

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, NOVEMBER 14, 1866.

ECCLESIASTICAL MILLINERY.

Church vestments are commanding a large share of public attention in Great Britain at the present time. The dresses of the priests, so called, in the Anglican Church being regarded as the insignia of the parties to which clergymen severally belong, and of the doctrines held and taught by them, they have a degree of importance attaching to them in each others estimation, besides that of mere externals. Some of the Ritualists in the Church of England go to most extravagant lengths in imitating the Roman Catholic priesthood in their practices and teaching, as well as in their vestments. Almost the only link that is wanting in their connection with that church is that of allegiance to the Pope.

Not only are evangelical churchmen earnestly asking their superiors to interfere and suppress such follies, but the more influential exponents of public opinion are calling out loudly to the authorities in Church and State to repress such pernicious extravagancies. The *Times* asks, What is the use of bishops if they cannot prohibit such obnoxious practices.

A Church Congress was recently held at York. In connection therewith was an exhibition of clerical vestments and other ecclesiastical ornaments. That the former might be seen to advantage it was advertised that they would be displayed on figures, and of course attracted a considerable amount of attention. No remonstrance was given by the Congress and the show was understood as a great triumph of ritualism. The following is given as a description of a bishop's full canonicals:—

"Sandals of purple velvet, banded with cloth of gold, jewelled; cassock of purple silk, trained; rochet of fine lawn, edged with Irish point lace; alb and girdle of fine linen; tunic of blue silk, banded and fringed with silver; dalmatic of gold-coloured silk, banded and fringed with gold; vestment, stole, and maniple from set 1; mitre of cloth of gold embroidered with passion-flowers, gloves of purple silk embroidered with gold; ring, a sapphire surrounded with brilliants; pastoral, staff of ivory and ebony set with topaz, emeralds and carbuncles. It seems that when the bishop gives his blessing he is to wear his mitre, hold his pastoral staff in his left hand, and raise his right, while the altar lights are to burn. To judge from the prices appended to some of the vestments, few English churchwardens would like to be called on to provide them. One set costs £250, and another in the same page £60."

What is most extraordinary the promoters of this folly profess to find it prescribed in the Rubric of that church. The ministers of some other denominations besides those of the Church of England use vestments, and attach more or less of importance to them in the exercise of their official duties.

We find nothing respecting canonicals or vestments in the New Testament, and presume it would be a difficult task to make out this as one of the ingredients in the Apostolical succession. A brief history of clerical dresses, we imagine, would be highly interesting. The apostle Paul did however ask Timothy to bring 'the cloak that he left at Troas.' This was doubtless neither more nor less than a cloak; which he would be glad to have in prison where he was, as it appears by verse 21 that winter was approaching. We need not inform our readers, that, as we understand this matter, the christian ministry is separated from their brethren by spiritual qualifications and gifts alone, and no amount of surplises, gowns or bands affect their position or entitle them to reverence. We do not find in the New Testament any instructions to regard the ministry as a priesthood, and therefore object to exhibitions of official sacerdotal dress in the christian ministry.

REV. W. V. GARNER.—We find the following in a Boston letter to one of our U. S. exchanges:

Charles Street Church, the place where the courtly and beloved Dr. Sharp preached for so many years, have resolved not to die. The location of their house of worship for many years has been unfavorable, and many of their former standard bearers have removed or have died. But a few faithful ones remain, and believing now that the tide of population is beginning to settle around him, they have inaugurated anew the effort to maintain and enlarge their borders. The Rev. Mr. Garner, now of St. John, New Brunswick, has been called to the pastorate, and it is believed he will accept. His well-known 'pulpit' talents and personal worth incite strong hopes that with the ordinary blessing of God, he will, ere long, gather around him a goodly host.

We shall be sorry to lose Mr. G. from these provinces. He was highly appreciated at St. John and at our annual meetings of Convention.

We commend the following communication to the serious attention of our readers, and trust they will rather increase than diminish their efforts on behalf of an object so worthy of public sympathy and encouragement:

DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTION,
Halifax, Nov. 12, 1866.

To the Editor of the Christian Messenger.

