

THE SALVATION OF INFANTS.

The following enquires, received a few days since, we sent to a ministerial friend for an answer, and were favored with the replies appended:

Mr. Editor.—Dear Sir,—Allow me to ask through the *Christian Messenger* whether infants need to be born again before they enter "Heaven." And if they need be how are they to be judged at the last day, when men are judged according to the deeds done in the body? Did not our Saviour, make an atonement for original sin and leave every "creature" accountable for himself.

The questions in the above enquiry are:
 1. Must infants be born again?
 2. How are infants to be judged?
 3. Did not our Saviour make an atonement for original sin?
 4. Is not every man of the human family accountable for himself?

"In Adam all died." "Death passed upon all men." "I was born in sin."—"In sin did my mother conceive me." Infants are dead—they have a fallen nature.

John was sanctified from the womb. Jeremiah received the blessing at as early a date. To the first question we would say infants must be born again or receive what is equivalent to the new birth. How, and when those receive this grace, who die in infancy we are not able to know; but as to by whom it is done, it is fair to infer that the Spirit who sanctified John and Jeremiah before the days of consciousness operates, upon all who die in infancy, and performs a similar work. We cannot conceive any difference in the simple work of regenerating the heart, whether that heart be a young and unconscious heart, or whether it be an old and conscious spirit. Consciousness can have nothing to do with the work of the Spirit in the new birth. In the babe and in the man "the wind blows where it lists." The hearing the sound is only an apprehension of the effects, and does in no way modify either cause or effects.

But infants and idiots are not within the reach of human instrumentality; and sermons preached to show that infants must be born again, may serve to demonstrate theoretical truth, but it cannot accomplish any practical good.

How are infants to be judged? Those only are represented in the bible as accountable to the judgment seat, who have done "deeds in the body." We infer that infants are not to be judged in the same way that those will be who have wilfully sinned.

Did not our Saviour make an atonement for original sin? We understand that the Saviour made an atonement for sin. "He is the propitiation for our sins and not for our sins only, but for the sins of the whole world" 1 John ii: 2.

To the fourth question we say, yes. "Every one of us must give an account of himself to God."

THE MINUTES of the first Session of the Prince Edward Island Baptist Association, held at North River, July 18, 20, and 21, 1868 have just come to hand. They are got up in good style, and show a union of fourteen Churches having seven ordained ministers, and 427 members, with 7 Sabbath Schools containing 318 Scholars and 102 in Bible Classes.

We congratulate our brethren on the Island upon the signs of activity and progress amongst them. We hope that these may continue and increase.

The brethren will please accept our thanks for their warm commendation of the *Christian Messenger* "to the continued and enlarged support of Island Baptists."

The request to insert the Circular Letter of the Association in our columns shall receive attention at an early day.

Mr. STAPLES has introduced his Progressive System of Penmanship into New Brunswick. In doing so he appears to have given great satisfaction to many of the first teachers and Educationists of the Province. We find in a prospectus he has placed before us a number of complimentary notes, and certificates from some of the most respectable gentlemen and teachers in St. John. They all testify to the System being far in advance of any before introduced there, and a wish is expressed by several of them that it may be introduced in all the Schools throughout the Province of New Brunswick.

It is gratifying to find that the mode of teaching this branch of Instruction adopted in the Public Schools of this Province is so highly spoken of by others out of it.

Mr. Staples has also been in Prince Edward Island and there he met with success similar to that he received in New Brunswick.

Notices, &c.

We wish to call the attention of our ministering brethren and others to the desirableness of sending on Notices of Marriages and Deaths as early as possible after they take place. The friends of the parties would appreciate the information more highly if given within a few days of the event, instead of its being several months after they have taken place as is sometimes done. When left so long before being sent on, it is impossible for us to remember whether such notices have been inserted in our columns by other friends of the parties, or not.

The fee to the minister, at both Marriages and Funerals, should include the postage of a letter, or in some cases the item of postage would become a serious tax on his salary.

We hope none of our readers need reminding that except in cases of extreme poverty, a fee should be paid to the minister for services on such occasions.

We do not make any charge for inserting such Notices in our columns, especially when from the families of our Subscribers, but on the happy occasion of Marriage celebrations we think it a wise appropriation of a dollar or two to be sent with the name of the person so blessed as a *New Subscriber* to the *Messenger*. This has been done in some cases. He then has the announcement of his own marriage in his first copy of the paper. It makes a good beginning of his new mode of life, and shows kind consideration for his wife's happiness from week to week.

