

"I believe, then, that the members of the Church of Christ should own their house of worship, and have the exclusive control over everything that would in any manner limit their power to act according to their own views of duty to Christ. I believe that, claiming this authority and exercising it, they should assume the whole expense of public worship in all its departments. If any one desires to worship with them, they should receive him gladly, and cheerfully present him and his family with the use of a pew so long as he chooses to occupy it. If he desires to contribute to their expenses, let them receive his donation gratefully; it being, always understood that, until he became a member of the church of Christ, he could acquire no right to control any of its arrangements.—Such do I consider to be the mode of action demanded by the principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. When, however, existing arrangements have been made with the present understanding, I would, have nothing done which shall violate even an implied contract. I would, however, return to Christian principles, just as fast as it can be done consistently with pledged faith and a pure conscience. We may not do evil that good may come, but I would have good come as fast as it can, without the doing of any evil."

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JULY 8, 1863.

Fighting.

Some years since, the Peace Societies were very actively engaged in instilling into the minds of men, the sentiment that universal benevolence was applicable to all the evils which bring men and nations into collision. Notwithstanding all these labors, there appears to be but little diminution of actual fighting. Indeed we think it probable, that there was never more activity in all the branches of business which supply army stores and war material. The manufacture of weapons and fire-arms at the present day, calls into requisition some of the most cultivated intellect, and the highest talent in every civilized country.

Men fight, boys fight, and nations fight. Of course bad men fight, but those esteemed as sincere christians, do not hesitate to enter the profession of arms and engage in killing their fellow men. They may not think it is in the abstract, the most suitable employment for servants of the Prince of Peace, but the objects sought to be obtained by fighting is supposed to render it a necessary evil. We doubt the propriety of that term, however, as we believe no evil is really necessary.

Thinking there are some things of more value than peace, they do not hesitate to choose the least of two evils. It would seem that in the present state of society, a preparation for war is an essential part of national existence, and every one is called on to learn, to some extent, the art of self defence. It does not appear the proper time to discuss the question, whether man under any circumstances is justified in taking the life of his fellow men. There seems at the present day, no other tribunal than the application of physical force to drive back the invader.

It might be deemed somewhat treasonable in these days of Volunteering and active militia preparations, to press the examination of the lawfulness of war. Whether the application of the first to avenge an insult, or taking away a man's life to prevent his seceding from the government under which he has lived, are the best remedies for those evils, are questions which would occupy more space to discuss than we can at present afford. This is doubtless a fighting age.

The act of fighting may vary according to the nature of the conflict. Fighting may be personal, national, political, or even religious. The operation of each is similar in many respects.—Those who have had the misfortune to witness a round at fist-cuffs will have perceived, that the aim of each antagonist in a contest, is to take the other at unawares, and deal a skillful blow at him, when the force of his effort has been expended—to avoid as much of the enemy's fire, and make every shot in return accomplish something in his destruction. In political contests, the exhibition of certain facts concerning an opponent, to his disadvantage, and preventing an examination of other facts which would be of an extenuating character, is a means of seeking popular favor, which may succeed for a time, but where the people are accustomed to think for themselves, this manoeuvre does not last long.

Fighting is used in the word of God as an

emblem of the christian life. Not only is the believer to watch and pray, but he is directed to put on the whole armor of God, and engage, as in deadly conflict, with foes seen and unseen. Lessons are drawn from the conduct of armies, to incite believers to combination and implicit obedience. By the skillful use of the Sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, he may defeat all the enemies of God and man, and come off more than conqueror. It would be well if christians generally would learn these lessons, and bear in mind that theirs is no doubtful battle, and unless they shall be able to say, at the close, "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith," they have no claim to the "crown, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, has laid up for them that love his appearing."

Prince Edward Island.

METHODIST CONFERENCE.

We learn from the *Westeyan*, of last week, that the Conference was opened at Charlottetown, on Wednesday, June 5th.

Dr. Pickard announced that the British Conference had acceded to the request forwarded to that body, and had appointed Rev. Dr. De Wolf to the Presidential chair.

Dr. DeWolf took the Chair and gave a short but appropriate address.

Rev. J. McMurray was elected Secretary of Conference.

SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE LOWER PROVINCES.

On the same day as the above, this ecclesiastical body met in Prince Street Church. On making up the roll of the Synod, there appeared present as follows:

- From the P. E. I. Presbytery, 14 ministers and 9 elders.
- From the Halifax Presbytery, 15 ministers and 6 elders.
- From the Pictou Presbytery, 12 ministers and 8 elders.
- From the Tatamagouche Presbytery, 2 ministers and 1 elder.
- From the Truro Presbytery, 8 ministers and 5 elders.
- From the Cape Breton Presbyteries, 5 ministers and 1 elder, in all 48 ministers and 22 elders, (70).

The Rev. R. S. Patterson of Bedeque, P. E. I., was chosen Moderator, and the Rev. G. Patterson, Clerk.

The Home Mission Report showed that 15 ministers settled in weak or non-sustaining congregations, had received aid during the year.—8 Probationers were in the home mission field. 2 students and 8 catechists are also employed. Addresses to the Queen, and the Prince and Princess of Wales, and to the Governor of P. E. I., were prepared and adopted.

