

SCIENTIFIC.

A WORD ABOUT CHAIRS.—An eminent physician, speaking of our chairs, remarks that they are too high and too nearly horizontal. We slide forward, and our spines ache. The seats should be fifteen or sixteen inches high in front for men, and from eight to fourteen inches for children and women. The back part of the seat should be from one to three inches lower than the front part. This last is very important. The depth of the seat from front to back should be the same as the height. The chair-back is likewise unphilosophical. The part which meets the small of the back should project furthest forward. Instead of this, at that point there is generally a hollow; this is the cause of much pain and weakness in the small of the back. The present seats produce discomfort, round shoulders and other distortions.

DESSICATED VEGETABLES.—Vegetables and meats deprived of moisture and submitted to severe pressure, will remain unchanged, and preserve their natural taste for a long period in any climate. A very large business is now carried on in New York in the way of desiccating vegetables for the army and navy, at Nos. 327 and 329 Stantun street, by the New York Desiccating Company—Theodore C. Sheehill, Superintendent. About one hundred and fifty persons are employed in the establishment, and the quantity of vegetables desiccated this year will amount to 56,000 bushels of tomatoes; 442 tons string beans; 8000 bushels green peas; 15,000 barrels turnips; 30,000 barrels carrots; 23,000 heads of cabbage; 12,000 barrels potatoes; 20,000 barrels onions; 100 tons parsley, and a moderate quantity of some other vegetables. The vegetables are picked, cleaned, cut up, and grated; they are then dried and deprived entirely of moisture, after which they are formed into flat cakes, under severe hydrostatic pressure. A cake weighing seven pounds contains sufficient vegetables to make forty-two gallons of good soup. They are excellent for sea voyages, and large quantities have been furnished on army contracts for soldiers in the field and invalids in the national hospital.

WILL WATER BURN?—The New York Tribune of the 1st inst. has the following account of a strange problem:—Mr. William E. Hagan, an educated and practical chemist, of Troy, N. Y., and his success is embodied in a new process which may be seen in operation in an ordinary parlor stove in the rear of the Market Bank, No. 82 Nassau street, and in a furnace stove at No. 494 Broadway. The water, contained in a boiler on the top of the stove or furnace, is supplied daily. An ordinary stove will consume from three to four gallons per day; and this is conveyed through a pipe on the inner surface of the stove, but avoiding direct contact with the coal or other fuel, till it is emitted, in the form of superheated steam, at the bottom of the fire, where it is decomposed by the contact into hydrogen and carbonic acid gas, which, instantly combine afresh, producing carbonic oxide, which undergoes a still further combination or combustion on being presented to the air, with a large development of caloric or heat at each successive stage or combination. Mr. Hagan, of course, does not pretend to dispense with carbon or fuel by his invention, but to economize its use to the last degree. In other words: instead of allowing half the carbon to escape in the form of carbonic acid, he consumes it entirely, leaving nothing to escape as smoke but water, and perhaps a little ammonia. He thus reduces the consumption of carbon or coal one half, while maintaining a more temperate and equable combustion with a steadier and more healthful heat. The atmosphere of apartments or houses heated by his stoves or furnaces is more bland and summer-like than any other process of combustion can supply. And, as the process is by no means expensive—adding perhaps one-third to the cost of a stove, and one-tenth to that of a furnace—we predict for his invention a rapid and general adoption.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD AND ONLY TWENTY-FIVE BIRTHDAYS.—The Troy Times recently mentioned the following:—“John Tibbitts, the venerable father of W. H. Tibbitts, stove dealer, was in town to-day, and celebrated his birthday by having a picture taken. He is one hundred years old, but having been born on the 29th of February, in leap year, he has only seen twenty-five birthdays. The old gentleman is in good health, and has a distinct recollection of events that occurred in his youth. He was born in Rhode Island. It may also be stated that General Wool was born on the 29th of February, and his birthday only occurs once in four years. He is celebrating the rare event to-day.”

