

tish or New England landscape, and compare it with the filthiness and brutality of a Caffrian kraal, and we tell you that our object is to render that Caffrian kraal as happy and as gladsome as that Scottish or New England village.

"Our object will not be accomplished until every idol temple shall have been utterly abolished, and a temple to Jehovah erected in its room; until this earth, instead of becoming a theatre on which immortal beings are preparing by crime for eternal condemnation, shall become one universal temple, in which the children of men are learning the anthems of the blessed above, and becoming meet to join the general assembly and church of the first born, whose names are written in heaven. Our design will not be completed until

"One song employs all nations, and all cry Worthy the Lamb, for He was slain for us."

For the Christian Messenger.

American Tract Society.—Colportage in Nova Scotia.

Thirteen Colporteurs have been employed in the Province during the whole or a part of the year, ending March 1st 1867.

The more destitute portions of every County in the Province have been more or less explored. More than seven years of christian labour have been performed, with single reference to the spiritual welfare of our fellow men, and at a cost to the churches, in pecuniary donations of only a few hundred dollars.

Religious Books and Tracts to the amount of \$6148.10 have been circulated, by sale and grant. Estimating on an average, five volumes to the dollar, this would give 30,740 volumes, of this amount \$1078.56 or 5890 volumes, have been gratuitously distributed among the destitute and careless.

This large amount of truth has been scattered abroad among 28,636 families, every one receiving more or less. This comprises 140,000 or about two-fifths of the population of our Province.

2011 Roman Catholic families, including a population of more than 10,000 have been supplied with some portion of Divine truth to guide them to the one only Mediator between God and man.

681 Protestant families, found destitute of all religious books except the Bible, have been, to some extent, supplied.

228 Protestant families living without the Word of God have been sought out and furnished with it.

462 Prayer Meetings have been held or addressed.

9289 families have been conversed with on personal religion or prayed with.

During the last four years, Religious Publications to the amount of \$17,121.10 have been circulated by sale or grant, and 57,644 family visits made.

The Books and Tracts thus distributed are full of the great soul-saving truths of God's word. Daily, from Sabbath to Sabbath, during succeeding weeks and months and years, in times of prosperity and in seasons of affliction and of religious awakening these volumes and tracts, will continue to preach to old and young, warning and beseeching sinners to be reconciled to God, instructing and comforting God's people, awakening the impenitent and guiding the inquiring to the Saviour of sinners.

A large portion of this religious truth has been widely distributed among the spiritually destitute. They have been sought out in the "highways and hedges." The gospel has been carried to their homes in the form of printed Truth. This truth has been accompanied with kind and earnest instruction exhortation and prayer. Multitudes who do not know or appreciate the gospel have thus been visited and cared for.

A. McB.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, MAY 15, 1867.

Although the Church of Christ on earth is in an imperfect state, and at times it seems as if the spirit of evil had almost gained ascendancy over it, yet it must not be that christians lay down the weapons of their warfare and abandon their position. As

wickedness becomes more bold so should the disciples of Christ be more and more on the alert and confident of the value of their principles.

Faith in Christ is the source of all good existing in the world, or to be effected by believers. Whatever is built on this foundation, and that alone, will endure the trials of this world, or stand the test of the great day of account. The great cure of worldiness and indifference in the members of the christian church is a renewal of life—a revival of religion—a more intimate fellowship with Christ and earnestness in following Him. Adverse influences may appear to triumph and to present insurmountable barriers to the awakening of unbelievers and the conversion of sinners, but God is able to bring order out of confusion, light out of darkness, and make even the wrath of man to praise Him. Nothing is too hard for the Lord. If Christians are found waiting on Him he will not withhold the blessing. Our way may be dark and difficult but the promises are not invalidated by human frailties. Human nature is the same as it has been in all past ages. The grace of God has been equal to all the manifestations of evil in our fallen and sinful condition. It has now lost none of its efficacy. The increase of light shed on the world by the diffusion of gospel truth displays human imperfection more clearly, so that sin appears the more flagrant, but the gospel's power is undiminished. Its triumphs will not cease till Christ shall reign Lord of all blessed for ever.

Are contested Elections necessary?

There might be many reasons given for either an affirmative or a negative answer to this question. If elections were conducted without damage to the morals and peace of a community, and there were no reason to fear that injurious consequences would follow from them, there would be no occasion to offer a word against their taking place whenever a choice of representatives were necessary; but as at present managed they are commonly seasons of intrigue, corruption, and drunkenness, and often permanently injurious to individuals and families; and, it may be fairly concluded, from these circumstances, that unless some great principle is at stake, and some public right requires to be vindicated and sustained, it is better to avoid the strife of rival parties, and by some means to seek an agreement on some ground that is believed to be acceptable to the majority. Even if there is a necessity for concessions on one, or even on both sides, if the above evils could be so avoided, the results would probably warrant the effort. If it were only to prevent the intoxication usually indulged in on these occasions, public morality would gain much by avoiding such conflicts. Of course the voice of the people expressed through their representatives is the only legitimate power that must decide for us all matters of legislation, and supply us with wholesome laws and good government, and it is necessary that men shall be chosen to fill such position.

