

of passages might be given, in which our version either has confessedly misrendered the original, or has followed a form of the text now well known not to have been the original form. These might be corrected at any time; and it is a grievous thing that this has not been done, or is not now doing. For, as matters now stand, we are printing for reading in our churches, we are sending forth into the cottage and the mansion, books containing passages and phrases which pretend to be the Word of God, and are not: and that when the remedy is most easy, and lies at any time in our power. Let a commission of men learned in the Scriptures be appointed, chosen from our different Christian denominations, with definite powers as to this weighty matter, to be exercised under proper safeguards; and in a few years at most this stumbling-block will have been removed. The time may not have been ripe for it a short while ago, but I believe it is ripe for it now, at least as far as regards the New Testament. And mind, I speak not as a youthful enthusiast, but as one whose life, now not a short one, has been mainly spent in the study of the Sacred Word; not as a lover of change in this matter, but as an ardent admirer and lover of the dear old English words of our national Bible."

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, NOVEMBER 9, 1864.

We have said nothing for a good while past to those of our Subscribers who are in arrears for the Messenger. We have been hoping, from week to week, that they would send on the sums due, and thus save us from the unpleasant task of asking for what we ought to receive without. We beg now to call their serious attention to this matter. We greatly need what they owe us. Reader, if you are one of this class of our patrons, we trust that you will let us hear from you without further delay.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

Tuesday, the 25th day of October, has come and gone. The most important part of the machinery of the new Education Act was then put into operation. The test was applied throughout the country as to whether the people were willing to provide for educating the men and women of the future, or would prefer leaving that matter to the chapter of accidents. We learn from quite a number of places that the school meetings held on that day resulted in a decision to adopt the Assessment principle, and provide for the support of good teachers in their several localities. Liverpool, Guysborough, Shelburne, and probably other places also of which we have not yet heard, resolved on making ample provision for Academies. Other important places, such as Truro, Great Village, Windsor, Lunenburg, Bridgetown, &c. &c., were almost unanimous for Assessment for the support of their Common Schools, and quite a number of them purpose building new School-houses. In some places opposition was raised on the ground of the expense which would be entailed on the section by adopting the bill, and, in consequence of this, no Trustees were elected. But we are informed that a reaction is already taking place in a number of those places, now that they find themselves cut off from participation in the Provincial Grant, and that the whole of the money is consequently thrown into the hands of the Sections which have proceeded according to law. Whether any remedy can be now provided for the places desirous of retracing their steps remains to be seen.

In some places the question was warmly discussed at the meetings, and also at adjourned meetings. Fears were awakened by the opponents of the law which influenced a majority to do nothing. It is believed by many that these majorities would subsequently become minorities, and that now, if allowed to do so, they would reverse their decision.

There are doubtless some features of the Act which will require amendment. It will be for the people to ascertain what these are, and instruct their representatives in respect to them, before the next session of the Legislature, so that whatever is really impracticable may be removed and corrected, and rendered really effective.

The want of adaptation in the Act to Halifax city we saw, from the first, and mentioned our opinion on that point, but certain parties preferred to find out by experience, what we saw, and what any one acquainted with the position and character of the City Schools, might have seen would be the consequence. No action has been taken here to carry out the law either in defining the Sections or electing Trustees. Each School is

managed by its own Committee or Teacher, and the Grant apportioned amongst them according to the discretion of the Board of Commissioners. The augmented allowance of the half-year now just closed, we are informed, has been apportioned to some of the City Schools. The Examiners of Teachers appointed by the City Board, are the Rev. Dr. Pryor and Stephen Tobin, Esq., with Mr. Miller the Inspector.

We regret to find that while the principle of having men of the various religious denominations upon the School Boards has been generally recognized, it has not been so in every case. We hear that there is great complaint in Yarmouth among the other denominations because there is no Baptist on the Board. Whoever recommended the names to the government must have been somewhat oblivious of the fact that out of the 11000 Protestants in that county, nearly 9000 are Baptists, according to the Census of 1861. Whilst there are but 849 Episcopalians in the county, five of the Commissioners of Schools are chosen from that denomination, and whilst there are but 364 Congregationalists in the county, there are two of that body on the Board.

