

there is no such thing. The crucial tests of Pasteur, Tyndal, and others, demonstrated that the experiments on which the wild hypothesis had been projected were imperfectly formed; and thus the promoters of this phase of the "new philosophy" have been proved to be wanting in the very first qualification of scientific investigators. It is now known that if atmospheric air is perfectly excluded from decomposing substances no forms of organic life are generated. The eggs of infusoria float in the air. Prof. Huxley admits that experiment is against the doctrine of spontaneous generation; but, true to the unscientific instincts of imagination, he says:

To say, therefore, in the admitted absence of evidence, that I have any belief as to the mode in which the existing forms of life have originated, would be using words in a wrong sense. But expectation is permissible where belief is not; and if it were given me to look beyond the abyss of geologically recorded time to the still more remote period when the earth was passing through physical and chemical conditions, which it can no more see again that a man recall his infancy, I should expect to be a witness of the evolution of living protoplasm from not living matter. I should expect to see it appear under forms of great simplicity, endowed, like existing fungi, with the power of determining the formation of new protoplasm from such matters as ammonium, carbonates, oxalates and tartrates, alkaline and earthy phosphates, and water, without the aid of light. That is the expectation to which analogical reasoning leads me; but I beg you once more to recollect that I have no right to call my opinion anything but an act of philosophical faith.

"Philosophical faith"! Really we thought that the new philosophy had a little more bottom in it; but it is generally the case that those who ignore the statements of God's word because they cannot demonstrate the unseen, conjure up for themselves "a faith" not only undemonstrable, but at variance with the very instincts of reason. Prof. Huxley is well aware that the great tragedy of science—the slaying of a beautiful hypothesis by an ugly fact—which is so constantly being enacted under the eyes of philosophers, warns him to build the nest in which he lays the eggs of his "philosophic faith" far out of scientific investigation, away back in the dark past, which can never be seen by man nor reached by science. He thus shows a sort of wisdom, for he can worship his god, Matter, under his own vine and fig-tree, none daring to molest or make him afraid.

The advocates of spontaneous combustion, like the prophets of Baal, will doubtless still cry aloud, and lash about them, and prophecy, but their god will not regard them by voice or sign. Science has cast out this wild vagary from the imaginations of false brethren; and He who created every living creature that moveth, and bade them be fruitful and multiply, each after its own kind, will not suffer the creature made in His own image wholly to forget that the Maker still lives and rules, a God nigh at hand, and not afar off.

BIBLE REVISION.

The *Contemporary Review* (September) says—"The work so long desired, not only by scholars but by all intelligent readers of the English Bible, has at length been taken in hand, and the work has begun in real earnest. Its commencement has been strangely successful, and everything seems to promise fairly. Round the tables of the Old and New Testament Companies the most prominent Biblical scholars of our country, Churchmen and Nonconformists, have assembled: nor is the lay element wanting. The Rules (appended below), mainly drawn up, we believe, by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, which will guide the long and careful deliberations, plainly show what the character of the work is intended to be. The least possible amount of change consistent with faithfulness may be termed the motto of the two companies. All classes of English Protestants, Churchmen and Nonconformists, will wish them 'God speed' in their arduous labours; and for once in the story of England her hostile religious camps meet on common ground."

- The following are the "Rules" adopted:
1. To introduce as few alterations as possible into the Text of the Authorised Version consistently with faithfulness.
 2. To limit, as far as possible, the expression of such alterations to the language of the Authorised and earlier English versions.
 3. Each Company to go twice over the portion to be revised, once provisionally, the second time finally, and on principles of voting as hereinafter is provided.
 4. That the Text to be adopted be that for which the evidence is decidedly preponderating; and that when the Text so adopted differs from that from which the Authorised Version was made, the alteration be indicated in the margin.
 5. To make or retain no change in the Text on the second and final revision by each Com-

pany, except two-thirds of those present approve of the same, but on the first revision to decide by simple majorities.

6. In every case of proposed alteration that may have given rise to discussion, to defer the voting thereupon till the next Meeting, whensoever the same shall be required by one-third of those present at the meeting, such intended vote to be announced in the notice for the next meeting.

