

is therefore no such thing as 'unrestricted' communion allowed in the Presbyterian Church. Believers—saints by profession—are alone welcomed to the Lord's Table."

The Rev. Mr. Sommerville we understand, speaks for the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and yet the Witness editor includes that denomination in the list of different branches of the "Presbyterian family," he is persuaded "would not sustain the conduct of the minister referred to."

It is quite refreshing to find so much Pe-dobaptist consistency as that in the views and practice of the Rev. Mr. Sommerville. If his letter were addressed to us we might feel more at liberty to notice its contents. He adopts the principle that immersion is not baptism. One of the Scripture facts which he adduces to substantiate this position is that given in Acts ix. 18, where Saul (afterwards the Apostle Paul) having his sight restored, "arose and was baptized"; thinking that the term translated "arose" supposes "that the action done or received was performed by, or upon, the subject of the verb, being in an erect posture."

But we are digressing somewhat.—communion is the subject in question,—whether it shall be restricted or open, whether it shall be free to the unbaptized as well as the baptized: We think to the baptized only. Whether 'the fencing of the tables,' to borrow a Presbyterian phrase, shall be of the pattern prescribed by the editor of the Witness, and those who agree with him, or whether Baptists shall be allowed to act in this matter as they believe the early disciples of our Lord acted, and as the New Testament in its general principles teaches, without being assailed and having opprobrious epithets applied to them. We think they should.

The Church in the Colonies.

THE case of Dr. Colenso, Bishop of Natal, has brought forth a number of decisions respecting the position of the Church of England which had before been debatable questions. Some of these decisions are such as will be very satisfactory to churchmen, whilst others will change their views with regard to an Established Church.

The Archbishop of Canterbury wrote a letter in October last to the Dean of Natal, in reply to one received from him respecting the submission of the clergy of that diocese to their suffragan. The Archbishop's letter was published in the Natal papers, and is now republished in England. His Grace says:—

"I do not see how you can accept Dr. Colenso as your Bishop without identifying yourselves with his errors. The Bishops of the Church of England, I believe, with scarcely an exception, have either publicly prohibited Dr. Colenso from preaching in their dioceses, or have intimated their unwillingness to permit him to do so. At any rate he has not, so far as I am aware, preached in any diocese, except on one occasion, so that the great majority of the bishops have withdrawn from all communication with him. As to the appointment of a bishop of Natal, the Church in South Africa has been pronounced by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council to

be just as independent as any of the Nonconformist communities; and under this view is, I conclude, competent to elect its own bishop, without reference to the authorities in England, either civil or ecclesiastical. Nor, as I conceive will such an act separate you from communion with the Church of England. The Scotch Episcopal church is in communion with us, but elects its own bishops, and is not obliged to submit to appeals to the Judicial Committee of Privy Council. May the Lord bless and guide yourself and the church of Natal under your present trials."

It will be a source of satisfaction to churchmen in this province to find their highest ecclesiastical expressing an opinion so much in accordance with their position of freedom and independence.

COLPORTAGE.—A public meeting was held last week in Chalmers Church in connection with the American Tract Society. His Worship occupied the chair. Mr. Alex. McBean read a very interesting report of the proceedings of the Society in this province, shewing the amount expended in sustaining colporteurs and making donations of books and tracts to destitute families. Excellent addresses were made by two of the colporteurs, Messrs. Cox and Logan, shewing the destitution of religious books and ordinances in many of the places they had visited.

Speeches were made by Revs. G. W. Hill, Dr. Pryor, J. B. Logan, E. Botterell and the Hon. S. L. Shannon.

The following are the resolutions adopted by the meeting:—

Moved by Rev. G. Hill, A. M., and seconded by Rev. J. Fryor, D. D.:—Resolved, That it is cause for thanksgiving to God, that, in his overruling Providence the American Tract Society, catholic in its spirit and organization, with its publications full of the gospel and its Colporteur System based on the principle of seeking the salvation of those perishing,—has been led to extend its operations to our province; and that so much has been accomplished in reaching the most needy portions of our population, by means of printed truth and the prayerful efforts of christian laymen.

Moved by Rev. J. B. Logan, M. A., and seconded by Hon. S. L. Shannon, M. P. P.:—Resolved, That the waste and destitute parts of our land greatly need such aggressive labours as are put forth by this Society, and that we cordially welcome its work among us, regarding it as an important auxiliary to the work of the ministry.

Moved by Rev. E. Botterell, and seconded by Mr. James Farquhar:—Resolved, That we pledge ourselves, by our sympathy, our prayers and every other available means, to aid the Society in prosecuting its important work in our province.

The Society is doing a good work in distributing christian literature, and sending pious young men throughout our province, for the purpose of scripture reading and giving religious instruction where the regular ministry does not reach the people.

We intended in our last to have given a notice of the recent visit of Avar Longley, Esq., Commissioner of Railways, to the line of railway between Tyro and Picton, for the purpose of closing up the liquor shanties which were doing so much mischief to the workmen. Our space now forbids our doing so at length, but it must not be forgotten.

