

more than fair-play then, to tell of one good class of institutions which exists there, and which is doing an astonishing amount of good. The Mission Schools for the gathering in of all children, not already claimed and looked after by other congregations, are most flourishing, and Sunday by Sunday are giving of the water of life freely to hundreds of thirsting souls.

On a street in the Northern part of the city stands one of these schools, and as visitors are always welcome, we may fancy ourselves just passing through the gate and up the walk. The exterior, you observe, is quite church like, the large wooden building having long pointed windows, a light-bell turret with a good sized bell and a pretty entrance porch. On entering you pass through the hall into a large room, off from which open several small ones, used for the Bible and Infant Classes. The smaller rooms are furnished simply with long benches with backs and a chair or two. The large room is cheerful, well lighted, well ventilated, and in winter well heated. The walls are prettily stained and hung round with engravings of different Scriptural subjects and maps of the several divisions of the Holy Land, and appropriate texts are painted in gaily colored letters around the windows and over the platform at the end of the room. On this platform stands, a small table with the Bible and other necessary books upon it, the Superintendent's chair and seats for visitors. All the members of the various departments are present during the opening Exercises—the Infant Class being assigned seats at the front of the room for the present, and the folding doors into the Bible Class rooms being thrown open. On the ringing of the Superintendent's bell, a short prayer is made by some teacher or by the Superintendent, and then all unite in that best of prayers—the Lord's Prayer.

Then some portion of the Bible, generally some selection from the Psalms, is repeated in concert after the Superintendent, and then the lesson of the day is commenced, it being the same for all classes in the main room.

The Bible Class doors are closed and the Infant Class betake themselves to their own room to be amused and interested in Bible stories, to be taught little verses and to sing their own little hymns. In the main room, for three quarters of an hour the lesson engrosses every thought, or at least is expected to do so.

At the expiration of the time, comes the singing: the delight of the children and one of the strongest ties which binds them to a regular attendance in the school. The different departments all unite in this, and the wee ones from the infant room come back prepared to do great service in this line. One or two gentlemen who are accustomed to leading in singing, take their places, to teach them new hymns and keep them all together, in those they know.

First, an old familiar hymn is sung and how they sing! Such a full tide of melody as pours forth from the six hundred voices—then a new hymn is practised, line by line, until pretty well conquered, and they go back again to familiar ones. The Infant Class nearly sing themselves off from their seats in their enthusiasm, and look very comical as they open their mouths so wide and make such big eyes in their efforts to keep sight of the leader's time beating. The faces of the older ones glow as they shout out, "Oh! do not be discouraged, for Jesus is your Friend," and then the hearty refrain "I am glad I'm in this army and I'll battle for the school." They look ready to go out on a crusade against sin and the devil, and we can only pray to ourselves that they fall not by the wayside, as did the thousands we read about, who, hundreds of years ago, strove so bravely to reach the Holy Land and perished so miserably.

There are some faces among the children, which already bear the sad marks of premature care and sorrow, the saddest look, some one has said, for a child's face to bear; but there is still a sadder trace left by sin on peoples' faces, and some even of these young children are disfigured, by the branding iron of evil passions and deceit.

As they sing their beautiful hymns, all the faces seem to soften, the sad ones have a gleam of happiness, mischievous eyes grow tender, and the ugly sin wrinkles smooth out from the brows of the depraved. Who can tell but that the angels are hushing their golden harps to silence, as there creeps up, through a crevice in the pearly gates, the song of the children, and we are sure the Heavenly Father accepts their offering for the sake of the dear Saviour who, too, was once a little child.

