

lieve the things contained in them, what would be the consequence? He replied, "You'll never arrive at the celestial glory." On being requested to tell me in plain terms, he replied, "You'll go to hell." I thought none the worse of him for the plainness of his answer; but, while it seemed probable to me that the elders were deceived, as he was shrewd and cautiously evasive, he appeared to me to be a designing impostor. It was subsequently acknowledged by Mormons themselves, that he was found to be dishonest.

Having—contrary to my usual course—promised to peruse the Book of Mormon, I felt myself compelled to wade through it. Fiction, in which many delight far more than in fact, was then, as it now is, detestable in my view; and especially so when put forth under the impious pretence of being a revelation from the Most High. The ground work of this book was probably, as has been credibly reported, a romance, giving an imaginary account of the first settlement of America; and the unpublished MS. was subsequently, with changes and additions, published by others, as a Divine revelation. Many passages of Scripture are recited in it; but in general it is perille in the extreme. In several particulars it bears a striking resemblance to the Koran of Mahomet.

The Mormons profess to have other new revelations given to them from time to time, to have the gift of tongues, and other miraculous powers. From Oliver Cowdery, one of Smith's colleagues, said to have been formerly a preacher among those who designate themselves "Disciples of Christ," they seem to have taken the practice of immersing their converts for the remission of sins, regarding this as the new birth, without which none can enter heaven: but to this they have added, that the Holy Spirit can be received only through the laying on of hands.

It seems incredible, and yet it is unquestionably true, that many people, in various parts of the world, have been captivated by this delusion. It should be borne in mind, however, that there is a large class of persons who have a strong affinity for the marvellous. Moreover, great temporal advantages, as health, worldly prosperity, &c., are promised and anticipated. Revelations congenial to the carnal mind, as theatrical amusements, are said to be countenanced; as also polygamy, to those who choose to practise it. This was, indeed, disavowed at the first; for in their "Doctrine and Covenants," published in Rutland, Ohio, in 1835—about 9 years from the professed discovery of the plates—they say, (Section 101, p. 251.) "We declare, that we believe that one man should have one wife; and one woman but one husband, except in case of death, when either party is at liberty to marry again." Polygamy, however, is now unquestionably recognized, and extensively practised among them. Considering, therefore, that their system is adopted to take with the credulous, the lovers of fiction, and the sensual, it is not, in reality, very extraordinary that it prevails to a considerable extent.

Mr. Johnson—a little off his guard—remarked to me, in our conversation, that if people did not embrace Mormonism at the first, they would not embrace it at all. This was a tacit admission, that it did not admit of examination.

After reading their books I regarded it as my duty to expose the falsity and absurdity of their system, in order to put the incautious upon their guard. None in Cumberland embraced it. Those in Westmoreland who remained there, generally, if not universally, on further investigation renounced it. A remarkable case, however, occurred in Sackville soon after those preachers came to the place, in which a whole family of three persons, the man, a Universalist, his wife, a Baptist, and their daughter, a Methodist, all united with them, were immersed by them, and accompanied them to their promised land, or New Zion, then in Rutland, Ohio, where the Mormons had a spacious Temple.

The lady who requested me to investigate the subject, though at first favorable to their system, was happily preserved from the snare.

CORRECTION.—In No. 1, C. M. March 13th, an omission occurred in the last paragraph but one. The MS. read, "In our long continued and harmonious intercourse, he [Bro. Robinson] frequently reminded me of our zealous and beloved Bro. Thomas Ansley, &c."

For the Christian Messenger.

French Mission.

Mr Editor,—

For the encouragement and gratification of the friends of the French Mission, I would acknowledge through the C. M. the receipt of \$100 from "A friend to Christian Missions," in Cornwallis, "to be expended in the service of

the Mission as may be considered most beneficial thereto."

In view of such a donation by an individual and a donation of \$120.00 by another individual—Brother Jos. Shaw of Yarmouth—together with the unusual success of the Missionary in the early part of his tour for collecting (and it is hoped the later part of his agency has not been less successful), and last, but not least, the gracious revival enjoyed at one of the Mission's stations, will make the present year date as an era in the Mission.

