

It is almost a work of supererogation perhaps for us to assert that we have always been the advocates of the Bible in Schools.

When your correspondent, however, wishes to bring reproach on us by stating that "the only religious press in the Province which dissents from the position of the Bible in Schools as a condition to government aid is the Christian Messenger," we do not hesitate for a moment endorsing the statement, as we believe every true Baptist in the whole world would.

The N. B. Christian Visitor which "Roger" takes under his special patronage, says, "a statute requiring the reading of God's book in Schools participating in government assistance especially by a people recognizing that holy book as constituting the only basis of all true liberty, is a solemn duty."

"Now suppose the government so far yield to the pressure of the manifesto as to allow the Bible to be kicked out of every school under priestly rule, would this satisfy? It is not enough that the Bible be ignored, but the dogmas of the Papacy must be taught."

We have perused this passage, and shall proceed to inform your readers who are the real abettors of popery. The same paper of the 10th inst., which this quasi-Baptist admires so much, says, "a law should positively provide for the use of the Bible in Schools, leaving it optional with the parties concerned which version, Catholic or Protestant, shall be used."

Editor we are sorry that any person calling himself a Baptist, or by a name so much revered by Baptists as the one your correspondent has chosen, should be found wishing actually to endow Roman Catholic Schools, and that for the simple reason, that they are Roman Catholic, but here we find the two versions of the Bible put on an equal footing and a demand made for the law to declare the Douay version with its Apocryphal books the Word of God, and to make the use of it the only terms on which money may be drawn from the Provincial Treasury.

"Roger Williams" pray do not call yourself a Baptist! You see it is altogether a misnomer. Who ever heard of "Roger Williams" demanding state aid to spread Roman Catholicism, or even Protestantism? No, Sir, it was for setting his face against all kinds of religious intolerance and compulsion in matters of conscience, that he was banished from Salem in 1635, and suffered so much from the renowned Puritans.

Do you not think it safe, Sir, to leave Protestants to introduce the Bible into schools without an Act of Parliament? Some who have no conscience in the matter would, of course, in case such a law were enacted, have Bibles introduced into their schools, but men of any independence would feel themselves degraded by such a condition being attached to the receiving of state aid, so that while the school law would not serve Protestantism it would really be a bonus to Catholicism, and would encourage Catholics in giving instruction in all the dogmas of that creed and drawing scripture proofs from the Douay Version and the Apocryphal books under the patronage of the State.

Your Correspondent tells your readers, he thinks "the Editors of the Christian Messenger after this, must be ashamed of themselves. Primitive Baptists, Rev. Charles Tupper et hoc genus omne are all the veriest time-servers."

Why, Sir, talk about "time-servers." This provision in a School Act would make the use of the Bible itself, but little more than a piece of time-serving, and like every other instance in which religion has been established by law a fruitful source of hypocrisy and oppression.

Now, Sir, this pseudo-"Roger Williams" concludes his letter with some benevolent aspirations on our behalf, and tries hard to make this a subject of party politics by linking together the names of members of the present government with the Editors of the Messenger, as if we had any thing to do with either party, and says "it may suit them to trim and fashion their opinions so as not to offend Popish Priests and Romish politicians," whereas, we challenge the writer of the article to give his name and deny having been himself formerly a member of the Irish Society.

However, as "Roger Williams" says towards the conclusion of his communication, "our letter is becoming prolix," we will therefore close by stating that, we have taken the course on this subject which we believe to be the only one consistent with Baptist principles or genuine Protestantism. We hold that no aid can be given to schools, by the State, except on the ground of their giving a certain amount of secular learning.

If the parties having the management of the school agree to give religious instruction such as the parents desire for their children, that remains a matter with which they alone are concerned. Neither Protestants or Catholics should be recognized, as such, in the State giving aid to Schools, but the School should be free to receive either one or the other on equal terms. Whilst no law should be enacted to prevent the Bible being used, none should be allowed to enforce its use on any child in the Province against the express wish of the parent.

