

while he is trying to instruct her, she is skillfully leading his mind to the important inquiry.—Am I myself resting on Christ for salvation? Many a good discourse had he heard, but never had he received so much instruction as now, in his efforts to oblige poor N. She tells another, of this young man's kindness, of the happy hour they had, and invites him to render what help he can. He consents, and in explaining to her gets new light himself on the "one thing needful." Another and another unite with them. The original object is forgotten; it becomes a mutual-instruction society, poor N. invariably contriving that redeeming love shall be evermore the engrossing theme. At length her room is quite filled, all being fully satisfied that to N. they owed the happiest hours they had ever enjoyed, and many of them declaring her their mother in the gospel. For years these meetings were sustained with undiminished interest. Those who originally took part in them are now widely scattered in many and distant lands. Some of them fill places both of honour and profit, and it is to be hoped are diligently exemplifying the lesson to which, in early life, they owed so much.

This is but a specimen of the labours of this poor afflicted convert from popery. Space will not permit our entering into other particulars. She lived to do good to those around her. The Word of Christ dwelt in her richly, and its teachings so mingled with all her conversation that none ever felt there was any particular aiming to reach their cases, while all had reason to know she had probed their secret, and given them that counsel their souls especially needed.

She now sleeps in Jesus. Some are already united with her in glory, as her "joy and crown of rejoicing." Others, too, will soon share her triumph, "standing on the sea of glass, and having the harps of God." Her memory is eminently fragrant. Hers is an everlasting remembrance. Many a useful lesson have I learnt from her lips. Many an edifying hour have I spent with her. More than once has my drooping spirit been cheered and strengthened by her joyous, world-vanquishing faith.

This narrative furnishes encouragement to those who preach the gospel. Popery is strong, but the Bible is stronger. As surely as the God of Truth has said it, "His word shall not return to him void."

It should stimulate to increased exertion. How many may there be, unknown to us, whose bruised and bleeding hearts demand from us the healing balm of Gilead! O, that no one whose cry is, "What must I do to be saved?" may be suffered, through our stinging or inactivity, to die in ignorance of the blood that cleanseth from all sin!

In all the world, again, there is not a heart that is warmer, or a zeal more resolute, than is found in a genuine Irish convert.

There is yet hope for Ireland—not so much from the great and mighty, and wise and noble, as from the poor of Christ's flock, who, under the burning influence of constraining love, live but to unfold to others "the unsearchable riches of Christ." The case narrated is only one of a multitude. Those who have been most my helpers in the Lord, to whom I am peculiarly indebted, whose holy consistency and invincible earnestness have been most widely felt in the interests of Zion, and who, in every storm, stood by my side, with a fidelity that defied the most artful influences, were those whom God honoured me as an instrument in extricating from the maze of Roman Catholicism.

What, in pounds, shillings, and pence, is the value of one soul brought into the fold of the Good Shepherd? What the value of all those whom, in process of time, that soul, under God, may rescue from ruin?

Let us be instant in season and out of season, "sowing beside all waters;" for we shall find all that we cast there, it may be, with rich increase, if not immediately, at least after many days. God is our helper, therefore are we bold!

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JANUARY 26, 1859.

Our readers will not doubt recollect that some four or five years since, a mission was commenced in Canada, under the patronage of the Episcopal church, for the purpose of carrying the Gospel to the French Canadian population, and that a Seminary for the training of French Canadian converts was established at Sabrevois, in the Lower Province. They will now be glad to learn that the enterprise has hitherto been attended with a very fair amount of success; that several pious and competent teachers are engaged in the instruction of youths of both sexes, with highly encouraging prospects. The training schools include several young men and women,

preparing for the ministry or teaching.—the Report we have seen does not mention how many,—and a primary school containing about thirty children of French Catholics. Like the sister Institution at Grand Ligne, very considerable effort is required to obtain funds sufficient to meet the wants of the mission, but they are engaged in a good work, and will doubtless have the prayers and assistance of all who value the progress of gospel truth among the tens of thousands in Lower Canada, who are groping their way through the thick spiritual darkness that surrounds them.

THE letter on another page from the Rev. J. Davis opens up a subject which we think quite legitimate for our columns. We should have preferred a more limited communication, but choose rather to give the whole of it insertion in one number than to injure it by reserving a portion for next week. We need not at present express our own views on the subject. Whilst we hold ourselves bound to check any undue extension of the discussion, and shall not admit any improper liberties being taken on either side, we shall feel free to admit replies over the proper name of the writers, and should offer a remark or two, or treat on it more fully, as occasion may seem to demand. We should have preferred avoiding the use of the term "Campbellism," as we believe parties holding, to more or less extent, the sentiments referred to, consider it a name given by others, rather than acknowledged by themselves. We are fully satisfied, however, that Mr. Davis intends no reproach by his use of the term, but merely does so because the sentiments he combats may be the more readily recognized.

Temperance.

The Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance commences its Quarterly Session at Truro this day.

The respectable position Truro has achieved for itself in Temperance matters, renders it highly appropriate for this Session to be held there.