Acadia College.

A Meeting of the Board of Governors will be held in the Library of the College on Friday the 19th inst., at ten o'clock, A. M.

S. W. DeBlais, Secretary.

March 1, 1869.

The Colchester Co. Baptist Sabbath School Convention will meet at Great Village, on Tuesday the 23rd inst., at 2 o'clock, P. M.

T. B. LATTON, Sec'y.

Londonderry, March 1st, 1869.

Hants County Temperance League.

DEAR EDITOR.—Please allow me to make some explanation in your columns, respecting our League, which meets at Noel, Wednesday, March 10th, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

At the Annual Session, in September next, the Constitution will be revised and enlarged; and in pamphlet form will be distributed among the different Temperance Organizations; until that time it will be impossible for the Secretary to furnish copies of Constitution to any applicants. The place of meeting of each Quarterly Session, is decided at the Annual Session by a vote of the League.

There are about forty-two Lodges and Divisions in the County besides a number of Bands of Hope and Juvenile Lodges; all of which have the right of sending Delegates to each Session of the League. The Delegates must be furnished with Credentials.

Yours, &c., &c.

LUCIUS B. BANCROFT, Sec'y.

Letters Received.

H. E. Morrow, \$2. Rev. J. Davis, J. Thomas, Rev. H. Eagles, \$8.00. Jas. Grinton, \$4. Rev. Geo. Armstrong, Ezra Layton, \$6.50. Jas. Colwell.—It is so addressed. V. G. Chipman, J. F. Morrow, \$2.20. Rev. Dr. Tupper.—The papers to B. Margeson, and A. Morse, have been regularly sent. We now send duplicates. Rev. W. E. Hall, 2 subs. Rev. W. H. Richan, Rev. A. H. Munro, S. Brown, Esq., Rev. W. L. Parker, S. B. Dimock \$2.20. 1 sub. Rev. Isa. Wallace, 2 subs. B. Musgrave, Esq., J. L. Tremain, Esq.

General Intelligence.

Province of Nova Scotia.

MILITIA APPOINTMENTS.—The following appear in the *Canada Gazette*:

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

- Regimental Division of Annapolis—To be Lt. Col., Lt.-Col. W. E. Starrat.
- Regimental Division of Antigonish—To be Lt.-Col., Lt. Col. H. McAdam.
- Regimental Division of Colchester—To be Lt.-Col., Lt. Col. P. S. Archibald.
- Regimental Division of Cumberland—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col.; H. G. Pines.
- Regimental Division of Digby—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col. Viets.
- Regimental Division of Guysborough—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col. Stewart Campbell.
- Regimental Division of the City of Halifax—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col. H. Pryor.
- Regimental Division of the County of Halifax—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col. J. J. Bremner.
- Regimental Division of Hants—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col. J. A. Jenkins.
- Regimental Division of Inverness—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col. McLeod.
- Regimental Division of Lunenburg—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col. H. S. Jost.
- Regimental Division of Shelburne—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col. R. R. Thompson.
- Regimental Division of Pictou—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col. J. W. Carmichael.
- Regimental Division of Queen's—To be Lt.-Col., Capt. T. R. Patillo.
- Regimental Division of Richmond—To be Lt.-Col., Major S. F. Fuller.
- Regimental Division of Yarmouth—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col. W. B. Townsend.
- Regimental Division of Victoria—To be Lt.-Col., Lt.-Col. C. J. Campbell.

THE CITY RAILROAD COMPANY are now meeting with their difficulties. The sleighing is stopped by the absence of snow, but the rails have been in many places embedded in ice which has to be cleared away for the cars to pass over. A large force of men have been employed in these operations. The road being above the rails, gutters are formed in which the water flows and becomes solid during the night and has to be removed again by the plough. The cars are now running to Point Pleasant, and Spring Gardens.

A HEAVY STORM of wind and rain from the eastward visited Halifax on Friday night last.

FIRE AT DARTMOUTH.—During the storm on Saturday morning, about 3 o'clock, a fire broke out in the boiler shop of Mr. Adam McKay, near the Marine Slip. Five boilers, and a quantity of tools and stock were destroyed. We understand that the property was insured to the extent of \$2200, but the loss is supposed to amount to about \$5,000.

SALMON.—A correspondent at Mill Village informs us that the first salmon caught in the river this season, was taken by an Indian with his line and fly on Friday last. The salmon weighed 9 lbs., and was sold for 20 cents per pound.—*Liverpool Advertiser*.

