

report is put in circulation by some unprincipled man, from motives of self-interest or of envy, all who aid in disseminating it, become in a measure participants in the crime and guilt.

On this point, in my opinion, the editors of public journals occupy a position of deep responsibility. When one who duly appreciates veracity sees a statement published in a paper, either anonymously or over the signature of the writer, and is aware that the editor knows it to be untrue, he cannot avoid regarding such editor as an intentional abettor of falsehood.

It may be thought a sufficient redress to allow an injured party to reply. But this idea is incorrect. When a slanderous report is published it usually reaches many who can never be reached by a refutation of it.

Controversialists, especially when attempting to maintain untenable positions, are exposed to a strong temptation to deviate from strict veracity by designedly misrepresenting the views or arguments of their opponents.

While it is manifestly important that every person should invariably speak the truth, writers for the press and publishers should especially bear in mind, that they are writing and publishing "for eternity."

As ever, yours in Christ.

CHARLES TUPPER.

Aylesford, Jan. 25th, 1860.

For the Christian Messenger.

Ordination Service in Falmouth.

On Tuesday the 24th inst, Bro. David Shaw, Licentiate of the Falmouth Church, was ordained to the work of the Christian Ministry.

The following brethren composed the Council, namely, from the Falmouth Church, Brethren William Shaw, Andrew Shaw, Michael Messenger, Dea. Bacon, Lewis Payzant, George Biter, Joel Payzant, and Geo. Young ; from the Hantsport Church, Rev. W. Burton, and brethren Andrew Lockhart, W. H. Shaw, N. T. Harris, William Davidson and B. Pitts ; from the Windsor Church, Rev. D. M. Welton and Dea. D. Mosher ; from the Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot Church, Rev. Robert Walker ; from the Nictaux Church Bro. Saml. Spinney ; and from the 2nd Horton Church, Dea. Jno. Payzant.

Bro. Shaw having related his Christian experience, his views of Christian doctrine &c., all which was quite satisfactory, the Council, after a short consultation, voted unanimously to proceed to his ordination.

The Ordination Sermon was preached by the writer from Heb. ii. 3 ; Rev. W. Burton asked the questions ; Rev. R. Walker offered the ordaining prayer ; and the Charge to the Candidate and Right-hand of fellowship were given by the writer. May our dear Brother be very successful in winning souls to Christ !

D. M. WELTON, Sec. of Council.

For the Christian Messenger.

Remarkable and sudden death.

On Tuesday the 17th inst, I attended at Hammonds Plains the funeral of a Miss Haverstock whose decease was the unexpected end of a brief illness. Among those who assisted in carrying the corpse to the grave there was a very tall young man of somewhat prepossessing

appearance. One week from that day I buried that young man. On the day of the funeral he was in perfect health. The next day he worked as usual and appeared cheerful. In the evening as he was dressing to go to a party at a neighbouring house, he complained of not feeling well and from the advice of his mother remained home. In the course of the night he suffered intense pain in one of his knees. The only explanation he could give was that on a previous night in going to rest he had grazed the knee against the bedstead and knocked off a small piece of skin. That trivial injury caused his death. Inflammation set in, and on Sunday morning he was a corpse. In attributing his death to so slight a cause, I am supported by the authority of two medical gentlemen of established reputation in this city. Those who understand the anatomy of the human system, will readily acquiesce in their opinion. Truly we are "fearfully and wonderfully made." Who among the careless that read this will take it as warning to prepare to meet God. In such an hour as ye think not His messenger will come.—Com. by the Rev. A. H. Munro.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

I send for insertion the following short obituary, which appeared in one of the Island papers, by Bro. Davis.

W. H.

DEACON ROBERT JONES.

