d. The any inthe Corrm their

r a pre-ayed his appearnot coneir own suitable thought. e style of t in this

urchmen Churchake care les would be said, already, to before, r was he wise thing

o opposed s the juri-Was he eople, and? If not the differinterfered power as ie was by nis power. tand what ned mem-

was the ng to say tunate-it hurchman bill would pplication, this Legispossible to

at church-

and that

denominalause prohe Synod, ing its decould have of the Bill? he Clergyeneficial to k that the ese gertleey were doof England Bishop, lat to combine ined, inde-

pal Church ugbear, but it, because f himself.to a good me that the rnest desire ople? He ght that by efit of their hop have in ge body of mporal obhad taken,

on to common yesterthe bill by ynod. en the hon. this point. was subseal, and aceing admitstatement of select com-

the under-

ommittee of

at the parish

sh meeting, having been he bill, he ain why he ol. General Church peo-.) could exas obtained. had the op-

es to reprerish it very not be obhad to go inconstitute a me thing occe. Out of ented in the that were re. Was II the clergy beir arrival op no doubt

ave the bill; turally vote d not know he practical events, was in his parish. wake up by

the Church Wittess of March 18, 1863-

termine for themselves.")

Churchmen in the Province of Nova Scotia.

necessity for the bill? His Lordship, however, occupy. was not satisfied with his present power, but of valuable privileges, not only now but for gen- be excluded from the operation of the act.

ministers is mine, not yours; and I shall appoint ditions he had indicated existed.

a certain individual whether you like it or not." The house had been told of the

Scotia need fear a shot from them, and even it whole Body against it. defiance.—(Laughter.)

might not be called undue influence,—he (Mr. | nominations? beneath the dignity of a Bishop to do so.

His Lordship had also reminded the committee that the old Council of Twelve had obstructed public opinion for a long time, until they before the bill passed. were finally turned out; and hinted that if the

own affairs.

consider the consequence of enslaving 50,000 be time enough to grant the bill when the Church Churchmen, robbing them of their birthright for made a united application for it. against the bill, even if every other member of foresee the evils and difficulties it would entail on the Church people of this province.

HON. MR. PATTERSON'S SPEECH.

Hon Mr. Patterson said that the first question he asked himself was, where was the necessity for this bill? Had not the Church now the

to this debate, however, he had heard it stated very much pleased that the personal matter im-The Solicitor General had referred to the on high authority that they received this power ported into the discussion had been settled. He Presbyterian and Wesleyan Methodist Acts, and by special acts, and that they were to a very concurred with the Sol. General in deeply dehad tried to make it appear that the bill contain- great extent under the control of the Legisla- ploring this dissension in the Church. It was ed nothing more than those acts. To show ture. He was told that the Wesleyan body but right, however, to say that the responsibility that such was not the case he would read just were in such a position that they could not make of this agitation did not rest with the opponents two sentences referring to the bill, from the St. an important change in their constitution with- of the bill, but with these who initiated the out consulting the Leg slature. He had a right Synod movement. The Sol. General had spo-(The hon. gentleman then read as follows from to suppose, after what had been said in debate, ken, and had truly spoker, of the Baptists, as a "It binds all parishes that have been repre- position for any religious body to occupy. With ty. He (Mr. D.) would ask him if he had ever sented under the first constitution to retain their regard to the Prest yterian body, with which he heard of a bill being introduced to give legal connection with the Synod under this bill of in- was best acquainted, he was told that they met efficacy to the decisions of their Church courts. corporation, whether approving of it or protest- under an act similar to this, and he was pointed He (Mr. D.) could imagine the position which (Mr. P.) contended never in fact existed. But dent body. It did not, therefore, apply to the man. when you examined, analyzed, and stripped the Presbyterians. It was true that many Presbybill of its covering, you found a ravenous wolf terian congregations were incorporated under other denominations to do with this matter?" in sheep's clothing, calculated to destroy the it, but only as far as property was concerned. In reply to this question he (Mr. D.) could add freedom, liberty, and independence of 50,000 He was satisfied that if the Presbyterian body thought themselves under the control of Legis- (hor. Mr. Patterson), who had made his maiden His Lordship had told the committee the other lature by that act, they would, as one man, ask speech this evening. In the old times to which day that he had the Synod now, and had as much for the act to be repealed, and to be left to the hon. member from Pictou had alluded, so right now to hold his courts as any judge in govern themselves. That was the position great had been the jealousy of the Church of England. If that was the case, where was the which he thought all religious bodies should England that the whole province, from its centre