After singing, comes the announcing of the next Sunday's lesson, the distribution of books, papers, an address or two from different persons, some of them being stupid and tedious enough,

and prayer. With the benediction still sounding softly in our ears, we pass out into the open air, and as we walk homeward, through the quiet streets, the western sky all aglow with the days' dying splendour, our hearts go out with thankfulness, towards these good people who are carrying on this work. The little children of to-day, will be the men and women of to-morrow, taking their stand for good or evil in the world; and around us all are some of these, whom we can influence. At the very least, we can be tender to those of our own households, treating them always fairly and gently, for "the sob of the child in the silence, curses deeper than the strong man in his wrath;" and we know the Saviour was moved to denounce those who should offend "one of these little ones."

C. S.

## Religious Intelligence.

WILMOT.—Rev. W. H. Porter writes:—"We are experiencing a little "reviving in our bondage" in the Salem Section of the Pine Grove church. To God be the praise."

ACADIA, YARMOUTH CO., March, 12, 1867: Dear Brother Seiden.—In the last letter that I wrote to you, Feb. 4, I stated that the Lord was graciously visiting the little church at Argyle, with a revival of religion. We can truly say, "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad." The little church, last year, when the letter was sent to the Association, numbered only 41. But by the blessing of God, it has more than doubled. Since the revival has commenced we have baptized 38. We have also added 6 from other churches, in all 77. There are several more whom we expect soon to baptize.

Yours truly,

W. L. PARKER.

THE CHURCH IN THE COLONIES.—Lord Carnarvon, in the House of Lords, a short time ago in reply to a demand of the Bishop of London for certain documents relating to the condition of the Episcopal Church in the Colonies, said, "Not a single Church in the Colonies was at this moment an Established Church. Canada, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, one after another had repudiated the idea of anything like an Established Church; and matters had gone so far that in South Australia the Legislature had absolutely refused on one or two occasions to pass an Act referring to the Church of England because it seemed to give a legal existence to it. Therefore the Colonial Church at that moment was entirely in the position of a voluntary association—it was in precisely the same position as the Wesleyan body, the Roman Catholics or the Baptists—neither better nor worse than they were."

The Pope is printing, at the Propaganda, a facsimile of the famous manuscript of the Greek Bible of the Vatican, which is more ancient than that of Mount Sinai. The Holy Father intends to send it to the Paris Exhibition.

SLEEPING IN CHURCH is a serious crime in Rhode Island. Last Sunday afternoon week a poor Irishman went into one of the churches in Providence, was shown into a seat, took a quiet nap during the services, and was peaceably retiring at their close when he was arrested, tried and sent to jail for ten days.

Advices from the Cape of Good Hope bring the sad intelligence that Dr. Livingstone the African explorer, has been killed by Caffres.

SMALL PREACHERS are not very uncommon, but it is very rare to find one so small-sized as one now laboring with extraordinary success amongst the Methodists at Peterborough, C. W. He is about an inch taller than General Tom Thumb.

The following item appears in a Dublin newspaper:—"Died, Jan. 7, at Milford, Mayo county, Ireland, Peggy Wash, aged 124 years, a servant in the family of Miller, of Milford since 1757."

## Provincial Parliament.

His Excellency Sir W. F. Williams of Kars, &c., attended at the Legislative Council Chamber, on Saturday last, the 11th Inst., at 2 o'clock, for the purpose of

### OPENING THE LEGISLATURE.

The Council Chamber was crowded by the usual officials and a large number of ladies and gentlemen.

His Excellency was received in front of the Province Building by a guard of honor from H. M. 4th Regiment, and in the hall of the building by the Scottish Rifles, under the command of Capt. John S. Maclean.

His Excellency's arrival was announced by the firing of a salute by the Halifax Volunteer Artillery, an the Grand Parade.

The members of the Assembly were summoned to attend, and in their usual order walked from the House to the chamber of the Upper Branch. On their arrival the Lieutenant Governor addressed the combined Legislature by the following

### SPEECH.

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

1. In meeting you at a most important epoch in the affairs of British North America, it affords me much pleasure to be able to congratulate you on the continued peace and prosperity of the Province during the past year.

