

... world become greatly reduced in their circumstances, an individual on being requested to bear rule, with the consideration urged, that he could provide the needful supplies of raiment, it being said to him, "Thou hast clothing, be thou our ruler," he would decline, and protest,—"In my house is neither bread nor clothing: make me not a ruler of the people." (Isa. iii. 6, 7.)

From these passages it is evident, that the man spoken of in the parable is represented as having suitable raiment provided for him, and offered to him, but as declining to accept it. Hence he was reprobable.

What, then, is the spiritual application of this part of the parable? Suitable raiment has been graciously provided for those who are "called to the marriage supper of the Lamb." How, and by whom was it provided? Of our adorable Redeemer it is written, "The Lord is well pleased for his [Christ's] righteousness sake; He will magnify the law, and make it honorable." (Isa. xlii. 21.) So Jeremiah prophesied of Him, "This is the name whereby He shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS." (Ch. xxxiii. 6.) In accordance with this, Isaiah, who acknowledges, "All our righteousness are as filthy rags," says, "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, He hath covered me with the robe of righteousness." (Isa. lxi. 10.)

In unison with these declarations, Paul refers to the ruinous error of those zealous Israelites who "being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves to the righteousness which is of God;" and adds, "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth." (Rom. x. 3, 4.) Elsewhere, after enumerating all the grounds of acceptance with God which any Jew could claim, and shewing that they all belonged to him, he expressed a readiness to part with all, as intensely vile, "That," says he, "I may win Christ, and be found in Him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith." (Phil. iii. 3-9.) Truly happy will every one be who is found thus "arrayed in fine linen, clean and white;" (Rev. xix. 8.) but fearful indeed will be the final doom of those who are favored with the gracious call of the gospel, and yet, through the love of sin, confidence in their own righteousness, or aversion to the Lord Jesus Christ, reject the spotless robe procured by Him. Such will not only be "speechless," but they will also be "cast into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth." (Matt. xxii. 13.) He that will enter heaven must, indeed, in the ardent pursuit of holiness, "deny himself, take up his cross, and follow Christ;" (Matt. xvi. 24. John x. 27, 28.) but the active and passive obedience of the precious Redeemer must be his sole dependence for justification and everlasting life. (Rom. v. 19. Phil. ii. 8. Acts xiii. 39. 1 Cor. i. 30.)

C. TUPPER.
Tremont, Aylesford, Feb. 17th, 1874.

P. S.—In accordance with the above is the language of Mr. C. Wesley, "Jesus, thy blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress; 'Midst flaming worlds in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head."

C. T.
For the Christian Messenger.

IN MEMORIAM.
DEACON ABEL STRONG.

Died at his residence, Brooklyn Street, Cornwallis, on Feb. 8th, aged 78 years. He was baptized by Father Manning about fifty years ago, and united with the First Cornwallis Church. When the Third Cornwallis Church was organized he was one of the number and was soon after chosen to fill the office of deacon, which he did with credit to himself and to the advantage and honor of the church. If a christian is the highest style of man, Dea. Strong was truly a great man, for he exhibited the graces of the christian in his domestic, civil and religious life. He never grieved his brethren by inconsistent conduct, nor wounded the feelings or injured in any way the reputation of his pastor. The writer, having been his pastor for fifteen years knows whereof he affirms. By request of Bro. Strong and his family I preached his funeral sermon from Psalm xii. 1. The widow and eight children are living in hope of meeting husband and father in the resurrection, to be glorified together.—Com. by Rev. James Parker.