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly permit me through your columns respectfully to request those friends who took charge of collecting cards in aid of the Deaf and Dumb on the occasion of my father's tour in Hants, Colchester and Cumberland during the months of August and September last—to forward the same to the Institution, with the amount collected, it possible not later than the middle of December.

I make this request for two reasons. First, in order that the collections may be received in time for acknowledgement in the Annual Report published at the beginning of the year; and secondly, because the Institution never stood more in need of aid than at the present time—the funds at this moment being inadequate to meet the necessary expenses, including the remuneration of some who are "bearing the heat and burden of the day" in this interesting but arduous and trying field of philanthropic labour.

I would also embrace this opportunity to disabuse the public mind of an impression that seems to prevail, and which has already, I fear, exerted an unfavourable influence on the funds of the Institution. I refer to the idea that the recent bequest of William Murdoch Esq., has made the Institution almost if not altogether self-sustaining,—and consequently independent of the free-will offerings of the people. This is a grave mistake, and unless speedily corrected will do serious damage to the interests of deaf-mute education in the Province.

In the first place the funds will receive little or no benefit from this legacy for the present year,—the interest alone of the £5000 being available, and that commencing only at the date of probate about the end of last month. And, in the second place, under ordinary circumstances, the interest (£300) in future accruing from the bequest will meet only about one fourth part of the annual expenditure which amounts to about £1200. The balance £900 must be made up from other sources. Towards this, perhaps £100 may be set down for payments of Pupils, though I believe this is above the mark, and the Legislature usually give a grant of £500—still leaving £800 at least to be raised by voluntary contribution every year. And this, it should be remembered, allows nothing for any extension of the usefulness of the Institution, but barely suffices to maintain its operations on their presents scale, which it would be easy to show, is by no means equal to the necessities of the case.

If, then, public liberality is permitted to fall off, it is evident that the benevolent design of the Testator will be directly frustrated. Instead of the deaf and dumb being benefited by his munificence that very munificence will be converted into an occasion of injury to the Institution, and of pecuniary advantage to the general community, by relieving them of the duty of a regular and voluntary surrender of a portion of their substance to an object which may truly be regarded as the cause of God and of humanity.

I earnestly pray that He who has the hearts of all men in His hand, may so direct the judgment and sympathies of the Christian community in this matter, that the liberality hitherto extended towards "the children of silence," may not only continue undiminished but go on gradually increasing, until the usefulness of the Institution shall be co-extensive with the educational wants of the deaf-mutes of our Province.

I am yours respectfully,
J. SCOTT HUTTON.

There is at times, much said about union, which has other objects in view. We doubt the sincerity of such talk, when it is calculated to disturb the harmony of individual churches, or to weaken the bonds between brethren having a common faith, and fraternal relationship. Union in general, is of small value, unless it promotes the tie which binds members of churches together, and induces their co-operation in works of faith and labors of love. Some members of Baptist churches in Boston a short time since commenced an organization for the purpose of cultivating a better acquaintance among the churches, calling it the Social Union. They hold a meeting monthly and endeavour to bring together representatives of as many different churches as possible, by special invitation, so as to strengthen the bond of union between them at these meetings, questions bearing on denominational interests are discussed. It was at first considered a doubtful experiment, but is now become an institution of much interest and benefit to the churches of the city generally.

Such meetings between neighbouring churches in any place, would, we believe, be found pleasant and profitable.

THE NEW YORK MUSICAL GAZETTE No 1, is received. This is a new monthly by Mason Brothers, 596 Broadway, N. Y., consisting of 12 quarto pages, 4 of which are to be of music, got up in excellent style, for \$1 a year.

The present number has three or four very pretty songs, one anthem and several good tunes. The names of the publishers are a guarantee of its character.

Pedobaptists are not all agreed as to the proper relation of the children who have received the rite of Infant Baptism—whether they are members or not. At a recent Methodist Sunday school Convention, held in Philadelphia, Rev. Dr. Nadal read an essay on "Childhood and the Church," in which he took strong grounds in favor of infant church membership; contending that regeneration is not a requisite for church membership. On the motion to print the essay, a discussion followed, in which it was declared that the essay did not express the true views of the Methodist Church.

