

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, DECEMBER 21, 1864.

New Publications.

We have allowed our "New Publications" to accumulate for several weeks past, and now proceed to place them altogether before our readers. In doing so we would apologise to the publishers for the delay.

SKETCHES OF NOVA SCOTIA IN PROSE AND VERSE, by a Nova Scotian. Halifax: A. & W. Mackinlay: 1864. pp. 245.

This volume is the production of a lady, —from the numerous Presbyterian incidents, it would appear that she was connected with that body. The fair authoress gives in the form of a lively narrative some good descriptions of places and conversations with people. Some interesting incidents in the early history of the Province are interwoven with the conversations, and add interest to the book, as well as help to surround the various towns and villages mentioned with historical association.

MEMOIR OF SIR BRENTON HALLIBURTON, late Chief Justice of the Province of Nova Scotia: by Rev. G. W. Hill, M. A. Halifax: Printed by James Bowes & Sons: 1864.

This is a very neat volume of 207 pages. The Author states in his preface that the work "was written several years ago, and was on the eve of being published by the Committee of a public institution," but "circumstances delayed it, and in the end caused it to be abandoned. The manuscript was thrown aside and almost forgotten, when the present publishers, —the Messrs. Bowes,—after the lapse of two or three years, made a proposal to publish it wholly at their own risk. Their request was acceded to, and the manuscript placed at once in their hands."

We think the author and printer have done good service in bringing this work before the public. We have no doubt that it will take its place on the bookshelves of many, beside the few works which belong specially to this province, and keep alive the materials which have made up its best men and rendered their memory dear. But few receive that universal confidence and respect accorded to the late Chief Justice. We most cordially commend the book to our readers.

LAWS OF NOVA SCOTIA RELATING TO CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DUTIES, &c., &c.: arranged by Thomas R. DeWolf, Clerk in the Financial Secretary's Office.

The compilation of the materials comprised in this work into a separate volume will afford great facilities to importers and officers in the country who are engaged in collecting the revenue. Mr. DeWolf deserves the thanks of the public for this service.

REMARKS UPON THE PROPOSED FEDERATION OF THE PROVINCES: by a Nova Scotian. DAWN OF A NEW EMPIRE, by a British American.

These are the titles of two pamphlets which have appeared on the great question of our proposed change of constitution,—the former in opposition to a federal Union of the Provinces, and the latter in favor, or, rather, it is a reply to the former.

The first is an illustration of the proverb "Festina lente," Make haste slowly; the latter of another one, "To-morrow is not ours;" shewing the advantages of the present proposal to Nova Scotia, and the inducements to an acceptance of the proposal without any delay.

UNION OF THE COLONIES OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA: being three papers upon this subject originally published between the years 1854 and 1861: by P. S. Hamilton. Printed by John Lovell, Montreal.

This is a thick pamphlet of 103 pages, and re-published for the friends of the writer, who wished for copies of the original papers; and for the general information, now that the subject is more popular than when they came from the pen of the author. Vast strides have been made since their first appearance towards the principle therein suggested. One feature of the Union Mr. Hamilton advocates, in an Introduction now prefixed to these papers, is a *hereditary viceroy*, to be at the head of the United Provinces. Whether the developments of the future will make this a popular idea, as that of a union is now, remains for future years to prove. The papers, when first published, were in advance of public opinion. They doubtless helped to some extent to bring about the present movement.

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY OF NOVA SCOTIA: by J. B. Calkin: New and Revised Edition. A. & W. Mackinlay, Halifax.

A school-book which will be more in demand than ever when the Schools throughout the Province again get to work. It contains a good outline of the geography of the other British American provinces, besides that of Nova Scotia. Its statistical information is brought up to the present date.

[From Mr. N. P. Kemp, Boston, Agent of the American Tract Society.]