Deacon Robert Jones, of Lot 49, P. E. Island, died on Friday the 25th Nov. He was born at Hawkhead, near Paisley, Scotland, April 26th, 1779. At the time of his death therefore he was in his 82d year. He emigrated to this island in the year 1800, half a century ago. For some years he wrought as a house joiner in this city. Forty two years since in the year 1817 he settled on Lot 49. With the aid of his growing family he subdivided the forest land and cleared the farm on which he resided to the day of his death. Upwards of thirty years ago, before the formation of any Temperance Society on the Island, he adopted the principle of total abstinence, to which he constantly adhered to the close of his days. When Temperance Society came into operation here, he rendered them in every way hearty and efficient aid. About twenty-five years since he joined the little Baptist Church in his immediate neighbourhood and soon after became a deacon of the same Church. His profession was warm and steady. He lived and died, "An Israelite indeed in whom was no guile." When his brethren were destitute of pastoral aid he did his best to supply the deficiency. Towards his brethren at large he ever exercised an open handed hospitality and was still ready for every good word and work. He has left behind him a memory which will not soon perish. Six children, fifty three grand children and twenty nine great grand children, eighty eight in all constitute his existing posterity ; may they all tread in his steps, and at length follow him to a better world. His death was improved on Lord's day, the 27th of Nov., at the Meeting House so long familiar to his presence to a full and attractive audience. Text—Job 1. 26, "Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age like as a shock of corn cometh in its season."

J. D.

JAMES MCNEILL.

Died at Cavendish, 21st. Dec., Brother James McNeill, member of the Baptist Church, aged 72 years. He was suddenly removed from this world by disease of the heart while occupied in making arrangements for his brother's funeral. Mr. Daniel McNeill leaves three sons and three daughters and a large circle of relatives to mourn their loss. Brother McNeill experienced religion in early life and was baptized by Rev. Mr. Scott and with six others united himself in church fellowship as a small Baptist Church in Cavendish. Though no progress was made by addition to its numbers yet our departed Brother ever remained firm to his religious principles, welcoming the missionary to his hospitable dwelling, and ready to give of his means to sustain the cause of God. Thus death is removing our aged members, and if the Lord does not interpose for us in a signal manner on this Island, our small churches will lose their visibility. Cavendish church organized years ago with seven members is no more, and others will soon be extinct when the few old members die. We want more ministerial labour here, men that will give their whole souls to the work, whose labours the Holy Ghost will honour in the conversion of souls.

W. HALL.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY, January 30.

The speaker took the chair at 12 o'clock. Hon. Attorney General explained that the Government had been under a misapprehension respecting the hon. member for Victoria, (Mr. Munro.) The matter then would be dropped.

Hon. Mr. Young asked permission to substitute an amendment for the one he had brought forward on Saturday last. He referred to the case of Mr. Uniaoke in 1830, the member for Cape Breton having been petitioned against on the ground of having no property qualification, which case was sent to a committee. He

would say deliberately and firmly, that in his judgment, the hon. Attorney General was asking the house to take a course for which there was no authority, either in the English House of Commons or in our own Legislature. He (hon. Attorney General) was placing his party in a false and untenable position, which it was impossible to defend before any constituency in Nova Scotia. Was there any example to be found in the English Parliament or any colonial Assembly, of allowing several days to pass by without moving an answer to the speech ?

Hon. Provincial Secretary promised to show to the hon member for Cumberland abundant precedent for a Legislature sitting twice as long as the Nova Scotia Assembly had, without moving an answer, and occupied just in the same manner with a case of an ineligible member.

Hon. Mr. Young replied that, if there was such, it was a very bad example. He then proceeded to state—he could not possibly conceive that so egregious a blunder, and enormous a crime, as a dissolution, could be perpetrated under existing circumstances. There was an evident desire on the part of the Government to place the majority in a false position with the Governor, and thereby bring on a dissolution. But that should not be done if he could help it.

Hon. Attorney General replied that the gentleman had no right to impute such a motive to the Government, who had brought forward a resolution, which in their opinion should be carried. If it was defeated or not, would depend on the votes of certain persons, who were unentitled to vote.