A LIGHTHOUSE NEEDED.—The inhabitants of Port Medway are about applying by petition, for a Light on Foster's point. This is a good move for a very desirable object, and we hope that their prayer may be speedily granted. The need of a Light on that point has long been felt; and had there been a united effort made long ago for that purpose, we have no doubt but a Light would have been placed there ere this.—*ib.*

ROAD FROM SHELBURNE TO ANNAPOLIS.—At a public meeting held in Shelburne on the 13th inst the following resolution was passed.

"Resolved, That petitions be prepared and circulated for signatures, and placed in the hands of our Local Representatives, asking the Legislature and Government of Nova Scotia to provide for and order a survey of the road from Shelburne to Annapolis."

The following Committee were appointed, with power to add to their number, to carry out the resolution:—A. D. Bower, Dr. Snyder, R. W. Freeman, M. D. McKenna, Dr. Purney, Jas. McKay (Clyde), James McDonald (Ragged Islands.)

STEWIACKE.—"One present" furnishes us with the following:—A Temperance demonstration took place in the pleasant valley of Upper Stewiacke, on the 17th inst., at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Four divisions of the Sons of Temperance and one Lodge of Good Templars, assembled at the Temperance Hall, with banners having the names of each division printed on their colours;—Village Division, *Agricola*; South Branch, *Pleasant Valley*; Middle Stewiacke, *Crystal*; Springside, *Springside*; and Good Templars, Newton Mills Lodge. At 3 o'clock the members of the above divisions and lodge started for a sleigh ride, seventy sleighs were soon upon the road finely mounted, drawn by steady Farm Horses and driven by staunch Sons of Temperance and Good Templars; of course the daughters were there too. Such a procession was never seen in this valley before. It passed up one side of the river and down the other; arriving at the Hall in time for tea at five o'clock. About 250 sat at the tea table; the mothers must have lent a hand at this part of the ceremony for it was most splendid. After tea the crowd met in the Baptist church for an intellectual feast. Hon. Samuel Creelman, G. W. P., presided. The chairman made a few introductory remarks, saying that each division and lodge were to furnish a speaker and that they were either sons or good templars, representing their respective divisions or lodges. The following were announced as platform men for the evening: Rev. Mr. Chipman, A. N. Tupper, Esq., Rev. James Sinclair, D. C. Archibald, Esq., Mr. James Creelman, Rev. O. Chute and Mr. John Tays. The choir in front of the gallery sang some beautiful Temperance odes which added much to the interest of the meeting. Several resolutions were passed. Thanks to G. W. P., for the able manner in which the meeting was conducted. Thanks to the proprietors of the Church. Thanks to the ladies for their services in furnishing a good substantial tea. Thanks to the choir. I think had the meeting said,—Thanks to the neighbours for opening their stables to receive the horses the programme would have been complete.—*Witness*.

FIRE AT DIGBY.—A special despatch to the *Reporter* says that on Wednesday night a fire broke out in the store of Mr. Stark, in Digby and notwithstanding all efforts to subdue it, the Stores of Messrs. D. Stark, Daniel Carwell, Brown, Churchill, and Taylor, R. J. Thorne, and E. Brennan, were totally destroyed. The greater portion of the goods was saved. Loss estimated over \$9,000.

The Cape Breton *News* says that the lines of the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company, and Western Union Company, were connected at Plaister Cove on Sunday 14th, inst., putting Heart's Content and New Orleans into instantaneous communication.

THE VELOCIPEDISTS have given notice that they will be in Halifax in a few days. We do not apprehend that they will greatly interfere with the railway travelling! They may possibly give some business to the medical gentlemen of the city.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—Perished in a Snow-storm.—On the night of the 4th inst., two young men named McCarthy and Cahill, while proceeding from Carbonar to Harbor Grace, N. F., lost their way during a snow-storm, and perished. Their bodies were found next morning.

The Amherst *Gazette* in noticing Mr. Morse's Lecture on "the value of British America to the Empire and its relations to England and the United States," says "He aimed at shewing that the interests of these Provinces would be best advanced by annexation to the U. States." A legal opinion, which may be of value, or not, according to circumstances.

QUEEN'S CO.—The exports from Liverpool for 18 months, ending Dec. 31, 1868, amounted to \$214,556, and from Port Medway, \$110,722. Total \$325,278.

