and Wayland, on Missionary Enterprise, and and necessity of filling the vacant place. man; others might be referred to in support. It is with the mode of the appointment, to its author's reputation but his celebrity as twenty) not that of the apostles merely." a preacher will no doubt secure it a large "And they placed their lots in a vase or Spurgeon's printed sermons to be sold. A one drawn out decided the choice" Dr. few years ago the Rev. F. W. Robertson died Hackett. at Brighton, England. Some volumes of his The fact that the whole company sermons, partly from notes taken in his own the disciples engaged in this election,

and none more remarkably than the pulpit. The universality and immeasurable importance of its themes, their power to touch the heart and reach the conscience, winning the involuntary response of the one and the instinctive assent of the other, the authority imparted to its utterances by that book which most hearers believe to be divine, and which even the infidel whispers to himself may be, forbids that the pulpit should ever cease to be a power on earth.

pulpit into the shade.

M. A. H.

For the Christian Messenger.

The Scriptural Principle of Church Government.

rection, the period of personal intercourse no doubt, its polity firmly settled, so there was with Christ suddenly terminated, as the as- not the demand for another extraordinary extonished disciples gazed into the trackless ample. We say extraordinary example, beheavens through which he had passed and cause the apostolic office was extraordinary, vanished out of their sight. Disappointed and only for a generation; and had the ap- less, to those assemblies. The time will soon and dejected, they return to Jerusalem, where pointment been made by Christ himself, or be here for our own gatherings from the churchthey wait as directed by their Saviour who by the eleven, it would not have been a dement of the Spirit.

prayer, Peter became powerfully impressed, silently learned and put into practice the lesthat some one, who had been associated with son; and this may account in some measure them during the whole time that they tol- for the little that is found in the Acts and the lowed the Lord Jesus Christ, should be ap- Epistles upon the subject of Church governpointed to take the place, left vacant by ment. resurrection of Christ. The original choice John above all prophets and above all those ciples was made by Christ at the dawn of day 'that the least in the kingdom of God was 1867. after a night of prayer in a mountain. Such greater than John.' The members of the a step could not be taken by the Saviour with- new connection are treated at the very first, out this solemn midnight preliminary. This according to what Christ had before said of important appointment was made directly by them. The "least" as well as the greatest Christ himself. "I have chosen you twelve are called upon to give their suffrages in and equality of all the members of the new ance in the Church of Uhrist."

quite equal to anything that secular oretory of the names together was one hundred and has achieved in modern times. Edward's on twenty. Before these Peter stood up, and Justification by Faith, Hall on Modern Infi- rehearsed the fall of Judas, and pressed, by delity and Thoughts upon the Present Crisis, quoting the divine prediction, the importance

of this assertion. So far from the press hav- and the persons engaged in it, that we are now ing thrown the pulpit into obscurity the most particularly concerned. The account is plain. popular of its issues are those which the pu'- Acts i. 15. They-the hundred and twentypit itself supplies. Nothing will sell, the appointed two, Joseph called Barsabas who was booksellers say, so well as a first class work surnamed Justus and Matthias. The final deof fiction, except a volume of sermons by a cision was made by lot. "The act here is popular preacher. "Norwood" has not added that of those addressed (the hundred and

circulation, but one not likely to surpass that something similar, or perhaps, gave them to received by several volumes of extracts from those whose business it was to collect them." his sermons. It was not an unusual thing . . . The two names were written profor two hundred thousand copies of some of bably on slips of parchment . . the first Would it not be an improvement to take an

hand, and partly from those taken by appre- very significant, and foreshadows the polity ciative friends, have been published. The the of rising church. It is a light which is discourses thus disadvantageously preserved thrown, not only into the future, but it also have already given their author a world wide falls upon the past, and enables us to read, ame and taken their enduring place among with a degree of assurance, the instructions, the classics of the English language. These unrecorded though they be, of the Lord and many similar facts prove that if secular Jesus Christ-instructions which bare upon oratory has not declined in popularity or the nature of the government which He depower, neither has it cast the eloquence of the signed for his churches under this dispensation. In previous articles, reference has been made to The truth is that the pulpit is one of seve- some intimations, found in the gospels, of the ral divine institutions, not many in number introduction of a polity, radically different but of priceless worth to mankind, including from any thing with which the Jewish mind in their category, marriage, the lamily, and the was familiar. All that is found in the his-Sabbath, as well as the foolishness of preach- tory bearing on this point, would not have ing; all in our day bitterly assailed and con- been sufficient to overcome the early prejuditemned, but destined not to decline and die, ces of the apostles, and lead them to adopt but to endure and grow with the growth of all a principle, so opposed to any thing that they that is good and for the promotion of all that had even known in ecclesiastical transactions. is beneficent till the end shall come. - Each has But as they were induced by some influence the seal of its Heavenly origin in its wise and to adopt the congregational polity, there seems gracious adaptation to the wants of humanity no natural escape from the interence, that their instructions had been far in excess of what is found in the records. Something bearing upon this may have been included in the things which Christ spoke to his disciples "concerning the kingdom," during the forty days previous to his ascension. By some means the apostles were turned from a course in this transaction that they would naturally have followed, and led into one that is in singular harmony with the government which the churches as they sprung up adopted.

