THECHRISTIANAMESSENGER.T

The Bible Union.

1858.

We make the following extracts from an article under the above heading in the Bible Union Department of the N. Y. Chronicle.

"The Bible Union" is one of the "signs of the times," much more so, than many which are supposed to be quite unmistakable and cer-Its motto is " the Bible, faithfully transtain. lated, for all nations." It says, " Let there be light," and like its author, it gives "light," to those dwelling in darkness. It is an institution for the diffusion of light, on subjects the most important for mankind to know. It is a by Prof. Barrows, so far as I have examined it, luminary, a light bearer, receiving its light appears to be equally unexceptionable. from the Son, and reflecting it on all who come under its influence. A pure translation to the Church and the world, sustains the same relaof interpretation. Surely we should "covet this gift," as it is among the best known. REVISION OF THE COMMON VERSION .- It should be known and distinctly understood by all, that the Bible Union have no thought or intention of altering or amending God's word. That word, like God Himself, is perfect, and like Him immutable. It must stand forever. The translators of the Bible Union will take as their standard the most correct "textus-receptus" of the inspired originals that exist-and that is in the world. And they will give as nearly as

can be ascertained, by all the lights of antiquity and modern scholarship, the exact meaning of the inspired word, in the purest of our English. questioned. Nor, is it their intention to destroy the common version-to break up or impair the beauties

and excellencies of the rendering and language of our very excellent English translation of God's word. By no means. Whatever is found however, many people who are liable to be to be right will remain as it is.

best scholars as doubtful will also remain. These translators will, in no case, for one doubtful translation give another equally doubtful. But prepared. It is well adapted to this purpose. whatever is regarded by the best scholarship in the world to be certainly wrong will be amend- itself, without any interpolations. The valuaed. will be made plain. Hence there will be no hazard, no risk-nothing like experimenting. We shall, therefore, have all that is now right and Marginal Readings of the Polyglot Bible DEAR BROTHER, confirmed-all that is doubtful left as it is-and are given, as are also the chronological dates. all that is wrong made right. We shall lose nothing but " obsoletisms," " obscurities," " errors." We shall obtain light for darkness, dition of several maps, illustrative of the geotruth for error, pure gold for dross and tin. graphy of the Bible. These scholars will revise and amend the common version. SCHOLABSHIP AND MEANS .--- Whatever may have been thought or said on this subject, it is now very generally considered that we have, in adition to all the advantages to be derived Translators. For instance, on Exodus iii. 22. from the most critical and profound research of Dr. Edwards comments as follows :--- " Borrow ; two hundred and fifty years, a more extensive biblical apparatus, a more critical and thorough knowledge of the languages in which the Bible was first written, and a better scholarship than Joshua xv. 18; 1 Saml. viii. 10; Psalms ii. 8. of a most satisfactory character, the council was ever employed in the translation of the Bible. Such, at all events, are the facts. Our means of ascertaining the meaning of God's word are more ample, and the scholarship now engaged is not surpassed, if, indeed, it is equalled, by any in the whole world. We would Egyptians; carry away the rich treasures which brother C. Randall, of Weymouth. Laying on not exchange these means and scholars for any that are known to exist. Like every other great reform, the Revision of the common version of the Bible has had to go forward in darkness-her pathway lighted up alone by the promise and providence of God. And these are sufficient for the believer in God's word. She has had, like Christianity itself, her enemies within and without. Ignorance, superstition, sectarianism, imaginary fears, factions, and many other "adversaries" have been out in the field against us. And some of these, armed with intelligence and learning, and eloquence and wealth, and numbers. have been powerful in their opposition. But there is a "greater than they." And if Gon be for us who can overthrow us? The Almighty will stand by His own word. And He will honor those who honor it. Here we rest.

his beneficent life were principally devoted to the preparation of this brief popular Commensi shaah. ho badd dhild of The tary. I have consecutively read about half of his portion of it, in connexion with the perusal of the sacred text. It is not to be expected that who attentively examines the Scriptures, one with an independent mind, will exactly agree with any expositor in his view of the import of every passage. I do not, however, hesitate to express my general approval. The part executed

