

physician sees in his death the results of violated physical law. Is he right? Kind reader, judge for yourself. We tread on delicate ground. Our subject concerns the religious beliefs of humanity. But the nature of truth is our apology. Not a sparrow falls to the ground without God's notice. The law believer feels the force of this. But does the passage prove that when the gun of the sportsman is pointed at the bird, the order of sequence between his resolve and the death of the sparrow is to be miraculously interrupted? Every hair of the good man's head is numbered, but still he equally with the bad suffers and dies when the organic laws are violated, as well as reaps the blessings of an obedience to them, and if an accident happens is just as liable to lose his life as another. Therefore the passage does not prove special guardianship to the perversion of natural law. Whence we ask, those beautiful principles of man's mental constitution and the laws which govern mind's manifestations? Inflexible causation reigns here. There are laws governing the spiritual elements of man's nature yet undiscovered, sufficient no doubt to account for certain peculiar phenomena now attributed to the instrumentalities of spirits and angels, whence those principles of the science of Human Life, those laws of nature in harmony with which, man placing himself, he reaps good? Inflexible causation reigns here. Deny it and you take away from humanity the incentives to reform. Admit it and you lay the foundations of future progression. Science demonstrates laws and forces in the great economy of nature by which change, formation and progression are ever carried on. And this in the realm of mind as of matter.

"No new plan or motives of action can ever enter the Divine mind, and whatever plans we find developed in God's governments must have been perfectly formed in the councils of Eternity. God acts on the universe under the guidance of those fixed principles we call Law."

"Those are only crude and imperfect notions of religion," says Dr. Blair "which suggest the idea of inducing God to change his laws and measures previously formed. The chief efficacy of our devotions is derived from the good dispositions which they raise and cherish in the human soul."

"The Being that made the world governs it by laws that are inflexible because they are the best."

The laws of God then, being established, are not subject to various interference and modification. In fact this is not now claimed by the most enlightened advocates of Special Providences. But were the Laws of God arranged from the beginning so as to meet the variously conflicting and incidental circumstances of men as we see them to day? Let us consider.

The laws that regulate and have regulated this earth and its relations, in all their varied ramifications are intimately connected with the universal constitution of things. The production of our globe and its progress through the different geological ages was dependent on the Laws of the Solar System. All are but parts of one stupendous whole. The Seasons, Winds, Waves, Tides, Cold, and Heat, Thunderings and Lightnings, Volcanoes and Epidemics etc., are connected with operative principles far back of them. For them to have been arranged from the beginning to meet the incidental circumstances of man would have necessitated a change in the Laws of God's Universe. Now were the latter made dependent upon such casualties? Which were the most dependent, the one upon the other, the Laws of the Universe or the circumstances of man? Do not the latter in great measure flow out of or from the former? A peculiar necessity having at one time demanded a peculiar manifestation concerning the welfare of the race argues not even the possibility of the continuance of the same.

Modern scientific discoveries differ no more from the seemingly plain statements of Scripture regarding Creation, the Flood, the phenomena of Nature etc., than does the truth, that God works to day by Law not by Miracle, differ from statements of scripture seemingly opposed to it. Of this latter class, perhaps the strongest is Mark 16: 15-19 and yet no man will say that these signs are now made manifest. "Ask and ye shall receive." But if we ask for that which in God's wisdom—owing to His laws—must be otherwise, will it be granted? Surely not. The Bible evidently supposes a large margin for the exercise of human reason and human research. This investing the whole subject with an atmosphere of mysteriousness is not good. It is only a superficial view of the question. If Special Providences are contended for, we should know what we mean. Objection has been taken to our representation of the prayers of Christians. Such are supposed to be selfish and conflicting when asking for Special Interference such as was alluded to in a former article. But if, realizing that law governs natural phenomena, men ask not the Creator to interfere with His modes of action, the case is very different. It has been said that in numberless ways unknown, by the dispensations of Providence good is accomplished. True. The principles of cause and effect in Nature are productive of great good. Through gradual unfolding and expansion, the sublime and wide-spread operations of the universe tend towards grand results. Its laws being instituted by an all-wise Creator, are no doubt the best and although various darker shades and manifestations ever and anon appear, still we believe that there are only the receding waves of that tide that is ever rolling onward.

After certain events transpire in accordance with natural law, the results of the workings of Fixed Principles necessary to the final ends to be accomplished, then to suggest and to discover the supposed special purposes intended,

which special purposes are always changed, modified and made to conform to the peculiar character of such events is not in accordance with the highest consistency.