We trust the day is not far distant when there shall be, not only frequent liberal donations to this object by the living, but also, munificent bequests by the dying, and the French Mission be established as one of the permanent and efficient instrumentalities for the advancement of the Saviour's kingdom in the Province.

R. D. PORTER, Secretary.

Hebron, Yarmouth, March 12th, 1867.

For the Christian Messenger.

The following letter, delayed on its way, was received a day or two since—

HILLSBURG, March 1st.

Mr. Editor,—

It becomes my painful duty to resume, my tale of woe, and continue my record of deaths. In doing so, I must retrace my steps a little, and say, that Warren Chute of Clements, died on the 20th of last November in the 46th year of his age, leaving a wife and three children as well as a very large circle of friends to mourn their loss. Brother Chute had been a member of Clements Church for a number of years, and died with a lively hope of immortal life. Bro. William Black of Hillsburg, died on the 27th of Jan., 1867, in the 63rd year of his age. Our brother was firmly and warmly attached to our cause, and in his death we have sustained great loss. But we are firmly assured that our loss is his gain. I am under the painful necessity, of recording the death of John Thomas, the elder son of Bro. J. Thomas, that family, the painful record of whose deaths I sent in my last. This young man was in Boston, when his mother, sister and brother died. He returned home in Novr. last,—took the fever, and died on the 17th of Feb. in the 21st year of his age. Our dear brother Thomas is now left with only one little boy. I hope our brother will be able to say, with Job, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, and blessed be the name of the Lord."

I must record the death of Emeline Graham, adopted daughter of Emile Winchester of Hillsburg, and daughter of Capt. John Graham, in the 17th year of her age. She died on the 25th of Feb., and leaves a very large circle of friends to mourn her early death.

This ends this mournful chronicle, still there are many more sick in the neighbourhood. Some are on the borders of the grave. May they be able to rely firmly on their Saviour to the end.

The Lord seems to be near us in our meetings and affords us some tokens of his favour. We are hoping for a gracious revival. May a gracious God grant it. I was much delighted to see by the Christian Messenger that God is reviving his cause in Argyle. I can truly say, Bless the Lord O my soul! I am well acquainted with that locality, and felt a very deep interest in the people, and when I read Brother Parker's letter, I could sing for very joy. I have not, for a very long time, read any revival news, that gladdened my heart so much. May the Lord carry on his work there, until the desert blossoms as the rose. I rejoice with Bro. Parker.

Yours, &c., A. MARTELL.

For the Christian Messenger.

DONATION VISITS.

MR. EDITOR,—

I beg to acknowledge the reception of a very superior donation given me, on the 16th of December last, by my church, congregation and other friends. The whole amount, reached the sum of \$130. The Rev. Mr. Coffin, (Wesleyan,) and Rev. G. D. Cox, (Baptist) were present, and gave very excellent speeches. Bro. William Dunn presented the gift, in behalf of the company, with a very appropriate speech, which was responded to in the best manner I could. The whole was a decided success, and reflects much credit on the donors, and demands much gratitude from the recipient.

A. MARTELL.

MR. EDITOR,—

Allow me, through your paper, to acknowledge my gratitude to my friends who met from adjoining communities on the 16th of Jan., at the Baptist Chapel, for the purpose of making us a donation visit.

After the usual entertainment with good music and speeches from ministers and lay brethren, the company separated leaving us the handsome sum of \$100, \$47.10 of which was in cash.

Also, on the 27th of Feb., friends from Westbrook and Farsboro met with those of Half Way River and tendered their expressions of interest in our welfare, where, after the usual entertainment, with music and addresses from

ministers and others, the exercises were brought to a close with prayer by Rev. Mr. McKinnon. The company separated leaving us in cash \$22.71, in useful articles \$22.95, in all \$45.66. Other denominations were well represented at these donations. These interesting gatherings have greatly aided and encouraged us. May God's blessing rest upon the donors.

Yours fraternally, D. MCKEEN.