1. THE MISSING BOAT. "A true history," of some disobedient boys who were carried to sea in an open boat.
2. DORA HAMILTON, or SUNSHINE AND SHADOW. A touching narrative of a lovely young lady, and her good mother-in-law.
3. THE LOST KEY. Shewing the value of uprightness and the misery occasioned by deception.
4. SONGS OF ZION: enlarged, for Social and Private devotion. A number of new tunes and hymns have been added to this excellent collection.
5. JOHNNY. A good looking-glass for a little boy.
6. I WISH I WAS POOR. About a little daughter of a wealthy lady, who was sick, and wished she were poor, that she might have Christ presented for her acceptance.
7. LITTLE MARY'S FIRST AND LAST FALSEHOOD.

THE ADJOURNED CONFEDERATION MEETING.

The meeting on Monday evening, for the further consideration of the question of Confederation was as stormy inside of Temperance Hall, as the elements were outside. Notwithstanding that snow to a considerable depth had fallen and was being blown into heaps on the sides of the streets, the Hall was filled with earnest, anxious citizens ready to give an attentive hearing to the speakers. The platform was occupied by a number of prominent gentlemen.

On His Worship taking the chair a question arose as to whether the opponents of the Scheme, presented on the previous evening, should have the whole of the evening to themselves, or whether the Delegates, or other persons holding similar sentiments, should be allowed to reply to the speakers after they had severally spoken.

A. M. Uniacke Esq., stated that he and his friends were prepared to give their views, in similar order to that observed by the speakers on the previous evening. He mentioned that after he had spoken, Messrs. Wm. Annand, M. P. P., W. Stairs, Alfred Jones, and W. Miller, M. P. P., would be prepared to address the meeting. Several gentlemen objected to this course, and contended that the distinct understanding given at the previous meeting, was, that opportunity should be given to gentlemen, pro and con, to discuss the question. After much time had been consumed, by a host of speakers on both sides and a vast amount of confusion, occasioned by cheers, counter cheers and hissing at what was said by some of the speakers, Mr. Uniacke said that unless he and his friends were allowed to take the course indicated they would feel it their duty to leave the Hall. The Hon. Provincial Secretary, after a short interval, arose and said he fully understood at the last meeting that speakers should be replied to, if necessary, at the present meeting; that the Delegates stood in a deferent position on the previous evening to that of any other persons; they had been invited by their fellow-citizens, through His Worship the Mayor, to give an exposition of the proposals of the Quebec Conference; but, that this meeting had been called for the purpose of discussing those proposals and he felt that, like all other discussions, speakers on both sides should be heard; but, rather than waste further time he would consent to the opponents, of the views enunciated by the Delegates, having the opportunity given them of expressing their opinions this evening; but with the understanding that a subsequent meeting should be called at which speakers on either side would be heard. Subsequently Mr. Uniacke arose and announced that after the manifestation of feeling witnessed this evening, he and his friends had concluded that they would not then deliver their speeches on the subject.

After much confusion, and several efforts on the part of the audience to call up persons to speak, the Mayor said, as the meeting had come to so abrupt a termination, he hoped the audience would retire quietly, and he had no doubt that some other opportunity would be afforded them of hearing the question publicly considered.

The question of Confederation is at present taking precedence of all others in the way of general politics, so that no News Summary we could give would be deemed worth the space which would be otherwise occupied in considering this great question. Even United States matters are now but little attended to, although difficulties and complications, arising from the release of the St. Alban's raiders, are producing an unsatisfactory state of things.

It is curious to observe the changes in par-

ties associating together on the two sides for and against the proposed plan of Union. The old party lines are completely broken down, and those heretofore diametrically opposed to each other are now closely united, on both sides of Confederation; and warm political allies are as warmly opposed to each other on Confederation.

We have to thank our friend Rev. W. H. Humphrey for a copy of Minutes of the Minnesota Baptist Association held at Minneapolis in September last. By them we learn that he is pastor of the church at Hastings in that State, and Corresponding Secretary of the Association. An excellent report of Committee on Resolutions bears his name as Chairman. His friends in Halifax, and the Province generally, will be glad to hear of his being thus far restored to health, and able to serve the cause of Christ in the far West. The following is one of the paragraphs of said Report, and indicates somewhat the character of the place where he is stationed.

"That in view of the vital importance of education, in order to well directed efficiency in our ministry and in our churches, we heartily endorse the action of our State Convention in regaining possession of the University at Hastings, and we promise that we will do our utmost to raise the respective apportionments on our churches towards meeting our indebtedness for the same."