Reader, do you feel any less respect for the Creator and His works from a consideration of these principles we have been endeavouring to unfold? Is the contemplation of unchanging laws developing grand, natural and universal effects now ennobling? To day we are passing into deeper views of Nature, Science and man as related to the immutable forces of the universe, the methods of the Divine action. Do such principles as these give us narrower views of Truth? Do they deny man the privilege of prayer? May its holiest influences and power prevail still more exceedingly in the earth. Can there be no reforms effected, can there be no influences exerted under the present constitution of things? Whereas before, if nature seemed discordant, do we not now catch faint glimpses and more ennobling conceptions of Sublimity, Unity and Uniformity?

Let us hope that a vast future awaits the human race, a future of Progress.

THINKER.

January 20th, 1870.

For the Christian Messenger.

## IN MEMORIAM.

MR. BURPEE R. LYNDS.

On the 21st. of January, 1870, Mr. Burpee R. Lynds entered into his rest, after a lingering illness, borne with exemplary patience and Christian fortitude. He was in his 27th year, a young man of natural and acquired talents.

In 1863, he taught the Grammar School, of Wilmot, Annapolis County. And during the years—1864 and 1865 he taught the Protestant Grammar School of Antigonish. Also in 1866, he was head-master of the Guysborough County Academy. Brother Lynds, according to his own statement, had often felt anxious about the salvation of his soul in his younger days; but not until 1863, while at Wilmot, did he become convinced of his lost state by nature. About this time he obtained hope through faith in Christ, was baptised by Rev. W. Porter, and received into the fellowship of the Pine Grove Baptist Church. Thence he transferred his membership to the Antigonish Church; and thence to the Baptist Church of Onslow.

Brother Lynds' health began to fail during his two last years of teaching. It was, however, not until the Autumn of 1866, that he was compelled to resign his duties as teacher. After resting for one year his health improved somewhat, and he entered the office of Dr. McDonald in Antigonish to study medicine, as that had always been the profession he aimed at. But his health still failing he was obliged to quit the study. And such was the progress of the pulmonary complaint with which he was seized, that he was soon confined to the house.

He expired at his father's residence where he received every possible aid from affectionate parents, brothers, sisters, and medical skill. But his hour of departure had arrived. The Master called him home. On the day of interment a large concourse of people gathered and listened to a discourse upon the occasion from 2. Cor. iv. 18, delivered by the writer. After which the procession repaired to the house appointed for all living where the dust was committed to the earth as it was "to slumber until the morning of the resurrection."—*Com. by B. Elder Scott.*  
Onslow, Jan. 20th, 1870.

## Religious Intelligence.

RAWDON.—A friend writes: "Mr. A. Cohoon from Acadia College spent his Christmas and New Year's vacation here, and preached several times in South Rawdon and neighbourhood. His visit had apparently effected a great deal of good, his sermons were good, plain, practical, instructive,—and his visits pleasant and profitable—the effect of which was plainly seen by the increase in attendance each Sabbath. There can be no doubt, if arrangements could be made for the Students at Acadia to visit destitute Churches during the vacations or even churches that had regular Pastors, and thus give an opportunity for Pastors to visit other churches, it would be the means of doing much good, both to themselves and the people visited—scattered flocks might be gathered into the fold again, and additions made to the Churches."

St. JOHN N. B.—The Revival meetings in the Germain Street and Leinster Street churches, are so far, highly satisfactory in their results. The Lord's ministers have been re-invigorated in their work. Many christian hearts have received a fresh unction from the Holy One, and have been reconsecrated to the service of the Master, and some forty or fifty persons have professed a newborn faith in Jesus as their Saviour. On Sabbath last, Rev. Mr. Carey, pastor of Germain Street, baptized twelve converts, and Rev. Mr. Titus, pastor of Pitt Street, baptized three candidates. Rev. Mr. McKenzie expected to baptize a goodly number, but in consequence of the severity of the storm, decided to postpone until next Sabbath, when other candidates will probably be added to the present number.

Elder Knapp filters not in his evangelistic mission; but is just as vigorous, faithful, and trenchant as ever. His visit to this city of St. John, will leave impressions upon the minds of hundreds, as enduring as the eternal ages. To Jehovah be all the glory, and let all the people say Amen!—*Visitor.*

## Domestic and Foreign News.

There is not much intelligence of a later date from the North West. We are told that the Hudson Bay Company are at last moving energetically on account of strong representations made to them by the Dominion authorities. Commissioners are expected to arrive at Ottawa shortly from the territory.