We are much gratified to learn that the Rev. H. Angell is so far recovering from his severe illness, as to be able to perform some ministerial labor. We trust he may shortly be fully restored.

Dear Brother,—

MILL VILLAGE, PARBORO, FEB. 24, 1866.

—You have heard of our prosperity, and no doubt have rejoiced with us. God is good. It has been our privilege to baptize ten rejoicing converts, there are others who desire to obey God. But while those tokens of God's mercy make us glad, we are also made mournful. Two sisters have been carried away. On Friday the 16th inst., Sister Sophia Rector, 27 years of age, and on Friday the 23rd inst., Sister Vickery Davison, 57 years of age, fell asleep in Jesus. Both of our sisters were great sufferers, but great grace was given them, and they bore all, with christian fortitude.

Yours truly, T. A. BLACKADAR.

NEWS SUMMARY.

The English Steamer arrived on Friday last, bringing the second February Mail. Parliament met on the 6th of February, and was opened by the Queen in person. A vast concourse attended the procession on her going to the House. Great dissatisfaction has prevailed throughout the country for a good while past, on account of her long seclusion since the death of Prince Albert, three years since. It is now however understood that Her Majesty will more frequently appear in pub-

lic. She has in fact committed the fault of King David, who refused to shew himself to his people of the death on a favorite child. But the English are a social race and are not pleased to see their Sovereign hold herself aloof from intercourse with her people.

Much anxiety prevails in England and especially in Ireland, relative to Fenianism. The trials of the first persons arrested, to the amount of about forty, have all ended, and nearly the whole of them, after the most conclusive proof of their complicity in this wild and wicked conspiracy, have been sentenced to penal servitude for terms of from two to twenty years. There have however been as many as a hundred subsequent arrests in different parts of Ireland, and there is no doubt that large numbers of the ignorant and misguided populace, have become dupes to men who are leading them into mischief. Their schemes, as far as regards Ireland itself, are so hopeless and visionary that it might be supposed the most short-sighted would see and avoid the peril. The personal safety of every man in England is connected with the possession of the sister Island, and considering their superiority in numbers and power, utter ruin and depopulation must be the fate of Ireland, and indeed of England too, before she could consent to relinquish the contest. It is much more reasonable to believe that the ultimate views of the Fenians are confined to British America, and if, as is very possible, they can but embroil the neighbouring States in the matter, their hopes of success would appear in a much more tangible form. It would be strange, however, that the American Government should venture on a quarrel with England at the present time. Their conduct, however, in suffering the Fenians to proceed the length they are doing is somewhat difficult to understand. If they really do not wish to pick a quarrel with Great Britain, the most manly and effectual course would have been to set their faces from the first against such demonstrations as are now going on in every part of the Union.

Notices, &c.

Acadia Athenaeum.

The next Lecture before the above society, will be delivered by REV. WILLIAM SOMMERVILLE, A.M., in the Vestry of the Baptist Church, Wolfville, on Friday evening, March 9th, at 7 o'clock. GEORGE E. TUFTS, Cor. Sec.

Guysborough Quarterly Meeting.

The Guysborough Quarterly Meeting and Ministerial Conference will be held (D. V.) with the Baptist Church at Canso, commencing on Thursday, March 15th, at 7 o'clock, P. M. Ministering brethren from neighbouring counties are cordially invited. J. MURRAY.

Guysborough, Feb. 20th, 1866.

Cape Breton Quarterly Meeting.

The Cape Breton Quarterly Meeting and Ministerial Conference will be held with the Margaree Church, commencing on Saturday the 23rd inst., at 2 o'clock, p. m. Ministering and other brethren are respectfully and earnestly invited to "Come over and help us!" WILLIAM HART, LACHLEN McDONALD, } Deacons. EOGHAN.

BARRINGTON.—Correction.—Mr. Editor.—A correspondent "W. R." in your issue of the 14th, furnishes a few items of information, which demand from me a little explanation and correction. The New Meeting House in Pubnico, to which he refers, does credit to the people of that locality. It was built by a few individuals at a cost of \$1500. The pews were then sold at auction, and realized the handsome sum of \$1800. The house will accommodate upwards of 400 persons. On the day of dedication, 28th ult., three services were held, all of which were interesting. The people of the community are not "mostly Free Will Baptists." There are not a half a dozen of that denomination in the vicinity. "W. R." says that "Barrington is famous for Churches," etc. It is true that there are many churches, and each church has one or two places of worship, with the exception of the Baptists, who being amongst the "poor of this world," are rather behind their brethren of other denominations with respect to church accommodation. I am happy to say, however, that they too with the assistance of kind friends from abroad, have erected a house which they hope to see completed ere long. W. H. RICHAN.

Barrington, Feb. 20th, 1866.

Donation Vists.

DEAR EDITOR.—I know it is not expected for an individual or a people to herald abroad its own liberality, so far from "sounding a trumpet," when we have given; common modesty, as well as the word of truth, induces not to let "the left hand know what the right hand doeth." But that which modesty inclines the donors to "do in secret," the donor may with propriety "proclaim upon the house-top," and I desire to acknowledge through the Messenger, the kindness of the people among whom providence has cast my favored lot.