The church at Hastings reports a membership of 82, and a contribution to Benevolent objects of \$129.54.

LECTURE.—The lecture, by Rev. S. McGregor, last week, was a carefully prepared and well delivered essay. The treatment of the subject shewed much discrimination in this wide field of literature—Sacred Poetry. The writings of Montgomery were compared with those of several other poets. In Christian spirit he was deemed superior to any. This species of literature was warmly recommended, in preference to much of the trash in the form of tales and novels, so abundant now-a-days. His remarks on the metrical version of psalms used in Presbyterian congregations were very just, without being severe. Their defects in quantity and accent sometimes almost provoke a smile from those unaccustomed to hear them. He considered that a new version was much needed.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—A general meeting of members of the City Division was held last Thursday evening to consider what steps could be taken for rendering the meetings more interesting and profitable.

A series of resolutions was presented to the meeting, providing for weekly meetings of a literary character, bearing on the subject of Temperance and general improvement. These were spoken to by several of the leading brethren, and carried unanimously. The large number of influential men at the meeting gave it an encouraging aspect, and the harmony prevailing shewed that good might be hoped for from energetic action on the part of the whole.

Notices, &c.

ERRATA.—In the Essay on Sabbath Eve, C. M. Nov. 16th, p. 365, in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd lines, for "When the day of God is gliding slowly through the crimson galaxy beyond the expanse of the ocean," read "When the Day-god is gliding slowly through the crimson gateway beyond the expanse of the ocean." Also in the 33rd line of the same essay, 2nd column, for "enchanted of the hour," read "enchanted beauties of the hour."

Western Infirm Ministers' Fund.

The Treasurer of the Infirm Ministers' Fund of the Western N. S. Baptist Association, hereby acknowledges having received from the Executors of the Estate of the late W. S. Jacobs, of Liverpool, N. S., the sum of £166 13s 4d., bequeathed by him to the above named Fund, and invested the same in Real Estate, according to the directions of the Will.

CHAS. RANDALL, Treasurer
Weymouth, Dec. 14th, 1864.

Annapolis Co. Ministerial Conference.

The next Meeting of the Annapolis County Conference of Baptist Ministers will be held D. V., at Clements Vale, on Tuesday the 3rd day of January, 1865, at 9 o'clock, A. M. Preaching on the previous evening.

As the Ordination of Bro. G. D. Cox, is expected to take place there on the following day, (Jan. 4.) A full attendance seems especially desirable.

ISA. WALLACE, Secretary.
Lower Granville, 6th Dec. 1864.

Colchester County S. School Convention.

There will be a quarterly session of the Colchester Baptist Sabbath School Convention, at the Baptist Meeting-house, Truro, on Friday, December 30th, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

T. B. LAYTON, Secretary.
Londonderry, Dec. 6th.

Notice.—The new Baptist Meeting House, in Centre Rawdon, will be opened for religious worship on Lord's-day, the 25th inst., (Christmas day). The exercises will commence at 10 A. M. Ministering brethren and all other friends who can conveniently attend, are respectfully requested to meet with us on that occasion.

JAMES STEVENS.
Rawdon, Dec. 3.

REVISED NEW TESTAMENT.—A few copies just received from New York. Price 50 cents each.

Christian Messenger Office, Halifax.

Letters Received.