THE INQUISITOR, THE SPIRITUALIST, AND THE DEVIL.—Mr. D. D. Home, the celebrated medium, who has been obliged to quit Rome because he would not (or, as he says, could not) promise to hold no further intercourse with the spirits, communicates to *The Times* a copy of the declaration which he was obliged to draw up and subscribe for the satisfaction of the Chief of the Inquisition, who now has it in his possession in the Vatican:—“I, Daniel Douglas Home, do hereby solemnly declare and avow that I have not sold my soul to the Devil, nor have I on any occasion been cognisant of holding communication with the Evil One.—Rome, March 18, 1856.”

The sea is the largest of cemeteries, and its slumberers sleep without a monument. All other graveyards, in all lands, show some symbol of distinction between the great and the small, the rich and the poor; but in that ocean-cemetery, the king and clown, the prince and the peasant, are alike undistinguished.

The first element of improvement is a keen sense of its need.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

CHRISTIAN INFLUENCE.

Of all the powers which exist in Heaven or on earth, there is none so potent as love.

In the social circles of the unregenerate of mankind, good will to each other, manifested in acts of kindness, forms the cement of well-ordered society and families; through its magic power the mutual interests of a society or community, in all that pertains to this life, are carried on and brought to happy results. The community which is prospering through the power of good will to each other, will be more attractive, and will not only add to its numbers more rapidly, but will attract to its circle, those of a higher character and standing, than a town or village, in which careless indifference to each others welfare prevails, and they are one people only in so far, as their government makes them one.

That the Baptist Churches in this province are to a large extent unsuccessful in winning souls to Christ, will not be disputed by any living and zealous member; for which there must be a cause, I think even beyond the natural depravity and unwillingness of men to believe in Christ. In the times of primitive christianity, a distinguishing mark of the disciples of our Lord was that they loved each other. That love was perceptible to their enemies, not because they all held to some one creed or abstract set of principles, but from the fruits those principles produced in their mutual acts of kindness, good will, and attention to each others worldly interests. Our dear Redeemer has said unto us, “a new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another.” The Holy Spirit does still implant in the soul love to christians of any name, or even without a name among men. Brethren we do not forget the love we had for christians in our first espousal to Christ. “Oh that glowing love which marked our union with the Lord.” How we looked upon the old saints in the church, standing high up the Holy Mount, as living epistles of Christ. How our love grieved to them when we looked upon them as the ripe fruit, by the grace of God, of that faith of which we had just been made the happy recipients, and how readily, in our hours of temptation and worldly trouble, we would go to them, and unbosom our cares in the child-like simplicity and loving trust of the new-born christian, receiving consolation and strength from their holy sympathy and wise godly-counsel.

As it was the design of our Lord that the union and love of his disciples, should make them “the light of the world and the salt of the earth,”—all powerful, through faith in Him, in extending the victories of His Cross, the social nature of man and his influence, upon his fellow-men were to manifest to the world, the redeeming and sanctifying power of faith in His gospel; if this were not done, their preaching would be in vain, and his gospel would not prove “the power of God unto salvation.”

The truth or power of any principle is justly judged of by men, from the fruit it produces upon the lives of the believers in that principle. It is not enough for christians to unite themselves together as a Church of the Redeemer, holding certain doctrines and coldly meet together from time to time, while they remain careless about the spiritual state, and indifferent about the worldly condition of each other. Members of Christ should make some visible manifestation of love to one another. While in this body it is only by outward acts of kindness that our love to one another can be known. “By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if ye have love one to another.”

With all due allowance for the difference in national character and social education between the United States as compared with these colonies, it appears from the acts of many of the churches in that country, that the members are more intelligently alive to the power of christian love, actuated by such views and feelings in the gospel mission of “good will to man,” they are ever ready, upon the coming of a stranger into their Churches or neighbourhood to introduce themselves to him or her, inquire into their circumstances, with a view to looking after the scattered sheep, and lending a helping hand. While in their gracious recognitions of each other in all places, or in any company they do not forget their relationship of brother or sister in Christ. Such a course of conduct must necessarily, exert a mighty influence for good. In their manner of conducting their prayer and social meetings, there is an absence of cold formality and a readiness of the members to take

part in the exercises. While this essential element in the christian character (for the fulfilment of our Saviour's mission,) is wanting, the action of churches will be imperfect, and will not be continuously blessed with additions. Brethren remember the words of our dear Redeemer, “Herein is my Father glorified that ye bare much fruit, so shall ye be my disciples,” and “these things have I spoken unto you that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.”
A BROTHER.