It would be much easier to pass such a negative resolution than a positive one, affirming what Infant Baptism does really signify and effect.

A GOOD PROSPECT.—One of our ministerial brethren writes:—

"I have nothing special to write. As a church we are working on; praying and hoping for better times.

I believe God has a blessing in store for us, and I am expecting it."

We recommend a similar course to the brethren generally.

BELCHER'S ALMANAC FOR 1867 is out bright and early, fuller than ever. It forms a large 12cents worth—having about 200 pages, including advertisements.

Notices, &c.

Acadia Athenaeum.

The next lecture before the above society, will be delivered by Rev. S. W. DeBlois, A. M., in the vestry of the Baptist Meeting-house, Wolfville, on the evening of Friday, 23rd inst., at 7 o'clock. Subject:—"Reminiscences of a brief holiday in Europe." W. A. D. MACKINLEY, Cor. Sec'y. Acadia College, Nov. 12th 1866.

The Prayer Meeting, inaugurating the Fourteenth Course of Lectures, before the Y. M. C. Association, will be held, (D. V.) in St. Andrews Church on Tuesday, Nov. 20th. Chair to be taken at 6 o'clock, P. M.

The next session of the Cape Breton Quarterly Ministerial Conference will be held in the Mabou Baptist Chapel—commencing on Saturday, 17th Nov., next, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

We hope to meet a large number of our brethren and friends, and we most earnestly beseech them to come, supplicating the presence and blessing of the Master.

By order of the Conference,
J. F. KEMPTON.

Oct. 15th, 1866.

Received for Home Missions.

From the Windsor Church.....\$31.53
" River John, Pictou, per Charles Sutherland..... 5.00
R. N. BECKWITH, Sec'y.

For the Christian Messenger.

DEAR EDITOR,—

Will you allow me to make the following statements in your paper.

As I have been informed that a number of book hawkers have been circulating through the country *Playing cards, and very bad Literature*, in my name, calling themselves my Agents, I feel it to be my duty to say, that I have not employed any agents to sell books for me during the last 12 months. One of my clerks is at present an agent for me in Yarmouth County, selling the best of books. I have no other agents. I never sold cards nor knowingly soul destroying Literature. Neither will I hold myself responsible for anything done by book-peddlers. Yours very truly,
A. F. PORTER.

General Intelligence.

Domestic.

THANKSGIVING DAY.—To-morrow will be observed as a General Day of Thanksgiving. The Granville Street and North Baptist Churches will have services in the morning at 11 o'clock.

FIRE.—There were several alarms of fire on Saturday evening and Sunday. The only serious one however was from the Military Hospital on Citadel Hill, which was entirely consumed. The military and civilians were promptly on hand endeavouring to subdue the flames, but without effect. It appears that the fire originated in the surgery. The sick soldiers were removed to the Citadel Barracks, but we regret to learn that several of the Union Protection Company were seriously injured by an explosion of chemicals. The large building destroyed was originally erected by the Duke of Kent, and occupied by him as his town residence.

The fire on Sunday was a barn owned by Thomas Condon. Two cows were in it at the time but were removed without injury.

A large sum of money, in bank notes, was advertised as lost on the Guysborough road, sometime last fall; strange to say, after lying buried underneath the snow during the whole winter, it was picked up on the 10th of April last, by Mr. James Bruce and another man, belonging to Middle Musquodobit, who promptly returned the amount to the owner. The notes were but very slightly injured.—*Express*.

ANNAPOLIS RAILWAY.—We are in a position to give to our readers the assurance that all the arrangements have been completed for an early commencement of this great public work. An able contractor will be on the ground in a very short time, and the work will be prosecuted to completion without unnecessary delay.—*Col.*

SUPREME COURT.—The Criminal side of the Court was not sitting for two or three days last week.

In the case of Sallis and Thom charged with arson, the verdict of acquittal was given as it appeared that Michael Hines, who has absconded, was the guilty person.