We disapprove of having a very nice adjustment of such public offices, in respect to religious denominations, but when such glaring disproportion is seen, it is calculated to excite suspicion of a want of fair play somewhere.

Since the above was in type we find in the Yarmouth Herald that "at the meetings of rate payers in the respective School Sections of this County, held last week, the School Act was rejected in all except four Sections in this Township, and two Sections in Argyle. In the three Sections of this town, the Act was sustained and the principle of assessment adopted by large majorities."

Whether the constitution of the County Board had to do with this unfortunate state of things we know not, but suppose it quite likely it had. We do not suppose that the gentlemen composing the Board are in any respect less suitable than others would be, as we are unacquainted with them, but the above facts speak for themselves.

UNION OF THE COLONIES.

THE Delegates to whom has been entrusted the consideration of the great Colonial Union, appear to have fulfilled their mission to the extent of what was designed by their appointment, if not somewhat beyond what will be fully recognized by the ulterior tribunals to which must be referred the adoption of principles and filling up details. We believe, however, let the issue of the present movement be what it may, good will result from the agitation of a question of higher political importance to this great northern half of the American Continent, than any that has ever, except in a single instance, been brought under public discussion on this side of the Atlantic. The union of the whole of British North America as a single comprehensive territorial Government, is a matter which we freely confess we have not much studied. It is a subject so large and so complicated, that it demands more time, and probably more capacity than we are now enabled to bring to the task. We deem it highly desirable that it should be ably and amply discussed, as it has a fair chance of being at present. From the abundant means which so large and able a Delegation have possessed from free and active intercourse, as well as from the opportunities they have enjoyed, of local investigation, the results of their conference cannot be otherwise than highly instructive and important, as bearing on the point at issue. One important question, however, connected with the great problem, seems lately to have been mostly overlooked in the public press. We refer to the union of the Maritime Provinces, and which we believe ought to be a Legislative and not a Federative one. Such a union we cannot but think is most desirable, independent of all other considerations, as fraught with great and unquestionable advantages, and tending to the strength, importance and prosperity of these fast growing colonies. It has been well remarked that such a combination would render us a much more efficient and influential member of the great Federal Union if such should ever take place. No doubt can exist in the mind of any one whose eyes are open to passing events, that a crisis is transpiring in the history of British North America which demands the best and wisest consideration of those to whom Providence has assigned so fair and rich a portion of the globe, as a home for themselves and their posterity, and more especially of those to whom their political interests are confided.

We remember many things we should forget, (as injuries, disappointments, &c.) but forget what we should remember, viz., God and our souls.

New Publication.

THE NEW BRUNSWICK MINSTREL: a collection of Standard and Popular, Vocal and Piano-forte Music, will be published in Monthly Parts.

Each number of the Minstrel will contain twelve pages of Music, with words and accompaniment for the Piano-forte. At the expiration of the year, the twelve numbers will contain one hundred and forty-four pages of choice sheet-music, for the small sum of two dollars and fifty cents per annum.

We have received a copy of No. 2. The pieces it contains are brilliant and well arranged. We doubt not it will meet with extensive patronage.

Notices, &c.

The lines "Address to a mother," are creditable to the heart of the writer, but not sufficiently correct in orthography, rhythm, and grammatical construction for publication.

Nova Scotia Baptist Education Society.

A meeting of the Executive Committee will be held in the Library of Acadia College, on Wednesday the 16th inst., at two o'clock, P.M. A full attendance is requested. A. S. HUNT, Secretary. Nov. 5, 1864.

Annapolis Co. Ministerial Conference.

