

or awful terms, surely in men qualified for the work of the ministry it must be inexcusable. Their example naturally exercises an extensive influence. It is therefore important that, in this respect as well as others, it should be such as may be safely followed.

These thoughts have been suggested by an expression found in a discourse delivered, and subsequently published, by a distinguished preacher—not Mr. Spurgeon—in England. My attention was called to it by an esteemed brother, who requested me to offer some remarks upon the subject. I am reluctant—every one should be—to repeat what may be deemed profane, or unsuitable to be said. In a case like this, however, it is requisite, in order to caution people against the use of such expressions.

Near the close of an able discourse, founded on Prov. xviii. 21,—“Death and life are in the power of the tongue,” occurs the following passage:—“Reject not the counsel of God against yourselves—for why will ye die, O house of Israel! The words of life! yes, of life to all who will accept it—no limit to the love—no restriction to the overture. No, no, do not—O do not—let that man step in and tell you that you are not welcome. It is a lie—an odious damned lie.” Who dares turn you back while Jesus bids you come?”

In this case the use of the term “lie,” which is generally low and abusive, appears quite needless and injudicious. The addition of the profane epithet combined with it, is exceedingly objectionable. It is glaringly inconsistent with the tenor of the discourse. I can not perceive any benefit that could possibly be expected to result from it; and it is evidently adapted to countenance and encourage the use of this base and profane expression, which is with lamentable frequency uttered by degraded and ungodly men. In my opinion it would have been well if the preacher, before giving utterance to these words, had called to mind, and heeded, the motto of his discourse, “Hold your tongue.”

This case brings to my recollection a remark made by an individual many years ago. Giving me an account of an aged minister, who was accustomed to imply very harsh language with reference to sentiments that did not accord with his own views, calling them “damnable doctrines,” &c., he added, “I used to hate to hear the old man begin to swear.” Ministers should carefully avoid giving any occasion for such observations.

It may be proper and useful to add a remark relative to lecturing on Temperance. That this work, if judiciously performed, is appropriate and suitable to ministers of the gospel, admits of no question in my mind. They need, however, while thus engaged, to be cautious not to degrade their sacred office, either by levity, harshness, or the use of unbecoming language. When a minister incongruously couples the word “distilled” with that which denotes the everlasting misery of the wicked, or excites laughter by a burlesque representation of the future state of rum-sellers, he evidently injures the cause which he is professedly labouring to promote, and by his example sanctions the use of such ungodly language as naturally results from intemperance.

One important duty manifestly devolving upon the ministers of Christ is, to guard their fellowmen as much as possible; both by precept and example, against everything that approximates toward profanity, or the familiar use of words which should never be uttered but with deep solemnity. To this end it is requisite for them to be circumspect, in public and in private, with regard to their words. “Giving no offence,” says the Apostle, “in anything, that the ministry be not blamed.”

Yours in Gospel bonds,
CHARLES TUPPER.
Aylesford, April 20th, 1859.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

MR. JOHN DOGGET VERGE,

Died, in this city, April 26th, in his 79th year. He was born at Liverpool, N. S., and dated his conversion at 15 years of age. Eleven years afterwards, while residing at Chester, he was baptized by the Rev. Jos. Dimock. Some thirty years since he removed to Lake Porter, and for the last ten years has resided chiefly in Halifax, and walked as a worthy member of the North Baptist Church.

His illness was somewhat lingering, and his suffering considerable. But with unflinching trust he submitted to the will of God. His sick room was very like an ante-chamber of heaven.

Our brother lived habitually near to God. He was ever ready to welcome and to aid our home missionaries and to engage in the service of Christ. For many years he enjoyed the assurance of hope, and no doubts intruded in his last days. With the language, “I long to be gone,”—“I’m going home,” he quitted the society of friends and saints on earth for that of the glorified above. His memory is blessed.—Communicated by Rev. S. N. Bentley.

