

I have concluded, too, that it is little short of irreverence to rush into the presence of God in prayer without some consideration beforehand of what I am to say to him.

For the Christian Messenger.

NOTES FOR "A CLERGYMAN."

Dear Brother,—

"An English Clergyman" proposes to send to the Church Chronicle some observations on Dr. Cramp's "Baptist History."

I am charged with giving garbled extracts from Pædobaptist writers, and therefore with "unfair dealing."

I repel the charge with indignation. The case is this:—Certain Pædobaptist authors admit that there is no authority in the new Testament for infant baptism;

The "Clergyman" refers to those who have been baptized as adults "by pouring or sprinkling."

Having referred to the "Ignatian Epistles," which, he says "distinguish, again and again, between Bishops, Presbyters, and Deacons,"

By the Census of 1871, the population of the Province of Nova Scotia was found to be 387,800, showing an increase of 56,925 or 17.21 per cent.

I suppose it is just as wrong to add to an extract as to garble it.

The "Clergyman" says, "Baptists know nothing of bishops."

Within the last hundred years, or from 1772 to 1871, Nova Scotia has increased from 19,120 to 387,800 souls, a very remarkable growth for a single century.

"come out from among them and be separate," as God's people are commanded to "come out of the mystical Babylon."

Yours truly, J. M. CRAMP.

March 5, 1873.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., March 12, 1873.

NOVA SCOTIA STATISTICS.

We have just received from John Costley, Esq., Secretary of Board of Statistics of this Province, a copy of the sixth Annual Report of the Marriages, Births, and Deaths registered in Nova Scotia, during the year 1871.

We have made some extracts of such portions as we believe will be of general interest and to which we invite the attention of our readers:—

3074 Marriages, 10,452 Births, and 4518 Deaths were registered during the year 1871, being the largest number returned since the system of registration was established in the province in 1864.

If 30 days only were allowed for registration of births there would probably be fewer omitted.

The following table will show the comparative increase and rate of progress in population made by the several counties of Nova Scotia:

Table with 4 columns: COUNTY, Pop. 1871, Increase, Rate per cent. Increase. Lists counties like Halifax City, Hants, Kings, etc.

The following is a list of the Counties arranged according to the rate per cent. of increase in population during the last ten years:—

Table with 2 columns: County, Rate per cent. Increase. Lists counties like Guysborough, Cape Breton, Hants, etc.

Within the last hundred years, or from 1772 to 1871, Nova Scotia has increased from 19,120 to 387,800 souls, a very remarkable growth for a single century.

of Nova Scotia at the subjoined periods was as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Year, Population. Lists years from 1772 to 1871 and corresponding population figures.

So that within the memory of persons still living the population of the Province has increased more than six fold.

Of the 3074 Marriages registered in 1871, 676 belong to the Roman Catholic Church; 661 to the Baptist Church; 638 to the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces; 465 to the Church of England; 356 to the Wesleyan Church; 151 to the Church of Scotland; 46 to the Lutheran Church; 39 to the Congregational Church; 9 to the Reformed Presbyterian Church; 4 to the Universalist Church, and 29 to other denominations.

The above numbers indicate at least approximately the relative strength of the different religious bodies.

Marriages in Nova Scotia, shewing the Counties in which the leading Religious denominations are strongest:—

Table with 3 columns: County, Roman Catholic, Protestant. Lists counties like Annapolis, Antigonish, etc.

B.—Baptist. R. C.—Roman Catholic. P. Pres. Church of Lower Province. E.—Church of England. W.—Wesleyan. C. S.—Church of Scotland. L.—Lutheran Church. C.—Congregational. O. D.—Other Denominations.

In six out of the eighteen counties the Roman Catholic marriages stand first in point of number.

The Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces ranks next to the Baptist in point of number of marriages registered.

The Baptists as a religious body are almost as generally diffused over the province as the Roman Catholics. Their great strength, however, is centred in the Western Counties, in Annapolis, Kings, Hants, Digby, Queens, Shelburne and Yarmouth.

Of the 3074 women married, the age was given in the case of 3035, 894 were married under age, or while less than 21.

Table with 2 columns: At 13 years of age, 1 was married. Lists ages from 14 to 20.

In Nova Scotia only two and a half per cent. of the men married were under age.

As in 1870 so in 1871, the county of Inverness enjoys the distinction of possessing the oldest man married, he was 73 years of age on the happy occasion.