The next meeting of the Annapolis County Conference of Baptist Ministers, will be held D. V., at Hillsburg, (Bear River,) on Tuesday the 22nd of November next, at 9 o'clock, A.M. Preaching on the previous evening. A full attendance is particularly requested. ISA. WALLACE, Secretary. Lower Granville, 25th Oct., 1864.

Letters Received.

W. Gremley, 30th, 1 sub. Rev. Dr. Tupper, 31st, \$4. A. Marshall, 18th and 22nd, \$5. T. H. Rand, 31st. T. B. Layton, 3rd. Rev. T. Powers, 31st. Rev. W. Dobson, 31st, \$5, and 4th, 1 sub. Rev. Obed Parker. P. F. Murray, 3rd. Mrs. Vaughan, 5th. Rev. I. J. Skinner, 4th.

General Intelligence.

Domestic.

The Halifax Reporter of Thursday last gave us credit for more than belonged to us. In copying a paragraph concerning a certain amphibious animal of the genus *Rana*, sent to Boston, our cotemporary adds "to Professor Agassiz." Please correct yourself, Mr. Reporter, and be just before you are generous.

LECTURES.—The Rev. G. Hill opened the Session of the Y. M. C. Association by a narrative of a pedestrian tour of the Isle of Wight. The lecturer threw in various reflections and descriptions of what may be observed in that small but beautiful portion of Great Britain. He shewed how easy it would be to prepare a paper for three quarters of an hour's reading, if men were observing, and made use of their intelligence as they seek recreation away from home. The lecturer took the opportunity to reprove the efforts being made for a new Revision of the Bible. Such sentiments as those of Duan Allford, on our first page, although from a Church of England dignitary, would find no favor from Mr. Hill.

The next lecture is to be given by G. R. Anderson, Esq., on "Britain: the secret of her greatness."

FOUND DROWNED.—David McGrath, a resident of Bedford, was found drowned in the stream below the bridge near that place, crossing over to Langley's property, on Saturday afternoon.

The Supreme Court is sitting, but the business hitherto before it, has been of but little general interest.

The Grand Jury brought in a bill indicting Mr. Geo. Allison Woodill for manslaughter. He was arrested on Thursday, but liberated on bail. His trial will probably excite considerable interest. A large number of witnesses have been summoned to attend for the purpose of giving evidence. Hiram Blanchard, Esq., is engaged to defend Mr. Woodill.

PICTURE.—The Agricultural Exhibition recently held here appears to have been but a comparatively slim affair. The *Eastern Chronicle* says of it: "There was only eight horses on the ground, but these were all good and some of them superior. The number of cattle amounted to twenty-two, old and young. Among these were some good Bulls, and several very fine milk cows. The quality of sheep was also good, but the number exhibited was only twenty-four." The specimens of domestic manufacture were not numerous but not inferior in quality.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH was re-opened on Sunday last, after undergoing several alterations in the interior, by which additional accommodation is given.

"FOUND DRUNK."—Ten prisoners were brought to the Police Station on Saturday night. The larger number of them were arrested for drunkenness. One of them was taken into custody for stealing a lot of clothing from the Halifax Hotel, the property of the first officer of the *Charlotte*.—*Chron.*

On Friday evening last a soldier of the 17th Regt., named Kirk, committed a brutal assault upon a woman on the highway in the vicinity of Point Pleasant. He threatened personal violence and demanded money. In order to escape, the woman gave the soldier all the money she had in her possession, about \$4, but not satisfied with that he robbed her of a brooch which was in her shawl. He was arrested by some military men who happened to pass just after the assault and robbery had been perpetrated. The rascal had been absent from duty for about three days.—*Id.*

DEAD BODY FOUND.—We learn from the *Chronicle* that a man named Phillips was found dead on Thursday near Duncan's Mills, on the Chester road, about twenty-five miles from the city. It is supposed that death was caused by the bursting of a blood vessel, deceased having over exerted himself in lifting his cart off the road in order to allow a carriage to pass.