But the transaction is more important in its forecasting significance than it is in interences drawn from retrospection. Nothing tent in the United States. Hundreds and like this is recorded of Paul's appointment. thousands of the principal men in the various He received his commission from heaven and not denominations of Christians will be gathered of men; although he was not called into the together to recount the blessings conferred, is so entirely wrapped up in his client that field till some time after this election at Je- and the marks of Divine favor received durrusalem. Before he was appointed, the ing the past year; and to gather fresh strength At the end of forty days from the resur- Church at Jerusalem had been organized, and, for more vigorous action in the time to come. had left them. Thus was the intant Church cision against the congregational polity. As cast alone upon the world, unorganized and the apostles invited the whole company to share looking forward to the time of these reunions, without full and specific laws and instructions with them in the election of Matthias, a prefor their future guidance. They but imper- cedent was made and an example given of so feetly apprehended the nature, difficulties, clear and peculiar a type, that, in the light of and magnitude of their mission. They were it, the Church subsequently may have been directed to wait at Jerusalem for the bestow- largely guided in matters of government. So pregnant was this act with instruction, that While gathered in the upper room for the succession of rising churches no doubt

who were already apostles. In this we are were the only qualities that were looked to, ter and interests. mistaken. At this early period the dignity and these qualities are still of most import. In Great Britain there has long been a

fraternity are to be vindicated. The number

For the Christian Messenger. The Associations.

Dear Brother,-

Our Association Anniversaries are drawing near. There are indications, I think, that the reports from the churches will be more favourable than was at one time feared. Encouraging results have attended the labours of our brethren in many places, and considerable numbers have "turned to the Lord."

I have often heard the expression of regret at the comparative absence of the religious element from these Anniversaries. After the delivery of the appointed sermons, the brethren attend to the business affairs of the denomination, which of course must be transscted, but need not occupy all the time. additional day for the Association, so that religious services might be interspersed with business arrangements? Why should not our Associations be seasons of conversion, as well as feasts of holy fellowship?

Ought not the delegates from the Churches to consider themselves bound in honour to remain till the business is finished?

I beg to suggest the desirableness of special prayer, throughout the churches, that "the wisdom which is from above," and which is "first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated," may be plenteous. ly bestowed.

Yours truly, J. M. CRAMP.

May 14th, 1868.

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Christian Itlessenger

HALIFAX, MAY 20, 1868.

This month is a season of religious Anniversaries in Great Britain, and, to some ex-All who love the Lord Jesus are interested in what has transpired in connection with the christian agencies in operation throughout the world, and will be looking forward, more or es throughout the provinces, by means of delegates in Association. Our brethren are doubtless and preparing to report their proceedings .-Matters of the highest moment will demand consideration, and we doubt not brethren will come prepared to act in the name of the Master. The note from Rev. Dr. Cramp, in another column will commend itself to the attention of the brethren.

We would respectfully call the attention of the brethren on the Central Association to the Report on "Arrangement of business," on page 19 of Minutes 1867. Also, the Western brethren to the resolution on page Judas, to be a witness, in his stead, of the In Matthew xi. 9-11. Christ elevated 10, and to the Report on page 39, of Western Minutes 1867. Also the Eastern brethren of the twelve apostles from the body of dis- "born of women" but concluded by saying to a Report on page 34, Eastern Minutes

Editorship.