It is stated that the Scotch and English portion of the Red River territory are loyal, and that even nineteen twentieths of the French would fight against annexation.

The only American sympathisers are the American residents—shopkeepers and others at Winnipeg.

Active preparations are going on to open up land and water communication with the territory in spring. Expected to have steam-boats ready in time to run to Fort Garry on the first opening of spring.

The *Globe* expresses an opinion that the movement to establish steamers between Toronto and Halifax, will be successful.

Bishop Tache, who has obtained leave of absence from the Pope, to visit his Diocese, is expected at Ottawa and after communicating with the Government, will proceed at once to Red River.

Messrs. H. & A. Allan, of the Montreal Ocean Steamship Company, have got up a petition which is now being signed, asking the Dominion Government to take steps to dredge the St. Lawrence below Montreal, to a depth of 25 feet and breadth of 500 feet.

The revenue of the Dominion for January was \$950,789. Expenditure \$1,035,612.

Feb. 7.—The latest news from the Red River Territory is that a mass meeting was held at Fort Garry, when documents from Earl Granville and the Governor General of Canada, and Mr. Howe, were read.

It was decided to elect twenty French and twenty English Commissioners to consult as to what had best be done in the interests of the inhabitants of the Territory.—*Interests.*

## New Brunswick.

It is denied by the St. John papers that John A. Munroe has made any confession of his guilt as suggested by the *Halifax Citizen*. Some rumors have been started that he had not only confessed the crime for which he has been condemned but others of a similar character. This may be regarded as doubtful. His days are now fast drawing to a close, and we trust it may be long before such an awful case of depravity may again afflict our sister city.

Arrangements have been completed for the purchase of the St. John Custom House by the Dominion Government, on favorable terms. It was owned by private parties.

## The United States.

The Georgia Legislature has ratified both the 14th and 15th Amendments. Revels, (colored) United States Senator from Mississippi has arrived in Washington.

On invitation of Gen. McDowell, Prince Arthur visited the Forts in the harbor on Tuesday and was received with a salute at the Governors Island.

The Captain of the *Monarch* has telegraphed to England for permission to take his ship into Boston harbor.

The U. S. Senate on Thursday last refused to confirm Attorney General Hoar as a Justice of the Supreme Court.

A MEASURE now before Congress contemplates depriving the Mormons of all rights of the United States citizenship so long as they adhere to polygamy.

THE effort to repeal the duty on coal fails of success. The interest of the coal monopoly and the hardened consciences and itching palms of congressmen prevail against the necessity of the people.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—It is said Prince Arthur, after attending the Peabody funeral to-morrow, will proceed directly to Montreal. Gold 121.

## LATEST FROM EUROPE.

By Atlantic Telegraph.

ENGLAND.—A despatch announces the arrival of the steamship *Great Eastern* at Bombay. She will soon commence the work of laying a cable to the mouth of the Red Sea.

LONDON, Feb. 2.—In consequence of the frequent rumors of the ill health of Pius the Ninth, the public mind is busy with names of candidates for the Papacy. The election of Archbishop Manning, is strongly advocated in England.

According to the provisions of the Act of Parliament empowering Government to take possession of the telegraph lines of the Kingdom, the Treasury Department yesterday paid 720,000 pounds sterling for the cable connecting England with Germany by way of the Island of Norderney.

Port mouth, England, has been chosen as a port of call for the steamers of the new American line.

The Arch Duchess Elizabeth, of Austria, has fled to America, having embarked at Hamburg. Feb. 4.—The weather throughout England for the past few days has been clear, cold, and delightful.

A Threat from the Ecumenical Council.—A leading paper in Rome referring to the menaces against the Ecumenical Council for establishing decrees contrary to modern ideas, says "the bishops despise menaces, and if Governments

make laws at variance with the decrees of the Council the subjects will not be held to observe them, and to exact obedience to such laws would be odious tyranny. If Governments separate the Church from the State they must expect terrible revolutions to overthrow them. France alone has been true to the Concordate and the Council will bear this in mind."

FRANCE.—Feb. 2.—A public meeting in Paris was dissolved by the authorities on Tuesday last, because one of the speakers compared M. Ollivier to Judas Iscariot.

The *Patrie* of Wednesday, alludes to the rumors about the expected reduction in the army and navy, and asserts that it has reason to believe that they are without foundation. It expresses the opinion that the present military and naval forces of the country are not too large.

