

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, DECEMBER 14, 1859.

Systematic Contributions to Religious Objects.

IMPERFECT financial arrangements are the source of some of the greatest difficulties our churches labor under.

The impossibility of devising a plan exactly suited to every place and adapted to the circumstances of all, has, in many cases, prevented the adoption of any, and the churches consequently have suffered.

Many wealthy churches do far less than they would be able, were the members generally to adopt such a principle as this.

THE Editor of the Morning Chronicle, in an article referring to what we said last week, attempts to frighten his readers into acquiescence with the bold position he has taken on the Preeper case, and would fain excite them to hostility against all who dare differ from him.

We will take the liberty of laying before our readers a plan which has been adopted in one of the churches in this province for the purpose of giving all the congregation and their families an opportunity of contributing directly to each of the above objects.

paper. Several passages of Scripture bearing on the matter are given on the lower margin; the texts of these are appended to the annexed form.

Contributions for Benevolent Objects.

Mr. ... and family, hereby pledge for the year 1859 and '60, the amounts set against their names, in aid of the several Benevolent Objects below specified; to be collected quarterly, as follows:

Table with 5 columns: NAMES, Ministerial Education, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Infirm Ministers. Each column has sub-columns for 1st Sept, 1st Dec, 1st Mar, 1st June.

Proverbs iii. 9, 10. 2 Corinthians viii. 9. Acts xx. 35. Hebrews xiii. 16. Matthew vii. 12. Galatians vi. 9.

Sufficient space is given to write several names of members of the family, and the sums they would give during the year, to the several objects. The paper was then returned to Collectors appointed for the purpose, together with the first quarter's contribution.

This very imperfect sketch may suggest a method which the churches may adopt with advantage to themselves and to the objects they may desire to aid.

THE Editor of the Morning Chronicle, in an article referring to what we said last week, attempts to frighten his readers into acquiescence with the bold position he has taken on the Preeper case, and would fain excite them to hostility against all who dare differ from him.

Our Currency. Dollars and Cents.

Our readers will have observed the advertisement in our columns and other newspapers of "An Act to establish the Decimal system of Accounting."

to been equivalent to 60 pence;—by the contemplated change 50 pence will be a legal tender for a dollar, and we presume 2 1/2 will be the price of a postage stamp.

The first clause of the Act says "This Act shall come into operation on the 1st day of January, 1860"; yet the Witness believes that "the new Act will not come into general operation at the beginning of the year."

A short Chapter on Honesty, Principal and Interest, &c.

1. Is it right or honest to borrow from a person without his permission?

2. When a person retains his subscription for a newspaper after it is due, instead of sending it to the proprietor, does he not borrow the proprietor's money without his permission?

3. When a man borrows money either with or without permission should he not pay interest for the use of it?

4. When the amount of subscription is retained for several years, should not compound interest be paid by the person who has the use of it for so long a time?

5. The proprietor of the Christian Messenger desires that his patrons shall be all honest men and women, and therefore commends the above questions to the serious consideration of all whom they may concern.

6. The proprietor of the Messenger requires all his funds to enable him to meet pressing liabilities and obligations, and therefore wishes to call in, from all parties at present holding them, such monies, belonging to him, as may be in their possession.

7. GREAT INDUCEMENT.—As an inducement for parties to send on such monies without delay, the proprietor is willing to receive from each person above referred to, the principal sum so held by them, and will not exact the interest from those who pay the amount of their indebtedness before the 10th day of January next ensuing.

8. All persons whom the above may concern, are hereby requested to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

"THE ACADIAN."—This is the title of a newspaper just started at Digby. It is got up in good style, and is well filled with reading matter.

The ladies of Granville Street Congregation, have announced that they purpose holding a CHRISTMAS FANCY SALE, on Thursday the 22nd inst., at the Masonic Hall.

DAILY PRAYER-MEETINGS IN MONTREAL.—The Montreal Correspondent of the Toronto Christian Messenger writes Nov. 21st:—

"The daily prayer-meetings are kept up with a good degree of interest, and the attendance is good. One day last week I noticed over a hundred in the room, probably three fourths of them females and young persons.

The meetings in Halifax continue deeply interesting, and are attended by large numbers.

Increased attendance on the means of grace during the week evening services has been observed, and in some additional services have been held.

To our Agents and Patrons generally.

Dear Friends,—In prospect of the commencement of a New Year, we are desirous of showing that we appreciate your efforts to extend our circulation, and of co-operating with you in securing that desirable object.

As the large number of new subscribers we are accustomed to receive during the first two or three weeks of the New Year, have sometimes rendered it difficult for us to attend to other pressing duties at that time, we therefore propose, to all who forward their names any time between this and the end of the year, sending the paper from the time of receiving their names, and charging only from the first of January 1860.

1. OUR WANTS.—One thousand new subscribers before the first of January, 1860. PAYMENT FROM ALL WHO ARE IN ARREARS.

2. OUR INTENTIONS.—To strike off from our list of subscribers those who have for several years neglected to forward their subscriptions; and place the names of such in a list FOR IMMEDIATE COLLECTION.

3. OUR OFFERS.—For the names of two new subscribers, sent at one time, with the payment, (£1) besides sending the Messenger to their address, as above, to Dec. 31, 1860, we will also send a copy, for three months, to the person sending, or to any other address desired by him.

For the names of four new subscribers, sent at one time, with the payment, (£2) besides sending the Messenger to their address, as above, we will also send a copy, for six months, to any other address.

For the names of eight new subscribers, sent at one time, with the payment, (£4) besides sending the Messenger to their address, as above, we will also send a copy, for one year, to any other address.

A Telegraph Despatch from New York brings a few days later European Intelligence than that received by our last English Mail.

It refers to a proposition having been made by the French Emperor to the English Government for the disarmament of both powers. No particulars are mentioned, but that the London papers treat the proposal as one that cannot be entertained by England.

It would seem that there cannot be a doubt that the ulterior designs of France in her gigantic preparations, both at sea and land, are directed against Great Britain, and that the impending rupture may break out almost at any moment.

It is true that no subsisting cause of quarrel exists at this moment, but that the flames of hatred and revenge against England for past successes against France, have been and are being fanned up by the Press and the Government of that country, is unquestionable; and it is equally certain that no moral or religious principle will for a moment restrain either France or its Ruler from the most lawless acts of aggression, if only they believe they have sufficient power to sustain them.

Latest Intelligence.

The following is the important despatch referred to above:

The Steam-ship Persia arrived at New York on Friday. Dates from Liverpool to the 20th Nov.

Nothing definite respecting a Peace Congress had transpired.

State of Italian affairs unchanged.

The London Journals scout the reported proposition from Napoleon for a disarmament of the two powers.

The English Army is to be increased by the addition of eleven Regiments.

All the Canadian Steamers in future to call at Queenstown.