For the Christian Messenger

“HOPE ON, HOPE EVER.”

See that thy hope be for that which is worth the having, and then, in darkness, let hope be thy light, in fears hope thy refuge; when waves of trouble rise, hope thy anchor; nor let thy hope, be like the fitful gusts of passion, but as the mild influence of the zephyr, before which the fiercest blasts are fled to submission, and the cold of winter's wildest day is bowed, so that by your enduring in hope, you may see it accomplished, and by your moderation be prepared to overcome. Think too, upon the source from which your hope proceeds, and, if 'tis “good,” be stronger as you think; let your hope control your actions, with the hoped-for end in view, and see that you are well prepared for the wished-for end. Set high thy motto, let it ever bear a beacon light, to guide your steps, to encourage you to duty, and to nerve your heart and arm. In fears, and toils, thy hope shall guide thy course, and fix thy end, but, amid all thy hopes, let One still rule, and guide thee, and let that hope forever rest on sovereign grace, but in the hope of everlasting life, through Jesus' blood, be strong; this hope shall guide thy course, and fix thy end forever.
H.

Hawkesbury, Canso, 14th, 1864.

For the Christian Messenger.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

OBITUARY OF THE CHILDREN OF MR. AND MRS. E. M. JOHNSON, OF WESTFIELD, Q. C.

All our children Annie, Clayton, and Phebe, died; Annie, aged 17 months, and Clayton, 3 years, on the 24th of Feb., and are asleep in one grave; and on the 28th, Phebe P., aged 4 years.

“Two little graves where daisies grow;
Three little bodies lying low;
That is all the world may know:
But our hearts

Hold a treasure sweet and fair,
Three little ones with sunny hair,
Lamb's of tenderest love and care,—
Phebe, Clayton, Annie!”

“In the sweet spring of their day,
We gave them to the lonely clay,
From our tear-dimmed eyes away,
How we loved them none can tell,
They who have loved like us, as well
Loved and lost, alone may tell,—
Phebe, Clayton, Annie!”

“Wistful shadows in our eyes,
Like the dreamy haze that lies,
Trembling in the summer skies;
And the burden of a fear,
All unspoken, yet so near,
Tell on us this mournful year,—
Phebe, Clayton, Annie!”

“Shrieking from their childish glee,
Keeping close to mother's knee,
Or in arms that tenderly,
Watched their fading, faded three,—
Faded three, our blossoms fair,
Our little ones with sunny hair,
Lamb's of tenderest love and care,—
Phebe, Clayton, Annie!”

“Swift the seasons come and go;
Thick may fall the drifting snow,
O'er two little graves we know;
But their feet
Have passed in at a pearly door,
Fair and fadeless evermore,—
Phebe, Clayton, Annie!”

D. O. PARKER.

MRS HANNAH WILEY,

Wife of Mr. Garet Wiley, died at Pleasant river, December, 1863, aged 67 years. Mrs. W. was born in Liverpool. When about 20 years of age she was married, and removed to Lahave. Her house was at that time the only one in the now flourishing town of Bridgewater. By the blessing of God on the pious conversation of her mother, she was led to embrace religion at a very early period of her life. Although while living at Lahave, she was cut off from all the ordinary means of grace; and 12 or 14 miles from any place of worship, yet she always retained a strong regard to the cause of God, and for christians of every denomination. She loved religion for its purifying and peace-giving power; as well as for the hope it holds out of life and immortality. She went to live at Pleasant River, and there united with the church, being baptized by the Rev. Mr. Burton. Her health was such for many years that she could not attend the meetings of the church, yet she always

retained the love and esteem of her brethren. Her end was peaceful and happy.

Through tedious pain, and care, and strife,
Her path to the fair mansion lay;
But now shut in with Christ her life,
She rests in peace, till that great day.

THEOPHILUS.

Annapolis Royal, January, 1864.