Little Forks, Maccan, March 9th, 1867.

MR. EDITOR,—

I wish to acknowledge through the Messenger my sincere thanks to the friends of Parker's Cove and others, since the 21st of December last, that left with us the amount of 32 Dollars and 50 cents, as a free will offering. May God abundantly reward the giver, is the prayer of Yours &c., H. ACHILLES.

Provincial Parliament.

TUESDAY, March 19th 1867.

The House met at half-past 2 in the afternoon.

Mr. McLellan arose and addressed the House in favor of the amendment introduced by Mr. S. Campbell. He charged the government with haste in pressing the question to a division. He questioned the correctness of the assertion made that the Delegates had obtained better terms than those of the Quebec scheme. But if they were he thought the credit belonged to the opposition delegates. He did not believe that the people were desirous of union with Canada. If they had been taught by Mr. Howe to believe the doctrine of such a combination it was rather a theoretical opinion than with any idea that it would be carried into practical operation. He noticed the remarks of previous speakers that, if the question of Union were taken to the polls, the voice of the people would be interfered with by party spirit. He believed there were now but two parties in the country—those in favor of confederation and those opposed to it. He objected to the Union, as he felt that Canada could not assist in protecting our fisheries nor our borders. He did not believe that the British government would wish us to go into the Confederation against our will, any more than they did Prince Edward Island, or Newfoundland.

Mr. Archibald expressed his regret at being absent when Mr. S. Campbell introduced his amendment, and had been surprised that he Mr. C. had not presented some precedent or authority for the course he invited the House to take. In no part of British History could it be found that any measure had been submitted to the polls for a decision. He quoted from writers on the point, showing that it was imperative for Parliament to decide on all matters of legislation. He refuted the statement that Confederation would tend to our separation from England. It would have quite a contrary effect, and prevent the United States from carrying out the designs of some parties in that country. Their opposition to the union was sufficient proof of this. He did not believe that we were going into a partnership where we should have our power curtailed, but very largely increased. Our representation in the Canadian Parliament would be greater in proportion to our population than Canada. He read extracts from Canadian journals showing this to be the opinion prevailing there. Our financial terms were also far better than the Quebec Scheme gave us, or than we could claim by population. In addition to which when the Intercolonial Railway is completed our position would secure to us an ever enlarging field for commercial enterprise.

Evening Session.—The House resumed at 7 past 7.

Hon. Mr. Shannon said he had always been in favor of Colonial Union and shewed this from his acts and speeches in former years. He was not a little surprised to hear the opinion expressed that the Delegates had exceeded their authority. He thought the delegation had been highly successful and the results would prove most beneficial to us in all branches of our industrial and commercial pursuits. He called the attention of the House to the act of union between Scotland and England, and believed that we should receive far higher benefits by it than the former country had. Our proportion of representation was far greater than they enjoyed. He noticed the plan proposed by Hon. Mr. Howe, and approved by Mr. Annand, as a substitute—the organization of the Empire,—and agreed with the generally expressed opinion, that it was absolutely impracticable, and would subject us to an enormously increased amount of taxation. He believed that we had resources which would render us the most important part of the Confederation. Our mines at Pictou, New Glasgow, and Cape Breton, would make us the manufacturers—the Birmingham and Manchesters, whilst Halifax would be the Liverpool,—the great shipping port.

Mr. Coffin had not so much objection to Union, but he wished to have the question submitted to the people at the polls, and should vote for the amendment.

Mr. Tobin referred to his labors for many years past to bring about the Union which we are now to enjoy. He felt that it would be necessary to send efficient men to the Parliament at Ottawa, who would fairly represent the people. He believed that there were many intelligent respectable merchants opposed to the Confederation, but he believed the young men and the artisans would have opened up to them a far wider field of operation than ever yet enjoyed, and must in all their interests be greatly benefited.