7. To revise the headings of chapters, pages, paragraphs, italics, and punctuation.

8. To refer, on the part of each Company, when considered desirable, to Divines, Scholars, and Literary Men, whether at home or abroad, for their opinion.

These "Rules" are conservative enough, we think, to satisfy the most scrupulous. It is not to be expected that the revision will be acceptable to all parties; but that great good will result cannot, we imagine, be doubted. The authorised version will be freed from many blemishes that now disfigure it, while its peculiar and venerable style will be retained.

POPE, OR NO POPE!

Is there now a Supreme Head of the Roman Catholic Church? Hear what Pius IX himself says on the point, speaking through his Secretary, Cardinal Antonelli. Antonelli—closes the protest, issued "by the express order of the Holy Father," against "the sacrilegious spoliation of the dominions of the Holy See," with these words:

"The Supreme Head of the Catholic Church will in future be placed in such circumstances that he will no longer be able to exercise his spiritual authority with that full liberty and entire independence which are indispensable to him."

If the removal of the restraint on the exercise of spiritual authority, involved in the loss of temporal power, is "indispensable" to a Supreme Head of the Church, then, so long as such restraint continues, the Supreme Headship would seem to have no existence. Or, if the subtle "infallibility" was the point in the Cardinal's, or rather Pope's, mind: then it would appear that the restrained exercise of spiritual authority, resulting from the loss of the States of the Church, vitiates the grand dogma which was recently proclaimed amid so much earthly pomp and splendor. It surely looks as if there was a confession, either that the Popehood or the "Infallibility" has lost the "indispensable" conditions of existence.

YARMOUTH TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

A communication in the *Chronicle* of Monday last, without date, states that "at a recent meeting of the Teachers' Association for the township of Yarmouth, the appended resolution was unanimously passed:

"Whereas those entering on the profession of teaching in Nova Scotia have so many discouragements to contend with that but few care to continue in it permanently; and, whereas, the interests of education render it highly desirable that the services of the trained and efficient teacher should be secured for as long a period as possible; and whereas, those teachers who have passed District Examinations, obtained diplomas at the Normal School, and submitted to the re-examination of 1864, felt that they were treated with great injustice when ordered up for examination again upon the same syllabus:

"Resolved, that this Institute, which, from the first, has protested against the breach of contract involved in the demand for re-examination, recognises with pleasure the intention of the Council of Public Instruction—as evidenced by the late Minute of Council—to deal fairly and honourably with those teachers who have given full and legal proof of their competency."

We are not at all surprised at this expression of opinion. It is of course very natural for the Teachers who seek exemption from re-examination, to approve of the Minute of Council. If it were only intended to relieve "those teachers who have given full and legal proof of their competency," there would be but little objection to it. But when it is seen that it breaks down the checks and protections that surround the profession, and introduces a new principle, foreign to the provisions of the law, it is time for those who have obtained provincial licences in due course, and those who have to pay for first-class men, to speak.

There was ample time granted by the Council for every teacher, qualified for his work, to prepare for examination, and for their sake, we think the teachers of high standing, such as those of Yarmouth, should have sustained the provisions of the law.

Re-examination might perhaps have borne a little heavily upon a few, but surely it would not have been a great hardship for

men who had already passed "upon the same syllabus." Instead of "great injustice" to them we fancy it would have been a great benefit, and would have had the effect of re-juvenating their minds on the subjects of examination. Their self-respect too would have been largely increased; whilst the uniformity aimed at by the law would have been secured. However there may be other reasons for the passing of this resolution which we do not perceive, and this being a free country Teachers as well as others may express their opinions on all matters of professional expediency or public policy.