An act passed last session with regard to the celebrated parish bill, the object of which was pressed for this bill? Had not the house, then. Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces simply to divide a parish, and the hon. Solicitor just right to suppose that semething was to had been referred to, and the Solicitor General Gen. was himself one of the most violent oppogrow out of the bill to give him additional pow- had tried to make it appear that that act was er? A Bishop who had once obtained power similar to this. Before that act passed, a radical need not say that had the Church of England had never been known voluntarily to relinquish change had occurred in the Presbyterian body it. Bishops were mortal as well as parishioners, in this Province. Two large bodies of Presbyand they might, from the effects of an overtaxed terians hitherto separated had united in one brain, carried away by some fantastic notion or body. Did they ask the Legislature to sanction frenzy, do things which their parishioners, dis- that union? No, but simply to protect the approved. If a man possessed real estate, eitler property which now became vested in the united by purchase or inheritance, he seldom disposed body, it was thought desirable to have an act. of it without an equivalent. If he had privil- Was the object of that to enforce discipline, to eges they might be more valuable than proper- give legislative authority to the removal of ofty; and when once transferred he need never fice-bearers? No, there was no similarity what- adopted, as follows: expect to recover them. It was therefore ne- ever between that act and this. Even in that cessary to be cautious. Caution and prudence act so jealous had the Legislature been of inter-ceiver General, Hon. Messrs. Archibald, Pineo, had been his guide hitherto, and he thought the feren e with the rights of dissentients, that it Comeau, Whitman, Dickie, Almon, Patterson, house should be cautious how they passed a bill provided that any who had dissented from the Tupper, Holmes, Dickey, Black, Keith, Cutler. which would deprive Churchmen in Nova Scotia | Union, or should hereafter dissent from it, should -15.

With reference more particularly to the bill The Bishop had told the committee that this under consideration, if there were any doubts act was like the Canadian act. Now Church- as to how the Church was governed, and the men in Canada formerly possessed the right of Church unitedly asked for the bill,-(notwithchoosing their cwn minister; but when that act standing that he thought there was no necessity was passed, and a Synod was established in the for it, for he believed it to be a bad principle to diocese of Ontario, the patronage was handed be legislating for the government of churches) over to the Bishop, and he said to the parish of still he thought nobody would object to it. He Kingston, "The privilege of appointing your did not think, however, that either of the con-

The house had been told of the unanimity in He would not say that the present Bishop favor of the bill, and the Solicitor General had would abuse the power he would obtain if the attempted to show that unanimity. Where were Excelsior, or higher, still higher. bill were passed, but he had no lease of his lite. the proofs of it? 28, or about one half of the Though he (Mr. P.) hoped that he would live clergymen in the Province, had voted for the long it was possible that he might soon have a bill, and 7 against it. Presuming that these who were absent from the Synod were divided His Lordship had spoken of the canons of in sentiment in the same proportion as those 1603. They were pretty rusty now, and he present, there would be about 14, or one-fourth, (Mr.P.) did not think the Church people of Nova which was a considerable proportion, of the

his Lordship did tall back on them, he thought | Another piece of evidence against the assert there were Church people in Nova Scotia who ed unanimity was the report of the committee would march to the canon's mouth and bid him on the bill. That committee was composed of Churchmen, one from the city, one from the His Lordship had said that he had used no Eastern, and one from the Western part of the undue influence in pressing for the passage of Province. Had not the house a right to suppose the bill. It appeared that he had been before that those gentlemen, when they said there was the committee of the Lower House, and ad- a want of unanimity, had a better op ortunity dressed them for two or three hours. That of judging than members belonging to other de-

P.) would leave that question to the judgment A still further piece of evidence of the same His Lordship had compared this house to the elsewhere. Even Bishops were divided about old Council of Twelve, and had said that if this it. The Bishop had told the committee that he bill were not passed now, he would bring it up wanted this bill passed, because another Bishop P.'s) consent, however often it might be brought up a Synod when he did not want to do so, or to have him asking for a repeal of this act?

