# Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, MAY 2, 1860.

#### Revivals of Religions. RECEPTION OF MEMBERS.

'A converted membership' is the great dis tinguishing feature of Baptist Churches. The fact of members being received into them by immersion is itself secondary in importance to that of their giving evidence of being 'born again.' Believers alone are eligible to participate in christian fellowship. A personal confession of faith in the Lord Jesus is necessary, or the candidate can establish for himself no claim to the appellation-believer. Whilst however we hold this, we would not characterize as unbelievers all who have not made such confession. Satisfactory evidence of faith in Christ should be given before christian ordinances are administered. In these days of Revivals, we and other bodies partially adopting this prineiple—the antipathy to religious experience which formerly existed in those communities has been partially given up and conversion is we believe more highly valued now than it was only a few years since. It was not many years ago that this was not deemed essential even for a minister of the Gospel.

Whilst those churches which do not make piety and a personal acceptance of Christ indispensable prerequisites to church relationship are becoming more assimilated with our own, in this respect, than formerly, it may be well for us to enquire if we are maintaining the principles we profess in all their integrity. We are aware that it is impossible even with the strictest investigation to detect every case of deception, and wholly to avoid disappointment; yet where Divine direction is sincerely and earnestly sought, with the use of the Word of God, and when suitable means of enquiry are employed the cases are comparatively rare in which mistakes are made.

The Church of Christ is to be the Light of the world. The glory of the Church consists in each individual member being united to his Lord and Master and "walking in all the ordinances and commandments of the Lord blameless." It is folly to talk of the beauty of Zion in the abstract. Her members must have become more truthful, honest, and upright in their dealings, careful to meet all just demands upon them by the church and the world than before conversion, or their light after all is but darkness. If this be not the case then there is reason to doubt the truth with which we started, that a converted membership constitutes our glory. I matters not how many may be added to our membership, if they be not spiritual members of the body of Christ-branches of the True Vine. How vastly important then that we should ascertain that those who seek to be united in church fellowship are children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. An increase of numbers in a church, at the expense of its purity, is rather a calamity than otherwise. If members enter the church with an improper appreciation of the duties of entire consecration devolving upon them in their new position, they will not be likely to rise much higher than the standard of piety so set for them. There may be but little evidence of a well-developed Christian character yet if there is true repentance, humility, and sincere resting on Christ,-a desire to obey Him in all His commands, the more mature fruits of the Spirit may be looked for under the subsequent teaching of God's Word, with tolerable certainty. Times of Revival should form no exception in these respects. The standard of piety should not be lowered, so as to admit of a dwarfish profession, or the church may long suffer in its subsequent his-

We say not these things to deter any from eceking admission to the Christian Church, but rather to raise their estimate of the priviledges and blessings of that position, and inspire a spirit of personal insufficiency and tall dependance on Jesus for salvation, the Word of God for instruction, and the Holy Spirit for direction and guidance in the matter.

#### The present aspects of the Temperance Question.

We have been surprised of late to find a from this branch of trade. sort of death-like silence among our Temperance men on the subject of Temperance hat they would supercede the higher and make it a Prohibitory Law.

more intoxicating beverages. They seemed THE ALUMNI SOCIETY, ACADIA COLLEGE. has ever been recruited. To hold any parley guarantee for it a vigorous and rapid growth, such progress in the matter. with the demon is to be embraced in his iron Whether such will be the case, rests pretty more degrading depths and become bound to alumni in the ranks of this body. of the drunkard.

ted drunkards.

certain sound from that trumpet, there is no Church of Christ and in the world. summoning of the temperance forces to the battle. Whilst, however, this want of life exists, the enemy is not sleeping. He comes sketch of Scottish Student Life, which apin and breaks the ranks of the Temperance peared in our last is but a caricature; and citadel. By the action of the vampire he Scottish American Journal in reply thereto. lulls to sleep while he withdraws the lifeblood of his antagonist,

said, "if a revenue must be had from rum columns. let us get the most we can from it!"

also added to the pocket of the people, enab- of course we shall not complain. ling them to bear that amount of additional taxation on articles of legitimate trade.

