincipled exaggeration in which so many of the American prints and politicians thought proper to indulge. We believe all parties there are now ashamed of the matter, as all right thinking people among them were from the first.

### School Apparatus.

NEW ILLUSTRATION BOARD.

Mr. J. S. Cunnabell has designed and prepared a new piece of School furniture for the purpose of simultaneously teaching a large number of children. It consists of a large board, about 5 feet by 3 feet, having on it horizontal grooves, and standing on an easel about four feet high. In the grooves are placed moveable printed letters, which may be used to form any words or sentences required. Figures are also provided, so that arithmetic may be taught. By means of this apparatus teaching may be carried on in the ordinary Roman letter, which gives it an advantage over the common black-board. A clever teacher might produce an endless variety in almost every branch of instruction for his School, in using this board. Mr. C. charges £5 for the board with two cases of letters (about 2000) and figures complete.

We have consented to let the Specimen of this Illustration Board stand in our office for a week or two on exhibition, and shall be happy to receive orders for Mr. C.

### Education.

"The Schoolmaster is abroad" is now literally true. Teachers and pupils, whether turbulent or obedient, in the majority of our scholastic establishments, having laid aside books and tasks for a few weeks, are now enjoying their rustication.

In preparation for this there have been public examinations of several schools in the city. Honorable mention has been made of that under the charge of Miss Pearson, whose pupils, a few days since, shewed her to be a thoroughly efficient teacher in all the departments. Miss Topper's school is also spoken of with much favour.

The ROYAL ACADIAN SCHOOL had its half-yearly examination on Friday last, in presence of a considerable number of ladies and gentlemen interested in education. Several clergymen were in attendance and took a warm interest in the proceedings. The exercises in the various branches shewed that the children examined had been well taught and trained to exercise their

intellect specimen and of departmentment.

The Bo and a yo hundred under M or seven

We clip pony the pleasant to by some the idea o rest and u when the little curi If it accid cash, it i and woul scribers a

"No P our inten in order paper is receipts may see, in arrears ful, before

The E now pres The spl of Floru give the ral and the after

There evening addition with a music w company to assist

The fo last wee

The S pool dat The witness An in the "J RERT second Niagara Queens ly look Particu

Cable before one hu parted This w some t she had attempt

Agan North made i Niagara For yester of Te

To Forbu To of Ba Debt Poyn To for th Forsy Leav To vinci Esqu by h of th Is of S New of I

T real obje S of \$

T ing bee for

of A. I. fro sel