If there was to be agitation with regard to the bill, he thought it better that it should take place

It was said that if this bill were rejected, inpresent Council did not give the bill a favorable justice would be done to Churchmen. If he beconsideration, they might meet the same fate, lieved that that would be the case, he would be and have to give place to an elective body. the last man to vote against it. He did not This threat did not trouble him (Mr. P.) much. enter into the question of whether the bill gave He thought there was no more necessity for the Bishop more or less power. He knew that the bill now than there was 100 years ago; and Episcopalians thought that the Bishop should that the Church people of Nova Scotia had laws have power. Some of them might oppose the enough already to enable them to manage their bill, on the ground that it took power from the Bishop, others on the opposite ground. He did He had made these observations in discharge not think he was doing any injustice in allowing of his duty, and he trusted that the house would people to settle their own affairs; and it would

less than a mess of pottage, by giving power to the Bishop equal to the autocrat of Russia, and He disclaimed in the strongest terms any hostili-He had arrived at these views dispassionately. beyond the power of legislative enactment. He ty to the Church of England, either by word or only to that he felt for his own denomination; this house voted for it, because he could plainly and he could not do otherwise, when he considered the men of piety and intelligence formerly and still within her fold.

> A few remarks were made by the Hon. Messrs. Whitman, Holmes, and the Receiver General, after which

Hon. Mr. Dickey stated that, as no other genpower of governing themselves? He had tleman seemed to be desirous of addressing the thought that the different denominations had full house, he should close the discussion with a few

and bye, and see to what they had bound them- without coming to the Legislature. In listening solitary supporter of the bill. He (Mr. D.) was that this was so; but he thought it was a wrong body noted for their advocacy of religious liber-

ing against it. Instead therefore of its being a to Chap. 51 of the Revised Statutes, and told the learned gentleman would take if a large bill of incorporation for the existing Synod, it is that that chapter applied to the Presbyterians body of Baptist ministers came to this house for a bill imperilling the civil rights of the clergy, as well as to other denominations. Now any an act to enable them to enforce discipline on the connection of the laity with the Assembly, person at all acquainted with Presbyterians him. He (Mr. D.) could easily tancy the indigand the liberty of the parishes to judge and de- knew that the Presbyterian Church is governed nant tones with which he would reverse his by means of Church courts, and that those position and say, "No, I am a Baptist; I am The bill came here with a lamb-like appear- courts exercised all the powers of discipline. If content to worship with you while unfettered ance-very innocent. The Solicitor General that act applied to that denomination, then it by Legislative enactment,-but the moment you told the house that there was nothing in it-only subverted all the principles of Presbyterianism, say that you are going to govern the church by a simple bill to remove doubts—doubts which he because it made each congregation an indepen- law, I am in my conscience no longer a free

> The hon. gentleman had said, "What have very little to the observations of his hon. triend to its circumference, had been agitated by the nents of that very reasonable measure. He then asked for legislation to enable her to create

members, the demand would not have been listened to for a moment. It might be very convenient for politicians and others now to take a different line. After a few further remarks the division took place and the report of the committee was

Church courts, to exercise discipline over all her

For the motion .- Hon . Mr. McNab, Hon. Re-

Against it.-Hon. Solicitor General, Honble. Messrs. McHeffey, Brown, Hon. President.-4.

The bill was accordingly deferred. (Hon. Mr. McKeen's name was subsequently added to the majority at his special request.)

Original Sketch.

For the Christian Messenger.

CHAPTER 2.

"There are none who have never felt the touch Of sorrow's dark hued wing, And there are none but in dark hours, Will to some bright hope cling;

And thus with sorrow, joy and strife, We pass through the shine and shade of life, Till like the sun's last rays at even, Our spirit's pass to the far off heaven."

A small but elegant mansion draped with rose vines, and embowered in rare shrubbery was the home of Annie Neil. The avenue was lined with graceful elms which threw their shadow upon the green lawn in front, where the cousins of the house, but he thought it was descending character was the fact that this very question of had so often whiled away the sunny hours of Synods was agitating the Church of England childhood. But now the house wears a gloomy look. The blinds are drawn closely down and the wide halls no more echo back merry peals year after year, if it was for 14 years, until it might want to do away with the Synods. Was of laughter. Annie Neil was motherless. was passed. It should never pass with his (Mr. the house to legislate to compel a Bishop to give Death had entered that happy household and robbed it of its fairest treasure. He had laid his heavy hand upon the loved wife and mother, summoning her from the joys and sorrows of earth to that blissful mansion above where

> "Those that had loved in life should meet again, Where there is neither sorrow, death nor pain."

