

Quite a storm is raging in the two morning papers, the organs of the political parties, over a company recently formed in England, called the "Nova Scotia Land and Gold Crushing and Amalgamating Company," of which two members of the Government,—the Honbls. William Annand and Benjamin Wier—are Directors. It appears that the Prospectus of the Company has been published in several of the English papers, and holds out flattering prospects to Shareholders, such as the following:

"In 1861 John Arthur Phillips, Esq., F. G. S., the mineralogist and mining engineer, was sent to Nova Scotia with instructions to survey the gold yielding districts, and to select the most eligible sites for the purchase of lands for mineral sets, and for stamps and amalgamating works. Guided by the opinion and advice of Mr. Phillips, based upon the knowledge gained by his personal inspection and investigation, upwards of 10,000 acres of freehold land were purchased at Tangier, and numerous grants obtained from the Government of mining sets in the richest and most favorable portions of the colony, namely, at Tangier, Lunenburg, Goldenville, Wine Harbour, &c. and a steam engine, stamps, and an amalgamating machinery of the most approved character were subsequently sent out, and are now in course of erection.

Character of Lands, &c.—The gold is found chiefly in a soft or friable quartz, easily worked, and in the alluvial deposits on the coast. The quartz contains from two to 10 ounces of pure gold per ton, and in some instances the quartz is so rich that the gold is taken away in the shape of nuggets.

The whole sea coast abounds with beautiful and safe harbours, but none excel Spry and Pope's harbours, commanded by the Company's property.

The contract includes valuable and exclusive water rights.

Large sums are being realized by individuals from resale of their grants; and in every way the colony is rapidly advancing in wealth.

The Company has entered into a contract for the purchase of the whole of the above-mentioned 10,000 acres of land, and all the mining sets and grants, stamps, steam engines, and amalgamating works, for the sum of £20,000, of which sum £7,500 is payable in cash, and the remainder in fully paid-up shares, one half of which, however, are to be retained until the Company has paid dividends equal to 10 per cent upon the paid-up capital.

Profits.—These will arise first from the resale and leasing for building, and other purposes, of the land already acquired, and the purchase and resale of other lands.

Secondly, from leases of the mining sets.

Thirdly, from the reduction of ores on the sets worked by the Company, estimated to yield a very large annual return.

And, fourthly, from steam crushers and amalgamators in reducing purchased ores or those for other proprietors of mines. From this source alone, and independent of other sources, taking as a basis a quantity of 200 tons per week, at £1 per ton profit, it is estimated that the Company will readily realize 20 per cent upon the capital.

The identification with the Directory of gentlemen holding high position in the colony furnishes the best guarantee that the local affairs of the company will be managed with that care and circumspection which an undertaking of this character requires."

It is argued by Messrs. Annand and Wier, in a letter over their signatures, and by the *Chronicle*, that this Company should be encouraged, as it will be the means of bringing capital and enterprise into the province, and of developing its resources. Some of the statements in the Prospectus are denied by the *Colonist*, and the above named gentlemen are charged with conveying to the British public impressions of Nova Scotia which will not be realized, and so the future interests of the province will be damaged. Mr. Wier has written to the Editor of the *Colonist* threatening him with prosecution for what has appeared in that paper condemnatory of this Company. Dr. Tupper has also published a letter to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, condemning Messrs. Wier and Annand for making use of their position in the government to aggrandize a Company such as this is described to be, and of which they are Directors, and of course large shareholders, and charging them with making various inaccurate statements.

We have no desire to enter into this matter, but as it will probably have some prominence in future political discussion, we have thought it desirable to inform our readers of its present aspect on both sides.

It is very undesirable that the progress of the province should be sacrificed to the advancement of a political party, and it would be no less undesirable that the future character and permanent welfare of the province should be destroyed by sending forth representations which would not be realized.

Our present number contains the last of the Series of "Letters to a Young Preacher" by Rev. Dr. Tupper. These letters have appeared each other week, with great regularity, in our columns, for nearly two years past; and although they have been extended over so lengthened a period, yet we doubt if one

of them could have been omitted without damaging the series. The distinctness in the subject of each, and their brevity combined, have rendered them not only valuable for those to whom they have been speculatively addressed but we doubt not the general reader has often found practical suggestions which he could peruse with profit, and bear in mind so as greatly to aid him in efforts of usefulness to his fellowmen.