While some persons err by implicitly adopt-

ing the opinions of commentators, others falltion, as the gift of tongues, especially the gift into the opposite extreme of regarding all explanatory notes as superfluous, With regard to matters of faith and practice every man should, after prayerful examination of the Scriptures, decide for himself as to their import. . Neither should any so lean upon helps as to neglect diligent study and careful investigation. But that men of talent, learning, and piety, who have long made the sacred writings their chief study; can in many cases aid ordinary readers in the acknowledged so to be, by the best scholarship understanding of them, and suggest useful reflections, which would not be likely otherwise to occur to their minds, is too obvious to be

> To persons whose attainments qualify them to profit by critical and elaborate commentaries, these may be highly serviceable. There are, rather perplexed than edified, in some instances,

More than this; whatever is regarded by the by them. Especially for the benefit of such Ordination at Digby. Fatal Accireaders, the Work under consideration has been The text of the Common Version is printed by

the Translators, are retained. The References we to omit any part .- Ed. C. M.]

For the Christian Messenger. Horton Academy.

MR. EDITOR, The Half-yearly Examination at Horton Academy took place on Friday, the 14th inst., in the presence of a respectable assembly of the parents of the pupils, and other friends of the Institution. Classes in English Grammar, Geography, Arithmetic, Algebra, and Latin were examined. More than usual time was devoted to the French classes, under the instruction of Professor Peple. His happy method of teaching and the promptness of his pupils appeared to excite the admiration of all present. We were informed that several important classes, and, among the rest, a large class in Greek, were not examined for want of time. The closing exercises consisted of Dialogues, and single pieces in English and French, spoken by the members of the school.

The respected agent of Acadia College, Rev. A. D. Thomson, gave an impressive address. The closing prayer and benediction, by the Rev. S. W. DeBlois, A. M.

The most satisfactory evidence was given of faithfulness on the part of the Teachers, and of pupils.

We hope to hear of an enlarged attendance at the commencement of next Term. AMICUS. aba dila and obtacilar a

For the Christian Messenger.

dent, &c.

[We insert the whole of the following letter, notwithstanding an account of the Ordination at Digby was given in our last, as the copying all the stated meetings of the Church. And whatever is obscure in the translation ble tables of contents prefixed to the Chapters by requested at the end would be imperfect were

For the Christian Messenger **Obituary** Notices MR., EBENEZER SPROULE, JUNR.

Died, at Lynn, Mass., after only a few days illness, Mr. Ebenezer Sproule, Junr., in the 20th year of his age.

The subject of this brief Memoir was the son of the late Mr. William Sproule, of Litchfield, in the Township of Granville, N. S., where his widowed mother, Mrs. Mary Sproule, still resides. When a boy, though of steady and industrious habits, possessed of an amiable dis-position and ready in the acquirement of his Sabbath-school lessons and other useful knowledge; he did not manifest any signs of deep seriousness relative to the interests of his soul until nearly three years ago, when the Almighty was graciously pleased to pour out his Spirit to revive the hopes of his people, and add to this Church a number of such as we trust shall be saved from the wrath to come. Then the gracious Spirit was pleased to impress his mind with a sense of his condemnation by the law of

God. For nearly a fortnight he could obtain no comfort,-the channels of the deep of his heart seemed to be broken up, and the deluge of Almighty wrath ready to be poured down upon him. . At the end of this period, at an evening meeting, he rose in his pew rejoicing in the hope of the glory of God, and telling how Christ with his own blood had redeemed him. Though zeal and close application on the part of the a number came forward and were baptized in the Annapolis Basin-that lovely font for believers' baptism-near to which he had now been residing two years with his uncle, Mr. Ebenezer Sprcule, he did not come then, but preferred being baptized at Litchfield, where his mother and most of his family resided, which ordinance was performed by his pastor about two months subsequently, when he was enabled to prove the truthfulness of the words of the Psalmist, "In keeping thy commandments there is great reward." He did not become weary in the service of his Master but was always punctual in filling his place in the house of God at

He chose the occupation of "doing business on great waters," and while he saw the wonders of Creation and Providence in the deep, he also saw there the wonders of God's grace. When taken with the sickness which terminated his The value of the Work is enhanced by the ad- denomination through your columns the Ordi- earthly existence he was on a voyage to Lynn, Mass., where he took a severe cold which ended in inflammation of the bowels. During his illness, though his sufferings were intense, he manifested that true patience and resignation to the Divine Will, which ornament the Chris-

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

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The Family Bible, with Brief Notes and Instructions, by Rev. Justin Edwards, D. D. and Prof. E. P. Barrows, published by the American Tract Society.

