

ANIMAL MAGNETISM.—There is no longer reason to doubt that the mind of one person may commune with, and be influenced by that of another, and experiments by Professor Stone and others, demonstrate that distant separation does not interfere with such communion. Not only does one mind exert a powerful effect on another, but plays an important part in restoring the body over which it presides, when wasted by disease. As this influence is more forcibly exerted by those possessed of a vigorous nervous system and a faculty of mental concentration, so it becomes futile in proportion as the mind loses its vigor, bodily decay soon follows a debilitated brain and the subjects perish. These facts point to the necessity of tuning the mind in case of debility, in order that the muscles of the various vital organs may have strength imparted to them. Fellows' Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites imparts tone directly to the nervous system, including the Brain, and builds up the Lungs, Heart, Stomach, and other organs on which our happiness and life itself depends.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

FROM HON. DR. PARKER.

13 SALISBURY PLACE, NEWINGTON, EDINBURGH, Jan., 30th, 1872.

My Dear Editor,—

The charitable institutions, which I have not yet found time to visit, are many, and among them, is the very large, and beautifully situated Poor House, for the City of Edinburgh, on the eastern slope of the Pentlands, about a mile beyond the Royal Asylum. I hope shortly to see something more than its handsome exterior, to get an insight into its management, that I may be enabled to compare it with our own in Halifax, and those I have elsewhere visited.

As I returned to the city my friend pointed out a Scottish relic of by-gone days,

THE "BORE STONE,"

in which James IV. planted his standard in 1513, and in the neighbourhood of which he marshalled his forces before setting out for the fatal field of Flodden." This large piece of Red Sandstone, with its standard-hole, still deeply marked, is embedded in the wall of the street, close by the Parish Church, as, is also, the iron plate beneath it, which records its history.

I have mentioned this "Bore Stone," with some degree of hesitation, fearing, lest it may perchance meet the eye of that enterprising class of practical geologists, from the neighbouring Union, (so graphically described by Mark Twain) who, as travellers, go about the world, with geological hammers in their pockets, collecting specimens for their private Museums, from every stone or statue, that by the generality of man is looked upon as historic and sacred. However, should such abreach of antiquarian law and Scottish usage ever occur in connexion with this exposed and unprotected stone, one thing, I may say, the Lord Provost's hammer, would with almost unerring certainty fall, and that heavily on the head of the offenders, for in Scotland, in reference to national relics, and all historic material, every Scotchman, is both a detective and a policeman.

DOCTOR CHALMERS.

In this part of Edinburgh—Morningside, is an object of more recent date, but no doubt of far more interest to the people of Scotland, than that to which I have just called attention. The house in which was spent the last years of one of "Nature's noblemen," a man born to reign over, and sway by a superior and highly cultivated intellect, the minds, not of the masses only—in the ordinary acceptation of that term—but the intellectual masses, as well, throughout the entire land. I refer to Dr. Chalmers, the simple-hearted christian, and in his day the greatest of Scottish preachers—an orator born.

I never saw him but on two occasions, both in this house, for at that time (1844) he had in consequence of impaired health, retired from the active duties of the ministry, and was engaged in perfecting the financial and other vast schemes, connected with the Free Church of Scotland, of which he was the moving, organising spirit, the great human head.

His mental endowments, as well as his christian and general character, have long

been familiar to your readers as to the whole christian world, it would therefore be more than superfluous, for me to occupy your space in giving a boy's impressions of the man, but this I may perhaps be permitted to say, that nothing in, or about him, struck me more than the simple warm hearted genial nature of the man, and the great readiness with which the Leviathan, could unbend himself, to gather from one so young, some crumbs of knowledge, connected with certain natural phenomena existing in Nova Scotia. When speaking of the Tidal flow of the Bay of Fundy, his whole countenance depicted the interest he took in the subject, and demonstrated the fact, that one of his ruling passions—a love for Nature, and the sciences connected therewith—was strong, if not in death, certainly in advanced old age.

This house, in which he lived, and died, will, I hope in the long years to come be carefully preserved, as an object of national interest.

There is another house—however, and more lowly, by which I have stood with even greater interest, that which now contains all that is mortal of Thomas Chalmers, and, as if to convey to those who "view the ground," the character of the man, and the simplicity of his nature, the massive, but very plain piece of sandstone which marks the spot has, simply engraved upon its sombre face—the two words "THOMAS CHALMERS."