SYNOD OF CHURCH OF SCOTLAND IN NOVA SCOTIA AND P. E. ISLAND.

This body met at the same time in St. James' Church. The Rev. Wm. McMillan, of Earl-town, was elected Moderator.

Fourteen ministers and ten elders were present.

The Rev. Principal Leitch, of Queen's College, Canada, and Rev. Mr. Snodgrass composed a delegation from the Canadian Synod.

An address was presented to Governor Dundas.

The *Protestant* gives an account of some of the business transacted by these bodies up to Saturday, 27th ult., and adds:

"As the meeting of ecclesiastical bodies is the principal intelligence of the week in this city, we think we need offer no apology to our readers for occupying so much of our space with a summary of the proceedings of the two Synods. Our Wesleyan brethren sit in Conference with closed doors, or we might have given their proceedings similar publicity. We are happy to be able to say, however, that the Conference offered to each of the Synods to send a Deputation to present their fraternal greetings to their Presbyterian brethren. The offer was accepted by both Synods, and accordingly yesterday afternoon, a deputation from the Conference was received by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces, and we believe another will also wait upon the Kirk Synod. This is brotherly, and our Wesleyan friends deserve great credit for moving in the matter."

Amongst the appointments advertised in that paper, we perceive, that Rev. Dr. Cramp was to preach at the Baptist Meeting-House in Charlottetown, on Thursday last.

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND IN NOVA SCOTIA has lately received quite an accession to its number of ministers. Some time since, the Rev. Mr. McKay went home to Scotland for the purpose of seeking some additional strength. In prosecuting his mission, he appealed to the Colonial committee for assistance. He succeeded beyond the expectation of those by whom he was sent, and secured the services of nine missionaries, to whom the Colonial Committee in

Scotland engaged to pay the passage and outfit and gave to them a guarantee of £150 sterling per annum for three years. Whatever the congregations by whom they are employed may fall short of that amount in their contributions, will be made up by the said committee.

The following are the names of the ministers and their designations as given in the *Record* for July.

"The Rev. William Phillips, for the charge in Truro, in connection with the Presbytery of Halifax. The Rev. Robert McCunn and George Law for the Presbytery of Pictou have arrived. The Rev. Alex. McWilliams, the Rev. Neil Brodie, and the Rev. Mr Stewart, have also received appointments for the Presbytery of Pictou. The two latter gentlemen preach Gaelic. The Rev. Mr. Cullen has received an appointment for the Presbytery of P. E. I., and the Rev. Mr. Dangerfield has also preached and been sustained with the view of being sent to the Island Presbytery. The Rev. Donald McHardy also proposes to come and labor within the bounds of the Pictou Presbytery."

News Summary.

Considering the active and offensive movements of the Southern Armies during the last fortnight, and their rapid advance into Maryland and Pennsylvania, it seems somewhat unaccountable that no engagement of any moment has taken place. The conflicting and sometimes contradictory accounts of the advances and retreats of bodies of the Confederates, render it impossible for those not intimately acquainted with localities, to form any correct idea of their exact position. Neither can we obtain any exact idea of the whereabouts of the Federal forces on the Potomac, or why they have not been able to oppose any resistance to the progress of Lee's army. It is probable that the immediate defence of the Capital, and the protection of Baltimore have occupied all their means. The two armies are, however, so near to each other, that not many days can transpire before serious conflicts must take place. Lee's advance is a bold and perilous one, and will test his Generalship, one would suppose, to the utmost. We believe the great disadvantage of the North just now, will arise from their armies being very largely composed of new and comparatively undisciplined levies. Their constant change of Generals must also operate as a serious evil.

Neither from Vicksburg nor Port Hudson do the latest accounts betoken the speedy reduction of those fortresses, while there seems no doubt that Gen. Banks has met serious reverses at the latter place.

Since the above was in type a late telegram has been received reporting a severe battle near Gettysburg, Penn., on Friday last, between Lee and Meade, (Federal,) in which the Confederates are stated to have been totally defeated, with the loss of 8000 men. No account of Federal loss is given.

The French, under Gen. Forey, seem to be very near the final accomplishment of their designs on Mexico, having taken possession of the Capital, which was evacuated by Juarez, the Mexican President, on their approach. We believe Louis Napoleon has not as yet signified what is his express purpose on obtaining possession of the Country. No doubt a very large party have from the first, favored his designs, and whatever he may determine as to the future form of Government, it will no doubt be either openly or substantially under the power and auspices of France.

Notices, &c.

Annapolis County Conference of Baptist Ministers.

The next meeting of the Annapolis County Conference of Baptist Ministers is appointed to be held at Lower Granville, on Tuesday morning the 21st July next, at 9 o'clock. Preaching on the previous afternoon, at 4 o'clock. A full attendance is earnestly solicited.

ISAIAH WALLACE, Secretary.
Lower Granville, June 25th, 1863.

A Meeting of the Foreign Missionary Board will be held, (D. V.) in Tremont, Aylesford, on the second Tuesday in July, commencing at 2 o'clock, P. M. A full attendance is earnestly requested.
CHARLES TUPPER, Secretary.