The Notes and Instructions on the New Testament, and on the Old to Pealm 119th, were ployed. written by Dr. Edwards. When this eminent servant of Christ had proceeded thus far, his valuable labours on earth were terminated by his removal to a higher and happier state.

Where it has been deemed requisite to make Joggins.

any remark with reference to the original, this has been done cautiously, without any parade met a large congregation on Wednesday; the of learning, or any censorious reflections on the 9th inst., in the Meeting-house on Allison Hill. the word rendered borrow, means also to request a relation of his christian experience, call to or demand, not expecting to make any return. the ministry, and doctrinal views, which were Jewels; the word rendered jewels, means also agreed to proceed with the Ordination on the furniture, utensils, and goods of various descrip- next day. The exercises were then conducted tions. Gen. xxiv. 53 : xxvii. 3; Deut. xxii. 5; in the following order :- Sermon by brother G. 1 Kings vi. 7; 2 Chron. xxxiv. 12. Spoil the Armstrong, of Bridgetown. Interrogations by they shall give you. Chap. xii. 36; Gen. xv. of hands by the Council. Prayer by brother 14." So on Exod, xii, 35. "Borrowed; asked, O. Parker, of Hillsburgh." Hand of fellowship requested." Verse 36. " Lent unto them ; by brother A. Cogswell, of Clements. Charge granted them what they desired, in order to to the Pastor by brother R. W. Cunningham, hasten their departure." On Phil. iii. 21. he Digby. Charge to the Churches by brother J. comments thus : -- " Our conversation is in Spencer, Granville.

heaven; we are citizens of heaven, our hearts and thoughts are there, and we obey its laws."

are not usually any appended to texts which for God's past mercies to his people Israel. obviously require no explanation, nor to such as are peculiarly obscure, and concerning which fruitless conjectures have been sometimes offered. The Instructions are generally judicious and edifying reflections, founded on the passages to which they are annexed. For example, on Exodus xxxvi. 3. is the following important from God are now, it is hoped, sitting at the Fitch, Esq., of Chester, deceased. practical remark : "Those who are entrusted with contributions should conscientiously appropriate them to the objects for which they are given, and avoid both the reality and the appearance of employing any part of them for other purposes." So on Numbers iii. 38. it is observed, " The Lord appoints to all their places and their work ; and as it is his will that there should be division of labour, each one should strive to fill the place assigned him, and faithfully perform the duties to which he is called." Great plainness pervades the whole. There appears to be rarely a superfluous word em-

profitably used by heads of families in their years of age." daily devotions. Such a portion of Scripture may be read as time and circumstances render expedient. The perusal of the Notes will, to most persons, afford aid in the understanding of it; and the Instructions, which are truly evan- for the general good compels me to ask the startgelical and spiritual, are adapted to suggest profitable reflections on the sacred text, and to quicken the mind in devotional exercises. As this Work is published for the general defying rum-sellers of Digby. good, without any view to pecuniary advantage, it is placed within the reach of the mass of the people, being put at two dollars in cloth, and copies in superior binding at three. That it may be rendered, by the divine bless-ing, extensively useful, is the earnest desire of, the reader's well-wisher, C. TUPPER. Aylesford, Dec. 23rd, 1857.

I have much pleasure in announcing to the nation of our brother A. H. Munro, to the pastoral office in the churches of Digby and Digby

A council of Ministers, previously invited, After hearing an excellent sermon from the candidate, founded on Matt. xxvi. 23, together with

After singing the Doxology, the deeply interested auditory were dismissed to their The Notes are generally quite brief. There respective homes, glad and thankful of heart I am very happy to add that, there is evidently a growing interest in the things of religion among the people. Members of the Churches are quickened, many appear thoughtful, and some, who a short time since appeared to be far feet of Jesus. The prospect of our dear brother are more than a little encouraging.

