

long behind. She leaves about fourteen children, and a large number of other relatives, to mourn their loss. But their loss is her gain. The occasion was improved by the writer of this to a deeply serious congregation from Rev. xiv. 13. May the Lord greatly sanctify this visitation to the present and eternal salvation of all concerned!

R. E. C.

Maitland, April, 1860.

EDWARD M. SHAFFNER,

Youngest son of Deacon Caleb Shaffner died at Williamston, Annapolis County, April 2nd, in the 42nd year of his age. Brother Shaffner made a profession of religion about 24 years ago, and united with the Baptist Church at Nictaux.

He was divinely supported in his affliction with the presence of the Lord and his promises. He felt his hope to be as an anchor of the soul, sure and steadfast. He talked with his friends who visited him about the blessedness of religion and exhorted them to live a life of faith upon the Son of God, and warned sinners to flee from the wrath to come by faith in Jesus Christ. He met death as a conquered foe, and calmly passed away to the spirit-world. He has left an aged father, brothers and sisters, a widow, and 4 children to mourn their loss. May the Lord sustain them in their affliction and bring them all to rest with him above.—Communicated by Rev. W. G. Parker.

For the Christian Messenger.

Sabbath Schools,

THEIR VALUE—ORDER REQUIRED IN THEM—IMPROVED SEATS—THE SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION.

DEAR EDITOR,

In the Messenger of the 10th, you say you do not altogether agree with me, but I am happy to say I agree perfectly with you in your remarks on that occasion. I do not hold that our Churches wholly neglect the Sabbath School, but just as you express it there is not the amount of thought, prayer and labour which the subject demands. Rev. Wm. Howe, of Boston in an Essay delivered before the Massachusetts Sabbath School Convention in 1856 speaks of this Institution in the following language:—"The Sabbath School is designed to engage the greatest number of private Christians who but for this system of evangelization would have done little or nothing simply for the lack of a way to do it. * * * Is there not in its constitution and aim such a resemblance, such an affinity to the ministry as to infer that God has given it a place near, very near the ministry, is not its proximity to the pulpit such, that the influence of the latter is more widely diffused by its aid? Can the pastor dispense with this agency? Has it not become the right arm of the ministry? Remove it, alter its position, or suffer it to become paralyzed and the work of converting the world is retarded. Has not God united the two? Let no man put them asunder."

Rev. H. M. Parsons of Springfield before the same Institution in '59, remarked:—"In order to the inculcation of Bible truth in the Sunday School, effectively and effectually, the whole Church must go to work. So far as my experience and observation extends it is a fact that our Sunday School workers—many noble spirits—are worked down even to premature death through the Sabbath and the services connected with it." Can any plan be devised by which the whole church can go to work in the Sunday School cause?

This is what I have long wished for, I long to see the day when our churches—Pastors, Deacons and Members will awake and realize their duty in relation to this subject—I do not consider all asleep, I know there are honourable exceptions, but I wish to see what is now the exception become the rule, and as brother Parsons recommends all to become workers in this field let those who think they cannot teach, labour outside, distributing Tracts, papers, &c., and gather up, and bring in all the children of the district who are not already in some Sunday School.

And then those who prefer their ease to either—for there are drones in every hive,—bleed them, let them contribute of their means to clothe poor children, to replenish the Library, meet incidental expenses, &c. So that the Teachers may not be burdened with that part of the labour as they are in many of our Schools. And then at least once a month, let all come together and pray in faith for a blessing upon their labours—Brother Howe in his Essay above alluded to says:—"The object of the Sabbath School is to impart a knowledge of God's truth, to fix Bible principles and rules of life in the mind and heart, with a view first to conversion, and second to holy living after conversion. Then we shall have every thing to encourage us and lead us to believe that such will be the result. We know that impres-

sions made upon the mind when young and tender will remain long after those made in after years will have passed away. Hannah More beautifully expresses this idea when she says:—"The seal sinks deep in the yielding wax." But the one thought I intended alone to occupy this article has not yet been touched. Circumstances have thrown me off, and given rise to the above but without further comment I shall come at once to the point. I have visited many Schools where it appeared to me there was far more noise and confusion than necessary, their was a constant bozz all over the room, created by one speaking or reading rather louder than necessary, the next must get up a little and the next a little more in order to be heard and the adjoining class must raise a note higher and thus it goes on until it becomes as above described. Now I have thought that if that first class could be got down to a mere whisper and kept there, all the rest could do the same, but, to do that, they must be brought within a convenient distance of their Teacher. Then arises the necessity of forethought in the plan of the room. To have it convenient for the classes No seat should be over seven feet in length that will very comfortably seat five, and ten are as many as any one Teacher should have, except the Senior Classes, then by slightly leaning forward the farthest scholar can be heard without speaking above a whisper. Another idea in this connection, I have often seen the Officers or Teachers labouring for half an hour or near turning those long heavy seats in preparing the room for the School, now this could be avoided with but little additional expense. Suppose the people in the locality to be unable to afford anything but a plain seat. Take a piece of 1 1/2 inch plank 7 feet long, put on an end piece to serve as leg, letting it run up about 15 inches above the seat, take a piece of iron about 1 1/2 by 1/4, split one end up about 6 or 8 inches, make 3 screw holes in each. Throw the points apart 6 inches like a fork then bend it about 1 inch from the termination of the split square with the main bar put a round hole in the other and put a bolt through it and the end of the seat in the center near the top then take a back about 6 or 8 inches wide and screw on the fork ends of the iron, secure to it. They will then require something on the inside of each edge of the end piece for the iron to rest upon, a little below the level of the centre bolt, in order to give the back a comfortable slope, they will then have a back that will turn either way, the same as the Rail-car seats. This will save much labour, be more comfortable for the children and less trying to the Teachers, the Scholars will be directly under their eye and the whole School can be kept in much better order.

