

METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE.—From the April number of the *Sword and the Trowel* we learn the following interesting facts:—The net increase of membership is small, "and," adds Mr. Spurgeon, "we trust it always will be, for our object is to induce our friends to swarm off into new hives, as they have done this year. We have greatly contributed to the membership of the new churches at Drummond-road, Claremont Rooms, and Stockwell, and hope in years to come to send out successive bands of converts to till the waste places, and by God's grace, to make them blossom as the rose." 359 members have been received during the year by baptism, 18 by restoration, 100 from other churches, making a total of 477 received. There have been 37 deaths, 68 removals, 188 persons have joined other churches (principally being groups organized to form new churches), 19 excommunicated. The net increase for the year is 165. "Friends will be glad to hear that the trustees for the orphanage have been appointed, the property properly transferred, and the deeds executed; and thus the generous Christian lady who offered to devote so large a sum to this noble object has fulfilled her promise. We hope we shall not be long without further assistance from those of our readers who are both opulent and charitable."

PRESBYTERIAN.—The Presbytery of Edinburgh have, by a majority of seventeen to thirteen, appointed a committee to inquire whether the Rev. Dr. Lee has obeyed their injunction to cease the reading of prayers in Old Greyfriars Church, and to conform to the usages of the Church of Scotland. It is a matter of notoriety that notwithstanding the Presbytery's decision of the 14th of March, Dr. Lee has used his service book as heretofore; but when questioned on the subject he declined to answer, on the ground that his appeal to the Synod stayed procedure, and that the Act of last Assembly in the powers given to Presbyteries was unconstitutional. The inquiry is proposed in consequence of his refusal to answer.

The following items were crowded out of our last issue:—

ST. JOHN N. B.—We learn from the *Visitor* that Rev. I. E. Bill has informed the Brussels Street Church that the state of his health will not justify continuance of his ministerial labors with them much longer, and has advised them to supply themselves with a permanent pastor as soon as possible. The church is in harmony, and the field is inviting to a man of physical health and mental vigor. May the Lord send them a pastor after his own heart.

Rev. G. W. N. Carey baptized one candidate last Sabbath.

Rev. W. Beckwith is holding special services in the Pitt Street Church, aided by Rev. G. F. Miles. Prospects are somewhat encouraging. Rev. E. Foshay is much better than he was.

Portland is still enjoying deeply interesting services: Rev. E. C. Cady, pastor, baptized last Lord's Day.

AMHERST SHORE.—The same paper gives pleasing intelligence from Bro. C. D. Rockwell, at Amherst Shore. "Five have been added to the church by baptism, and three more are received as candidates for that ordinance. The enquiry with some others is, 'What shall we do to be saved.'"

SPRINGFIELD.—Rev. D. Crandall writes:—"The blessed work of the Lord is still progressing in this place. Twenty happy converts were immersed yesterday in the likeness of their Saviour's death by the pastor; three of our grandchildren were among the number, making four since the commencement of the revival."

SOUTH DORCHESTER.—Elder Abram Duncan writes:—"God in his goodness has again visited the South Dorchester church. Nineteen were baptized, a number of old members, who from various causes were outside the church, were restored and one has been received for baptism."

FREDERICTON, N. B.—The Rev. J. C. Hurd informs the *Visitor* April 22nd, a good work is in progress in this place, and that our institution of learning is sharing largely in the result. There is very little excitement apparent. A deep and awful solemnity seems to pervade our meetings. Those who take part in them appear to be evidently moved upon by the Spirit of God. Meetings are being held every night and almost every morning, during the week. Eight have been baptized, five of whom are students in the seminary.

Others are anxiously enquiring, and we earnestly pray that the work may extend. Oh, for more of the mind that was also in Christ Jesus! for zeal to labour, faith to pray, and patience to wait for the salvation of God.

A GREAT BUT QUIET REFORM.—The suppression of the monasteries in Naples was carried into complete effect on the last day of 1866 and with so much gentleness that no disturbing incident was connected with it. The lay brethren will receive pensions, but will now have to support themselves by useful labor. One monastery was reserved for aged friars and those sufferings from any chronic malady. Only two of the 460 churches in Naples have been closed by the Government. Every church distinguished by its works of art will be kept open for inspection and for public worship.