Dr. C. Cogswell, has presented to Dalhousie College, for use in the Chemistry class, a series of Instruments, designed for the illustration of Endosmosis and Exosmosis.

The City Council have accepted the offer of the Halifax Marine Insurance Company to lend \$4000 for street improvements, at 5 1/2 per cent.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The Steamer *Delta*, Captain Gulliford, arrived on Saturday night from Newfoundland. The Harbor Grace *Standard* of the 26th ult. says—"The COD FISHERY at Labrador the present summer will be far short of what was expected some time since, salmon very scarce, and herring a total failure. We fear that the government will be obliged to advance a large amount the coming winter to sustain the people, as sad accounts of the condition of the people in several localities in Conception and Trinity Bays have already reached us."

MURDER.—On the 23rd ult. a quarrel occurred on board a craft at a place called Fox Cove, at the entrance of Long Harbor, between two men named Poole and Whelan, which terminated in the shooting of Whelan and his brother by Poole. The latter has been arrested, and is now in Harbor Breton jail.

After the *Delta* had landed her passengers and mails she was immediately dispatched to Shelburne with coals for steamer *Merlin*, Capt. Sampson, who put into that harbor short of the above. The *Merlin*, we understand, has a large number of passengers on board.

Prince Edward Island.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—The Grand Division commenced its annual Session on the 25th ult. Forty-eight representatives were present. There are 35 Divisions in this jurisdiction, comprising 1459 members and 759 Lady Visitors.

The following are the Officers elected for the year:—Rev. Allan Fraser, G. W. P.; Rev. John T. Senebough, G. W. A.; John Scott, G. S.; Wm. F. Morris, G. T.; Rev. R. Laird, G. Chap.; F. W. Hughes, G. Con.; J. M. Robertson, G. Sent.

P. E. I. PRODUCE.—The shipping of agricultural produce has fairly commenced in Charlottetown. Potatoes have been selling at one shilling a bushel, and oats at two shillings and four pence half-penny. The quantity brought in so far, has not been so large as in previous years. The fact that the farmers have not, in consequence of the recent rains, finished digging their potatoes partly accounts for this.—*Protestant.*

New Brunswick.

FIRE IN ST. JOHN.—*St. John, N. B., Nov. 7.*—The *Globe* and *Telegraph* Newspaper offices, were burnt out yesterday morning about four o'clock. Livingston, of the *Telegraph* office, lost his power and hand press, but saved type, &c.

The *Globe* sustained most serious damage, their type—ruined, but presses saved. No insurance on either stock. Notwithstanding the loss of the *Telegraph* office, the paper re-appeared this morning.—*Special Telegram to the Evening Express.*

GRAND DIVISION, SONS OF TEMPERANCE. The annual session of this body was held at St. John on Wednesday week. The following officers were elected:

John L. Marsh, Fredericton, G. W. P. C. D. Everett, St. John, G. W. A. W. H. A. Keans, St. John, G. Scribe. C. A. Everett, St. John, G. Treas. Rev. D. D. Currie, Sussex, G. Chap. John Brait, Richibucto, G. Con. George Barnes, Upham, G. Sen. Daniel C. Perkins, St. John, P. G. W. P.

The Grand Division passed resolutions, approving of an effort to obtain a permissive prohibitory Bill. The sum of \$100 was appropriated for a lecturer, and \$100 towards expenses of delegates to the National Division.

At a public meeting speeches were made by Revs. Messrs. McKeown, Narraway and Currie, and Messrs. Webber, Skinner and Wetmore, which were listened to with great attention.

Canada.

GRAPES have ripened well in the open air at Quebec, this year.

SHIPS.—A Quebec letter says:—"The news brought by the Belgian, that thirty vessels built at Quebec last winter are lying at the London docks without purchasers had a disheartening effect there, where a quarter of the entire population depend on shipbuilding. There will be a considerable loss on those sold. All the shipyards there are closed; there is not a ship building."