Quite a large number of them met at my boarding place, to spend the afternoon and evening of the 22nd inst. The presence of the Revs. J. Johnson, (Westeyan), S. March and J. M. Parker, and of course good speeches from these gentlemen and others, together with excellent music from Mr. Thos. Hall and his choir, added much to the interest of the occasion. Having passed a very pleasant evening together, the friends dispersed leaving me richer not only by \$55.69 of this world's goods, of which \$42.44 was in cash, but richer far in the confidence that I enjoy their sympathies and prayers.

But while I have been blest in receiving, my prayer is that the donors may realize in a happy measure, that it is more blessed to give than to receive. Yours, &c.

W. H. RICHAN. New Germany, Feb. 27th, 1866.

To our numerous friends in Westport, who lately greeted us at the Parsonage, with words of good cheer, a purse, and articles useful in a family, (a donation in good faith, and not the eking out of an otherwise unpaid salary), we tender our best wishes, trusting that they all may be blessed in their basket and in their store, and that they may also obtain the durable riches, and the robe of righteousness which fadeeth not away.

SAMUEL RICHARDSON. FLORENCE RICHARDSON.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Much unnecessary trouble is often given us, by our friends writing their Notices of Marriages or Deaths on the same sheet or page with business matters or other articles for publication. We wish again to remind them that each separate article should be written on a separate piece of paper or they are very liable to put aside and lost.

Acadia College.

A Meeting of the Board of Governors will be held in the Library on Tuesday, March 20, at two o'clock, P. M.

A Meeting of the Academy Committee will be held at the same time.

Feb. 24, 1866.

S. W. DEBLOIS, Secretary.

Letters Received.

Rev. T. A. Blackadar. Rev. W. H. Richan—Young Reapers for January, and two new subscribers were all sent. Rev. Jos. Murray. J. Ehler, 3rd, \$2.50. Rev. H. Angell. A. Whitman, Esq., \$20. Rev. Dr. Tupper, 2 subs. F. W. Jones. Rev. C. Randall, \$8. M. McLean. J. Hamilton. A. G. Musgrave, \$34.50. Rev. S. Richardson. E. O'Brien, \$2. H. Wallace. J. Whitman, Esq., \$4. Rev. R. J. Langridge. Rev. H. E. Hall.

General Intelligence.

Domestic.

LIBEL SUIT.—The Recorder is informed that the "Halifax Rifles" have instituted a suit for libel against a Mr. Hutchinson, who it appears is editor of the Burning Bush, a paper which recently by implication accused the company of treasonable tendencies.

A FENIAN HOAX.—During Friday night last the police discovered several handbills posted about the city with the following printed thereon:—

C. A. H. Q. F. B. Fenians Rally.

H. R. C.

They tore them down as soon as discovered.

The late Mr. Parks of this city left a legacy of £100 to the Building fund of St. John's Presbyterian Church, and £50 for the Foreign Mission of the Presbyterian Church.

The City Council have rejected the bill for the appointment of a Stipendiary Magistrate.

About 100 men are engaged at the Government quarries at the North West Arm, getting out iron stone and granite. The men have been employed all the winter, and large quantities of granite and iron stone are now ready to be delivered to parties who have been contracting for Government work.

The Legislature of New Brunswick meets for the despatch of business on Thursday next.

The contract for finishing the new Provincial Building has been taken by Mr. Brookfield; the amount for performing the work is stated to be \$76,000, the building to be roofed in before the close of the present year.

INDIAN HARBOR.—An exhibition in connection with the Indian Harbor school was held on Friday evening the 23rd, ult. The weather being favorable, a larger number assembled than could be accommodated. The exercises were of an interesting character, consisting of dialogues, and recitations, together with a variety of choice music. The dialogues were creditable, and the music reflected great credit on the singers as well as on the person who presided at the melodean,—everything combined to render the affair a complete success. A small admission fee was charged, the proceeds of which are to be appropriated to the worthy purpose of furnishing the School with necessary apparatus. C. A. W.

YARMOUTH.—Declaration day appears to have passed off with much good feeling. The Tribune reports Mr. Goucher to have said, that "Some of his friends seemed to be possessed with an idea that there was something demoralizing in legislation. He did not think so; he believed the contrary; but if so, so much the more necessity was there for the introduction of a moral element into the arena of politics."

CONFEDERATION IN THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.—The following is the paragraph referring to a union of these Provinces, in Her Majesty's Speech at the opening of Parliament:

"I watch with interest the proceedings which are still in progress in British North America with a view to a closer union among the Provinces, and I continue to attach great importance to that object."

IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

10th MARCH, 1866.

RESOLVED, That no Bill of a private or local nature, or Petition therefor, be received by the House after the 14th day from the opening of each session of the present House of Assembly, and that the Clerk, do, one month previously to the opening of the Legislature, cause this Resolution to be inserted in at least four of the public newspapers.

A true extract. HENRY C. D. TWINING, Clerk of the House of Assembly. Jan. 31.