CUMBERLAND.—Paper is being manufactured largely from wood in the United States. The *St. John News* says: "that H. R. Merrill, Esq., the Agent of the Wood Paper Company, of Providence, R. I., whose manufactory is situated near Philadelphia, have contracted with parties at Ragged Reef, Cumberland, N. S., for 3000 cords of wood, and with R. A. Chipman, Esq., Rockland, opposite Dorchester, for 500 cords more. This is just half the quantity the capacity of the Mills will take for manufacture for a year. The woods are chiefly poplar, white beech, spruce and pine, and under the existing tariff of the United States go into that market free of duty."

AMHERST.—A new building belonging to Mr. Charles Hillson was leveled with the ground during the storm on Friday last.

The *Free Press* says: "The *Bridgewater Times* has been transformed into an agricultural paper. Lunenburg farmers are able to instruct all the rest of the world in the culture of cabbage." That county sends on some solid ones to Halifax every year.

WINE HARBOR.—A correspondent of the "Eastern Chronicle" writing from this place on the 10th inst. says: "Times are dull here at present, but good prospects are ahead for summer. Our list of casualties this season, is rather a heavy one. Mr. F. W. McEwan, foreman of the Provincial Mines, had one of his hands badly smashed, by getting caught in the machinery connected with the pits—Mr. John D. Cameron, a very respectable and industrious young man, had both his hands blown off about four or five weeks ago."

REV. MR. PUNSHON ON HALIFAX.—Mr. Punshon in writing to the *Methodist Recorder* the results of his observation, speaks as follows of our city:

"My visit to Halifax was a source of great pleasure to me. I had long wished to see that magnificent harbour and cannot say too much in its praise. Beautiful for situation is this fair capital of Nova Scotia; and although the city hardly equals the site, it does not deserve the epithets which have been carelessly heaped upon it by some who have looked at it for an hour through a fog, and when they were jaundiced by the seven days' disorganization of an Atlantic voyage. The society in Halifax is more homelike than any city I have yet visited, and I have appeared before no more intelligent congregation than that to which I was there privileged to declare the Word of Life. The coal, iron, and gold of Nova Scotia are being worked productively, and if the present political disquiet should subside (I found the anti-Confederation feeling, especially outside the city of Halifax, sufficiently strong), and all parties be induced to work patriotically for the common good, there is nothing to prevent its rise into a very prosperous colony. I parted from the friends I made in Halifax with great regret, and my visit there will always be a pleasant memory.

During my visit to the Maritime Provinces, I was accompanied by the Rev. Dr. Nelles, the accomplished President of Victoria University, Coboug, whose genial spirit contributed to the pleasure of the tour, and although my time was of course chiefly taken up with ecclesiastical questions and public services, it was a rare delight to me to see the workings of British institutions, and to feel that in these extremities of the empire there throbs the pulse of home. I had also the opportunity of inspecting the "Royal Alfred," a trim gunboat, carrying eighteen guns; of seeing, on a small scale, a forest on fire; of gazing upon a vast marshy field literally alight with countless swarms of fire-flies; and of beholding a fine school of whales pursuing their leviathan gambols in the ocean in which God has made them "to play."

WOLFVILLE.—*Temperance Sermons*.—We understand that by invitation of the Division, sermons bearing specially on the subject of Temperance will be preached in Wolfville in the course of a few weeks. The Venerable Dr. Cramp will take the lead.—*Acadian*.

BERWICK.—Strong Brothers' establishment, was robbed of \$200 in cash, one day last week. The perpetrators have not yet been discovered.

THE GAME LAWS.—A countryman named William Pomeroy, was summoned before the Police Court, a few days ago, for selling partridges contrary to law. He asked a postponement of the trial until yesterday, which was granted. On that day Pomeroy could not be found. The Inland Fisheries and Game Protection Society commenced the prosecution.

CLARENCE.—A meeting was held here on the 28th ult., to take into consideration the present Assessment Law, and devise measures to secure a more just and equitable Act. Resolutions were unanimously passed in accordance with said object. This is a matter of great importance, and deserves serious attention. The unfairness of the Assessment has much to do in checking progress and general improvement.

THE PROVINCIAL TEMPERANCE CONVENTION assembled yesterday. A public Temperance meeting is to be held in connection therewith this evening. It will doubtless be an interesting occasion.

YARMOUTH ELECTION.—Yarmouth nominated her candidates yesterday. It is said that Mr. Clements retires from the contest, and that Mr. Killam will be opposed by Mr. Moses.

FIRE AT SHERBROOKE.—On Friday morning the forge and a large building adjoining, owned by Mr. John McDaniel, at Sherbrooke, were destroyed by fire. The loss is estimated at about \$1000. No insurance.