For individuals, the only real safety both for themselves and the good influence of their example is to " touch not, taste not, handle the Edinburgh Encyclopedia on the subject : not" No n:an will be the loser by adopting that policy. For communities the same law would apply, as far as it can be brought into operation, that is to say, afford no encouragement to the traffic so as to increase the revenue at the expense of morality, but for the good of the people prevent as much as possible their expending their money for what is worse than nothing in return. Let the people and their Representatives have this. -prohibition—as their only ultimatum,—to be attained as early as possible, and make all legislation tend in that direction. Let the friends of temperance keep their eyes on their Representatives, and call them to account for every act opposed to the progress of this principle, and we shall eventually find that all the stratagems of those desirous of promoting the traffic must succumb to the force of truth, and "the powers that be" will soon see that to oppose it is death to them. The friends of good government and sobriety, must one day find that the good sense of the people will not be satisfied to allow the streams of liquid poison to continue devastating the country and invading the houses of helpless women and ch.ldren, and depriving them of bread,

Those who have capital invested in the manufacture and importation of so much misery and ruin will surely perceive, if Temperance men are faithful to their principles, that they can apply their means to more noble purposes, and finding that the fruits of the trade are only evil and that continually, will engage in other businesses and so escape the sad reflection, which sooner or latter, must attend the enormous profits derived

legislation. The friends of Rum seem to learn that Avard Longley, Esq., has brought the Lord's Supper ? have taken the field, and hold it in almost un- a Bill into the Assembly for the purpose of disturbed possession. Some from whom we rendering the License Law more perfect and had hoped better things, instead of standing effective. In the absence of a Prohibitory po for prohibition of the death-traffic, seem enactment, the present law with amendments have taken lessons from the enemies of the and additions, such as we learn this bill is inpuse, and by a mistaken course of reasoning, tended to supply. is, we conceive, as near an apwe believe, have advocated the introduc- proach as can be expected. Indeed, it will the Ministers will have to be absent from on of a species of wines, which they consider only require the people to be thoroughly their Congregations two Sabbaths instead of emparatively harmless, under the impression indoctrinated with Temperance principles, to one, as at present.

Total abstinence is the land of freedom from Circular of the Committee which appeared in brought before the Convention. which no victims fall into the premature grave our columns a few weeks since, has received attention from all to whom it was addressed. The pernicious custom of wine bibbing at We know of no associations more pleasant to the dinner table, and the free indulgence in recall than those formed by students. Imless intoxicating liquors is the fruitful source pressions, the most gratifying and permanent, whence are derived all the bloated and besot- are made on the mind when being formed for a life-work. Those who have not the same We expected to have seen in the organ of connection with the College as its former the Temperance body a word of remonstrance students must feel that in giving their counteagainst the anti-prohibition sentiments uttered nance and aid to such a Society as this, they in the House of Assembly in the late discus- are helping to combine elements in social and sion of the duties on Rum, but not a note religious life, which, when brought together, Harbour to Lake Huron, a distance of upwe believe has been heard, and there being no are calculated for great usefulness in the

"Alumnus Scotia," complains that the

We do not perceive that the latter at all destroys the truth of the former, and is but

We must repeat our protest against all such THE nameless Editor of the Chronicle, in parley with the enemy. Whilst we would his issue of yesterday, supplies his readers urge the adoption of all such measures as with a feast consisting of near two columns may prevent the illicit traffic, we would as of the ashes of our unfortunate fire of 1st of far as possible hinder the sale and use of in- January, 1857. He himself is doubtless livtoxicating liquors and demand legislation in ing on the fat of the land, and may well make that direction. If the duties failed to pro- merry by throwing such dust as this in the the American Government at Washington, duce sufficient revenue, provided proper vigi- eyes of his less favoured friends and neigh- had arrived at St. Francisco. The Ambassalance was used by revenue officers, we would bors. If his patrons and protectors do not dors and their suite are said to consist of as account it as so much gain and 500 per cent object to being fed with such aliment, why many as sixty persons. They will no doubt

" Baptism," he says, " in the apostolic age was performed by immersion.

the Greek verb baptizo, as well as its Hebrew as hitherto, any longer to seclude themselves synonyme, sometimes denotes sprinkling, but the from the free intercourse of surrounding navarious passages to which they appeal will lead every candid mind to a different conclusion. by the superior knowledge of their neighbors. The circumstances recorded concerning the first administration of baptism are likewise incompatible with sprinkling. Had a small quantity of water been sufficient, the inspired historian April has been cold and ungenial, althoughwould never have said that John baptized in owing to the unusually moderate and even the river Jordan and in Enon, because there was much water there. The administrators and the subject of baptism are always described as descending into the water, and again ascending out of it When Paul affirms that we are buried with Christ in baptism and raised again on throughout the country. he not only alludes to immersion; but, upon any other supposition, there would be no propriety in the metaphor which he employs.' Edin. Ency .: Article-" Baptism."

## Queries.

The following questions have been sent us for insertion in our pages. We are not asked to give answers, and therefore submit them for some of our friends, who may have had the subject, under consideration. If they will favor us with their thoughts upon one or more, we shall be happy to lay them before our readers. Others, besides the brother who sends the queries, will, we doubt not, be gratified and instructed.

1. Is it right for a Baptist Minister to im? merse a candidate for membership into a Pedo-Baptist Society?

2 Is it right to immerse (re-baptize) a believer who has been immersed by an unbaptized Minister, and becoming dissatisfied, wishes to join a Baptist Church?