I see you are about organizing a Sabbath School Convention. I observed in the Messenger of the 25th April, a call to all your Superintendents to send a full report. I should like to make a few remarks on this subject, as a few of us have been at work the last year in the same way; but space forbids going into that now, further than one suggestion. Would not the end be better accomplished by sending blank reports to all those friends to be filled up. You will be more likely to obtain a report and also information on the particular points required. That is the plan we have adopted, and I think it is the same in the States.

JAS. E. MASTERS.

St. John, May 8th, 1860.

[We presume the latter suggestion of our brother will be one of the arrangements of the Convention when formed. It could not well be done before.

The plan for the backs of seats would be a great convenience. Much time is often lost on Sabbath Schools by inattention to such little arrangements as that named.—ED. C. M.]

Religious Intelligence.

TANCOOK.—Rev. Nelson Baker writes dated May 1st, 1860:—"During the winter, five have been baptised by the writer. Our Meeting House by the exertion of a few of us will be finished outside in a short time.

My dear Mother has left us. She died on the 16th of January last in the 82nd year of her age. She professed religion when quite young and gave a practical demonstration of it during life. Often when I was quite a child at midnight she would wake me out of sleep by her praises to God. After the Lord had pardoned her sins she became a member of the Lutheran Church, but for the last 16 years she was a Baptist. She retained the use of her faculties so that the day before she died she read her Bible without glasses. Her confidence in God was unshaken to the last."

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, MAY 8th.

The House in Committee passed several bills of minor or local importance.

The Hon. Provincial Secretary laid on the table several accounts and returns.

On the adjourned debate on the Colchester Election being resumed,

Hon. Mr. Johnston occupied the house about two hours. Hon. Mr. Wier, Messrs. Shannon, Morrison and Pryor also spoke on the subject.

Messrs. Cochran and Churchill obtained leave to return home after Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY, May 9.

Mr. A. C. McDonald reported from the Committee to try the election of Mr. John Campbell, that Mr. C. was not duly elected, and that Mr. Morton was entitled to the seat, and further that the Sheriff's return should be so amended.

Hon. Mr. Young reported from Committee a recommendation that £100 be voted to Capt. Young, owner of the Lucretia wrecked in endeavouring to assist the Indian.

Sylvanus Morton, Esq., was sworn in and took his seat for Queen's.

Hon. Mr. Young brought in a Bill providing for taking the Census of the Province.

Also, an Act for the purpose of completing the New Court House.

Mr. Longley asked for a call of the House to take up the License Bill.

Mr. A. C. McDonald advocated the measure. The imperfect state of the present law he thought required its adoption.

Mr. Harrington spoke in favor of the bill but thought the penalties too light.

Hon. Mr. Wier thought there was no necessity for this law, but would be glad to adopt any measure that would really stop the sale of intoxicating liquors.

Mr. Longley spoke on the several clauses. He thought no law gave a right to any man to deal in what was worthless or injurious.

Hon. Mr. Young was opposed to Prohibition, but wished to promote Temperance. He did not think there was time for perfecting a measure in the present season.

Messrs. Wade and McFarlane also spoke of there being insufficient time to give the matter consideration.

Dr. Tupper and Hon. Mr. Johnston were in favour of proceeding with the bill without delay.

Mr. Munro spoke against the bill and moved that it be deferred for three months.

Mr. Munro subsequently moved that all the clauses but the first two be struck out.—On division this was carried by 21, against 19. A more extended notice of the action on this measure may be found on another page.

The Colchester Election Debate was resumed.

Mr. Blanchard spoke in favor of the Attorney General. Mr. Jas. McDonald addressed the house with much earnestness and ability in favor of the Committee's report.

Hon. Mr. Howe offered an apology for remarks made on the previous day reflecting on Mr. McDonald.

THURSDAY, May 10th.

The House met in the morning and in consequence of some angry words between Hon. Mr. Wier and Dr. Tupper, the galleries were cleared and the House sat for some time with closed doors, endeavouring to settle their differences in private.

The house resumed at 4 o'clock and as the intention was to close the debate that evening the galleries were crowded and much excitement prevailed.