THE RIGHT NAME FOR THE RIGHT THING.—The Baptists of Plymouth, England, are busy, devising measures for church extension. A correspondent in one of the daily papers observes,

that one of the features of the movements, is that it is not the result of a "split," but the purely natural outgrowth of the religious life of the people. It is noticeable that the English papers, in giving accounts of similar movements in other localities, write in the same strain. In London, Bradford, Birmingham, Liverpool—"that busy hive, the Baptists, have swarmed—not split—again and again."

EASTERN TURKEY.—A large and expensive house of worship has been erected in Eastern Turkey by the native christians. The timber was all brought by hand a distance of from three to five miles, sometimes thirty men to one stick. Women and children brought water and earth and stones, and Armenians of the old church and even Turks assisted.

NEARLY one third of the Baptist churches in this country are destitute, says a writer in the *Journal and Messenger*; nor are they likely to be supplied at an early day. In Indiana, for example, 1865, there were 460 churches and 285 ministers; in Illinois, 719 churches and 898 pastors; while in the latter there were only 28, and in the former only 14 licentiates.

HAMBURG.—The mission school at Hamburg has sent out eighty-one missionaries among the churches. The mission has distributed a million copies of the Bible in different languages, sixteen and a quarter millions of tracts, and one million of denominational books. Through their instrumentality about fifty thousand have been converted, and one hundred millions have had the gospel preached to them.

Provincial Parliament.

TUESDAY, April 23rd.

Mr. Cowie brought in a bill for the erection of a new bridge at Liverpool.

Mr. Bourinot a bill to amend the act incorporating the Boston and Bridgeport Coal Mining Company. Read a first and second time.

Hon. Mr. McFarlane presented the report from the Provincial Board of Agriculture. He also introduced a bill to amend the Revised Statutes relative to agriculture.

Mr. Charles Campbell introduced a bill to repeal the act of 1862 relating to the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.

Mr. Blanchard suggested that this matter be allowed to rest.

Mr. Campbell held a different opinion and the bill was read a first time.

Mr. Pryor, from committee, reported the bill to incorporate the Dartmouth Gas and Water Company.

Mr. Coffin, from the committee on land damages, presented a report recommending that damages be paid amounting in the aggregate to \$285 80. The report was adopted.

Mr. Hebb introduced a bill respecting the expenditure of money on public roads, providing for an increased allowance for teams. Read a first time.

Hon. Prov. Secretary introduced a supplementary report from the committee on Education, recommending the payment of certain claims for loss of school property in some parts of the Province. The report also recommends the purchase of 300 copies of Murdoch's History for prizes to be competed for in the several schools throughout the Province, was received and adopted.

Hon. Provincial Secretary submitted the report of the Chief Engineer on the Pictou Railway extension.

The House in committee on bills, passed the bill to incorporate the Dartmouth Gas and Water Company, and several others. After which the committee took up the bill providing that any male person residing in Halifax, over 21 years of age, not already taxed on property, shall pay an annual school tax of \$1.

On the Provincial Secretary introducing a provision that such persons be allowed to vote at civic elections upon producing their tax receipts; the bill passed.

The bill to authorize the City Corporation to make certain alterations and improvements in the City Market House, for the accommodation of vendors of vegetables from Dartmouth and the suburbs, after some discussion, was passed.

The committee also agreed to the following bills:—To incorporate the Pictou Mining Company;—To amend the act relating to drawbacks;—To incorporate the Gaspereaux School House and Public Hall Society; Relating to the Supreme Court in the county of Pictou;—To incorporate the road between Guysboro and Canso.

The House resumed.

Mr. Hill introduced a bill to amend the act relating to Crown Lands.

The Legislative Council informed the House that they had agreed to the bill relating to the management of the Lunatic Asylum.

Hon. Financial Secretary laid upon the table a return respecting the amount collected, and paid over to the Treasury, by the collector at the port of Amherst in Cumberland County.

The House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, April 24th.

The bills passed in committee on Tuesday were read a third time, and sent to the Legislative Council.

Hon. Mr. Farlane brought in a bill for the construction of a bridge across the Wallace River.

Dr. Hamilton a bill to incorporate the Victoria Harbor Pier Company.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command of this Excellency laid on the table a copy of the Act of the Imperial Parliament for the Union of British North American.

Mr. Miller asked whether it was the intention to publish a number of copies for distribution throughout the Province.