3. Is it right to retain a member in the Since writing the above, we are glad to Church who will not observe the ordinance of

> to the law of the land when they cannot other- Breadstuffs firm. wise publicly worship undisturbed. F. C. W.

SHALL THE ASSOCIATIONS MEET IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WEEK ?- If they do many of

ONE OF THEM.

Ir affords us pleasure to call attention to to forget that the appetite of the inebriate in Large bodies move slowly. When, however, the notice, on another page, of a Baptist all its stages is from the lower per centage of they receive the momentum, they find but Sabbath School Convention, to be held at alcohol to the higher. It has rarely if ever little difficulty in keeping up the motion. Windsor on the 10th of June. We were not proceded in the opposite direction. It is The enthusiastic commencement of the So- aware, when we expressed our hope that some from the ranks of moderate drinkers of in-ciety named above, although having its sub-action would be taken by the committee in toxicating liquors that the army of drunkards jects so numerous and widespread seemed to charge of the subject, that they had made

We trust our brethren will not allow this grasp. He who is a slave to the constant use much upon the steps taken in the earlier stages opportunity of promoting the object of these of a small quantity of the drunkard's beverage, of its history; The affection of each alum- institutions to pass unheeded, but will as genis but little more able to throw off his lighter nus for his Alma Mater may be tested, we erally as possible, be present, and in cases shackles than he who has descended to the think, by his endeavours to enlist his brethren where they cannot attend that they will communicate the particulars with regard to the them by the iron chains of appetite and habit. We need searcely say that we trust the number of teachers and Scholars, in time to be

#### News Summary.

WE observe in the Canada papers that the Legislature of that Province are once more agitating the question of the great Intercolonial Railway from Halifax to the St. Lawrence, to meet the portion already completed for nearly, we believe, 100 miles below Quebee, and which would open a continuous line of direct Main Trunk Railway from Halifax wards of 1200 miles, The Mercantile Communities of Liverpool and Glasgow are also taking a warm interest in the matter, and we believe another effort will very shortly be made to induce the Home Government to render some assistance in carrying out this army and actually takes possession of the forwards a letter which appeared in the important enterprise. It cannot be doubted that such a measure would conduce, more than any other that could be named, towards the onward progress of the whole of British It is true we have not had the question of little more than an effort to shew that the North America. It cannot be long before a Prohibition before our law-makers during the writer in the Cornhill Magazine sought to direct postal communication will be opened present session of the Legislature, yet some compare unfavourably the Scottish Univer- between Vancouver's Island and the Eastern who have hitherto been the loudest declaimers sity with those of Oxford and Cambridge. Provinces, a route which, at no great distance on behalf of prohibition and very giants in If the friend who sent us the extract, had of time, is destined to become the beaten the cause have embraced the opportunity favored us with his proper name we might track of communication between the Pacific given of speaking on the subject, and have nevertheless have given it insertion in our Ocean and the rich Countries on its eastern shores, and the Kingdoms of western and northern Europe.

We are glad to observe that the new State of Kansas has been admitted into the Union, as a free State, by a large majority in the American Congress.

An Embassy from the Japanese Empire to proceed to Panama and New Orleans. The United States Government are making ample More Light.—Is the discussion of bap- provision for their reception. These singular tism "sectarian jargon?" Hear what Dr. and enterprising people are already beginning Brewster, a Free Church Minister, writes in to adopt very many of the arts and improvements of American and European civilization. and will ere long, in all probability, enter largely into the commerce of the world. Many writers of respectability maintain that They already see that it is quite impossible, tions. They are wisely determined to profit

> The weather during the greater part of warm temperature of the month of March, -the Spring is likely to be a very early one for Nova Scotia. The frost has been long out of the ground, and early farming is going

## Four days later from Europe.

PORTLAND April 23 .- The steamship Australasian arrived at 6 this morning. Dates to the Hith.

The French Government has reprimanded the ournals accusing England of fomenting insurrection in Spain and Sicily.

Heenan, the pugilist, has been liberated on bail. The fight would probably take place on the 16th, the day named. The French Imperial Commission was coldly

received in Savoy. The King of Sardinia was about to make an

naugural tour. The Emperor of Morocco has ratified the peace The boundary of Genta was amicably

The Grand Duke of Baden supports the independence of the Catholic Church.

The insurrection in Sicily was spreading. Austria answers Thouvenel's note, and objects not to annexation so long as it is a free conces-

sion to Piedmont. MARKETS .- Money tight ; Funds closed lower; Consols 941; the Dank has raised the rate

4. Is it right for Christians to have recourse of discount 1-2 per cent; Cotton declined;

## Still Later.

Palermo in a state of Siege. Bloody Disturbance in Messina.

Merchant's Exchange, April 26, 1860. The Steamship Africa has arrived at New York, Dates to the 15th inst. Parliamentary recess continued.