Hon. Mr. Howe explained in reference to a statement which appeared in the Morning Chronicle that the £21 paid for inspecting the steamer Emperor did not go into Dr. Tupper's pocket.

Hon. Mr. Johnston moved a series of resolutions opposed to those of Hon. Mr. Young on the Hon. Attorney General's Election.

Hon. Mr. Howe spoke with much humor in favor of the Attorney General.

Dr. Tupper then closed the debate in a speech of about two hours in the course of which he reviewed the speeches of several gentlemen who had spoken and strongly denounced the present government, taking it for granted that Earl Mulgrave would dissolve the House after the close of the Session.

On the Division which was taken about half past 10 o'clock at night, there appeared for 25; against 19. The other members had mostly returned to their homes.

FRIDAY, May 11th.

This day was occupied in finishing up the business ready for the close of the session.

SATURDAY, May 12th.

At 2 o'clock in the afternoon His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and staff attended at the Council Chamber. The guard of honor who lined the approach to the Chamber, was composed of a company of the 62nd Regiment; the Royal Engineers, and the Volunteer Engineers. His Excellency closed the Session with the following

SPEECH:

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

It affords me much pleasure to relieve you from further attendance on your Legislative duties.

The approaching Summer will be marked by an event unparalleled in Colonial history, as this and the other North American Colonies will then be visited by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales; and in the name of our Sovereign I thank you for the liberal provision you have made for the appropriate reception.

The devoted loyalty and affection to the Throne and person of our beloved Queen, which I know to exist throughout Nova Scotia, will enable me to assure His Royal Highness that those manifestations of welcome with which he will doubtless be greeted in this capital, represent the feelings which pervade the population of the whole Province.

The grant placed by you at my disposal for the local defence of the Province, and for which I now thank you, will enable me to render efficient the Volunteers, who, by their enrollment, have given so ready and patriotic a response to the appeal I made, and I shall spare no pains to give to this force the character of a permanent institution.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I thank you for the Supplies granted for the General Service of the year, and you may rely upon their faithful and economical expenditure.

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

In now parting with you, allow me to express a hope that individual happiness and prosperity may attend you; and I pray that, by the blessing of Divine Providence, the interests and welfare of this Province may continue steadily to advance.

Colonial & Foreign News.

New Brunswick.

On dit.—That the non-issue of the Postage Stamps bearing the likeness of the Postmaster General, will give rise to trouble in the government camp; that if the stamps are not issued Mr. Connell will resign his seat in the Council.—Col. Pres.

It is said that the delightful residence of Mrs. Chipman, on Union Street, will be placed at the disposal of the Prince and suite. It will be fitted up in a manner becoming the abode of Royalty.—Ib.

The Executive Council has been in session in this city for the last ten days. It is said that the time of its members has been occupied chiefly with the settlement of the claims of Railway contractors.—Ib.

Large seams of Coal Oil have been discovered upon the line of the Railroad between Hampton and Sussex, N. B.

The Hon. W. H. Odell, of Fredericton, has presented that city with a beautiful piece of land for a Park, opposite the Government House, containing 18 acres, and said to be well suited for the purpose. Such acts are worthy of notice.

The Presbyterian says:—It is stated that Bishop Sweeney has applied for three blocks of ungranted land—ten thousand acres in each—situated in Queens, Westmorland, and Albert Counties, and that a survey has been made of the block in Queen's County.

The Carleton Presbyterian Church has received a handsome donation from a gentleman in England, which has in part enabled those interested in the welfare of the Church to purchase what was much desiderated, namely, a BELL to notify the hour of attendance on Sabbath and week evening services, and Sabbath School.

The motto of the Bell thus obtained is the following:—

"All who hear my lusty booms, Come to Church and none stay at home."

The Bell is of cast steel far superior in power of tone and quality, as also in cheapness, to composition bells. This bell will be heard at a distance of ten or twelve miles.

Canada.

In Canada it is reported that Judge Bowes is about to retire from the Chief Justiceship, and it is rumored that Hon. Mr. Ross is likely to succeed him.

A committee has been appointed in Toronto to organise an institution for the Deaf and Dumb. Montreal Witness.

The Toronto Globe says the Grand Trunk Railway is likely to make another demand on the Canadian Government for £1,500,000, to be taken out in increased charges on carrying the mails.

The Canadian Legislature has appropriated \$57,500 to defray the expenses of the militia of the colony. \$21,000 is appropriated to pay the men for six days' drill in the year; \$24,000 for great coats and clothing; and \$12,500 for the extraordinary expenses of the militia connected with the visit of the Prince of Wales to Canada.

OTTAWA AND THE ROYAL VISIT.—The citizens of Ottawa, the future metropolis of British North America, have decided that the sum of £2000 be taken from the City funds, to carry out arrangements to give a suitable reception to the Prince of Wales. The Committee have agreed to erect Arches, &c., at proper situations throughout the city. The illumination of the City. Fireworks, and Torchlight Procession, Public Procession. Public Amusements, Canoe Races, Lumberers Aquatic Procession, Indian Game, Running the Stiles, &c., &c.