2. While these Colonies have been subjected to the threats, and in some instances to the invasion of lawless men, our Province has been exempted from any attack, and although our local forces nobly responded to the call which was made upon them in the early part of the year to arm for the purposes of defence, happily no necessity occurred to require their services to repel an invader.

3. The exigencies of the Province of New Brunswick rendering it necessary for a time to withdraw a large portion of Her Majesty's Troops from this Garrison for the protection of that Colony, it was with the utmost satisfaction that I was enabled to fill their places for Garrison duty by portions of the Halifax Volunteer and Militia Artillery and the Volunteer Battalion, and to mark how well that service was performed. The readiness and good discipline of the officers and men who were then employed, shew how much has been effected by the efforts made during the last few years to place our local forces in a proper condition, and how much we can depend upon them in the hour of need.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

4. The Public Accounts will be submitted to you without delay, and will exhibit the finances of the Country in a state of unprecedented prosperity. Large as was the revenue of the previous year, the accounts will shew the gratifying fact that it has been greatly exceeded by that of 1866. The Estimates for the present year will also be laid before you.

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

5. I have again to express my regret that the Government of the United States have adhered to their policy of last year, obstructing that Trade which under the Reciprocity Treaty was so beneficial to their own country as well as to this Province. I have, however, to state that the abrogation of the Treaty has been much less prejudicial to us than was anticipated, and in some respects has been productive of good, by uniting more closely the interests and the Trade of this and the other North American Colonies.

6. In accordance with a Resolution of the Legislature passed last session, the Commission of the Paris Exhibition was organized, and by the labors of the gentlemen comprising this Board, a large number of valuable articles, exhibiting the varied resources of the Province, have been collected and sent forward to Paris; and it is confidently expected that the results of this exhibition will be of material advantage to the best interests of the Province.

7. (Owing to financial difficulties in the money market of Great Britain last year, no progress was made in the construction of the Windsor and Annapolis Railroad; but it affords me much pleasure to state that by a new contract made under the provisions of the law relating thereto this important work has now been placed in the hands of competent parties, with every prospect of satisfactory accomplishment. Great progress has been made in the construction of the Pictou Railroad, a portion of which has been already opened to the public, and it is fully anticipated that it will be completed at the time mentioned in the contract.

8. The papers and reports of the Joint Commission to Brazil and the West Indies will be laid before you, and it is hoped that much good will result from the efforts thus made to extend the commerce of the British North American Colonies with those portions of the globe.

9. It is gratifying to me to advert to the great progress made in the important cause of Education under recent enactments.

10. I rejoice to be able to congratulate you upon the success which has attended the Delegation sent by me under your authority to confer with Her Majesty's Government on the Union of the Colonies. The papers relating to this important subject will be immediately laid before you. In the firm conviction that the Union of Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, upon the terms provided in the Bill submitted by Her Majesty's Government to the Imperial Parliament, will largely increase the prosperity of all these Provinces, and contribute to the strength and stability of those British Institutions which it is their good fortune to enjoy, I commend to your consideration such changes and amendments in our existing laws as may be found necessary.

After the Speech had been read, and a copy handed to the Speaker, the people's representatives retired to the House, and His Honor read the Speech.

Mr. Bourinot arose and by some very appropriate remarks moved an Address in reply to the Opening Speech. He went over the several topics noticed in the speech, especially dwelling on the closing paragraph. He noticed the modifications that had taken place in the aspects of Confederation to the advantage of Nova Scotia. He stated that he represented the largest constituency in the province, and a portion of the province which excelled all in its mineral and material wealth, and he was satisfied that the views he held were those

of his constituents generally. The Address is merely an echo of the Speech, and we therefore feel it unnecessary to copy the whole, as it would occupy so much of our space. The last paragraph is made the subject of amendment, and it may be more clear to our readers if we copy it as follows:

"We have learned with deep satisfaction that the efforts to effect a satisfactory Union of the British North American Colonies have been so successful, and entertain no doubt that the best interests of all these Provinces will be greatly enhanced, and that their connection with the Crown and the Parent State will be thereby permanently secured."