LETTERS RECEIVED will be acknowledged next week.

General Intelligence.

DOMESTIC.

The four members of the Administration, Hon. J. W. Johnston, Attorney General; Hon. Chas. Tupper, Provincial Secretary; Hon. W. A. Henry, Solicitor General; and Hon. Isaac LeViste, Financial Secretary,—were severally declared elected at the nomination on Tuesday last, without opposition.—*Jour.*

Men are at present employed in erecting posts for the American Telegraph Company's new line between New York and Halifax.—From St. John to Moncton the wire will follow the line of Railway. A large quantity of the posts are being shipped from Moncton, N. B., to the Province.—*Jour.*

FRESH FISH AND ICE FOR JAMAICA.—The brig, *Gem*, Sherring, which cleared on Saturday last for Jamaica, has, as part of her cargo,—120 tons of ice, and 550 lbs of fresh fish.—This is a new branch of trade to that quarter.

A large haul of Mackerel, we are glad to announce, was made at Margaret's Bay during the present week—such has not been known to have been taken for a number of years.—*Rec.*

We learn that a little girl, about 14 years of age, was drowned off one of the wharves yesterday.—*Colonist.*

The *Express* learns that the City Horse Railway stock has been all taken up, and that the construction of the line will soon be proceeded with. It is thought that the seven miles to be laid will be completed about the first of November next.

A Penny Bank has been established in this city, the object of which is to encourage habits of frugality and economy, particularly among the poor. The Office was opened in Albermarle Street on July 4th. The Directors are—His Worship the Mayor, A. K. Doull, Esq., Capt. Lyttleton and Major de Haviland. These gentlemen give their services gratuitously; and the only charge to depositors is a fee of three cents, intended to cover rent, fuel, &c. This object is a praiseworthy one, and we most heartily wish its promoters every success.—*Sun.*

Mrs. Harriet Morris was convicted at the Police Office a few days since, for drugging a man-of-war sailor and then robbing him. She was sentenced to 30 days in the City Prison, and in addition was fined \$60 for selling liquor without licence.

On Thursday morning last, a lad named Walsh, who lived in Argyle street, went to an old building for the purpose of stripping off some shingles for kindling wood, when a portion of the wall of the old wreck fell upon him, injuring him very badly. He died from the effects of the injuries received.—*Chron.*

OUR GOLD FIELDS.—A correspondent of the *Chronicle* writes, that in Sherbrooke and Wine Harbor the crushers were working all winter, and in the month of April alone, the Sherbrooke crushers turned out 805 oz. of gold Wine Harbor do do 476 oz. of gold

Total. 1281 oz. of gold

In Oldham, a new lead, 18 inches in thickness, has been discovered. Three men in two days and a half, took out four tons, which was crushed at the Colonial Co's crusher, and yielded 17½ ounces, or nearly 4½ ozs. per ton. There are at present twenty-six pits or shafts working, and perhaps ten or twelve more about being opened (new ones). There are thirty-three houses and shanties, six crushers, and five stores, and perhaps about from one hundred to one hundred and fifty men mining, and other men employed, which is five times as much business as was done two months ago.

About 12 o'clock on Thursday night the Packet *sehr Monitor*, Capt. Churchill, from Boston, fell in with a large vessel burned to the water's edge and still on fire, in tow of two Westport schooners. A few hours afterwards, a steamer was seen standing to the southward. The remains of the burning ship were got to Cape Cove, and are to be sold at auction on Tuesday next. The keel is of oak, 118 feet in length.

It is supposed the ship was set on fire by one of the Confederate privateers, of which several are reported to be in the Bay of Fundy engaged in destroying Federal vessels.—*Yar. Her.*

PAINFUL DISPENSATION OF PROVIDENCE.—Stanley D. Munro, son of Alfred and Elizabeth Munro, of Upper Wilmot, near Kingston Village, was drowned on the 27th day of June, 1863, at the age of 1 year and 11 months.

The manner of this child's death was remarkable; and a record of it may be useful. Mr. Munro had a well near his barn, from which he was accustomed to draw water for his cattle in the winter. It seems that a square piece of board, larger than the orifice through which the water was drawn up, which was also square, had been nailed over it, but had by some means become loose. This board was principally over the orifice, but not fully; and from all appearance the child must have stepped on one corner of it, and it tipped, let him through, and returned to its position. The exact time can not be ascertained; but it seems probable that he was in the well about fifteen minutes. Of course immediate and diligent efforts were employed, and medical aid was called in; but the vital spark had flown. May this afflictive visitation be sanctified to the spiritual good of the bereaved parents, and other relatives! May it impart to all a profitable lesson on the frailty and uncertainty of human life, and the multiplicity of ways by which the living are constantly exposed to be hurried into eternity!—*Communicated by Rev. C. Tupper.*
Aylesford, June 30, 1863.

Canada.

The *Toronto Leader* says:—"The home-spun cloth of Nova Scotia is now being extensively introduced into Canada, and costing as it does but from two to four shillings a yard, it is suited to all classes."