We copy the following from the *Canadian Baptist* of the 14th inst:

INTERESTING CASE.—We witnessed the baptism of an aged brother, Hiram Tubbs, in the baptistry of the Bond St. Church, last Thursday evening. He was brought to the knowledge of the truth some six years ago, and simply from the reading of the Bible, was led to adopt our views of the ordinance of baptism and church order. He met with a copy of the *Canadian Baptist* some two years since, and at once became a subscriber. From the perusal of the truth contained in our columns, he became more deeply convinced of his duty to be baptized. But there is no Baptist church or minister within forty miles of where he resides, and our brother very properly felt that he could not allow a minister to baptize him who did not himself believe in the ordinance. So, clipping the "Toronto Baptist Directory" from our columns, he came from his residence in Prince Edward County to Toronto, in search of a minister to baptize him. He was introduced to Bro. Stewart, who, after hearing from Bro. Tubbs an interesting account of his conversion, baptized him, and "he went on his way rejoicing."

This case may afford encouragement for introducing a religious paper wherever it is possible to do so. We are always glad to send the *Messenger* to persons living at a distance from the means of grace, with the hope of just such results as the above. It is not often, however, that the evidence is so direct as in the above case.

We are informed that Rev. T. H. Porter, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Baptist Church in Fredericton, N. B., and will shortly leave North Sydney, for the N. B. capital.

We much regret this movement, seeing that Bro. Porter has been so successful in his work at North Sydney, and all around, and through Cape Breton. It will be difficult to supply the vacancy thus created, but we trust the Great Head of the Church will direct some efficient minister to the wide field of usefulness which there presents itself.

For a few months past Brother T. B. Layton has been laboring as an Assistant to Bro. Porter in the various stations around North Sydney.

We perceive by a Hastings paper that a few days after the Empress Engine arrived at that ancient cinque port, a number of persons were assembled on the street opposite the Hotel where she was staying, hoping to get a glance at the fair visitor. It appeared afterwards that the Empress was one of the number in the street enjoying greatly the remarks of the English people concerning herself.

We see that the Rev. Professor Knapp who has recently been the means of the formation of a Baptist Church in Madrid, the capital of Spain, has published a Catechism, on the same principle as our Scripture Catechism—the answers being given in the very words of the Sacred Volume, and therefore, leading directly to the Word of God.

Notices, &c.

WOMEN'S AID SOCIETIES.

Received from Canard, Cornwallis, per Janie D. Rand. \$6 00
M. R. SELDEN, Secretary.

REV. L. B. GATES has removed to the Grand Joggings, Digby, and wishes all correspondence for him to be directed there.

QUARTERLY MEETING AT THREE RIVERS P. E. I.
The next Baptist Quarterly Meeting on Prince Edward Island, will be held with the Church at Three Rivers, commencing on Friday Evening, Nov. 11.
J. SHAW.
Three Rivers P. E. I. Oct. 24th, 1870.

THE FOREIGN MISSIONARY BOARD.

Will meet, (D. V.) in Tremont, Aylesford, on Tuesday, Nov. 22nd, at one o'clock, P. M. Important business requires a full attendance.
C. TUPPER, Sec'y.
Aylesford, Oct. 24, 1870.

Miss Matilda A. Condon, an invalid of Union Square, Cornwallis, anxious to aid in supporting a Karen preacher in Burmah, has, with some assistance, collected \$21.73cts. for that object. She requests that the names of the contributors may be inserted, and the sums specified as stated below.

C. TUPPER, Sec'y.

Aylesford, Oct. 14th, 1870.

P. S.—Doubtless numbers of these are extra contributions.

Mrs. Samuel Condon, \$1. Miss Matilda A. Condon, \$2.15cts. Mrs. William Ellis, \$2. Mrs. Lizzie McMullan, \$1. Agnes Condon, \$1. A. F. Kinsman, \$1. Mrs. B. F. Condon, 50cts. Miss Harriet Skinner, 25cts. Mrs. John Webster, 50cts. Mrs. M. E. Potter, \$1.25cts. Miss Libbie Crandall, 37cts. Mr. Lawrence, 25cts. A friend, 50cts. Mrs. S. G. Condon, 50cts. Hugh A. Chipman, 50cts. Wentworth Ella, \$1. Richard Weathersey, 50cts. Mrs. Nathan Kilcup, \$1.33cts. A friend, \$1.40cts. Mrs. Russell Chesley, \$1. Miss Waity Newcomb, 40cts. John H. Webster, 25cts. John Colwell, 25cts. Mrs. A. Webster, 50cts. Rev. E. O. Read, 50cts. Mrs. William Craig, 25cts. Mr. Edward Parker, 25cts. Mrs. McMullan, 25cts.