The good which these letters may do is not confined to their first perusal. They will doubtless be frequently referred to as the expressions of the voice of experience in the Christian ministry, and may assist many in the discharge of solemn duties which need all the wisdom and prudence that can be gained by the study of God's Word and an enlarged acquaintance with men and things around us.

If he who is the means of causing two blades of grass to grow where only one before grew, has not lived in vain, but is a benefactor of his species, how greatly should we esteem those who, in the exercise of their sacred calling, turn the wilderness into a fruitful field and cause the desert to rejoice and blossom as the rose by making known the way of life and salvation.

The high estimate formed of the work of the Christian ministry, and the great need there is that all hindrances should be removed out of the way of those engaged in it, has, we believe, been the motive which has induced Dr. Tupper to enter upon and complete this labor of love.

We tender our thanks, and we believe we may include those of our readers generally, for his communications. We are glad to learn that he is contemplating other communications on subjects of interest.

**THE BIBLE UNION NOT BAPTIST.**—The following paragraph is from the *N. Y. Examiner*,—a Baptist paper, that has uniformly opposed the Bible Union:

"The *American Presbyterian* has departed from the candor with which other Presbyterian journals speak of the Baptists and the Bible Union. That journal tells its readers of a new version of the Bible which is being prepared under the auspices of the Bible Union of the Baptist denomination. The *Presbyterian* ought to know that the Baptist denomination, as such, has no more to do with the Bible Union than the Presbyterian Church has. The Bible Union itself does not claim to be a Baptist organization, and no action of the Baptist denomination has ever made it such."

Our subscribers, must not suppose our late statements respecting the advance in the price of paper is for the purpose of a sensation. We can assure them that we have said less on the subject than almost any our contemporaries. Meetings of editors and publishers were recently held in New York to see what could be done to meet the pressure. The newspapers represented, in these meetings, were the *Observer*, the *Evangelist*, the *Examiner*, the *Chronicle*, the *Christian Intelligencer*, the *Advocate and Journal*, the *Methodist*, the *Independent*, and the *Church Journal*, of New York, and the *Recorder*, the *Watchman and Reflector*, and the *Congregationalist* of Boston. The following is part of the result of their meetings:—

"The recent increase in the price of paper—from 50 to 100 per cent.—has made it an imperative necessity, on the part of publishers of newspapers, to suspend their issues, or to raise the terms of subscription, or to diminish the size of their sheets. The proprietors of religious newspapers in Boston and New York, having met in Convention, and carefully considered the whole subject, have resolved:

1. That it is just and necessary that the price of their several journals should be raised on the opening of another year, or the size of the papers reduced, to cover the increased cost of production.
2. That whatever advertising rates are offered by the respective papers should be more rigidly adhered to, and that notices of marriages and deaths, obituaries, statements and appeals by all societies and institutions soliciting funds from the public, should be paid for as advertisements.
3. That the law of the last session of Congress, levying a heavy tax on the materials of our business, and on the advertisements, and finally on the income of the publisher, is peculiarly oppressive upon newspapers, the circulation of which ought to be stimulated, and not curtailed, during the war.
4. That the religious press, in the management of its business, enlarging its circulation, and increasing its advertising patronage, ought to be governed, not only by the laws of trade, but by the highest Christian and fraternal principles."

As many of our readers may not see the other journals of this province we may remark that they are all, as they are in duty bound, making the difficulties known to their patrons.

The *Church Record* of last week says "that in consequence of a change in the paper trade, the charge for printing and publishing will be

considerably greater than it has hitherto been," therefore that "paper must of necessity cease on the last day of the present year."

The *Provincial Wesleyan* is calling for an additional five hundred subscribers to commence the New Year with as the remedy.

We hope that we shall not be obliged to adopt either of the alternatives we feared, but hope to have the fraternal sympathy of our brethren in seeking to get for us such a number of New Subscribers as shall render either unnecessary.

