

only their own compositions. None could hear it without being impressed with the high moral tone and correctness of the sentiments expressed—all who heard the one read on the 25th inst. must have noticed the marked improvement over the former number, and considering that the Institution has only been in operation two terms, the paper reflected the highest credit upon all concerned.

The experience and attainments—and the devotion of the Principal to the interests of her pupils—the efficiency of all connected with the Institution,—also the moderate terms for board and tuition offer the strongest inducements to public confidence and patronage, and I have no doubt it will shortly become (as it deserves to be) one of the most popular Institutions of a similar character in the country. That the beneficial influence already resulting from it may indefinitely extend, and the wishes of all concerned be fully realized, is the desire and expectation of

A FRIEND.

For the Christian Messenger.

MESSESS. EDITOR,—

As a number of the Council deem it necessary, we send the following minutes for publication in the Christian Messenger.

KEMPT, Q. C., Jan. 10th, 1861.

An ecclesiastical council, called by the Church, convened at the Kempt Meeting House this day at 11 o'clock.

Organised by choosing James Ford, Moderator, and George S. Parker, Clerk.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Foslay.

The following churches were represented by the following Brethren as delegates:

- Milton Church: Rev. E. F. Foslay, Bro. Allen Kempton, James Ford, John T. Truman, Benj. Kempton.
- Brookfield Church: Rev. Thos. Delong, Bro. Peleg Murry, Thos. Christopher, Uriah Johnson, Danl. McPherson.
- Liverpool Church: Bro. James DeWolf, Geo. S. Parker.
- Port Medway Church: Bro. Matthew Park.

The Church on motion, resolved to abide the decision of the Council.

The Church then made known to the Council the difficulties existing among them in respect to the Rev. T. Keillor.

1st. As to his membership in the Kempt Church.

2nd. As to his Doctrine.

3rd. As to retaining him another year as Pastor while a large minority are opposed.

The Council after hearing what Mr. Keillor had to say in the matter, retired for deliberation and were unanimous in their recommendations as expressed in the following Resolutions.

That whereas, The vote taken to receive Mr. Keillor as member of the Kempt Church was not unanimous (and it is in accordance with Baptist usage that it should be).

Therefore resolved, That in our opinion he is not a member of the Kempt Church.

And whereas, Mr. Keillor having stated that there is no promise in the Bible that the Holy Spirit is ever given to enable the sinner to believe the Gospel, and that the sinner independently of any direct divine influence must believe and receive the truth in order to be saved.

Therefore Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Council that he is unsound on that point, and would recommend the Church to discontinue his labours. And would also recommend Mr. Keillor to retire from this field and that he become more intimately acquainted with the doctrines of the Bible before taking charge of another Church.

JAMES FORD, Moderator. GEORGE S. PARKER, Clerk.

HOME MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

For the Christian Messenger.

MONTHLY MEETING OF HOME MISSIONARY BOARD.

Members present at the meeting on Monday April 1st.

Brother J. W. Nutting in the Chair. Rev. W. H. Humphrey, Rev. A. H. Munro Brethren J. Whitman, W. L. Evans, and R. N. Beckwith.

Communications received during the past month.

From Rev. A. S. Hunt, Rev. Benj. Scott, and Brother James M. Parker.

Amount of funds in the Treasury - \$56 71/2 Liabilities of the Board about - 460 00

Received by the Treasurer during the month.

From the Wentworth Church - \$6 50 " Truro Church - 28 00 " 1st. Cornwallis Church - 24 00 " Jacob S. Layton - 4 00

R. N. BECKWITH, Sec. H. M. Board.

Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

YARMOUTH, April 1st, 1861.—Dear Brother,—You will be pleased to hear that the Lord's work is being revived amongst us. God has heard the prayers of his children, and has visited Yarmouth with a "shower of blessing." Saints have been quickened, backsliders reclaimed, and sinners, we trust, truly converted to God. The work is chiefly among the young. A considerable number have united with the Wesleyan church. We also have had repeated accessions by baptism. On Sabbath, March 10th, 1 baptized 6; on Sabbath, March 17th, 5; and yesterday, after the morning service, 9 persons (7 males and 2 females) were "buried with Christ in baptism." It was truly delightful to see so many in the morning of life, devoting themselves to the service of the Redeemer. Last evening we had a crowded congregation; after the sermon, we had a meeting for prayer and exhortation. It was a season of "refreshing from the presence of the Lord," many appeared solemnly impressed with a sense of eternal things. The work appears only begun, several others are awaiting baptism, and many are enquiring after salvation. My earnest prayer is, that the work may be deep, genuine, and lasting in its influence. To God alone be all the glory.