Mr. Churchill arose to second the Address and in doing so spoke of the benefits to the province of the railway operations of the past year. The progress made would wipe out the reproach of having two pieces of railway beginning nowhere and ending nowhere. In this he was greatly pleased. There were some other parts of the Address with which he was not so especially interested, but had much pleasure in seconding its adoption.

Mr. Stewart Campbell asked for the usual course to be taken and to let the Address lie on the table till Monday, as he would then be prepared to move an amendment to the closing paragraph. Hon. Provincial Secretary was glad that the hon. member, whom he perceived had been chosen leader of the opposition, had so frankly stated his intention of moving an amendment, and would wait with the utmost confidence the decision of the peoples' representatives on this most momentous question. The House then adjourned till 3 o'clock on Monday.

### MONDAY, March 18th.

After the opening, the Address was read and passed, clause by clause, until the last one, when Mr. S. Campbell arose and moved the following amendment:

"We regret that we are unable to perceive any grounds whereon to reciprocate Your Excellency's congratulation upon the assumed success of the delegation commissioned by Your Excellency, under the resolution of this House, to confer with Her Majesty's Government on the subject of the Union of the Colonies."

"On behalf of the free people of Nova Scotia, we would respectfully submit that, in relation to that question, the present is, in our opinion, a most important crisis in the history of this Province, and imperatively demands the exercise of the wisest discretion in the administration of its public affairs. Thus firmly impressed, we deem it to be our duty to convey to Your Excellency our solemn protest against the action of the delegation referred to, and most distinctly to claim and demand, on behalf of Nova Scotia that no such measure as that proposed should have any operation in this Province until it has been deliberately reviewed by its Legislature, and sanctioned by the people at the polls."

Mr. Campbell spoke with great warmth on the mission of the delegates to England, and believed they had exceeded the powers entrusted to them. He thought the treatment of the measure by the House of Lords, shewed how little they cared about the question. He thought the peoples' faith had been shaken, and it was the duty of every man to speak out his honest convictions.

Mr. Killam seconded the amendment, and in doing so, expressed his opinion that the Act of Parliament concerning Union, was the commencement of destruction to Britain's colonial system. Nova Scotia, he believed, was too near a great and powerful Republic to have such a measure forced upon it, without most disastrous effects.

Dr. Tupper arose and defended the action of the Government, and shewed that they would have been open to the severest reprobation if they had not carried out the resolution of the last session. Parliament was the only legally constituted voice of the people, and it would have been a most unheard-of proceeding, to listen to the advice offered by gentlemen opposite—a government sustained by a large majority, dissolving Parliament on a certain constitutional question. He stated that large numbers had been mentioned, as having petitioned Her Majesty to withhold her sanction to the Union Act, but, the petitions had not yet been put in a position to have the genuineness of the signatures tested.

He asked for an early decision, as it would be necessary to have other important matters placed before the House without delay, and intimated that the question should be taken on Tuesday evening.

House adjourned till 7 past 7. In the evening sitting, Mr. Annand spoke in favor of the amendment, and demanded that previous to the Union question being finally passed, the people should be heard at the polls.

The Hon. Financial Secretary replied at some length, and charged Mr. Annand with wishing to fasten heavy burdens on the people, by the plan of an Organization of the Empire—offered in lieu of the Union of the British American Provinces.

As no one arose to speak the House adjourned at about 10 o'clock.

## Colonial and Foreign News.

### New Brunswick.

NEW INVENTION.—The St. John Journal says that at the trial of L'Extincteur, the new portable fire extinguisher, in that city on Thursday was most successful. It took place on the Haymarket Square, in the presence of His Worship the Mayor, a number of merchants and gentlemen interested in vessels, factories,