We are, Sir, THE EDITORS OF THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

There would seem no end of changes in the revolutions in Mexico. Santa Anna, who was some months since expelled from the Dictatorship of the state, for the third time we believe, to give place to Comonfort, is again about to return to take charge of this stormy, so called, Republic. The go-

vernment is not, however, more relaxed and worthless than the character of the people, who form a compound of superstition, idleness, and immorality. Until an essential change shall have taken place in their whole social character, it is impossible in the nature of things, that a good government of any kind can be maintained among them, much less a popular one, the beneficial administration of which so greatly depends on individual worth among the people.

The Congress at Washington are still in debate as to the mode in which Kansas shall be admitted into the Union, whether it shall be a slave or free state. The majority of the people of Kansas have, we believe, already decided the question in favor of liberty.

We are hourly waiting for our English files, which will bring our dates to the 11th inst.

We have been requested to notice that a new Almanack will be published for 1859, to be called "The Provincial Wesleyan Almanack." It promises to be an improvement on those hitherto published.

We may remark that we had the intention the two past years of getting up an Almanack suitable and useful for Christian families, and entered into some correspondence with parties concerning it; but circumstances occurred which prevented our carrying out the design.

General Intelligence.

Foreign and Domestic.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, has been pleased to make the following appointments:—Henry Bathurst, Esq., late Captain in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, to be Lieut. Colonel in the Nova Scotia Militia, unattached.

Mr. J. M. Watson has tendered for the engines of the Columbia in store at the Dockyard in this city. We believe his was the highest offer. It has been sent to the Admiral, and should it be accepted, he intends to build a steamer and place her on the route between Lunenburg, Liverpool and Halifax.

Dr. Forrester, Superintendent of the Normal School at Truro, stated before the Committee on Education that the Bible was now in general use in the schools of the Province, and gave it as his opinion that the law as it now stands is admirably adapted to effect all that is required for the Religious instruction of the youth of our country.

J. W. Marriott, Esq., delivered a highly interesting lecture before the Young Men's Christian Association, on Tuesday evening last, subject, "India." The Hall was densely packed with a highly attentive audience.

A communication on "Temperance movements in Cornwallis" appeared in our columns on the 3rd ult. A letter signed "Pincher" appeared in the Morning Chronicle, calling in question the statements of the writer of said article. The following short note from Dr. Hamilton is from the Chronicle of Thursday last:—

"MR. EDITOR: A communication appears in your paper of the 8th inst., signed "Pincher," which, from circumstances, I believe, has reference to myself, and therefore deem a brief reply necessary. The charge preferred against the "sapient Doctor," of being "the author of that precious document, 'a friend to Temperance,'" and of "his" wishing to "vend" the "stuff" together with other uncalled for and ungentlemanly remarks, are as "mendacious" as they are low and abusive.

I hereby challenge "Pincher" to come forward under his own signature, and substantiate his assertions. I remain, your obdt servant, CHARLES C. HAMILTON. Cornwallis, March 12, 1858.

A correspondent at Milton furnishes us with a notice of the second Monthly Meeting of the Old Temperance Society at that place. It appears that it has convened under more favorable auspices than for many preceding years. The first lecture for the season was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Higgins, and the second by Mr. Reuben G. Freeman. Both are highly spoken of. We know of no place in the Province, the size of Milton, that is as free from the curse of the demon monster; indeed we think we are correct in stating that there is not a dram-shop in the neighborhood.

The authorities of Yarmouth have a young man in prison, under the charge of setting fire to a block of old buildings owned by Mrs. Hardy of that place.

There is a good deal of talk in well informed circles that the Dock-yard will be removed from Berzanda and restored to Halifax.

Two young men, Josiah Oxner, aged 22 years, and Fredrick Smith, aged 24 years, belonging to LaHave, while crossing that river in a sail boat on Saturday, the 6th inst., were unfortunately drowned. The body of young Oxner was recovered on Monday last.

St. Patrick's Day.—The Charitable Irish Society celebrated their anniversary on Wednesday last, by a procession from the Masonic Hall to St. Patrick's Chapel. The falling rain did not deter them, but with two bands of music in four horse sleighs, and beneath umbrellas about four or five hundred marched in order through the principal streets, under their green banners.