The bill against Capt. Crowell of the brig "Aristos," for shooting one of his own men, was thrown out by the Grand Jury. It will be remembered that the man who was shot had murdered, and the Captain had only used the pistol in self-defence.

The civil side has been occupied with a number of cases of but little interest to any parties except those immediately concerned as follow: Elliot vs. Ladds, Verdict for Plaintiff for £20. Cooper vs. Cooper,—an action of ejectment was arranged between the parties.

Garrett vs. Doran,—The case will stand over until next term.

Beckwith vs. Casey.—Verdict for Plaintiff for full amount claimed.

Hall et al vs. McKeen. Verdict for plaintiff for full amount claimed.

The action of Ritchie vs. Miller will come on this day.

W. Miller, Esq., has commenced an action in the Supreme Court, for libel, against the editor of the *Citizen*.

WORK FOR A DETECTIVE.—A man who is described as of rather a respectable appearance, has succeeded, during the past week, in swindling a number of the owners of produce, a large quantity of which is now for sale at the different wharves of the city. It appears he bought half a cargo at a time, and gave the name of some firm well known in the city as the purchasers. Truckmen were then sent by him to convey the produce to different shopkeepers, to whom he had sold it as his own property. In this manner he accumulated a large amount of money. The Police are on the track of the scamp, and will doubtless "nail" him, ere he is many days older.—*Recorder*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.—His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has received the following despatch:—

Quebec, Nov. 6th.

To F. W. Williams.—I beg to express to the Government of Nova Scotia, my sincere thanks for their generous liberality to the sufferers by the Quebec fire. MONCK.

The government of this province have met the application from Turk's Island, for aid under the fearful hurricane there, by a donation of \$1000. Sir F. W. Williams has also sent \$50 for the same object.

ACCIDENTS.—A railway navy, George McIntyre, of Antigonish, was seriously injured by being jammed between the cars and platform at New Glasgow, on Wednesday last. He died about half an hour afterwards.

A little girl named Preper, was burned to death, in consequence of her clothes taking fire, on Wednesday last in Upper Water Street.

Two or three other cases of accident to children by fire have occurred during the past week.

DROWNED.—Capt. Shellout, of the schr. *Lizzie*, from Labrador, reports on Sunday, 28th ult., when north east of Cape St. George, experienced a violent gale, during which she shipped a heavy sea, washing two seamen named David Bontelier and Jeremiah Barry overboard, and the sea running so high it was impossible to save them.

AIDING DESERTERS.—The two sailors belonging to the steamer *Emperor*, charged with aiding a seaman to desert from Her Majesty's service, were found guilty, and fined \$50 each, or three months in jail.

YARMOUTH.—The store of Messrs. Wm. M. Bond & Co. was broken into on Tuesday night, the 6th inst., and robbed of boots and dry goods to the amount of about \$50.

New Brunswick.

The N. B. government have granted \$6000 for the relief of the Quebec sufferers.

A young man named Luke Kitchie, residing in St. Patrick Street, St. John, N. B. was found drowned on Saturday last. It is supposed he fell over the wharf the previous day.

Canada.

THE TRIAL OF FENIANS.—Toronto, C. W. Nov. 7.—Father McMahon, under sentence of death has determined to appeal for a new trial.—An application for a new trial will also be made in behalf of Col. Lynch.

Nov. 9.—The Court met at one o'clock, Peter Curran alias Doye and Henry Javelle were first placed in the dock. Mr. McKenzie moved to quash the indictment. The prisoners pleaded not guilty. The trial was postponed and the prisoners removed.

Several others were arraigned and their cases similarly dealt with.

One of the prisoners named Grace has received since his incarceration 1650 dollars, as his portion of the reward for the capture of J. Wilkes Booth. Many of the cases were postponed when the case of Daniel Diamond was reached. After the examination of a long list of witnesses the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty.

It is expected that the Government will commute the death sentence of Lynch and ex-Father McMahon.

The police have been instructed to cause the arrest of all suspicious characters. Fourteen were committed yesterday.

Nov. 10.—At the Fenian trials in Toronto on Saturday last, another Fenian named Wm. Hayden was sentenced to be hung on the 13th Dec.