Hon. Prov. Secretary said it was advisable that correct information on such an important subject should be disseminated in the country, and he thought it would be well to arrange with the printer of the House to publish some thousands of copies of the act.

The standing committee were called, and the several chairmen reported that they would submit their reports at an early day.

The House adjourned.

THURSDAY, April 25th.

The House met at 3 p. m., but Mr. Hatfield having called the attention of the Speaker to the fact that there was not a quorum present, by rule the House adjourned until Friday at 10 a. m.

FRIDAY, April 26th.

Mr. Miller introduced a bill to enable the Sisters of Charity to sell certain lands.

Mr. Archibald, from the committee on the amendment of the laws, reported certain amendments in some of the laws in the Statute Book.

Hon. Prov. Secretary laid upon the table the road scale for the county of Cumberland.

Mr. Collin Campbell introduced a bill to change the name of Petite Passage, in the county of Victoria.

Mr. Charles Campbell presented a petition from Baddeck, relative to Presbyterian church matters.

Mr. McDonnell submitted the report of the committee on the fisheries, recommending certain changes in the existing law relative to the protection of the fisheries, calculated to make the enactments more stringent than they are at present.

After some discussion Mr. Tobin advocated the appointment of a general inspector of pickled fish for the port of Halifax.

Mr. Colin Campbell did not think any benefits would result from such appointment.

The report was received and adopted.

Mr. Killam introduced a bill relative to pilotage and harbor master for the port of Halifax.

Mr. Churchill presented a petition from Windsor relative to the damage for right of way for the railroad extension from that town to Annapolis, discussion ensued on the railway policy of the Government.

Hon. Provincial Secretary charged Mr. Killam with obstructing the government.

Mr. Killam in reply, contended that it would have been wiser policy to have constructed the Annapolis Railway as a Government work.

Hon. Provincial Secretary shewed that Mr. Killam, by his speeches and votes, had opposed the building of railways by the government.

The House then adjourned.

SATURDAY, April 27th.

The House in committee on bills passed the following:—To amend the act incorporating the Boston and Bridgeport Coal Mining Company, and the acts in amendment thereof. To amend the act incorporating the Poores Asylum and City Hospital. To provide for the construction of a bridge over the Liverpool River. To amend chap. 96 of the Revised Statutes of Agriculture. To amend the act incorporating the St. Lawrence and Bay of Fundy Canal Company. To enable the Sisters of Charity to sell certain lands in the city of Halifax. To change the name of Petite Passage, in the county of Digby. To incorporate the Merchant's Marine Insurance Company of Halifax.

To provide for the building of a bridge over the Wallace River, in the county of Cumberland. To provide for the improvement of certain roads and bridges in the county of Cumberland. To legalize the action of the trustees of schools in King's county. To incorporate the Halifax Asylum for the Blind. To incorporate the Victoria Harbor and Pier Company, in King's county. To amend chapter 81 of the Revised Statutes of assessment. After which the committee adjourned, and the House resumed.

Mr. Miller introduced a bill to further amend the act incorporating the Roman Catholic Bishop of Halifax.

Hon. Financial Secretary introduced a bill to provide for the payment of certain expenses connected with the Civil Government of this Province, read a first and second time.

Mr. Hill moved the second reading of the bill relating to Crown Lands and the survey thereof. One clause of the bill provides that no person shall pursue the profession of land surveyor unless duly qualified.

Some discussion arose on the effects likely to arise from this measure, and the motion to defer the bill moved by Mr. Kaulback was eventually carried.

Hon. Attorney General brought in a bill to amend the act incorporating the Acadian Coal Company, read a first and second time.

The Hon. Attorney General moved the second reading of the bill to provide for the holding of a Provincial Exhibition in 1868.

Mr. McDonnell thought it would be much more advantageous to expend the amount in the importation of improved breeds of stock.

M. Blackwood did not think much good would result from holding an Exhibition.

Mr. Ross believed that an Exhibition would prove of immense benefit and advantage to all sections of the country.

Hon. Attorney General said it would be no wonder if the resources of little Nova Scotia were not known abroad, when they were not known even at home. He held that the cost of holding such shows was so much contributed towards the education of the country.

Hon. Mr. McFarlane contended that all classes in the Province would be benefited by the results of an Exhibition.

Mr. Stewart Campbell was of a like opinion, and said that the House was pledged to grant the sum of \$6000 towards the object stated. He would willingly vote for a considerably larger amount.