Brother Burton baptized 2 yesterday at Chebogue; brother Stubbart also has had several baptisms in connexion with the church at Deerfield. May the good work spread.

Yours truly,

HENRY ANGELL.

HANTSPOUR.—Messrs. Editors.—The last winter has truly been a pleasant one to us, as a Church and community. We can say that we have sat "in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."

A few months since the little cloud appeared "like a man's hand," but the heavens soon became black, and not only drops but showers have fallen upon the heritage of God. Of a truth the blind have been made to see, and the dumb not only to talk, but also to sing. Ninety-five have been baptized and eleven otherwise received, viz., by letter, restored, &c. Brother Welton spent last Sabbath with us. He baptized six and preached twice.

The baptism was exceedingly solemn and impressive. Brother Rand has very kindly and readily assisted, especially in administering the ordinances, when at home.

How especially powerful does the Spirit of God appear among the people in time of revival! How large and earnest the petitions at a throne of Grace, and what strong faith appears to be exercised in presenting them. How easy to preach; at such times having not only the theory of the gospel, but the power, the Spirit, and the love thereof.

May the Lord still carry on his work.

Yours truly in Christ,

J. H. LANGILLE.

Hantsport, April 3, 2861.

EPISCOPALIANISM IN ENGLAND.—THE CONVOCATION.—A debate of some length took place in the Upper House of Convocation last week, on a motion to empower the Lower House to constitute a committee to consider the book called "Essays and Reviews," and to report thereon. On a division the motion was carried. Their lordships may thus be considered to have virtually condemned the volume. In the Lower House a gravamen on the subject was presented in favour of a committee. A motion in favour of revision of the Prayer-book after a long discussion, was withdrawn.—The Archbishop of Canterbury received on Wednesday an address from 8,000 clergymen, against the rationalistic teaching of the seven clerical authors of "Essays and Reviews." The Archbishop condemned those productions as subversive of Christianity; but remarked that it was very difficult to take ecclesiastical proceedings.

It is stated that an extraordinary demand for the incriminated volume has set in since last Wednesday, consequent upon the publication of the report of the Deputation to Lambeth Palace. 14,000 copies of the work have been sold. The new edition is composed of 5,000 copies. A very copious polemical literature, consisting chiefly of replies, more or less formal, to the arguments and allegations contained in "Essays and Reviews," has sprung up within the last week or two.

WESLEYAN.—The Wesleyan Missionary Society employs 763 missionaries, besides 967 catechists and salaried schoolmasters, on 509 principal or central stations, in the West Indies, Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland the Hudson's Bay Territories, British Columbia, and Vancouver's Island; among the Irish in their own language; in Gibraltar, France, and Switzerland; in West and South Africa; in Ceylon and Continental India; in China; in Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand; and in the Friendly Islands and Fiji. The expenditure for

259 was 126,504L. The society is chiefly supported by constant and regular weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual subscriptions from persons of all ranks. A large portion of the sum raised annually to send out and support missionaries is produced by weekly subscriptions of a penny and upwards, by persons comparatively poor.—London paper.