DAVID SMITH,
a respected and now much lamented member of the Mabou church died on 14th of Dec. last, aged 74 years. When we write of beloved and departed friends we do not pretend to speak of them as being already perfect saints when here. In this imperfect state we speak of them as being made perfect in the righteousness of Christ Jesus. We beheld their unwearied labors of faith and love, fighting the good fight of faith: now that they have finished their course we believe that the promised crown of righteousness is given to them. The subject of this sketch was a native of Mabou the place in which he died. In his young days he went far into the forest to make for himself a home. By unwearied perseverance and patience he accomplished his object, and had the pleasure of cultivating one of the best farms in his locality. While in the midst of his prosperity he was made to feel the necessity of being prepared for an inheritance that is incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away? He was enabled to cast himself on Jesus as a lost sinner which gave him joy and peace in believing. He clung to Jesus whose blood cleanses from all sin, to the very last. He was naturally an honest upright man. The converting influences of the grace of God took firm hold upon him which made these principles shine brighter and brighter.—The church and the world could rely on him as a man of truth and integrity. The Christian Messenger was always a welcome weekly visitor to him, while the Bible was his choice. It was to him the fountain of all comfort. He was always ready to give of his means to help forward the cause of God at home and abroad. In the house of God the preacher of the gospel was always made to feel that he had one attentive hearer. The tearful eye, the beaming and pleasant face did unquestionably indicate that he did not let God's word fall to the ground. A few years ago his health began gradually to fail. He felt every symptom of a coming dissolution. He put his house in order, and did not fear to go down into the dark valley, he had his certificate in his breast that an admittance would be given him at the shining gates. He was happy he did not want to return to be a pilgrim again, he wanted to go home and be with Christ which is far better. Shortly before he expired as some one was reading the 22nd chapter of Revelation, when he heard the words:—"And they shall reign with him forever and ever." "Yes," he exclaimed "and my Jesus shall be there, Christ shall be there." Thus we see the glorious change that simple faith in Jesus will make in the life and death of every true believer. Bro. Smith left a sorrowing widow three sons and three daughters to mourn the loss of a kind husband and father.

Yours, &c.,
LACHLEN McDONALD.
N. E. Margaree, Feb. 23rd, 1874.

Religious Intelligence.

EAST RIVER, YARMOUTH CO.—Dear Brother.—As good news from the Churches always finds a welcome in the columns of your valuable paper, I thought I would drop you a few lines concerning a work of grace now in progress at East River, Yarmouth County, a section of the Tusket Lakes Church. Bro. A. J. Cogswell, Licentiate, is their minister. He is much beloved by his people and is an earnest worker for Jesus. The master is evidently with him in this section of his field, I attended two meetings with him and baptized four happy converts, four or five others have experienced converting grace and expect to be baptized in a few days. The people appear to be awake to the all important necessity of seeking God and Religion. I never heard such appeals from parents to their children, to forsake their sins and turn to God. O may the work spread through that wilderness land, for it is said "the wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose. In my own field of labor the people listen attentively to the preaching of the word, but we have nothing special to report.

J. WILLIAMS.
Arcadia, Feb. 21st 1874.

PORT MEDWAY.—Dear Bro. Selden.—While we rejoice in the good news the Messenger brings to us weekly, relative to the progress of Christ's Kingdom we are happy to say that our little church in Mill village is enjoying a season of refreshing from the Lord's presence. Yesterday I had the pleasure of baptizing seven rejoicing disciples in our beautiful river, the Medway.

Many have obtained peace, some of whom will feel it to be their duty to follow. Blessed Lord in his own sanctioned and heaven approved, ordinance.
Yours in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
ANGUSTUS SHIELDS.
Feb. 23rd 1874.

Another correspondent writes us from Mill Village an account of the above revival a few days later, and says, "During the week fourteen others, several of whom are heads of families, have given satisfactory and intelligent evidence of being hopefully and soundly converted.

Bro. Shields has been instant in season and out of season and has for the past fortnight preached two sermons every day—at night in the chapel here, and in the afternoon in private houses at Charleston, Dock Cove, Old Kettle, and other outlying portions of the field as opportunity offered. God has greatly blessed his labours, may the Lord sustain him.

UPPER AYLESFORD.—Rev. J. L. Read writes on the 23rd ult. "Yesterday was a good day with us, 13 united with the church in this place, 10 by baptism, and 3 restored.

HALIFAX NORTH CHURCH.—On Sunday last one person was baptized by Rev. J. F. Avery, and one other person received by letter.

Dominion & Foreign News.
HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH 4, 1874.

Nova Scotia disputed Elections.—The following official notification was given in the Gazette of Saturday last:—

"His Excellency the Governor General, in pursuance of and under the authority of the Controverted Elections Act, Eighteen Hundred and Seventy-three, has been pleased to appoint the Honorable William Alexander Henry, of the city of Halifax, in the Province of Nova Scotia, one of Her Majesty's Counsel learned in the law; Alexander James, Esq., of the said city of Halifax, one of Her Majesty's Counsel learned in the law; and James William Johnston, Esq., of the said city of Halifax, one of Her Majesty's Counsel learned in the law, to be Judges ad hoc for the purpose of the Controverted Elections Act, Eighteen Hundred and Seventy-three, in and for the said Province of Nova Scotia, and of whom any one may try any election petition relating to an election for any electoral district in such Province, and which said three Judges may hold an Election Court for the same, and such Court shall be held at the city of Halifax in the said Province of Nova Scotia.