DEACON ALEX. MCNEILL

Departed this life on the 8th of Sept. last, at West River, Lot 65, P. E. I., in the 83rd year of his age. Our deceased brother was a native of Argyleshire, Scotland. He emigrated to this island in the year 1806, with many more of his countrymen, and was baptized by Rev. Alex. Crawford, of happy memory, in 1817. When the North River Baptist Church was formed by the Rev. Samuel McCulloch, he was one of the number and shortly afterwards was chosen a Deacon, and remained in connection with the said Church until three years ago, when he, with other members residing at West and Clyde Rivers, were organized into a separate Church under the pastoral charge of Rev. M. Ross.

He was peculiarly gifted in prayer, and a very staunch Baptist. He felt a deep interest in the various objects of our denomination. He took, and paid for, the *Christian Messenger* from its commencement until the termination of his earthly pilgrimage. He was a constant reader, and a warm admirer of the same, consequently he was always well posted up with respect to the prospering of Christ's kingdom throughout the world. He was also a strong advocate of the cause of Temperance.

This venerable brother is much missed by the Church, and his family. Notwithstanding the few last years of his life, he was somewhat debilitated by age and infirmities.—Communicated.

MRS. HANNAH BLANEY.

Suddenly on the 4th of Feb., 1864, aged 24 years, Hannah, wife of Capt. Stephen Blaney, and daughter of Henry and Nancy Hall, of Lower Granville, leaving an infant son but two hours old. Mrs. Blaney was much beloved and respected, and her melancholy death has brought grief to many hearts. May God support by His grace the sorrowing parents, who by this bereavement are called to mourn the loss of the third child that has suddenly been removed from their embrace in the prime of life. May the husband who is still at sea and who has not yet heard of his companion's death, be enabled to bow in submission to the divine will, when this sad intelligence shall reach him. And may all listen to the voice of God who says unto us in this providence,—“Be ye also ready.”

“Silent we own Jehovah's name;
We kiss the scourging hand;
And yield our comforts, and our life,
To His supreme command.”

—Communicated.

MRS. MCKEEMAN

Died in Halifax, 17th of March, 1864, aged 25 years, Mrs. Melissa, wife of Capt. Samuel McKeeman, of Lockhartville, Horton, King's Co., and adopted daughter of Capt. Andrew and Catherine Lockhart. She leaves an affectionate husband and an infant daughter of ten days old, to mourn their loss. Mrs. McKeeman made a profession of religion six years ago, and was baptized by the writer, in company with nine others, and became a member of the Church in Hantsport, in the fellowship of which she lived, till the Lord called her to the kingdom of his rest.

Her remains were conveyed to Lockhartville, and a funeral sermon was preached on the Lord's day, the 20th inst., by the pastor of the Church, from Rev. xxii. 14. Many relations and sincere friends, deeply sympathize with Capt. McKeeman in the heavy loss he suffers. May the grace which supported her in life and in death, sustain and guide him to the eternal rest unto which we doubt not she has entered.
WM. BURTON.

[Boston papers please copy]

WILLIAM ROBINSON,

Died at Castle Reagh, Portauquique, March 13th, aged 40 years. Our dear brother professed faith in the blessed Redeemer, about 22 years ago, was baptized by the Rev. J. Cogswell, and united with the Baptist Church in this place. Having clear views of divine truth, a sincere love to God and man, and an upright walk, he was much esteemed by all who knew him. His lot being cast among the poor of this world, he worked hard to sustain his family and assist in supporting the preaching of the gospel. He was left a widow and 6 small children to mourn his sudden departure, being sick only 12 days, during which he expressed a calm and peaceful faith in Jesus Christ. As the Lord is faithful our brother is, doubtless, now before his throne enjoying eternal life. May the Lord comfort his afflicted wife and children, his aged parents and other relatives, and may we all be ready for death.—Communicated by Rev. James Reid.

For the Christian Messenger.

DONATION VISIT.

DEAR BROTHER,—

I have much pleasure in acknowledging the kindness and good will of members of my church and congregation and friends of other denominations, who made me a very agreeable and profitable visit on the 20th of Jan., and presented me with a purse containing over \$100. Useful articles to about \$70 in value were also