Marseilles, Feb. 5.—Considerable excitement was occasioned in this city this morning by the falling of two houses with a tremendous crash. Twelve persons were buried in the ruins, but it is not thought that all are killed. Two bodies have been recovered from the debris.

ITALY.—Rome, Feb. 3.—Since the assembling of the Ecumenical Council seven of its members have died and four have left the city.

The Pope has announced that he will hereafter decline to participate in the controversy respecting the dogma of Papal infallibility.

It would be a strange thing if he did! It would surely be admitting that it might turn out that no such thing exists.

SPAIN.—Madrid, Feb. 3.—In the Spanish Cortes yesterday, Senor Costellar, made an effective speech against payment of the clergy by the State.

A republican in the Spanish Cortes violently defended the recent insurrection. General Prim called on him to retract, which he refused to do. There is a prospect of a duel.

Feb. 5.—Madrid telegrams report that the Duke of Montpensier's candidature for the throne of Spain will be altogether abandoned. Prince George, a Catholic, 37 years of age, son of the King of Saxony, is now talked of in some quarters, while others propose Prince Charles of Prussia.

GREECE.—It is reported that the Viceroy of Egypt has entered into an alliance with Greece.

It is said that every second person has some Nervous Disease. A much larger proportion of females are so afflicted than males; hence the numerous cases of irregularities, Leucorrhoea, Weakness and Debility, Chlorosis, Anemia, Hysteria, Apoplexy, and many other diseases incident to the sex. FELLOWS' COMPOUND SYRUP is perfectly adapted to all these diseases; and also for Prolapsus Uteri, when it originates from a low state of the nervous system and relaxed muscles.

Sold by Apothecaries. Price \$1.50 per bottle, or 6 for \$7.50. On the receipt of \$7.50 the proprietor will forward 6 to any part of Nova Scotia or New Brunswick, Free.

JAMES I. FELLOWS, Chemist,  
St. John, N. B.

## General Intelligence.

### Province of Nova Scotia.

Provincial Secretary's Office.  
Halifax, N. S., Feb. 2nd, 1870.

#### APPOINTMENTS.

Guysboro' Co.—To be Justices of the Peace: William L. Pye, Donald Kennedy, John McLean, Alexander Fisher, John Hewett, and John Stewart.

Richmond Co.—To be Justices of the Peace: D. McKee and R. G. Morrison. To be a Notary and Tabellion Public: William Brymer.

Inverness Co.—To be Justices of the Peace: Angus Benton, John Carmichael, James Coady, Ronald Campbell, Donald McLean, jr., and Peter Grant.

Pictou Co.—To be Justices of the Peace: John R. Fraser, John Millar, James D. McGregor, Daniel Chishalm, James W. Jackson, Wm. S. Fraser, Thomas Kennedy, Ronald McVicar, Angus McMillan, Alexander J. Patterson, Wm. McLaren, Jas. Kitchin, Jr., David Tatarie, James McDonald, Samuel Archibald, John Falconer, David Miller, John Harvey, William Henry, John Johnston, and John Yortan.

Cape Breton Co.—To be a Commissioner for licensing Pilots: Walter Young of Lingan, in the place of Charles E. Leonard, Esq., deceased.

Annapolis Co.—To be a Coroner: Joseph Lordly Bunting, M. D. To be a Commissioner for taking affidavits in the Supreme Court: Thomas W. Chesley, Esq. To be a Justice of the Peace: Wm. Shaw, in the place of Moses Shaw, Esq., deceased. To be issuer of Marriage Licenses: James P. Roop, of Clementsport, in place of Moses Shaw, Esq., deceased.

THE MIC-MAC MISSIONARY MEETING in St. Matthew's Church on Monday evening, was not so largely attended as on some former occasions. Hon. J. W. Ritchie occupied the chair. Rev. S. T. Rand, read the annual report, reviewing the early history of the mission, and showing that there is ground for encouragement and hope in this as in all christian work. Mr. R. showed that he had not trusted God without finding him a present help in every time of need. Appropriate addresses were given by Rev. P. G. McGregor, Rev. G. M. Grant and Mr. Grierison. The Committee was reappointed, viz., Dr. Avery, Messrs. Jas. Farquhar, Geo. H. Starr, Wm. Howe, Hon. Dr. Parker, Charles Robson, and H. N. Paint.

After the collection, Rev. Mr. Grant, closed the meeting by the benediction.