"His Excellency has been further pleased, in pursuance of and under the authority of the said Act, to appoint Benjamin Russell, of the said city of Halifax, Barrister at Law, to act as Clerk of the said Election Court for the Province of Nova Scotia."

The Board of Trade was in session at Ottawa last week. The following Vice-Presidents were elected:

Ontario—Hon. James Skead.
Quebec—Mr. McLelan.
Nova Scotia—Cathcart Thompson.
P. E. Island—Senator Howlan.

Last week a fatal accident occurred in Perry & Joy's sawmill, at Napanee, Ontario. A man by the name of Hall, while running a large circular saw and moving a slab, one end of it caught on the saw, bringing the centre of his body in contact with the saw, cutting him so badly that he died in about ten minutes. He leaves a wife and four children.

A Bill to alter the terms of the Union the Dominion passed the British Columbia Legislature on Friday.

The Canada First party will shortly establish a newspaper in Toronto, to be edited by Goldwin Smith.

A passenger car on the Great Western Railway, while travelling between London and Komoka, on Saturday night, caught fire. Eight persons are already dead, and others cannot survive. Twenty-two are badly injured. Owing to the bell-rope not being attached, there was no way of conveying intelligence to the engine driver. The train was running at 40 miles an hour. Some of the passengers leaped from the car; others clung to it till their hands were burnt literally off. The charred remains of others were found clinging to the iron-work.

A coroner's inquest was being held on Monday.

UNITED STATES.
On Thursday the House defeated the bill restoring the franking privileges, by 2 majority.

Senator Sumner made a strong speech in the Senate on Friday, against the proposed International Centennial Exhibition.

The Maine House of Representatives have defeated the Senate bill, by a vote of 83 to 57, abolishing capital punishment.

Emma Adams, aged 22 years, while temporarily insane, threw herself from a fourth story window in Boston on Sunday, and was killed.

Dr. Peters, of Hamilton College, New York, has discovered a new planet in 11th, 19 m, right ascension, plus 4 deg, 25 m, declension. The motion is parallel.

Prof. Henry has received by telegraph the announcement of the discovery of a comet from the Academy of Science of Vienna, in right ascension 20 hours 43 minutes, of declination plus 24 degrees 51 minutes, faint motion, southeast 24 degrees.

A despatch from Saganaw Bay states that three hundred fishermen were adrift on an immense cake of ice, and in a hazardous situation. Two were reported drowned.

A despatch on the 24th said it is now probable that all the fishermen on the floating ice in Saganaw Bay, will reach land in safety. Two hundred reached the shore last night, and others have been driven to West Shore by the change of wind, so they probably can land easily.

Mr. M. Nutt, one of the parties implicated in the murder of Seiver at Michita, Kansas, has made a confession of the crime. The object of the murder was to secure \$5000 on an insurance policy on Nutt's life by having the policy of the murdered man identified as that of Nutt. The murderer confessed that he and one Winn-evid Seiver from Kansas city, dragged him with laudanum, bound cords tightly around his body, saturated his clothing with kerosene, and then fired the building, burning the unfortunate man to a crisp. The populace are much excited, and there is a prospect of lynching being resorted to.

The gathering in of the ice harvest for the New York market affords occupation to quite a considerable number of people, and is a timely employment for the winter season. Ninety-four thousand five hundred tons per day, it is said, are being gathered along the Hudson for the supply of New York City, and 9,555 men and boys, 581 horses and 41 steam engines are employed in the harvest.

FATAL MISTAKE.—A man named Cluney recently from Halifax, living off Fore street Portland, Me., had a child about three months old taken sick, and summoned a physician, but as the child did not improve a messenger was sent to a drug store for paregoric, but instead of paregoric laudanum was given. After the medicine was administered the child went into a doze. A physician was sent for, but it was too late, and the child died.

NEW YORK, March 2, p. m.—Gold 112 1/2. Sterling Exchange \$481 to \$487 1/2. Money 3 per cent.

The public debt has been decreased two million six hundred thousand dollars in February.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

ENGLAND.—Mr. Dillon, member of the Livingstone search expedition, has succeeded, and Livingstone's remains were expected to reach Zanzibar on the 29th inst.

The Cameron expedition will proceed to Ujiji to obtain the documents and property left by the Doctor.

Sir Bartle Frere, at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, on the 23rd ult, stated that, after a conference with Dr. Kirk, he had come to the conclusion that the report of Dr. Livingstone's death was true.