The powers and functions of editorship, but one of you is a devil." The apostate had electing an apostle. No prophet, or man are nowhere very distinctly defined. The the ends of justice may be questioned. tallen head-long, and his place must be filled. had ever been called upon to perform such a peculiarities of the office, and the variety of Upon whom is the responsibility of the elec- duty. God had hitherto chosen prophets its relationships are so great, that rules of tion to fall? As the first appointment was either directly or through the medium of some action applicable to the chair of one editor, made by the Saviour, we should naturally distinguished leader. Under the new dis- can hardly be held to apply to that of another. expect a vacancy would also be filled by him. pensation, it is provided that each member Some claim great license in dealing with In this the Lord's ways are not our ways .- shall be regenerated and enlightened, and the matters, public and private, whilst others The infant Church is to be thrown upon its duties and dignity correspond with these pe- place themselves under the same restrictions own resources and taught to exercise its un- culiar gifts. Says Olshausen "We do not as other persons who make no claim to ediderstanding and strive to follow the path of find any respect at all paid to richness of torial privileges. It is doubtless the duty duty, guided by the influences of an invisible natural endowment in the choice of the of every man, whether professionally engaged the 20th, at 10 o'clock, A. M. agent. But if called upon to bear the re- apostles. The majority of those who were to write for the public or not, to seek the responsibility of appointing a man to the chosen by Christ himself appear to have moval of whatever is obnoxious to the generplace of Judas, we would look for the right been in no way preeminently distinguished al well-being of a community, but under such of making such a choice, to be limited to those by talents. Integrity, truth and experience limitations as will not injure private charac-

sort of claim set up by newspaperdom that the press is the fourth estate of the realm, St., Halitax, N. S.

and its prerogative it has been to initiate various reforms, and modifications of laws and old established customs. While such powers are claimed and exercised by the press it is important that responsibility should rest somewhere, and that some one individual should be recognized as answerable for what appears in a paper in case of its infringing on the rights of others. There are, perhaps, some advantages in a newspaper avoiding personal responsibility when the writing is wholly unobjectionable and fair. But, where the responsible person is not publicly known, and the utterances are the product of a number of irresponsible persons they are liable to become inconsistent one with another, and sometimes contradictory and therefore unsound. This of course must lessen or destroy the value of the opinions so expressed, and render them unreliable. Inconsistency in the conduct of a paper may, to some parties, be no great inconvenience; but by the intelligent part of the community it must soon be perceived, and will of course render such writings valueless as a guide of action. This would be the case in a secular political paper. but in a religious journal it must be far more injurious.

The policy of a christian denomination can hardly be safe in such bands. Much more is it so when one editorial writer flatly contradicts by his acts what has been enunciated by his coadjutor. Then, however powerful the mind employed in its articles, it becomes subversive of all honorable dealing, and ceases to command the confidence of practical, common sense men and women.

THE LEGAL PROFESSION is undoubtedly one of the most important in human society, and that by which our liberties are secured, and on which much of our well-being rests. Aud the publisher, must be prepaid by a two cent yet, an appeal to the law often fails to meet the requirements of justice and equity. In-NEWSPAPERS mailed from the office of publi- deed it is sometimes the means of doing the cation, are charged to the person receiving greatest injustice. So surrounded is it by them, one cent each; or, for a week'y paper technicalities, rules, and precedents, that sometimes, when all the parties concerned are desirous of right being done obstacles present themselves which frustrate their good intentions, and bring the litigants on both sides into greater difficulty than before the appeal was made to a judicial tribunal.

The highest position in the profession is, perhaps, that in which a legal gentleman appears as an advocate. And here it might be supposed that injustice would hardly be done, whilst uninterested men are sitting at the tribunal and watching for the very purpose of preventing any improper bias.

And yet-notwithstanding all the checks the law supplies for the prevention of injury to individuals—the fact that each advocate he entirely ignores the claims of his opponent, and so it often arises that the law itself may be come the instrument of doing a man grievous wrong.

The definition given by the late Lord Brougham of the position of an advocate is a very remarkable one, and yet it is one that is probably unquestioned. It is as follows, and was given by him in his pleading for Queen Caroline at the bar of the House of Lords :-

"An advocate" says his Lordship "by the sacred duty which he owes his client, knows, in the discharge of that office, but one person in the world-THAT CLIENT AND NONE OTHER. To save that client by all expedient means,—to protect that client at all hazards and costs to all others, and among others, to himself is the highest and most unquestioned of his duties, and he must not regard the alarm—the suffering—the torment -the destruction which he may bring upon any other. Nay separating even the duties of a patriot from those of an advocate, and casting them if need be to the wind, he must go on reckless of the consequences if his fate it should anhapply be to involve his country in confusion for his client's protection."

This will be read by many with some surprize, and yet we presume it is the true and correct view held by the legal profession. Whether it is the one best adapted to secure

Motices, &c.

Our Ammiteriaries, 1000. The Annual Sessions of the N. S. Baptist Associations will be held as follows :--The Central with the 2nd Horton Church at

Gaspereaux, commencing on Saturday the 13th of June, at 11 o'clock, A. M. The Western with the Church at Long Island, The Eastern with the Pugwash Church, com-

mencing on Saturday, July 4th, at 10 o'clock, A. M. The New Brunswick Eastern Association will meet with the 2nd Sackville Church, commencing

on Thursday the 9th of July. The Rev. A. F. Porter wishes to inform his friends that his present address is No. 90 Granville

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