SIXTY MASSES FOR TWOPENCE HALFPENNY.—The following advertisement respecting cheap prayer has recently been published in France:—"Sixty masses for twopence halfpenny, or twelve masses per annum for five years. The money that may be realised by this means will be employed, under the superintendence of the Bishop of Laval, on the finishing and furnishing of the parochial church of our Lady of the Immaculate Conception at Audouille. These sixty masses will be celebrated in the said church, commencing on May 1st, 1861, on the days, and for the purposes which follow, and also in honour of the immaculate Mary and St. Prosper the Martyr. I. For the private purposes of the subscribers. 1. St. Stephen's day, (first martyr). 2. Ash Wednesday; 3. St. Joseph's day. II. For the deceased children, parents and friends of the subscribers. 1. St. Mark's day; 2. Holy Thursday; 3. The day of St. Louis of Gonzague. III. For the preservation of the property of the subscribers. 1. Rogation Monday; 2. Rogation Tuesday; 3. Rogation Wednesday. IV. For the peace and prosperity of the church. 1. Assumption day; 2. St. Michael's day; 3. Christmas-eve. And thus during five years, the subscribers may obtain the benefit of sixty masses, and all for only twopence halfpenny. Signed by J. B. Heslot, Curate of Audouille."

Provincial Parliament.

Official Correspondence.

The following Correspondence appeared in the last No. of The Royal Gazette. We gave a brief paragraph last week concerning the Petitions to which reference is made. We have learned nothing further since they were presented, on Thursday last, than that the number of signatures appended to the petitions from fourteen counties amounted to 20,883, and that other petitions have arrived since these were presented to His Excellency, making 24,001.

Halifax, Thursday, 28th March, 1861.

MY LORD,—

On behalf of the gentlemen who in the Assembly oppose the Government, and who, on Saturday last united in dividing against them, on a vote of want of confidence, (the Resolutions sustained by the Opposition on that occasion I appeal) I beg to request that your Excellency will give to these Gentlemen and myself, an audience for affording the opportunity to present petitions from the different Counties, praying Your Excellency to dissolve the present Assembly. Tuesday next is the day I beg to suggest for this purpose, as that on which we expect the petitions to be pretty generally sent forward, and on which some of our Members will have returned from a short absence in the country, but in this particular we submit ourselves to Your Excellency's convenience.

The publication of Your Lordship's Despatch of June last informed the country that you had been misled by their silence, and in response to constant appeals from all parts of the Country, petitions were prepared, and sent to the different Counties to be signed by those who were desirous of communicating their sentiments to Your Excellency, in condemnation of the Government.

Notwithstanding the difficulty of circulating petitions in a sparsely settled country, when at this season of the year a large number of the inhabitants are almost daily absent from their homes, engaged in the woods and distant parts of their farms, yet, stimulated by the assurances which Your Excellency had given in your despatch written after the defeat of the Government in Cumberland and Victoria, that any further diminution of strength would involve an appeal to the people, this movement has produced a result which will place undoubted evidence before Your Lordship that you accurately gauged the public sentiment of this Province, when you expressed the opinion to the Secretary of State that an appeal to the people must take place before the questions in controversy, which have so long agitated them, could be satisfactorily settled.

The petitions which have already reached Halifax are signed by a number of electors, which, in proportion to the whole number in the Province, is, I believe, without parallel in any country on any similar occasion, and cannot fail to impress Your Lordship with the fact, that the spirit which animated Cumberland and Victoria at the recent elections is universally diffused, and is irrepresible.

I need not remind Your Lordship that you already have the evidence in your hands, that two Members who support the Government, in doing so, have failed to represent the constituencies that elected them—Digby and Argyle; and that over 900 of the electors of another County—Guysborough,—including many who at the General Election supported the Government, have informed Your Lordship that that County longs for the opportunity, by a dissolution, of expressing its want of confidence in the Government and the Members now representing it.

The Opposition, my Lord, on Saturday last, on the division numbered twenty-five. They are now reduced to twenty-four, by the Report of a partisan majority of an Election Committee, which being unable to find a single charge against Mr. Charles J. Campbell, the Member for Victoria, yet hesitated not to unseat him on a technical ground arising from an alleged irregularity on the part of the Sheriff of his Deputy, but which neither affected Mr. Campbell's character or conduct, nor the merits of the election.

The tabular statement Your Lordship sent to the Colonial Secretary in June, showing at the General Election a majority against Mr. Campbell of 509, evinces your knowledge of the extent of that gentleman's triumph in December last, and of the reaction which must have occurred in public opinion in that County, especially judging of the opinion of constituencies by the rule adopted by Your Excellency last year.