Immediately adjoining, are the graves of three men, well known to science, and the christian public of this country. Hugh Miller, the Geologist, James Miller, the Professor of Surgery, in the Edinburgh University,—my teacher and friend of former years—and Sir Andrew Agnew. The graves of men, truly great, have always been objects of interest to living thinking men, recalling as they do, the history, or memories of the past, and often suggesting hopes for the future. And I imagine this last earthly house of "Thomas Chalmers" will be in the far off years, as it is now, a historic spot, to be visited by all who are familiar with the land, its history, and its church.

In this connexion the Cemeteries of the city, ancient and modern, would seem to demand a word or two. They are numerous, but small, and that to which reference has already been made, "The Grange," as indeed, are all the others of recent date, are ornamented with trees and shrubbery, and beautifully laid out and kept.

These contain the remains of many notable men of modern times. Professor Simpson the man who for a number of years filled one of the most important medical chairs in the University, and who was made a Baronet in consequence of his professional attainments, but perhaps, more particularly because of his application of chloroform to obstetric and surgical practice is buried in the beautiful spot known as Warriston Cemetery. The great dead of Edinburgh, and of Scotland, in the long past, were interred in the ancient cemeteries of Grey Friars, St. Cuthberts, the Cannongate, Rosebrig, &c. These latter are the oft frequented haunts of antiquarian visitors.

So near here are many of these cities of the dead, to the busy, bustling scenes of life, and business, that it is an easy transition to step from the former to the latter, (as we know it to be, everywhere, to pass from the latter to the former—from active life and health to the grave) so perhaps I may be forgiven for abruptly passing from Cemeteries to Banks.

THE BANKING INSTITUTIONS OF EDINBURGH, are numerous; the buildings in general very large; the architectural appearance of many of them, imposing and chaste; their internal arrangement and fittings magnificent, and last, but not least, their dividends such as would be likely to make the shareholders of Nova Scotia Banks, envious. Thus, the National Bank of Scotland, quite recently declared a dividend of 13 per cent, and 3 per cent bonus, in all sixteen per cent—while others followed closely in its wake. A capital investment for original shareholders! But, even these dividends, have been largely surpassed by several London and English Banks, which have yielded to their proprietors as much as 20 and 25 per cent on their paid up capital. Edinburgh is neither a commercial, nor a manufacturing city, and at first sight it seems difficult to understand how it sustains so many extensive banking institutions, but it is to be remembered that Leith, the 3rd, and Granton, the 4th, seaports of Scotland, (in reference to the amount of revenue collected) are "part and parcel" of the capital, the banks of which, or their branches to a great extent, do the business of these two

seaports. For its population, it has an enormous retail business, which is materially increased in consequence of the city being generally full of visitors; and so this department of trade, its University and Schools, furnish largely buyers and consumers. Then, much of the banking business of Scotland is centered here. The wealth of the city is very great, and increasing, from without every year, in consequence of men who have made their fortunes in India, Australia, North and South America, and elsewhere, returning in large numbers to spend their last days in the capital of their country, where a cultivated society, and educational facilities for their families can be enjoyed to an extent hardly to be equalled, and certainly not to be surpassed elsewhere. Literary men, and those who have retired from the public service of India, the army and navy, flock hither; and from these varied sources the banks have their vaults well filled, making the supply, almost always, greater than the demand.

My opportunities of seeing the banking institutions of England, have been but limited, but those that I have visited—with the exception of the Bank of England—are eclipsed, architecturally speaking, by those of Edinburgh.

Indeed, so critical has the general architectural taste of this city become, that no public body, or private individual, would think of erecting in any central locality a building for banking, commercial, religious or benevolent objects—of small size, of defective proportions, or deficient in architectural beauty, for fear of doing violence to this long cultivated taste of its inhabitants, and of detracting from the "tout ensemble" of the modern Athens—hence, we may, with very considerable certainty, conclude that as years roll on, Auld Reekie in this as in other respects, will not decrease, but increase. Bowing to public sentiment in this particular, the British Government, when, in 1861, it undertook to erect a new General Post Office, expended on a building, for this service alone £120,000 stg.