Mr. Annand passed a high eulogium on the

intelligence of the Halifax merchants and bankers, and thought their sentiments in opposition to the plan of Confederation should lead members to hesitate before committing themselves and their constituencies to union with Canada. He believed that by the present Act we should become subordinate to Canada. These colonies he believed must belong to England or the United States. He would prefer union with the latter to union with Canada. He believed that the first session of the Canadian Parliament would be involved in insurmountable difficulties. There had been remarks made that if the question were taken to the polls the votes of the people would be bought by the opposition. He believed there was a far more ready way of buying the interests of the people by United States diplomats approaching their representatives. (Cries of order brought Mr. A. to his seat.) Mr. A. insisted that he was in order. He accused Mr. Archibald of deserting his party, and yet presenting himself as its leader. He ought to have resigned his leadership when he became associated with the Provincial Secretary. He mentioned several particulars in which he believed the country would be the losers by Confederation.

Mr. Blanchard shewed the utter impossibility of obtaining an expression of the voice of a majority of the people,—the course sought by the amendment. Some of the counties of this country having a much smaller number of representatives in proportion to population than others, so that if in one county the vote were given in favor of Union, whilst in another it were given against, perhaps the former would represent twice the number of people that the latter would, and vice versa. He shewed that the plan of submitting a matter to a plebiscite on its own merits was a very different thing to an election of men to Parliament, and was essentially un-British. It might be done in France or in the United States, but the English principal is to let Parliament speak out the people's sentiments, and he believed that the general voice was for Union. The notion that the people wished to have the question brought to the polls, was altogether an assumption, and he believed not the true one. He was quite satisfied it was so in his own county.

The Hon. Financial Secretary wished to correct some errors into which Mr. Annand had fallen in his speech. He shewed that Mr. A. had omitted some important items and that Nova Scotia would actually get from the General Government more than she would pay, besides the interest of her portion of the Intercolonial Railway.

Mr. James Fraser said he had been convinced that a Union of the British Provinces would strengthen them, and bind them more firmly to the mother country. He was a British subject and could not be anything else. He was sorry to hear Mr. Annand intimate that even when Confederation was effected he would do what he could to effect a separation.

Hon. Dr. Tupper said that in consequence of a number of allusions having been made to his speech of yesterday, he felt called upon to again address the House. He read from a letter written by the Hon. Mr. Howe sentiments condemning the course of his friend Mr. Annand. He (Mr. H.) there stated that the legislature was the only competent tribunal before which any constitutional question could come, and be decided; and proved that however any vote were taken on such question it would leave the subject where it was before. It must be decided by Parliament. He went hastily over a review of the action of the delegates and shewed what full investigation the British Parliament and Government had given to the matter. He refuted the statement that the House of Lords had been indifferent. On the important discussion of its second reading, there had been a large assemblage and the greatest interest shewn in the plan of Confederation. Not only so but when by the gracious command of Her Majesty, he had the honor with other colonial ministers of waiting on the Queen at her residence, he had received from her own lips warm congratulations on the success which had attended the mission of the delegates. The Queen manifested deep interest in the measure and said she believed it would add largely to the welfare and prosperity of the British Provinces. (Applaus.)

Mr. Churchill in a short speech expressed his hearty concurrence in the Address, and if it were the last act of his political or natural life, he would feel he were doing his duty to his country to vote in favor of the Union of the Provinces.

Mr. C. J. Campbell spoke to similar effect, but did not think Cape Breton was yet fully represented in the Nova Scotia Parliament.

Mr. Hebb made some amusing similitudes, and declared himself in favor of Mr. Annand's amendment.

Dr. Brown arose just as the clock struck 12, and expressed his opinion that the people should be asked to give their opinion as to whether they wished for Union.

Mr. Blackwood spoke to the same effect.

Mr. Stewart Campbell closed the debate and stated that he believed he had the people with him. He had been asked for precedents, but he did not think it required any. He felt that the life of the country was threatened, and it was required of them to provide a remedy. He thought they required only to be let alone. He anticipated that at the first session of the Nova Scotia legislature, there would be a bill asking for a repeal of the Union, and gave some idea of what might follow from such a state of affairs.

The members were then called in, and at 10 minutes before 2, a. m., the vote was taken as follows:—