The opening Speech was delivered in the afternoon, and it speaks well for the enterprise of our evening papers that they had it in print and all over the city by about six o'clock on the same day.

The number of births registered last year was 10,452 in a population of 387,800 so that one birth was registered to each 37 of the population.

land the ratio of births to population is 1 to 29, while in France it is 1 in 39, and in Massachusetts 1 in 37.

The births registered are to the deaths in the ratio of 2.3 to 1, or 23 births to every 10 deaths.

196 Illegitimate Births were registered against 225 for the year 1870. The ratio of illegitimate as compared with legitimate birth is 2 of the former to each 100 of the latter.

The ratio of illegitimate as compared with legitimate births is not more than two per cent. In England six per cent., in Scotland ten per cent., and in Massachusetts less than one per cent. of the births registered are illegitimate.

DEATHS.

4518 Deaths were registered in Nova Scotia in 1871, being at the rate of one death for each 85 of the population or about 12 per 1000. In England the average mortality is 22 per 1000, in Massachusetts in 1870 the death rate was equal to 18 per 1000, which is also the rate of the rural districts of England.

Of the 4518 deaths registered, 447 were under 3 months, or rather more than 9 per cent. of the whole died at this early period of life; 18 per cent., or 18 in each 100 born, died before they had completed their first year.

In 1871, 481 persons died above 70 but less than 80, being upwards of 10 per cent. of the whole death rate, nor is this the result of any single year.

The mortality from Phthisis or Consumption, is twice as fatal in this Province and in New England as it is in Great Britain. That the ratio is correct is proved by its continuing nearly the same throughout a series of seven years as regards the four countries from which the returns are received.

Twice as many die from Asthma, in proportion to population, in Great Britain, as on this side the Atlantic.

The Dominion Parliament was formally opened on Thursday last by His Excellency Lord Dufferin. The election of Speaker of the House of Commons, and other preliminaries took place on the previous day.

The opening Speech was delivered in the afternoon, and it speaks well for the enterprise of our evening papers that they had it in print and all over the city by about six o'clock on the same day.

His Excellency states that the finances of the Dominion are in a prosperous condition, and the revenue sufficient to meet all contemplated charges upon it.

The consideration of the Address in reply was to lie over till Monday. It was expected that Mr. Tobin of Halifax would move the Address, and Mr. Palmer of St. John would second it.

Mr. McKenzie was elected Leader of the opposition. In a division on Friday night the government was sustained by a majority of 16.

Table with 2 columns: Province, Govt., Oppo. Lists Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, etc.

Twenty-five members were absent. It is expected the clause of the Address on the Pacific Railway will call forth warm debate and a division of the House.

Concessions to Baptist principles are met with in the writings of many of the most eminent and learned Pædobaptists of all denominations. But because said writers were Pædobaptists and consequently did not carry their sentiments out into practice as consistency would require, Pædobaptists now-a-days do not allow such concessions to have the weight that belongs to them.

On Saturday a somewhat unusual occurrence took place in the Anglican Cathedral of this city. A lady who desired to be baptized, but who was convinced that the proper mode of administering the rite is by immersion, applied to be immersed.

Applied to be immersed. Accordingly a bath was obtained suitable for the purpose, and the ceremony was performed after the ancient usage, and the directions of the prayer book, which orders that the subjects of baptism shall be "warily dipped," leaving it apparently to the judgment of the administration to employ the single or the trine form.

It is however, a manner of speech which the apostle elsewhere, at least Rom. 6, employs. That Christ has been buried we all know; but that we are buried with Him is a fact which is going beyond reason, but to faith it is clear and sure.

Here is another:

G. D. Krummacher, a reformed preacher, uncle of the celebrated court preacher, on Col. 2: 12, 13, says: "Not so clear as this golden word is it, when the apostle says, 'Ye are buried with Christ in Baptism.' It is however, a manner of speech which the apostle elsewhere, at least Rom. 6, employs."

We are pleased to learn that Horton Academy is at the present time in a flourishing condition. The attendance is increasing and the character of the young people gathered there is such as to afford good grounds of hope for the future.

"THE MAYFLOWER."—F. A. Baker Esq., in the last Saturday's issue of this paper is announced as editor and proprietor. It has now become a comic paper, with a good deal of spice in some of its articles.