**News Summary.**

Another act has transpired in the bloody drama of the American internecine war. On Thursday the 11th inst., General Burnside, with the whole Army of the Potomac, crossed the Rappahannock, at Fredericksburg, in Virginia, and attacked the Confederate Army, who were strongly entrenched at a short distance from the river. The contest appears to have been an obstinate and bloody one, and after several hours fighting resulted in the complete repulse of the Federal forces, who recrossed the Rappahannock. They effected the passage of the river, which is narrow, without being pursued, favored by the stormy weather. The loss has been very great. The official report of Gen. Burnside makes it 1400 killed and 8000 wounded. Other accounts state it as high as 13,000 or upwards. It is not probable that the real truth will be known, as no reliance whatever can be placed on despatches, telegrams, or newspaper accounts. The position held by the Confederates, under Lee and Jackson, is said to have been an exceedingly well-chosen and strong one, occupying a semicircular range of hills of some miles extent. Some of the Northern papers affirm that the Federal army fell into a trap purposely laid for them by the Southern Generals. The City of Fredericksburg, a place of considerable size was bombarded by Burnside and almost destroyed, in crossing the river in his advance. None but such as have been eye-witnesses can form any adequate idea of the horrors and sufferings of such a conflict, at such a season of the year. We do not apprehend, however, having such experience as we have of the spirit and feelings which stimulate either party, that this battle will lead to any peaceful result.

The Federalists are reported to have obtained considerable successes in Arkansas, and to have suffered reverses in Tennessee.

**Notices, &c.**

**Annapolis Co. Ministerial Conference.**

The next meeting of the Annapolis Conference of Baptist Ministers will be held, D. V., at Granville Ferry, on Monday evening, the 29th Dec. A preaching service will be held in the Baptist Chapel, commencing at 6 1/2 o'clock, and on the following morning the ministers will meet in Conference. A full attendance is earnestly requested.

ISAIAH WALLACE, Secretary.  
Granville, N. S., Dec. 9th, 1862.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Colchester S. S. Convention will be held (D. V.) on Friday evening the 26th, at the Baptist Chapel, in Great Village. Superintendents, Teachers, and delegates to the Convention are earnestly desired to be in attendance.

T. H. RAND, Secretary.  
Dec. 18th, 1862.

In consequence of a Lecture to be delivered before the Young Men's Christian Association at Brooklyn, on Tuesday evening, the 30th Dec., the intended Donation Visit to the Rev Mr. Bancroft will take place on Wednesday, 31st December, instead of Tuesday, as before stated. Should Wednesday prove stormy, the first fine day after.

OLIVER DIMOCK.  
LEVI DIMOCK.  
ISAIAH DIMOCK.  
Newport, Dec. 22, 1862.

**ERRATUM.**—In the Obituary Notice, page 373, for "Edward Langley," read Edgar Langley.

**Colchester County Ministerial Conference and Quarterly Meeting.**

The next Colchester County Quarterly Meeting, will be held with the Baptist Church, at Great Village, commencing Saturday, the 27th inst., at 2 o'clock, P. M. There will be a Ministerial Conference at the Pastor's house, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

J. E. BALCOM.  
Great Village, Dec. 15th.

The members of the Foreign Missionary Board are respectfully requested to meet in Tremont, Aylesford, on Tuesday, the 13th day of Jan., 1863, at one o'clock, P. M.

CHARLES TUPPER, Secretary.  
Tremont, Dec. 13, 1862.

**Letters Received.**

- Rev. Geo. Armstrong, 30th.
- Rev. J. E. Balcom, 15th and 20th.
- John Broderic, Esq., 13th.
- W. H. Chipman, 28th, £2 5s.
- Jacob Layton, 11th, 20s.—Yes.
- Israel McNayr, 6th, 10s.
- 1 sub.
- Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, 18th.
- D. Mosher, 18th, £3.
- Alex. Fraser, 12th, 10s.
- Rev. D. M. Welton, 19th, and 20th, 7s. 6d.
- M. P. Freeman, 10th, 16s.
- 1 sub.
- Joshua Lewis, 15th.
- James Higgins, 18th.
- Robert Chambers, Esq., 18th, \$30.
- J. McLearn, 22nd, 12s. 6d.