A shade of gloom has recently been cast over this community, occasioned by the death of no fewer than seven persons belonging to Lower Granville, who left Digby on the evening of the 24th for their homes; in a bout. They passed to about two-thirds of the distance across the was the father of a family, the others were In my opinion this Family Bible may be very youths, not exceeding perhaps twenty-four

tian character. He was visited by Rev. Mr. Richards, of Lynn, and Mrs. Reed, a pious Christian lady, who resided beneath the same roof from whence his joyful spirit took its flight to the presence of his God. To this lady he opened his mind most freely. Confessed he had indulged in too much light and triffing conversation, which is so dangerous an enemy to spiritual enjoyment. He felt an evidence that God had granted him repentance and forgiven him all his sins, and said though he was far from his earthly home he had a home in heaven where he was soon going to be with the Redeemer and meet his father who had only preceeded him a few years. Soon after, he closed his eyes and fell asleep in

A funeral sermon was preached last Sabbath by the Pastor of this Church, from Numbers xxiii. and part of the 10th verse .--- " Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his."

My prayer to God is that all who put on Christ by profession about the time our dear young departed brother renounced the world may be also kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation and their last end may be as peaceful.-Com. by Rev. J. Spencer.

Granville, Dec. 19th, 1857.

MISS OLIVIA FITCH

Died, at Onslow, Dec. 13th, '57, Miss Olivia Fitch, aged 86 years, daughter of Ebenezer

Miss F. professed to be converted under what was then called "New light" preaching. With a peculiarly nervous constitution she endured a great deal of bodily affliction, nevertheless she had a hope in Christ, which was the only source to her of comfort. The conversation which she most loved was religious conversation, and those most acquainted with her religious exercises, can bear testimony to the delight which she experienced, when informed of the revival of rebasin, when the boat unfortunately upset, and ligion in any place, and the conversion of sinthey all perished. One of the unfortunate men ners to God. At 8 o'clock on Lord's-day morning she expired.

MRS. HANNAH MUNRO.

Also,-At 12 o'clock the same night, her Tenderness for the bereaved (among whom sister, Mrs. Hannah Munro, widow of the late there are some valued friends), disposes one to Rev. James Manro, aged 80 years. Mrs. M. experienced religion in Chester, and was baptized by Rev. Joseph Dimock. On her removal to this place she united with the Baptist Church in Onslow, of which she continued a member until called to join the company above, which, while here, she contemplated as containing many whom she should recognize as her once loved associates.

The Work was completed by Professor Barrows, who is evidently well qualified to tread in the steps of his worthy predecessor. " The whole " is said in the Society's Annual

Report, 1857, " to have been carefully examined in the proof-sheets by members of the Publishing Committee, and sanctioned with entire unanimity." 48 Atro L to milt

The former of these authors is extensively and favourably known as an able and successful advocate of Sabbath Observance, and of the Temperance Reform. He was also active in establishing and fostering The American Tract Society. Indeed he was emphatically " ready to every good work." The last four years of hill, Boston.

P.S. "The Family Bible, with Brief Notes," &c., may be had of Mr. N. P. Kemp, 28 Corn-

forbear adverting to particulars, while regard ling question, "Who slew all these?" And a voice replies from these watery graves-the law-

A requisition from the more influential part of the town-dwellers of Digby, has been handed to the Sheriff, requesting him to call a meeting, and with firm step she seemed to enter the the object of which it is understood will be to adopt measures for the more stringently carrying into effect the law regulating the Liquor-traffic. laid while brook rYours, &c.m. a late mont

R. W. CUNNINGHAM. Bose Cottage, Dec. 28, 1857. Testet of stam [Christian Visitor please copy.]

Her confidence in her Saviour was unshaken, margin of the valley of death, and as we have reason to believe, arrived victorious beyond the reach of sorrow.

The great desire of these sisters while in life, was that they might not die long apart ; sixteen hours only divided them, and they lie in the same grave, to await the resurrection of the just .- Communicated by the Rev. D. W. C. Dimock.