Edinburgh, has several great PUBLISHING AND PRINTING FIRMS, which are scattering over the English speaking world educational material, and healthy substantial literature, in happy contrast to the light and demoralising trash, which in annually increasing quantity, is spreading itself over our continent. On this matter, I may say, that there is here a public sentiment, which would speedily crush out, or render bankrupt any publishing house that would engage in a business tending to impair and lower the moral tone of the community.

I have carefully inspected the great establishment of Thos. Nelson & Sons—one of the largest houses of the kind in the world—having a branch of its business in London, and an agency in New York—an institution worthy of the country. Including engravers on steel and wood, the stereotype gang, the book-binders, and other classes of special laborers, there are employed in the Edinburgh establishment, alone, nearly six hundred persons—of both sexes. The most perfect labor saving machines to be procured, are in use, and the whole system and management of this vast literary barrack, appear to be thorough and complete. With the exception of the paper, everything concerned in the manufacture of a book is produced within their own walls. A detailed description of the place, and the work it is doing, would demand a lengthy notice, which I cannot give you, and if I could, I fear the minutiae would interest only a limited number of your readers, so I will rest contented with thus briefly alluding to it.

And now, Mr. Editor, in order that your readers who have confined their perambulations to the new world, and those younger members of the families in which the Messenger is a household institution, who have not as yet wandered beyond their own province, may have some idea—although a very imperfect one—of what constitutes a leading and notable city in the old world, I have dwelt much more at length on my subject—Edinburgh—than I intended when I commenced. But although I have written much—wandering occasionally, I fear too from my text—I have left much unsaid, and I feel assured that when any of those who may take the trouble to peruse these "Jottings," shall visit this locality and take the time to see and inquire into all that is interesting and instructive connected with the Edinburgh of the past, and of the present, they will be inclined to say with the Queen of Sheba, when addressing Solomon, and Dr. Guthrie, at the London Ragged School "behold the half was not told me."

I am afraid if I were to dwell on the meteorology and climate of Edinburgh at this

season, I should have to state some unpalatable truths, connected with its moisture, and the changes of weather which are constantly occurring. As is usual, during the past six weeks the cheeks of its inhabitants have been fanned, by high winds, and oft recurring gales, but there has been no frost of any moment, and any ice that may have formed has not exceeded an inch, or at most, an inch and a half, and has continued only for a day or two. The last day I walked into the country, the plows were actively at work turning over the soil, and there has been no frost to prevent them since.

In closing, permit me to say a word or two, in relation to a matter, in which we, as well as every inhabitant of Halifax should be deeply interested. I have recently read with much satisfaction the resolution moved by Alderman Wylde in the City Council, to borrow money to enable the Civic authorities to undertake a thorough, and modern system of Sewerage for the City. The work will of course be expensive, but nevertheless it should be done. And every citizen who has the true interests of the community at heart, should sustain those who are moving in the matter.

For want of such a system in Halifax, very many valuable lives are annually sacrificed, by Typhoid Fever, and other preventable diseases—diseases, which by a judicious expenditure of money could with moral certainty be warded off, to a great extent.

The Civic government, led on by Mr. Wylde ago only doing that for which the citizens of Halifax should hold up both hands, and, if opposition should arise, I trust the Press of the city will be at their backs, and aid them in bringing the matter to a successful issue.

In this country, the sewerage question is, at present, attracting great attention, and the recent illness of the Prince of Wales has given it additional importance. In Edinburgh, the professional societies are freely discussing the subject.

The errors and defects of present systems, are being canvassed, and as was practically illustrated the other night at the Medicochirurgical Society, by Dr. Balfour, the neglect of architects, builders and plumbers, in the performance of their duties, has caused death to enter the dwellings of families, residing here, in fashionable localities, when the drainage was supposed to be perfect.

In this connexion, I may say, that I have read with great pleasure in the "Dalhousie College Gazette," the address of Dr. Farrel on State Medicine, and Public Hygiene, delivered at the opening of the present session of that College. Dealing as it does, with important principles, connected with human health, and the public interests, it should have had a wider circulation than it has obtained. These principles for which the Doctor contends, must eventually come to the surface, and be adopted, in the main by the governments and the Public, of all civilized and advanced countries.

With best wishes for your continued welfare.