Mr. Tobin considered that the government had a right, a constitutional right, to question the right of any member to sit in the house. Every member must be qualified under the law of the land.

Mr. Mosely wished to know the facts and figures for the statement, that had fallen a little while ago from the Provincial Secretary, that the government was supported by a majority of the votes of the people. He then referred to the hon. member for Halifax (Mr. Tobin,) who he stated had notoriously received forty votes out of Dockyard Lane, while the fact was there was only one voter living in Dockyard Lane.

Mr. Longley hoped that gentlemen would not continue discussing irrelevant matters, but would go on with the business.

Hon. Mr. Howe expressed his opinion, that the moment a committee was formed, three seats for Halifax would be declared disqualified. One hon. gentleman (Mr. Tobin) sat in the house by just such transactions as that mentioned by the hon. member for Lunenburg. The house adjourned until 3 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Mr. Tobin said, that a gentleman had given a statement to-day, concerning the Halifax election, which made it his (Mr. T's) duty to lay some information on the table of the house, that might cause hon. gentlemen to be more careful in future how they advanced statements. He understood the gentleman from Lunenburg to say that he had seen the poll books for the city, and that 30 persons had voted for him (Mr. Tobin) out of Dockyard Lane.

Mr. Mosely—I have not seen the poll books, but I said what I heard, and intimated that I had as good a right to make a bald statement as the hon Provincial Secretary.

Mr. Tobin went on. He said a similar statement had been made at Bridgetown in June last.—Since the morning, he had met the Sheriff, and asked for the names of all who had voted for Ward No 6 last election ; and those who had voted in Dockyard Lane, and who for. The member for Windsor spoke of the member for Halifax sitting illegally, and that any fair committee would set his election aside. He (Mr. T.) was willing, that not only a committee, but the whole house, should examine and decide on that ; and he would submit to the decision. The statement of the Sheriff was, that for Dockyard Lane 15 votes were given for Brine and Bell ; and for Tobin, Shannon, and Pryor, 7 votes, from the Dockyard and Lane. How then could any man of public position make and repeat such statements as had been heard on that subject.—Concerning the disturbance spoken of as occurring at Ward 6, he was at the hustings at Ward 5, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of the election, and was told that the officers holding the election at Ward 6 had removed the poll from where it had been placed by the Sheriff, and put it at the back of a lane, which was so crowded that the people could not go to or from it. He would now lay on the table of the house, the poll book, the minutes of the Sheriff, and the Sheriff's note. If more information was required, it was on hand.

Hon Mr Howe said, that assuming all that had been stated, he had as much right to question the legality of the gentleman's seat as any other had to challenge other seats. In Hants county, where there were comparatively few number of voters, hostile to the majority, they were allowed freely to vote as they pleased, without an uncivil word being said to them.

Hon Attorney General spoke of the great waste of time by bringing irrelevant questions before the house, as he said, was the habit of the member for Windsor.

Hon Mr Howe contended that his remarks were relevant to the question before the house.

Mr Esson remarked that it would have been well if the Sheriff of Halifax had acted in other parts of the country, as he said he had acted here. The hon Attorney General said that he saw illegibility branded on the faces of gentlemen on this side ;—there is nothing of the kind branded on my face. It might be well for some at the opposite side if they could say the same. Until the proper tribunal said he (Mr E) was not qualified, there he would remain.

Mr. Cochrane considered it his duty to state to the house some particulars in reference to his

own position. The hon Attorney General, on Saturday, stated that there was no doubt about the intelligibility of the member for North Hants. If the Attorney General's information, concerning the disqualification of the member for Queen's is as wide of the mark as that about the member for North Hants, then there was great reason to doubt the disqualifications of that gentleman also. A certificate was laid on the table to show that he (Mr. Cochrane) was coroner of the county, and had drawn pay as such. He also had obtained a certificate, and it stated that the only penny of public money which he ever drew for holding an inquest was as justice of the peace in the year 1858, although he had assisted at other inquests in former years also as justice of the peace.