Far be it from us to recommend a compromise of principle or a shrinking from the responsibilities of maintaining what is right, but when there is only a slight difference between the men, and good men may be obtained without a contest, it would be well to try and prevent the evils of hostilities being awakened between friends and neighbours, such as a contested election commonly produces.

Our object in offering these remarks is simply to recommend the "ounce of prevention" which is said to be better than "the pound of cure."

Our types sometimes have considerable trouble in deciphering a doubtful word of manuscript. We believe that they commonly succeed far better in doing so than most non-professional persons would. The caligraphy of the present day is however, a considerable improvement on that of years gone by. They do, nevertheless, still occasionally require an erratum from some of our respected contributors, and in such cases feel badly under the infliction. Sometimes even our own copy is open to the same charge as that of our brethren. In such cases we have to endure the mortification of appearing to say what we do not intend to convey to our readers. An instance of this occurred last week. In our first editorial article it was said that the differences of political opinion &c., "may now be settled by an increase of the electoral privilege," whereas it should have said "by an exercise of the electoral privilege."

YARMOUTH.—We were much concerned on receiving the following note from a worthy brother in Yarmouth:

Dear Editor.—The first Yarmouth Church is like sheep without a shepherd. Both of our

late Pastors have left us, and it seems as though a dark pall had settled over us. What makes the gloom more gloomy, our former Pastor, Rev. Wm. Burton, who labored so indefatigably among us all the best of his days, was removed to his reward directly after our two Pastors were removed from the Pastoral oversight of the Church.

Yarmouth, May 3rd, 1867.

We trust the day will soon break for our brethren, that the Son of Righteousness will arise and shine upon them, as in former days, and that the church will be directed to a faithful minister of Christ, who will again lead them into the green pastures of truth and righteousness.

NEWS SUMMARY.

The newly constituted Dominion of "Canada" which in length extends from the shores of the Atlantic, to the Eastern borders of the Great Lakes, Huron and Superior, is about two thousand miles long. Its breadth varies greatly, as it extends from the United States frontier, and the lower Canadian Lakes, far beyond the region of cultivation, to the North, into the latitudes of perenial frost and snow. Its present population appears to be little less than four millions. Within the vast compass of the Dominion are contained some of the most fertile regions of the earth, and although exposed to great variation of heat and cold, it is probably among the most healthy countries of the world. This vast expanse of country is, however, still comparatively in a state of nature, covered with its original forests. Yearly these forests are yielding to the tide of population pressing to the rear, and the great facilities which are already or will shortly be afforded for traversing the Dominion throughout its extent from East to West, must soon rapidly advance its growth and improvement. We saw it stated not long since, in a carefully written statistical account of the Canadas, that the valley of the Ottawa alone was well capable of sustaining a population of six millions of souls. But to this vast extent of territory will no doubt ere long be added the immense domain stretching West from Lake Superior to the Rocky Mountains, a space of country nearly or quite as large as that contained in the newly Confederated Provinces, and also containing a very large proportion of as fertile land as any on this continent. This vast country is at present in possession of the Hudson's Bay Fur Company, on a Government lease of long standing, but there is every reason to hope that all those portions best fitted for emigration will be obtained by the Government on reasonable terms. The flourishing colony of British Columbia and Vancouver's Island, on the shores of the Pacific, are already expressing their desire to be included in the number of the Confederated Provinces. This cannot, however, be effected until direct communication can be opened across the Rocky Mountains, when if the N. W. territory should be also added, the New Dominion will extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. It is highly probable that one of the first objects of the new Parliament, will be the opening of immediate intercourse by Telegraph and otherwise with British Columbia.

Notices, &c.

THE HORTON ACADEMY EXAMINATIONS will be held on Monday and Tuesday, the 3rd and 4th of June. Parents and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

Baptist Antecessaries.

THE NOVA SCOTIA CENTRAL ASSOCIATION will meet at Canning, commencing on Saturday, the 8th day of June, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

THE N. S. WESTERN ASSOCIATION will meet at Hillsburg, on Saturday, the 15th day of June, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

THE N. S. EASTERN ASSOCIATION will meet at Upper Londonderry, on the 6th day of July, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

French Mission.

There will be a meeting of the French Mission Board at Hebron, on Tuesday the 21st day of May, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

J. H. SAUNDERS, President.

Temperance Convention.

A meeting will be held in the Temperance Hall, Gore, Hants County, on the 2nd Wednesday of June, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of organizing a County Temperance Convention. Every Temperance organization in the County is respectfully requested to send Representatives.

RICHARD J. BLOIS.

Gore, April 27th, 1867.

Acadia College.