PROHIBITION.—On further consideration of the propriety of passing a Prohibitory Law with a proviso for submitting it to the people at the next General Election, we have come to the conclusion that it would be better to pursue the course recommended at the Annual Session, with regard to such an enactment, than to ask for a poll to be taken at some other time. The expense which must necessarily attend the latter course, would be very properly urged as a serious objection. The difficulty of getting voters from a distance to leave their homes for the purpose of voting, might prevent many from attending.

If the Temperance men of both political parties will honestly unite and take charge of this subject, and, while making efforts for the return of him they consider the most suitable man to represent them in Parliament, will also be equally diligent for the advocacy of Temperance among their friends, we conceive that great good may be done, and much evil prevented, by their moral suasion, besides the advancement secured by their advocacy of the principle of Prohibition at the hustings.

As to the cause being imperilled by the extension of the franchise, we think Mr. Robson's fears entirely groundless. We have full faith in popular representative institutions, and we think he must be but an indifferent politician who thinks that the voice of a limited number of the people is less likely to err on a great moral question, than when that voice comes from the whole population. Even if Prohibition should be negatived and the present license law preferred, we believe that the very fact of the people having confirmed that law would make them feel more bound to carry it out faithfully than they now do, and the Temperance education of the people will have received "a valuable impulse" by their being called to vote upon it. The license law passed at last session is, we believe, a very efficient one, and deserving of more praise than it commonly receives from Temperance men.

The doubts expressed by Mr. Robson in his letter to the *Abstainer*, about its being constitutional to submit a law to the people, have no good foundation any more than his desire for a more limited body of electors. We see no reason for such conclusion. We have a very recent precedent for legislation of this character in the repeal of the Yarmouth County Municipal Incorporation Act. We shall therefore sustain the action of the Grand Division, and hope that nothing may be done to induce parties in the country to doubt the propriety of that course of proceeding.

OUR acknowledgments are due to many of our kind patrons for their successful efforts to add to our list of Subscribers. In numerous cases their success would have been greater but for the pressure of the times. Not only

are their efforts highly appreciated by ourselves, but the numerous warm-hearted friends of the cause we are endeavouring to serve, perceive, with satisfaction, that additions are being made from time to time. Besides these tangible marks of approbation, we frequently receive expressions of approval from various quarters. We have no desire to parade these before our readers, yet for the benefit of those who occasionally manifest an interest in our course, and by misrepresentation endeavour to injure us in the estimation of some parties, we venture to tax our own modesty by giving two or three extracts of letters from persons with whom we have no personal acquaintance, and whose opinions may therefore be considered as the result of conviction, rather than as favours arising from friendship, and are even more highly valued on that very account. Our best endeavours shall be given to deserve the high character our friends are pleased to give to our labours.

"It will not, perhaps, be uninteresting to say that your valuable paper is received as a friendly Messenger, and perused with eagerness."

The intelligence which it from time to time conveys, of fresh accessions to Immanuel's crown; cannot fail, I think, to be truly cheering to every christian heart.

"We deeply sympathize with you in your arduous labor, and hope that grace and strength may be imparted from on high, enabling you to persevere in your work of faith, and that the varied trials with which you meet may be so overruled by Divine wisdom, that your assailants may speedily become your allies."

ST. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 23, 1858.—Dear Sir.—Enclosed find twenty shillings—ten to be for my paper, commencing from the first of the year, although I believe I stand paid up until some time in March; but let that be as it may, let me commence now from the Jan. 1, 1859 anew,—and the remaining ten shillings is for one copy of your Messenger for —, for one year—direct as I have written. I think the *Christian Messenger* to be decidedly the best paper—I mean the best edited paper—in the Lower Colonies."

We deeply regret the detention of the mails spoken of in the following. It is from an island in the extreme west—in the Bay of Fundy.

"Those who have the *C. Messenger* weekly do not know how to part with it. We have not received any C. M. for the last two mails, and seem quite lost. Nothing is so much missed. I have heard several make this remark. I assure you it is highly prized in this family."

"I feel satisfied with the *Messenger*, and think you have conducted it very wisely in not entering into the party politics of the day."

"If I could serve the interests of the paper in any way I would be happy to do so."

"We do not want to part with the *Messenger* on any terms."

By the late European papers it appears that the returns of the late Elections to the Prussian Chamber of Representatives, have given a large majority to the new ministry, which was formed by the Prince Regent on the retirement of his brother, the now nominal king. This Cabinet is taken from what are termed the Liberal party. It will be remembered that amid the convulsions that shook and revolutionised so many of the European Governments in the year 1848, that of Prussia underwent a great change, from a very despotic to a pretty popular form. This sudden change was, however, attended with so many novel and untried circumstances, that the King, who still held the sole control of the large Military forces of the kingdom, was soon enabled to reestablish to a great extent his former power, and although much discontent prevailed, yet the fear of change and the personal character of the monarch which was amiable and beneficent, have kept things as they were until he was obliged, from his failing intellect, to relinquish his power. His brother, who is his successor to the throne, although said to be a man of less talent, is one of more liberal views, and better suited to the exigency of the times. Great hopes are therefore entertained by the enlightened friends of sound Constitutional Government in Prussia, that a material and permanent policy of amelioration in the administration of the Kingdom, and one which will gradually habituate the people to the exercise and enjoyment of free institutions, will be the result of the present state of affairs. The great evil of European revolutions has hitherto been, that the people, accustomed to almost despotic rule, and wholly unused to take any share in public affairs, were unfitted to exercise the newly acquired rights which the overthrow of ancient dynasties and institutions had suddenly conferred upon them. Of this truth both France and Spain afford striking and melancholy instances. We hope better things of Prussia, especially as she is in a great measure a Protestant Country, and has consequently less of the element of spiritual despotism to contend with.