CAPE BRETON QUARTERLY MEETING.

The next Cape-Breton Quarterly Meeting will be held (D. V.) with the Baptist Church, at Hawkesbury, commencing with a Missionary Meeting on Friday evening, Nov. 18th, at 7 o'clock.

By order,
E. C. SPINNEY, Sec'y.

Cow Bay, Oct. 18th, 1870.

Letters Received.

D. Archibald, \$19.45.—pd. \$5. 55 to A. & W. MacKinlay. Rev. J. Davis. C. McNeill. Esq. D. Corbet, \$2. B. K. Christopher. Rev. D. Freeman. Rev. Dr. Tupper, (2), \$5. Jas. Lantz, 3 subs. Rev. Isa. Wallace, 2 subs. S. Sibley, \$4.05. Jas. Desbrisay, Esq., \$8.34; also, \$25.—pd. to T. and \$3. to S. T. R. I. Shaw.—We mail all papers on Wednesday; yours were detained at Kentville. Now send direct to Waterville. Rev. W. H. Richan.—Too heavy for parcel post. Sent yesterday by vessel. Jas. E. Patten, Esq. H. M. Irvine. J. Crossby. Rev. A. Stronach, 1 sub. M. P. Johnson, \$1.08.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Have you a Cabinet Organ, or Melodeon?

CLAKE'S NEW METHOD FOR REEDS ORGANS

Is the Best and Most Popular Instruction Book Published for these Favorite Instruments. Price \$2.50. Sent to any address post-paid on receipt of price. OLIVER DITSON & Co., Boston. CHAS. H. DITSON & Co., New York. Nov. 2. luc.

TAKE NOTICE.

THE SUBSCRIBER

begs to inform his friends, and the public generally, that he has taken the store lately occupied by Mr. John Dence,

No. 57 GOTTINGEN STREET,

Four doors north of Cornwallis Street, and has opened a superior Stock of

Dry Goods, Millinery,

AND

GEN'S' FURNISHING GOODS,

Purchased from manufacturers on most favorable terms, and offered at prices that will ensure satisfaction to those who honor him with their patronage. Purchasers intending to buy FOR CASH would do well to examine these Goods before buying at other places, as the fact of their being on sale from

5 TO 10 PER CENT.

less than they can be had elsewhere, is of itself a great inducement, the Subscriber feeling quite confident that none will go away disappointed after a fair trial.

The Subscriber's experience of fifteen years which has been chiefly occupied in filling orders for the country, has given him such a thorough knowledge of the taste and requirements of the different sections of the Province that he feels confident the result of all favors entrusted to him for goods in the above line will be most satisfactory. Personal attention, promptness of execution and quick despatch will mark all his business transactions.

JAMES McPHERSON.

Oct. 19. 3 mths.

A. V. P. B.

ARCHIBALD'S VEGETABLE PAIN BAL-SAM is an article worthy of patronage, and should be found in every house. It is equal if not superior to any other Pain Killer now in use. Also, Archibald's Cough Mixture for Coughs, Colds, and all Lung Diseases.

The Proprietor has removed to Truro, Colchester Co., N. S., is now extending his business, and will be prepared to furnish his numerous patrons with the above, as well as many other valuable remedies compounded by him.

Sold by all the principal Dealers and Druggists in the Provinces. 1 yr. Oct. 12.

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NEW METHOD For the Pianoforte

Excelling in popularity all instruction books for the piano. There is hardly a home in this country containing a pianoforte without this celebrated book. Annual sale 25,000, and the demand is increasing. Published with both American and Foreign fingering, in separate editions.

Price \$3.75. Sent post-paid on receipt of price. OLIVER DITSON & CO., 277 Washington St., Boston. C. H. DITSON & CO, 711 Broadway, New York. Oct. 12. luc.