Annie Neil was an only child and the only tie that bound her father to earth, since the pale messenger had come with the gentle breezes and borne a loved one away from the family circle. They had watched day by day, the face grow pale and paler,-had seen the gently closing lids droop over the eyes that ever beamed with love, and the softly closed lips grow cold in death. She had passed away and they had laid her to rest where the flowers she so loved would open above her grave, and the birds could only say that he should record his vote deed. He regarded her with an affection second sing through all the long years that were yet to come. It was a quiet spot where they had laid her, where the sun would look long and warmly upon the sacred mound and where its last golden light would linger. Annie loved at the close of day to kneel by her mother's new made grave and there renew the promise she had made to her dying mother of living a life wholly to Christ, and after fighting the good fight of faith that she also might gain the victory, and at last power and authority to control their own affairs observations in reply to the Sol. General, the rejoin that sainted mother who waited on the

other side of death's cold flood for the loved ones she had left behind to meet her there.

To a stranger there would have been no apparent change in the household, the servants went quickly through the rooms, gravely intent on their work. The only perceptible change was in the sad looks and dress of the several members of the household,-slight indications of the great grief which had lately fallen upon them. To Annie her mother's death bed was a never to be forgotten scene, that mother's prayers were at last answered, and her only child was brought to bow to the mild sceptre of King Jesus, to possess that hope which is as an anchor to the soul, sure and steadfast. Annie's greatest wish now, was, that her darling cousin might also be brought to share with her in the rich blessing of a Redeemer's love. That as they had grown up from childhood together, so might they now set their faces Zion-ward, and walk the narrow path which leads to the kingdsm of God; that they might at last when life's conflict was o'er, together hear the welcome words ' thou hast fought the good fight, and kept the taith, enter thou into the joys of thy Lord,' and together sing praises unto him "who has washed them in his own precious blood' and made them fit for that 'house of many mansions' which Jesus has gone to prepare. But Minnie would not listen to her cousin's earnest pleadings, nor to her prayers on her behalf; like Felix of old she said 'Go thy way for this time and when I have a more convenient season I will call for thee.' How many there are who put off repentance until they are on their death-bed, and then in their dying agony while the icy hand of death is on their brow, they turn to the God whom in the midstoof health and enjoyment they have forgotten, but when the King of Terror is seen approaching how yearns the soul for that confidence and faith with which the death bed of a christian is illumined, as a gleam of heavenly trust, lights up his pathway through the dark valley. Then it is that he who has no hope, finds he has chosen the wrong path,—that alone he must pass through death's cold flood, with no one to whisper words of comfort in his ear. He cannot shout with the dying believer, "Oh death where is thy sting, oh grave where is thy victory !"

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

The Deaf and Dumb.

MR. EDITOR,—

Last sabbath evening I had the pleasure of baptising three persons, one of whom was Mr. James Middlemas. He is a deaf mute and this circumstance has given to his case a special and tender interest. His wish to be baptised was made known to me by J. S. Hutton, Esq., the principal of the Halifax Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. At his suggestion an interview took place between Mr. Middlemas and myself. Our conversation at first was carried on in writing, but I soon found that there was a twofold difficulty in this mode of communication: his limited vocabulary and my want of skill in avoiding leading questions without using general terms which he could not comprehend. I was ther fore glad to avail myself of the aid of Mr. Hutton who translated my questions, and Mr. Middlemas' answers, the one into the sign language and the other from it. Though the conversation thus conducted fully satisfied my own mind as to the correctness of the views held and the reality of the spiritual change experienced by my silent brother, it was desirable that the church should have something independent of my impressions on which to base its judgment in the matter. I therefore proposed to Mr. Hutton that he should give me a paper containing all the information about Mr. Middlemas's history and experience which he would deem desirable to have said before the church, and also that Mr. Middlemas himself should furnish me with written answers to a series of questions I would draw up.

To this Mr. Hutton cheerfully agreed, and both documents were read at our Conference Meeting. The former proved so deeply interesting, that many of those present wished to have it in a more permanent form, and believing that it would be of general benefit, requested me to endeavour to procure its insertion in your columns. The foregoing remarks have therefore been intended simply as a necessary introduction to Mr. Hutton's paper. I cannot conclude them without taking the opportunity of expressing my sense of the courtesy and unsectarian spirit which he has manifested in his dealing with Mr. Middlemas's case, and I have no doubt in all others of a similar nature. It is to