General Intelligence.

Foreign and Domestic.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Halifax Jan. 15th, 1858.

APPOINTMENTS.

John Creighton, Q. C., to be one of the Members of the Legislative Council of this Province—provisionally until the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure.

To be the Register of Deeds for the County of Lunenburg—John Heckman, in the place of the late Hon. Wm. Rudolf.—To be one of the Commissioners for signing and issuing Treasury Notes—Charles Twining, in place of John Dufus, resigned.

To be Justices of the Peace in the County of Colchester—Robert Chambers, Robert Nelson, Ezra Layton, to supply vacancies in the Commission occasioned by the decease of James M. Creelman, John Dickson, and Charles Tucker.

To be one of the Commissioners of Schools for the District of New Dublin, in the County of Lunenburg—The Revd. John P. Moody, in the place of the Revd. Mr. Drumm, who has removed from the District.

MINISTERIAL RESIGNATION.—The *Royal Gazette* of Wednesday last contains a long letter from Martin I. Wilkins to His Excellency the Earl of Mulgrave, tendering his resignation of the office of Solicitor General and his seat in the Executive Council.

Mr. Wilkins complains of various acts of the government as disrespectful to himself and his constituents—the principal of which are the appointment of Mr. Dickey to the Legislative Council, and the sending of the Hon. Provincial Secretary and Mr. Henry as a Delegation to England on the Inter-colonial railroad.

In connection with Mr. Wilkin's letter is also published a Minute of Council, containing observations upon it, signed by the Honorables J. W. Johnston, Michael Tobin, Staley Brown, J. J. Marshall, Charles Tupper.

The following is the closing paragraph of these observations:

"To Mr. Wilkins' application for permission to publish his letter we can have no possible objection, as that gentlemen has already made your Excellency's permission very immaterial, by pursuing the same course in this matter by which he has on other occasions made the public familiar with the deliberations of the Executive Council."

It is rumored that Mr. Henry will succeed Mr. Wilkins as Solicitor General.

MUNICIPAL REFORM.—The late conflagration has again awakened this City Council to a determination to prevent wooden buildings being erected in the City. A Committee is appointed to define the limits within which they shall be prohibited.

An Act for amending the Incorporation Act has also been prepared to be submitted to the Legislature. The provisions of the said act are reported as follows:—

That the boundaries of the Wards be altered so as to cause each street to be in some one ward,—not as now, to have the boundary running along the centre of streets.

That open voting be substituted for the ballot. That the Mayor be elected by the City Council, out of the members of the Council.

That changes take place in term of office of the Recorder, and the duties of that officer.

That 18 police officers be appointed, and that the duties of night watch be performed by the force.

That the superintendent of streets be under direction of Commissioners of streets; and

That a City Coroner, a City Librarian, to have charge of deeds, &c., a Collector of City Rents, &c., be appointed.

THE PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, we learn, has received several of the insane patients from the Poor's Asylum during the past week. This must afford much satisfaction to the worthy Superintendent and Commissioners of the latter Institution, as it has long suffered from being too much crowded to afford proper accommodation for those suffering mental derangement. The friends of the unfortunate individuals so afflicted will also feel greatly relieved by knowing that suitable provision is made for them; and such means used as are better calculated to bring them back to the ranks of rational men and women.

On Tuesday evening, the 18th inst., Mr. Robert Miller gave a lecture at Temperance Hall before the Young Men's Christian Association, on *True Greatness*. Besides the scope given by the subject, of which Mr. Miller made such good use, the free delivery and entirely extemporaneous character of it, rendered the lecture one of the most powerful that has been heard in Halifax for some time past. The crowded audience knowing something of Mr. Miller's ability as a lecturer, were prepared to expect a first-rate lecture, and we venture to affirm that but one opinion was entertained at the close, which was that independently of the greatness of the subject, and the originality with which it was treated, the oratory of itself was a treat of no ordinary description.

The Rev. Mr. Narraway, under an engagement with the Agency Committee of the Sons of Temperance, during the past week has delivered a course of three lectures, on the evenings of Wednesday and on Monday last and this evening.

RAILWAY TRAINS.—A change has been made by only one train a day going to and from Truro, and another to and from Windsor instead of two. This arrangement will continue, we presume, only for a short time, during the depth of winter.