The procession waited on His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor with an address. The members of the Society were invited into the Ball-room, and were very graciously received by the Earl and Countess and family. The reference in the address to His Excellency's father the Marquis of Normandy's administration as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, appears to have been highly gratifying.

We observe, with extreme regret, the recent death at Truro, of the Rev. Thomas Cole Leaver. This gentleman has been in indifferent health for some time past, and about a year since was obliged, in consequence, to relinquish his charge as Rector of the Truro parish. Mr. Leaver was, among those of his own profession, held in very high estimation for his scholarly attainments and for his zeal in the calling to which he had devoted himself.

A CORONER'S INQUEST was held, on Monday last, before Dr. Jennings on the body of Archibald Gray, a private of the 63rd Regiment. Verdict; that deceased came to his death from excessive drinking.

CONFEDERATION OF THE BRITISH PROVINCES.

A project has been broached among our neighbors of British North America for a consolidation of all the colonies under one colonial government. This scheme has been brought to the attention of the Queen's Ministers in England, who have returned answer through Mr. Labouchere, the Colonial Secretary, that Her Majesty's government have not the least objection to such an arrangement. The government of Nova Scotia have therefore taken the matter in hand, and are negotiating with the other provinces to bring about the proposed union.

Table with columns: Territory, sq. miles, population. Includes Canada East, Canada West, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Island, Hudson's-Bay Territory, Labrador, Vancouver Island.

This movement is an important one in many respects for the different colonies interested. A union of them all under one central government, would add largely to their dignity and importance, while the governmental machinery—by a reduction of the number of independent officials, if not an abolition of the minor colonial "courts" which we may suppose would be one result—would be carried on at a diminished cost.

Commercial.

HALIFAX MARKETS.

Table of market prices for various goods like Flour, Cornmeal, Indian Corn, Beef, Butter, Coffee, Tea, Molasses, Pork, Sugar, Codfish, Salmon, Mackerel, Herrings, Alewives, Haddock, Bar Iron, Hoop, Sheet, Lumber, Pine, Spruce, Hemlock, Coal, Fire Wood.

PRICES AT THE FARMER'S MARKET, MARCH 23

Table of prices for Fresh Beef, Oatmeal, Pork, Lamb, Bacon, Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Poultry, Geese, Ducks, Turkeys, Calf-skins, Yarn, Potatoes, Plums, Apples, Hoop, Do.

Letters Received. Rev. James Parker, 11th. R. W. Freeman, 10th, £5.—Your letter of Jan. 8th continued, £2 6s. R. Chambers, Esq., 13th.—With enclosure from C. Wooden, 10th.—The omission was quite accidental.—Hope it may be all right in future. Chas. B. Whidden, 16th, £2. Rev. H. Eagles, 12th, £2. Rev. P. F. Murray, 9th, 20s. Rev. W. Chipman, 16th.—Cannot account for the omission of J. L. W.—Have put the name on the list again.—Is that right? Jas. Craig, 16th, £2.—All right. Asaph Marshall, 15th, 20s. G. V. Rand, 19th. T. R. Patillo—16th. W. Churchill, Esq., 13th, 1 sub, 20s. S. L. Chipman, Esq., 14th, 20s., and £5 2s. 6d. previously, not acknowledged. Wm. Soley, 12th.—Are out of some numbers, so have sent from the 17th. J. F. Foster, 8th. J. B. McNur, 13th, £2. C. H. Harrington, 16th, £4. Rev. D. M. Welton, 17th. Rev. Jas. Spencer, 10th.—It would be out of date now, send on another giving its present aspect.

DEAR BRETHREN, I beg leave to acknowledge the following sums for Missions from M. A. W. Sanderson, through the lady of Captain Sanderson, H.M. 62nd Regt. viz:— For the Maulmain Mission, £0 12 6 Mrs. Wade's School at Maulmain, 0 12 6 For the Mic. Mac Mission, 0 5 0 Total £1 10 0 D. FREEMAN. Halifax, March 22, 1858.

Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry. The following Letter from REV. HENRY WOOD, of Concord, N.H., Editor of the Congregational Journal, speaks volumes in favor of Wistar's Balsam:— CONCORD, N. H., March 2.