Mr. McDonnell contended that no benefit would result from a mere local exhibition, but there might from an inter-colonial show.

Mr. Tobin showed the benefits that had resulted from previous exhibitions here and elsewhere. He was in favor of inviting contributions of specimens to the exhibition from the neighboring Provinces, and even from the United States.

Mr. Annand only regretted that the sum named to form a nucleus of a fund for the purpose in question was not larger. He suggested that the money derived from the sale of the articles sent to the Paris Exhibition be appropriated towards defraying the expenses incurred in holding the proposed Provincial Exhibition.

Dr. Hamilton spoke in favor of an Exhibition. Mr. Parker believed that Exhibitions tended to encourage manufactures, and develop the natural resources of the country.

The bill was read a second time.

Mr. Jost presented the report of the committee on Public Accounts. The House then adjourned.

MONDAY, April 29th.

Morning session.—Mr. Stewart Campbell moved that a committee of the House be appointed to arrange the road scale for the county of Guysboro. The following members were appointed:—Mr. Allison, Mr. Donkin and Mr. Whitman.

Mr. Whitman from the Crown Land Committee introduced a bill to make void certain grants.

The bills passed in committee on Saturday were read a third time, and sent to the Legislative Council.

Hon. Mr. Shannon, from the committee on city bills, reported up a bill relative to rag and junk shops in the city of Halifax.

Afternoon session.—Mr. Charles Campbell moved the second reading of a bill relative to the Presbyterian Church of this Province.

Hon. Provincial Secretary opposed the second reading of the bill.

Mr. Campbell declared that the promoters of the measure would not cease to agitate their claims until they had succeeded in obtaining justice.

Mr. Ross stated that some of the signatures on the petition in favor of the bill were not genuine.

Mr. Archibald explained that the bill was to repeal a Union which had been effected between two branches of the Presbyterian Church now working together harmoniously.

The Committee on City Bills reported a bill to amend the Halifax Horse Railway Charter. The principal provision of this bill is that it prohibits the use of salt on the streets and the use of the snow plough when there are 12 inches of snow on the ground.

Colonial and Foreign News.

Prince Edward Island.

The Legislature of Prince Edward Island was opened on the 18th inst. The Hon. Jos. Wightman was appointed Speaker. The departmental elections resulted in the return of the Hon. Mr. Hensley, Attorney General, without opposition; the Hon. Mr. Coles was re-elected by a large majority over his opponent, Mr. Ross; Mr. O'Reilly, of the *Herald*, has defeated the Hon. Mr. Whelan, the Queen's Printer of the new Government.—Col.

Canada.

MONTREAL.—The auditor's report of receipts and expenditures of this Province for March gives an excess of revenue over expenditure of \$921,305.

The *Times* says Lord Monck will resume his duties as Governor General of Canada, and return to this country early in June.

A sale of 5,000 bushels of spring wheat reported at Toronto at \$1.90. The purchase was on American account, and price was higher than ever paid even under Reciprocity.

The Kingston, C. W. *Whig* says:—It is currently reported that Kenneth McKenzie, Esq., Q. C., has billed the United States Government for \$50,000, for the defence of the Fenian prisoners.

Messrs. Jaques & Hay of Montreal have received orders to manufacture furniture for the new residence of the Governor General at Ottawa. The furniture in all the rooms will be made from the products of Canadian forests. Each room is to be furnished with different Canadian woods.

DISTRESS AT GASPE.—The following is an extract from a letter recently received at Quebec: "Gaspé Basin, April 6th.—I do hope the *Lady Head* will leave early. Flour is desperately scarce, and people from Cap Rosier are starving." Mr. Hyman writes: "The cry for bread is very loud and God knows what it will be a month hence." "We hear every day of families being without a morsel of food for days. The merchants generally and the people in Gaspé Bay, are doing all they can for them, but our stocks here cannot hold out long."

A man named McDonald succeeded a few days ago in palming off sovereigns and half sovereigns on the Montreal Banks to the amount of \$30,000! The peculiarity of the case is that though these spurious sovereigns were made by McDonald, the coins are almost pure gold, only containing seventeen per cent copper. It is supposed he must have stolen the gold; also the tools, moulds, &c., found in his possession. The sovereigns might readily be taken for genuine.

Judge Monk, of the Superior Court of Canada, has joined the Catholic Church and made a public profession of faith in the Jesuits' Church.