MATRICULATION.—The Examination of Candidates for Matriculation will occupy two days, viz. Thursday and Friday, May 30th and 31st. Candidates are requested to attend in the Library on Thursday morning, May 30th, at nine o'clock.

For the convenience of those who may not be able to attend on the above mentioned days, two other days will be appointed, in the latter end of August, of which due notice will be given.

J. M. CRAMP, President. Acadia College, April 19th, 1867.

Acadia Athenaeum.

The next lecture before the Athenaeum will be delivered in the vestry of the Baptist Meeting-house, Wolfville, by Robert L. Weatherbe, Esq., on Friday evening, May 17th, at 7 1/2 o'clock. Subject:—"A plea for the Theorist."

J. W. WALLACE, Cor. Sec'y. Acadia College, May 6th, 1867.

Donation Notice.

Mr Editor.—I wish to acknowledge, through the Messenger, a Donation of \$130, which was given to me by my friends in this place, on the 20th of March. May God bless and greatly reward the generous donors.

E. M. SAUNDERS.

Berwick, May 6th, 1867.

Allow me, through the Messenger, to express my gratitude to the kind friends at West Valley and Canaan, who gave us a donation of \$85.50. May the good Lord bless them all.

Yours respectfully, W. G. PARKER.

Nictaux.

Colonial and Foreign News.

Prince Edward Island.

THE SONS.—The Grand Division of P. E. Island held their Quarterly Session last month. From the Returns it appears that there are 37 Divisions on the Island. During the Quarter there had been 146 initiated by 26 Divisions.—Seven representatives were initiated, one of whom was a female—the presiding officer of No. 2. The R. S. concludes his Report by saying:—"From the fiery ordeal through which the country Divisions have been called to pass during the past quarter, it is cause of deep gratitude to think that there have been so few violations of Art. 2, the number being less than two for each Division, while the admissions have averaged more than four to each of the 37 Divisions.

New Brunswick.

Dr. Alward was re-elected on Tuesday Mayor of St. John by a majority of 521. Alderman Jones received 666 votes, and ex Mayor Woodward 185.

FREDERICTON.—We regret to hear of the destruction by fire of the Temperance Hall, Fredericton. York Division, S. of T. have lost by this sad catastrophe nearly all their furniture and their banner, the cost of which alone, were some \$200. Partially covered by insurance Visitor.

THE N. B. SENATORS.—The St. John Telegraph says: We are authorized, from the most reliable sources of information, to state that the gentlemen whose names are appended have been appointed by the Government of the Province to represent New Brunswick in the Senate of CANADA; namely:—

- Hon. John Robertson, of St. John.
R. L. Hazen, of St. John.
W. H. Steeves, of Sunbury.
R. D. Wilmot, of York.
W. H. Odell, of Charlotte.
Wm. Todd, of Westmorland.
E. B. Chandler, of Westmorland.
A. E. Botsford, of Albert.
A. R. McClellan, of Kent.
David Wark, of Northumberland.
Peter Mitchell, of Gloucester.
John Ferguson, of Gloucester.

The St. John River appears to have risen much higher than usual. The Telegraph says: "In many streams it has been impossible to place booms, and the logs, unconfined, may have been carried up on high ground, where a portion may remain. The freshest is said to be the greatest in the last five years."

A Mr. Robson, clerk in a store in Sackville, has recently, by the death of a brother succeeded to an estate worth upwards of £1000 stg per annum.

Canada.

NOVA SCOTIANS ABROAD.—At the annual convocation of McGill University at Montreal, on the 2nd Inst., out of five awards of prizes and honors to students in arts, the prizes, two in number, were obtained by Nova Scotians: J. S. Archibald, of Halifax, gaining the Prince of Wales Gold Medal and C. C. Stewart of Musquodoboit the Sir William Logan Gold Medal. The valedictory was delivered by Mr. Stewart.

An action was brought against a gentleman at Ottawa, C. W. recently for shooting a snipe, in order to get a legal decision as to whether the bird was insectivorous or not. At the trial, Dr. Van Cortlandt gave the following description of snipe:—"According to the opinions of several naturalists of world-wide reputation, including Doctor Lathna, Audobon, and Sir Humphrey Davy, the snipe feeds on the larvae or grub of a dipterous insect, called Tipula, familiarly known as Daddy-long legs, and other congenious flies and insects, as well as worms."

A man named George Watson, a bill poster in Montreal, poisoned himself, on the 1st inst., by swallowing a quantity of vitriol.

THE DELEGATES AND THE DOMINION.—A despatch from Canada says that the returned delegates were heartily welcomed at Ottawa. Mr. McDonald, in course of a speech, explained that the Union proclamation was not issued on the day appointed, owing to the fact that Mr. Cartier and Mr. McGee were absent from London, and therefore there was some delay in completing and sanctioning the list of senators from Quebec. He stated, however, that the Union proclamation would be issued early next week, and go into effect by the middle of July. In referring to the rumor that the capital would be transferred to Montreal, he said Ottawa would always be the seat of Government.