ISRAEL McNAYER, JUNR.,

Son of Israel and Elizabeth McNayer, died at Springfield, Annapolis County, on March 23rd, in the 22nd year of his age. A member of the Baptist Church and an ornament to society, he was beloved by all that knew him, and in death was deeply lamented. From a child, he had grown up a very steady youth. When about 8 years of age God was pleased to show him that he was a sinner and that Jesus was the Saviour. He made a public profession of religion in the fall of 1858. Affording satisfaction to the Church, he was baptized by Elder Obed Parker on September 5th. From that time until his death he walked in all the ordinances of the Church, blameless, always taking an active part in the worship. The last time that he attended the house of God he spoke and warned all present to “Prepare to meet their God.” Thus early has closed the life of this promising young man.—Communicated by his father.

Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

JEDDORE, HALIFAX COUNTY.—The following note from Rev. S. N. Bentley shews gratifying indications of progress in a church having only occasional visits from one of the Society’s Missionaries. If all the more highly favoured churches showed corresponding signs of effort and devotedness we should soon see the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose.

Dear Mr. Editor,

It is pleasing to learn the happy results of Home Missionary effort. At Jeddore, a part of the field of Bro. R. D. Porter the work of the Lord is advancing. In the absence of Mr. Porter, brother C. H. Corey has labored there for a time with much acceptance and cheering success. On an exchange with him, I baptized last Sabbath, 8 willing converts. I received much kindness from the people, and I trust the work will continue.

Yours in the Gospel.

S. N. BENTLEY.
Halifax, April 30th, 1859.

YARMOUTH COUNTY.—Mr. Editor,—The general opinion in this section of the country is, that the “Christian Messenger” is increasingly interesting. Such I presume is the feeling among all your patrons.

The Baptist Churches in this county, are generally healthy and prosperous. All the pastors have had the pleasure of receiving a goodly number into the communion and fellowship of the respective Churches, and in several localities, the work of the Lord is still progressing; especially in the first church over which Bro. Angell presides. This is the third week of meetings among his people in town, which are very fully attended, and blessed of God in the salvation of many souls. The pastors in the vicinity, having large fields to cultivate, Bro. A. has had very little help from his ministering brethren, except the two promising young men (Blackadar and Tooker) of whom I made mention in my last. It is expected that these dear young brethren will soon repair to our Institution at Wolfville, to be instructed in “the way of God more perfectly” (Acts 18, 26). Bro. Angell baptized seven last Sabbath, and will probably have the pleasure of burying with our Lord as many more on the next Lord’s day.

Feeling myself to be every way incompetent to minister to the second and third Churches, in connection with which a great amount of pastoral labour is necessary, I have resigned my care of the church at Cheggogan. Our promising brother, Bro. Joseph H. Sanders, of Ohio, now supplies them one half of the time. Hoping the Lord will still more abundantly bless us all, I remain yours in the fellowship of Jesus.

E. N. HARRIS.
Yarmouth, April 27th, 1859.

YARMOUTH.—Postscript of Letter from Wm. Churchill Esq. dated 25th April, 1859:—“The first Yarmouth Church has been holding a series of Meetings for the last two or three weeks, during which there has been a good degree of interest manifested,—good attendance—good preaching—solemn warnings—some awakening—some conversions, and eighteen baptized since the 20th of March.”

The above was in type when we received the following from Rev. H. Angell. Although there is some repetition, yet as both are brief we insert them.

“The work of the Lord is still advancing in this county. During this winter and spring nearly two hundred have been added by baptism to the different churches, and more will follow.

We have been holding a series of meetings in town recently, with encouraging tokens. Besides efficient help from ministering brethren we had with us two promising young men who are looking towards the ministry. They appear to be truly devoted to the service of Christ.

Since our last report we have had the following additions by baptism: March 20th, five, April 3rd, three, April 17th, three. Last Sabbath in the presence of a large and solemn assemblage seven persons (5 males and 2 females) were buried with Christ by baptism. We expect others next Sabbath. Most of the converts are other persons. May they be divinely kept.”

CHESTER.—The Rev. J. C. Hurd writes April 25th:—“Religious matters in Chester are progressing encouragingly. Several backsliders have recently been restored. Six believers have recently been baptized—five of whom are heads of families. Others are enquiring.”

WINDSOR.—The Rev. Mr. Welton baptized fifteen persons last Lord’s Day the 1st inst.