The Queen, on the recommendation of Mr. Gladstone, has granted a pension of \$1,000 per annum to the children of Mr. Livingstone.

The weather was very tempestuous in Thursday in Great Britain, and on the coast. Communication by telegraph between London and various places is interfered with, and much damage done to shipping.

The storm was especially violent at Liverpool, Edinburgh, and Shields.

Prof. Huxley was installed as rector of the University of Aberdeen, on Friday last. The company which issued proposals for laying a light telegraph cable between England and America gives notice that the enterprise is abandoned owing to lack of support.

The steamship Mongol, from London for Wellington, arrived at Melbourne; she had 67 cases of illness during the voyage, 16 proving fatal.

The report regarding the circular letter of the Pope, before he died, is pronounced unfounded.

The Tichborne Claimant was on Saturday sentenced to fourteen years penal servitude for perjury. The jury were absent only a short time after going out from hearing the Chief Justice's charge. There is great excitement in London over the result of the trial.

It is announced that the Duke of Edinburgh, with his bride, will make their public entry into London on the 12th of March. Her Majesty the Queen will take part in the celebration of the day.

The Ashantee War.—The War Office has no report of the battle, but an official though circumstantial despatch reached the Admiralty that the battle was fought at Acroomboo, January 31st, not at Coomassie as reported.

A special despatch to the "Standard" says the Ashantees entirely surrounded the British Army, but were driven off with great loss.

Further details say that the Ashantees till three in the afternoon.

Seventeen British officers were killed and wounded. The Naval Brigade, 145 strong, lost 39 men. The loss lost sustained by the native allies is unknown—but is heavy.

The Fusiliers lost fifty-six men in the battle with the Ashantees.

The following official despatch from Gen. Wolseley, occasions great relief:—

Coomassie, Feb. 5.—We reached here yesterday after five days hard fighting. The troops behaved admirably. Our casualties are under 300. The King has left the town, but he promises to visit me to-day and sign a treaty of peace.

We hope to start on our return to the coast to-morrow.

The wounded are recovering, and the health of the remainder of the army is good.

WOLSELEY.
The Duke of Edinburgh and his bride have left St. St. Petersburg for England.

A boiler explosion at Blackburn, Lancashire, instantly killed twenty persons, and seriously injured thirty more.

Lieut. Governor Campbell, of Bengal, reports 1,070,000 persons starving there, and all the poorer classes beginning to feel the want of food.

The barque "Grace Darling" was wrecked on the Scottish coast. Fifteen of the crew were drowned; also four men who attempted their rescue.

FRANCE.—M. Theiers, in a letter to the Republican candidate for the assembly in the department of Vienna, declares that experience has rendered his conviction invincible, that the Republic is the only possible government for France.

RUSSIA.—A despatch from St. Petersburg says, the Turcomans attacked a Russian fortress in Central Asia and were repulsed. During their retreat they had to cross a frozen river, while the main body were on the ice it broke, and thousands were precipitated into the water, and many of them drowned.

SPAIN.—The Spanish army under Gen. Moriones made three attacks on the Carlist forces at Bilbao, but were repulsed each time.

The Spanish fleet which ascended Bilbao river to Portugalete, was compelled to put to sea in a heavy gale.

Gen. Primo Rivera, who was advancing on the town by land also retreated, having been deprived of the support of the fleet.

Gen. Moriones with 22,000 troops now confronts main body of the Carlists. General engagement hourly expected.

Advices from Cuba state that another battle has been fought near Puerto Principe in which over 3000 Spanish troops engaged 5000 Cubans. Over 300 Spaniards were killed and wounded including Brigadier General Bascombes, the Spanish commander. There was no evidence that any Cubans were captured or that they were more than barely repulsed. The Spaniards, however, claim that the Cubans lost heavily.

AUSTRIA.—The Emperor Francis Joseph has returned from his visit to the Czar.

MEXICO.—A quarrel between the inhabitants of two towns in Vera Cruz, resulted in a fight, in which 17 persons were killed. In revenge, the suffering faction went to the other town and began an indiscriminate massacre of men, women and children, inflicting injuries of the most wanton and cruel character. The military are being sent to put an end to the atrocities.

SOUTH AMERICA.—Official advices confirm the reports of the ravages of cholera at Buenos Ayres.

A severe earthquake is reported in Venezuela, causing much damage to life and property.

SUMATRA.—In the last fight the Dutch troops in Aceh captured an important fort, killing 2,000 defenders. The loss to the expedition was only 5 killed and 56 wounded.

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