We shall therefore, my Lord, in meeting you, exhibit the opinions of twenty-five of the People's Representatives, and the evidence we expect to present to you of the sentiments of the people, in addition to what you now possess, will, I believe, be of such a character as will leave no doubt that the time foreshadowed in your despatch has now at last come, when the solutions of the questions that agitated the country should be placed in the hands of the people, and that an early dissolution of the Assembly is the only constitutional means by which the country can be delivered from a condition of public affairs most disastrous to the Provincial interests.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. JOHNSTON.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE EARL OF MULGRAVE, &c., &c., &c.

Government House, 30th March, 1861.

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th inst., asking me to receive the Members of the Opposition on Tuesday next, in order that they may present to me petitions from the Country, praying me to dissolve the present House of Assembly.

In reply, I have to inform you, that I shall be happy to see any members of the House of Assembly who wish to accompany you, at one o'clock on Tuesday, and any petitions they may present to me will receive that attention and consideration which is due to any opinion expressed by a large portion of the inhabitants of Nova Scotia.

At the same time, however, it must be distinctly understood, that I shall pledge myself to nothing, but shall hold myself perfectly free to adopt hereafter whatever course I may consider it my duty to take.

As I am the person responsible for the exercise of the Royal Prerogative, so must I be the judge of when or how it ought to be used.

There are, however, some points in your letter which I cannot pass over in silence.

I must, in the first place, protest against the interpretation you have put upon my Despatches,—an interpretation which is justified neither by the language or the context.

The reference to the absence of petitions in my Despatch, No. 69, referred to a fact at that time which no one can controvert, and has nothing to do with anything which may have since taken place.

In a Country like this, where parties are nearly balanced, there must always be a large body of the inhabitants who are dissatisfied with the Government of the day, and who would not be unwilling to petition against them.

The further diminution of strength which I stated in my despatch No. 1, of the 8th of January "I thought would necessitate either a reconstruction of the Government, or a dissolution," could only refer to a diminution of strength in the House of Assembly, as that is the only test of the strength of a Government known to the British Constitution, and therefore, unless this expression has been perverted from the meaning which it evidently bore in the despatch, it could not have stimulated the signatures to the present petitions.

With regard to the petition from Guysborough, it is true that I have received one with about 900 names attached to it, but a large number of them were signed in the same hand writing, and I have also seen memorials from many of those whose names were attached to it, some stating that their signatures were obtained by misrepresentation, and others that their names were attached without either their knowledge or consent.

Mr. Charles Campbell has been unseated by the only tribunal which by law has a right to decide on a controverted election. I have not seen the evidence, but I accept the decision as the decision of the only Court appointed by law to try the question. If the tribunal is faulty or bad, it is in the power of the Legislature to alter it, but till that is done its decisions ought to be respected; and I am confident that any one in the House of Commons imputing party motives to decisions of a committee would incur the severe displeasure of the House, as was shewn in the case of the late Mr. O'Connell, who was reprimanded in his place by the Speaker on the 26th February, 1838, by order of the House, for that offence.

Mr. Campbell will have another opportunity of testing the constituency of Victoria, and there is little use in considering the amount of that gentleman's triumph till after that event.

With regard to the members for Digby and Argyle it is the undoubted principle of the British constitution that a member once returned by a constituency has to consider what he believes to be the interests of the whole country, and not the simple wishes of his own constituency. He is elected a representative, and not a delegate, and the constituency have given up to him for the limited period fixed by law for the duration of the Parliament, the power which they possessed. They have a right to represent to him their views, and to refuse to reelect him at the end of the Parliament if they are dissatisfied with his conduct; but they have no right during the duration of the Parliament to coerce his actions, still less have they the right to expect that the Royal Prerogative should be used because they are dissatisfied with the choice they have made.

Of this, however, you may rest assured, the moment I conceive that a constitutional necessity for a dissolution exists, I shall not hesitate to make an appeal to the country, but so long as I remain Her Majesty's Representative in Nova Scotia, I shall claim to be the judge of when that time has arrived.

(Signed) MULGRAVE.

Hon. J. W. JOHNSTON.