Nelson Miller, 30th, \$4, 3 subs. Rev. A. D. Thomson, 2nd. Ward Eaton, Esq., 5th, \$28. Robt. Chambers, Esq., 8th, \$40. Thos. S. McLean, 10th, \$1.25. C. E. Taylor, \$2, 1 sub. A. J. Hill, 30th.—Have not a copy. Rev. A. Shields, 3rd, \$5.—The cheap testaments not arrived at the Depot.—The price named by the Rev. Mr. Gill is the sterling price in England.—They will cost something more.—Will get them soon as they arrive. Thos. McNayr, 13th, per J. Stoddart, \$2.50. D. Ferguson, Esq., 9th. C. H. Harrington, Esq., 10th, 1 sub. W. C. Schurman, 12th. D. Dimock, 12th, \$5. J. L. Tremain, Esq., 6th. G. Dechamp, \$4. Rev. A. W. Bars, 12th.—Sent. Rev. J. J. Skinner, 14th. T. H. Rand, Esq., 14th. Rev. J. F. Tooker, 9th. D. Nichols, Esq., 12th, \$2. W. B. Chipman, \$6. Rev. Dr. Tupper, 13th. Rev. Chas. Randall, 14th, \$4. D. Webster, 10th, \$4, to Sep. 1, '65. Rev. M. P. Freeman, 5th, 1 sub. Alex. Lane, Esq., M. D., 5th. G. V. Rand, 10th, 1 sub. Rev. Isa Wallace, 6th, 2 subs. Rev. N. Vidico, 9th. Rev. J. E. Balcom, \$4.50, 1 sub. W. A. Morse, 5th. J. M. Parker, 14th, \$5, 1 sub.

General Intelligence.

Domestic.

LECTURE.—Mr. Editor.—Last evening I had the pleasure of listening to a highly interesting, instructive, and, in some parts, amusing, lecture, delivered at the Methodist Chapel in Canning, by the Hon. Joseph Howe, for the benefit of the Sabbath School library in that place.

The subject was Labrador and Newfoundland. But he did not confine himself altogether to these. He spoke very instructively of the sad changes resulting from that cruel civil war in the United States, and also related some amusing anecdotes connected with his past life.—Of course it would not do to trespass upon your valuable space farther than to notice a few of the interesting things he said.

The principal sources of wealth to the inhabitants of Labrador are the Fisheries and the Fur trade. The most important fish taken on that coast are the whale, the seal, the codfish and the herring;—the most valuable fur-bearing animals—the silver-gray, and black fox and the bear.

They have no roads and bridges there. During all the time he remained there, he saw only one cow and she was eating salt fish,—only one horse and it was said the dogs would eat him before Spring.

For all their purposes of transportation they use dogs. The dogs are harnessed to a kind of sledge which they call a *Cometick*, which is about eight or ten feet long and three feet wide. They drive them without any reins, but use a most terrific sort of whip second to nothing of the kind except the "knout of Russia." He was informed that a person who was skilled in using this whip could take a dog's ear off at a distance of Thirty or Forty feet.—A Yankee doubted this. The owner offered to lay him a wager that he could cut through his thick boot-leg and take a piece out of the calf of his leg at a distance of thirty feet. The bet was taken—the feat was performed—the sceptical American was convinced! I could fill sheets, but must not write more lest I weary you.

I may just add that Mr. Howe lectured the evening before last at the Baptist Chapel at Canada, and will lecture this evening at the Baptist Chapel at Canning for the benefit of their respective S. S. libraries.

Yours, &c.

A DELIGHTED HEARER.

Canning, Dec. 10th 1864.

A boy named Hardwick, in getting into a boat from the schr. *Lively* to land Capt. Sulis at Bear River, last week, missed his footing, fell overboard, and was drowned.

The Library of Kings' College, Windsor, has been enriched by a volume containing the late Prince Consort's speeches and addresses, elegantly bound, and bearing the autograph of Queen Victoria. It is to be suitably enclosed in a glass case.

HOLIDAYS.—In consequence of Christmas and New Year's Day both falling on Sunday this year, Monday the 26th inst., and Monday the 2nd January, have been respectively appointed by the Government, Public Holidays. There will be a LEVEE at Government House on Monday, the 2nd day of January next, at One o'clock.

The comparative return of traffic receipts on the Nova Scotia Railway for the month of November, shows an increase of \$2170.76 over the corresponding month of last year.

William H. MacDonald, M. D., is appointed Coroner for the County of Antigonish, in the place of William Currie, M. D., deceased.

FIRE.—On Sunday last about two o'clock in the morning a fire broke out in Bauer Street and destroyed two houses and injured two others to some extent, they were insured.

DECAMPED.—A Sergeant of the Royal Engineers named Ross has been absent from duty for several days past. It is alleged that he had in his possession, at the time he was first missed, about \$800 in cash, belonging to the company to which he was attached.—*Chronicle*.