RAWDON.—Extract of letter:—“Some special religious services are still being held here. Five have been baptized and 1 or 2 restored in the church.”

AYLESFORD.—The Rev. Dr. Tupper informs us in a P. S. dated April 20th:—“I baptized sixteen persons last Lord’s Day. Several of these had quite recently obtained hope.”

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.—The Rev. Mr. Charlton we learn has baptized several persons lately at Black River. The Rev. Mr. Balcom also attended and rendered assistance.

LONDONDERRY, DEBERT RIVER.—April 11th, 1859. O. C. writes:—“We had the pleasure yesterday of again witnessing a most solemn and interesting scene. A young man has been buried in baptism beneath the yielding wave. Every thing seemed calculated to impress the mind with solemnity. The shore and bridge were crowded with anxious spectators. The last year we have had 15 or 16 united with us. When I look around and see the vast change that has taken place in our church since our pastor has been labouring here, when I contrast the past with the present, I am led to exclaim, What hath God wrought! Surely the Lord hath done great things for his people. Our prayer meetings are well-attended.”

United States.

FULTON STREET DAILY PRAYER-MEETINGS.—The pressure of request for prayer still gives rise to the ever-recurring and as yet unanswered question, “What to do with them?” Some are for discouraging them; but the whole sentiment of the meeting rebels every such suggestion, and welcomes lovingly the humblest requests, whatever their number, that claim its sympathy.

The Rev. C. S. Stewart, suggests that the reading of the requests be made a devotional, instead of a business proceeding. Let sufficient time be set apart—say fifteen minutes. Let the requests be read solemnly and slowly, one by one, before God. Let it be understood to be a season of silent but united prayer; and in the attitude of devotion, let every soul be absorbed in sympathizing, earnest supplication for the objects presented, as they successively fall upon the ear.

BALTIMORE.—Wm. E. Dodge, Esq., stated that he had lately enjoyed a conversation with the Rev. Mr. Chambers, of Philadelphia, between that city and Baltimore, where the latter often labors. The wonderful character of the transformation going on among the worst reprobates of Baltimore, cannot be expressed. Of the late converts in the Western and rowdy section of the city, at least one hundred could be named as already actively and devotedly engaged in carrying on prayer meetings, and laboring for the conversion of others. The reports from that quarter of the city reckon at least a hundred and fifty from the worst class of Baltimore population, as giving evidence of conversion to God.

Colonial & Foreign News.

Canada.

PROHIBITION.—An Act has passed the Legislature prohibiting the sale of liquor in Upper Canada from seven o’clock on Saturday night till Monday morning. This is a good beginning for a general Prohibitory Law. They have also a law prohibiting the sale of liquor on Election day. The report presented to the House of Assembly by the Temperance Committee contains a letter from the Hon. Neal Dow who states that in Maine pauperism has decreased thirty seven per cent since the re-enactment of the Maine Law.

A Divorce Bill has been passed by a large majority. The Protestants in the Legislature voting for, but the Catholics against it.

ABSENCE OF CRIME.—Chief Justice Robinson opened the Court at Toronto recently and in his charge to the Grand Jury he said that it gave him great pleasure to announce that instead of the usual calendar of criminal indictments, the Sheriff had that morning presented him with a pair of white gloves, signifying, according to an old English custom, that there were no prisoners to be brought before the present Assizes. His Lordship said, white gloves, to signify the absence of indictments, had not been presented to the Court since 1808, fifty one years ago.

United States.

An explosion lately took place on board the St. Nicholas one of the Mississippi steamers by which 75 lives were sacrificed.

The City of Quito has been destroyed by an earthquake with a loss of about 2000 lives.

Charles Dickens, has accepted Mr. Bonner’s offer of \$20,000 to write a tale expressly for the New York Ledger.

The trial of Mr. Sickles for the murder of Mr. Key at Washington, terminated on the 27th ult. The Jury withdrew and after remaining in consultation upwards of an hour brought in a verdict of acquittal. General demonstrations of favour towards Mr. Sickles were shown on the announcement. We have not learned the particulars of the verdict. If so flagrant an outrage can be perpetrated with impunity we think the administration of justice at Washington has become a mere farce.

European Items.