I am, dear Sir,
Very truly yours,
D. McN. PARKER.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mr. Editor,—

I am under the impression that the author of the communication referred to by your correspondent, "It's me," used the phrase "That's him" not as an expression to which he gave his sanction, but simply as a quotation. On the supposition he did so, no responsibility can be attached to him, so far as the grammatical construction is concerned. Perhaps the language lacks "dignity," as it is said.

On the supposition that he used the phrase in good faith as his own, it seems to me that, in this particular instance, a defence can be made for its use. Looking at the connection in which the words are found, the meaning manifestly is: that is just what you might expect from a man of such a temperament, style,—use whatever word you please;—that is of a piece with all he writes—precisely like him. It will be seen then, that by supplying an ellipsis, the government of "him" can be readily accounted for. If it was intended, however, to emphasize "him," making it equivalent to—that is the man in embodiment, we would prefer the expression "That's he."

I have noticed that those who condemn the use of "It is I," and approve the use of "It's me" almost uniformly employ the illustration of somebody rapping at a friend's door,—the friend always asking more or less questions to assure himself of

the comer's individuality. The "Who's there," and the response "It's I," if the interrogated has been fiddling about grammar—"It's me," if he be a truly educated man, must of necessity be used. This illustration, so often employed, seems to me to be a somewhat unfair one—perhaps far-fetched, inasmuch as the use of the phrase "It is I," in this particular case, does savor of pedantry, when any idea of appearing pedantic is furthest from the mind. Would it not be far more definite and satisfactory to mention to the friend enquiring "who's there," your name in full, or some abbreviation of it? There is here, however, room for difference of opinion.

But your correspondent wishes to know which of the two parties referred to is right in the matter? To answer the question, it will be necessary to observe that "me," though used as the objective case of "I," has no etymological connection with it; that "him," the objective case of "he," is a form of "he." Hence "him" can never be regarded as an absolute nominative; "me" evidently can. The phrase, "It's me" is, it will be further seen, less liable to criticism than the expression "That's him:" the former has had and will have some defenders, the latter—any? Your correspondent, "It's me," is almost persuaded, from a liking he has for the ring of the words, to become one.

I suppose the natural impulse of language,—if I understand what is meant by the expression,—will be found strongest in children and uneducated persons. If so, it would be scarcely legitimate or wise to "consult" it with a view to determine the question which your correspondent has asked. My conviction is that the uneducated invariably use the forms, "It's me," "It's him," the educated utmost as invariably the forms, "It's I," "It's him." As I have already said, "It's me" may be defended. I will not say that only the vulgar defend it.

Of course what the "learned English divine and critic" says in reference to those ancient classics is generally correct. They often, either with intent or inadvertently, varied the plan of the construction of their sentences. But it will by no means follow that they always did this because it added energy to their style. As a general thing, violations of grammatical principles will not assist much in rendering style vigorous. It seems exceedingly probable that the phrase, "It's me," "It's him," were not in the mind of the English divine when he was writing the passage quoted by your correspondent.

But this article must not be made longer. I trust that your correspondent will regard the question put by him as partially if not fully answered. V.

For the Christian Messenger.

LOAN-IN-AID FUND.

Mr. Editor,—

Will you give place for an expression of the thoughts and feelings of one student on the question of aid to students for the ministry called forth by the letter and wish of "Wolfville"? There are three ways of helping such students, 1st. By loans. 2nd. By gifts. 3rd. By giving work and pay. "Wolfville" has spoken so clearly of the first way that it is idle to say more. For one I fully agree with him. The student who runs in debt for an education will fail to learn the worth of money, how to earn it and how to spend it. He will lack, too, that self reliance, independence and strength which a hard but successful struggle gives. He will lay upon himself a load which will weigh down his spirit, weaken his energies and destroy his freedom, and of which he will find it very hard to get rid. Worldly wisdom, having self confidence and freedom from debt seem necessary to the successful working of a minister. And again were it well for a student to go in debt he could in most cases get money from private sources on easy terms. Surely he who is good for a license to preach the gospel ought to be good for a few hundred dollars. It may be said that private individuals will not run the risk of such loans. If so, should either denomination or student engage in a speculation which business common sense says is unsafe? This way seems "doubtful"

Gifts as gifts do the same harm as loans. They rob the student of strength, they keep him from a real knowledge of business matters, and they destroy self reliance. They may, too, foster pride and sap independence or "weaken him by the ever returning thought that he has been fed by denominational spoon." This way also appears doubtful—the more doubtful be-