**General Intelligence.**

**DOMESTIC.**

**THE WEATHER.**—Up to the past week we have scarcely had any thing that might be called winter weather, but on Friday night, Saturday and Sunday last, we had a sudden change which introduced us all at once to the frost king. In the course of two or three days the thermometer took a range of 60 or 70 degrees. On Saturday afternoon and evening it went as low as 10 or 12 below zero in Halifax. The harbor was covered with the *barber*,—steam rising in the form of a dense fog, common only in the severest weather,—which rendered it difficult to navigate, and we have heard of several persons who from exposure got their hands and faces badly frozen.

**SUDDEN DEATH.**—Mr. John H. Barteaux of Nictaux, on the 5th ult., was at Springfield on business. He was staying for the night at the residence of Israel McNayr, Esq. The next morning he was found in his bed-room partially dressed, but lying on the floor quite dead. A Coroner's inquest was held on the body, when a verdict was given, Died by the visitation of God.

**FATAL ACCIDENT.**—Amos Burton Smith, aged 16 years, only son of Deacon William and Louisa Smith, of Wentworth, Cumberland Co., immediately after dinner on Dec. 10 1862, loaded his gun for the purpose of hunting partridges, and sad to relate while in the act of raising it to an upright position, the gun went off, and the charge entered this young man's left cheek passing into the upper part of the head. He continued to breathe about one hour and a half. The deceased was a very amiable young man kind and obliging and highly esteemed by all who knew him. He had never made a profession of religion, but from his conversation with a friend, a short time before his death, and his daily deportment, those who best knew him have reason to hope that his peace was made with God. His death has cast a gloom over the community. May this strange dispensation of Providence be sanctified to us all and especially to the youth of this place. [Witness please copy.]

**THE LANCASHIRE OPERATIVES RELIEF FUND.**—The amount already acknowledged to the Fund from Halifax, exceeds \$16,000.

His Worship the Mayor acknowledges the receipt of \$301.25, the proceeds of the Concert given on Monday, the 8th inst.

The following sums have been subscribed in the Co. of Cape Breton:—Sydney, \$194.67; East side Sydney River, \$15; Block House Mines, Cow Bay, \$111.42; Sydney mines, \$601.35.

Latest advices from Yarmouth shew the amount subscribed at that place was little short of \$1,500.

Calcutta has remitted £9000; Victoria, in Australia, has subscribed upwards of £10,000.

**MEETING IN REFERENCE TO THE GOLD BILL.**—There was a meeting on Monday the 8th inst at Victoria Rooms, Hollis street, for the purpose of reconsidering several objectionable clauses in the present Gold Bill. It was deemed advisable that future applications for lots, be made directly to the local Commissioners, and that a license-fee system be instituted instead of payments as at present. A proposition was made to the effect that the clause limiting the quantity of land an individual could hold, should be struck out, and the compulsory labor now demanded be reduced in amount one-half. The meeting was presided over by Dr. Cogswell, with J. Outram, Esq., Secretary. The attendance owing to local causes, was very small.—Reporter.

**LAUNCH IN HALIFAX HARBOR.**—The brigantine *Clío*, built at Richmond for Messrs. L. & B. Willet of this city, by the Messrs. McPherson, was successfully launched at seven o'clock on Saturday morning last. She was rigged on the stocks.

The late Wm. Bauld, Sen. Esq., bequeathed the sum of \$400 to St. Andrews Church, to aid in defraying the debt upon it.

The old offices recently vacated by the Military authorities, situated in the rear of the Ball Court, are to be fitted up for a Soldier's Institute.

The entire property of the "Mic-Mac Gold Mining Company," consisting of a quartz crusher, claims, &c. was sold at auction last week to Mr. J. C. Lawler, of Dartmouth, for \$175. It is stated that the company had sunk over £2,000.

**SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY.**—One of the morning contemporaries says:—

An officer of the 16th Regt. begs to acknowledge the receipt of an anonymous letter containing ten dollars for the payment of a debt due to him, but of which he has not the slightest recollection.

**MECHANICS LIBRARY.**—This long-established and useful Institution is shortly to have its funds strengthened by means of a course of Lectures from several of its friends. The Rev. Geo. Hill, we learn, will open the course on January 8, with an address on the life and Character of the late chief Justice Haliburton. M. H. Richey and P. Lynch, Esqrs., have also consented to lecture. The time and subjects of their addresses will be duly notified.