He (Mr.C.) had been asked by what right he took his seat in that house. He would answer, that he took his seat there by the votes of the intelligent electors of the North Riding of the county of Hants. The majority was obtained on his part by the almost unsolicited action of a free people. That was the right by which he held his seat in the house, and he would continue there, until those who sent him gave intimation that he ought to withdraw. He denied the right of gentlemen composing a majority, and acting without the consent of the people, to fill places in that branch. If illegibility appeared on his countenance, as had been said by the Attorney General, by what species of legerdemain would that hon. member attempt to qualify him (Mr.C.) for a seat in the other end of the building? Not long since, if he were not much mistaken, such a change was thought possible or desirable.

If he were tried by the proper tribunal, and if found wanting, he would obey, and would appeal again to the independent electors of the North Riding of the county of Hants, who were never found wanting in the hour of peril ; and if they should intimate that they no longer wanted his services, he would retire into private life, with a pleasing reflection, that in the time of trial, he did what he could to maintain and hand down the principles of the British constitution, and of Protestant religion which was the bulwark of that constitution.

Hon Provincial Secretary.—No doubt the hon gentlemen would be a valuable acquisition to either end of the building ; for the credit of the country he was glad to see the opposition benches occupied by gentlemen of ability, although their tenure of peace might not be uninterrupted ; he was pleased to see gentlemen returned to the house who brought such good sense and excellent address as the hon member had exhibited on the present occasion. He felt some apology was required on his part for trespassing again on the attention of the house, but as the question had assumed a higher character than at first, he felt necessitated to address them once more. From the declarations that had fallen from both sides of the house, it was evident that they were not simply discussing a desultory motion, but were speaking to the whole country, as well as to the members of the Legislature, on a question of the greatest importance that had ever been submitted to any deliberative body of men. The hon member for Windsor on Saturday night had announced that it was the determination of gentlemen sitting on the opposition benches, and having a majority of the house, to retain their seats, and to prevent the motion of the leader of the government from passing. He went further and said that the amendment made was substantially a motion of want of confidence in the administration. The question, was simple and unmistakable, and should be approached with a gravity becoming its importance.

He maintained they were discussing a question of far higher moment than who is, or who is not, to be in the government of Nova Scotia. It was of comparatively small moment whether the leader of the opposition—whose ample means made it a matter of indifference—should reach the goal of his ambition or not. It was but a matter of small moment whether the hon leader of the government should attain what was the legitimate object of his ambition. It was acknowledged no one had reached a higher legal status than that gentleman ; it was well known that he had, for many long years, stood forward, fighting the battles of his country with the best energy he possessed—passing by and refusing the highest judicial honors in the power of the crown to bestow. It was, also, but of small moment whether the hon member for Windsor should return back to an official position ; no man who knew him, but was aware that he could have devoted himself to other pursuits than to the public services with far greater advantage. He would also faint believe that he himself, by falling back on the profession to which he belonged could render himself independent, and make the emoluments of office an object of comparative indifference. It was, indeed, but a question of inferior magnitude who were or were not to compass the government—whether the functions were to be discharged by the present gentlemen or by the opposition.

There was a question of graver importance to be submitted to the legislature ; it was, what are or are not the legitimate functions of the Assembly under the constitution which we enjoy ?

He confessed he did not see much force in the statements which fell from the hon member for Cumberland, that there was no precedent for the question before the house ; it was hardly to be expected that there should be such, when a similar case had never before arisen. He would here observe that inasmuch as the whole functions of the government and the largest interests of the country are involved in the vote which the legislature was about to give, it was but a fair and pertinent enquiry to make, whether those who were to engage in that vote were entitled legitimately to do so. If it was found that they were not qualified, under the law and the constitution, to sit in the Assembly, it was then but proper and requisite that every lawful means should be