A BUTCHER’S SHOP IN PARIS.—The Paris correspondent of *The Daily News* gives the following account of a new butcher’s establishment at the corner of the Rue Trenchet and the Rue Neuve-des-Matutins:—“Upwards of thirty metres in length, it is entirely filled up with white marble on supports of porphyry. The counter is also of white marble on silver caryatides. A fountain of water, six feet in diameter, plays in the centre of the shop, and vases of flowers and shrubs are disposed about with a certain degree of taste. Thirty-nine persons are employed in the establishment, which offers each morning for sale twenty oxen, twenty calves, and sixty sheep. The great novel feature of this establishment is that while professing to sell cheaper than any other shop in Paris it delivers with each parcel of meat a ticket which entitles the buyer to a share in the profits at the end of the month. It is reported that thirty fathers of families are now forcing their appetites to eat enormous quantities of meat in the idea that they are thereby laying up portions for their daughters. I have not sufficiently verified the calculations upon which the new system is based to be able to say whether large customers will pay nothing and get something to boot—but this result is expelled.”

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL AND THE GRANADIER CAP.—His Imperial Highness was attired in the uniform of a Corporal Guard (to which rank he has just been promoted); and on arriving the high fur cap of the Grenadiers was alone waiting, which, the weight being apparently inconvenient, had been replaced by the light kepi, worn by soldiers in undress, and by school-boys on all occasions. As the trumpet sounded for the display of troops, Madame Bruat, who had held the Grenadier cap upon her knees ready for this opportunity, immediately began to remove the kepi, in order to substitute the head-dress belonging to the uniform he wore. But the action gave rise to such a storm of indignation, such a burst of rage and anger, such shrieking and screaming on the part of the little hero, that, had resistance to his wishes been maintained, the most awful results might have occurred. As it was, nothing happened more serious than the throwing the offensive Grenadier’s cap far out among the crowd of soldiers. Good humour was restored with the replacing the kepi, and the usual demure and quiet demeanour was assumed as if by magic, with the wonted courtesy of salutation to the soldiers as they passed.—*Court Journal*.

TEMPERANCE IN RUSSIA.—We learn from a Russian paper that about six months ago the peasants of the Government of Kowno, of their own will and accord, took in their churches a solemn vow to drink no more brandy, and that, as yet, they have fulfilled their promise with admirable perseverance. In taverns where formerly a thousand gallons of brandy were sold during a month, now hardly ninety are consumed, and these mostly on the public highways. The proprietors of several estates have been compelled by the reform to close their distilleries, at least for a while. Under the Government of Nicholas the formation of temperance societies and the distribution of books relating to it was strictly forbidden, because the income from the consumption of brandy was considered as one of the most prolific resources of the public treasury.

SIR SAMUEL MORTON PETO FOR FINSBURY.—We are authorized to announce that Sir Morton Peto will contest the representation of Finsbury at the coming election; nor can there be the shadow of a doubt of Sir Morton’s success. The Hon. Baronet, it will be remembered, formerly sat for a considerable time as the representative of Norwich, and on all great questions of the day voted in accordance with the popular feeling. Sir Morton will have the whole of the religious classes in Finsbury as his zealous supporters. In that borough, more perhaps than in any other in the metropolis, the religious element is predominant.—*Morning Advertiser*.

APPREHENDED ATTACK ON MALTA.—The excitement mentioned before as existing amongst the authorities relative to the probability of an attack on Malta, is still at its height. Telegraphic communications by day, and signals by rockets by night, are organised in the event of a foreign fleet appearing in sight, and secret orders are given to generals of brigade.—*Herald’s Malta Correspondent*.

Lamartine has got a legacy of a farm and town-house from an old maid, Mademoiselle Martin, of Saone and Loire. She says in her will she never saw him, and he never answered her letters, “probably,” she adds, “because not post paid.” The bequest is valued at 150,000 francs.

The University of Melbourne has been recognised by letters patent under the great seal of England among the seas of learning entitled to confer degrees, &c., which will be valid in every part of the British empire.

The Sunderland Havelock Monument Committee have selected one of Mr. Behnes’ models as the best out of thirty-two sent in for competition.