Messrs. SETH W. FOWLE & Co.,—Gentlemen: Two years ago, a sudden and violent attack upon my lungs confined me to my bed for several weeks, and when I recovered, I was so much oppressed by difficulty in breathing, that I was often unable to sleep or rest upon a bed by night. The suffering was extreme, and judging from the inefficiency of the remedies used, I supposed the disease incurable. Being persuaded to try a bottle of Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry, without confidence in its efficacy, I found the difficulty almost entirely removed before one bottle was used up. Sympathy with my fellow-sufferers induces me to make this public statement, and recommend the article to others similarly afflicted. With respect, yours truly, HENRY WOOD.

None genuine unless signed I. BUTTS on the wrapper. JOHN NAYLOR and MORTON & COGSWELL, Agents, Halifax.

Another Letter from India. Messrs. Perry Davis & Son.—I am happy to be able to add that your medicine is getting more and more into note, and consequently the demand for it is increasing. The sales at my various Sub-Agencies are very satisfactory, especially in Maulmain and Dinapore; in fact wherever European Regiments are located the sales are extensive. A party in Agra who sent for a supply for his personal use and that of his friends, says the demand for it is great, and recommends the appointment of an Agent there.

Mr. Toome, of Barrackpore, writes under date of 20th October:—"This will certify that my son, 19 years of age, was taken suddenly ill in the night, with a severe pain in the stomach, followed by Cholera. He found no relief until I gave him a teaspoonful of the Pain Killer, diluted with warm water; but after the expiration of a few moments he brought it up, when I repeated the dose, which partially relieved him. I followed it with a third dose, when he fell asleep, and on waking next morning he was quite fresh. I consider it a most valuable medicine to be always at hand." I remain, yours, &c., J. L. CARRAU, Calcutta. Sold in Halifax by Morton & Cogswell, John Naylor, and all respectable dealers.

Married.

On Monday, the 15th inst., by the Rev. James Reid, Joseph Fulton, Esq., to Miss Mary Fletcher, both of Londonderry. At Locke's Island, on the 16th inst., by the Rev. W. Hobbs, Mr. Wm. Mure, of Shelburne, to Miss Augusta, eldest daughter of the late S. B. Locke, Esq., of Locke's Island. On the 2nd instant, by the Rev. Murdoch Stewart, Mr. William McKinnon to Ann, eldest daughter of Archibald MacPhail, both of Whyocoomah, C. B. On the 16th ult., by the Rev. William Chipman, Mr. John O. Strong to Miss Sarah Nicols, daughter of Mr. George Nicols. On the 4th instant, Mr. Leander Chute to Miss Margaret Rainforth, all of Cornwallis.

Died.

On the 16th inst., Joanna Connors, aged 17 years. On the 18th inst., of Apoplexy, Timothy Morrissey, aged 65 years. On the 19th instant, Mary Ellis, infant daughter of Capt. William Sampson, aged 3 years and 12 days. At the Poor's Asylum, on the 16th instant, Ronald McDonald, aged 81 years, a native of Scotland. On Friday, at her father's residence, Strait of Canso, Mary Ann, eldest daughter of James Wallace, Esq., in the 19th year of her age. May she rest in peace. At Bridgetown, on the 16th inst., Henry, eldest son of Lieut. Col. James Poyntz, aged 24 years. At Windsor, on the 4th inst., after severe suffering, Mr. John Graham. [P. E. Island papers please copy.] At Ragged Islands, on the 16th inst., after a short but severe illness, Margaret Jane, daughter of the late John Long, of Liverpool, aged 21 years and 9 months. At Liverpool, on the 13th inst., at the advanced age of 90 years, Joanna Fredson, widow of William Fredson, late of Liverpool. At Maindieu, on the 27th ult., after a painful illness, Mr. Henry Vermer, merchant, aged 36 years. At Sable River, on the 24th ult., after a short illness, Mr. Geo. Cook, a native of England, aged 50 years. At Young's Cove, Granville, on the 28th January, Eliza Ann, wife of Mr. James Hogan. On board the barque Cecilia, January 23th, on her passage from St. Thomas to Savannah, Hallett Crowell, son of Mr. Thomas Crowell, of Yarmouth, N.S., in the 39th year of his age.