

scriptural theory on the subject, with which they could not make these plain statements agree. It could not be denied that our Blessed Lord often used figurative language. "His language here must be figurative, they would argue, and what could it mean?" Would it not be interesting to read a report of their "dissertations" upon it? How long they puzzled over it, and what were their different and contradictory theories about it, we are only left to guess. They seem to have come to the conclusion—like many good men, their successors, of the present day, that being prophesied, and impossible to be understood, they had nothing specially to do with it; and so they seem to have let it drop, and to have forgotten it. (Luke xxiv. 6-8.) Ah! it was ungenerous to treat the words of their Divine Redeemer! It was wronging themselves and others. From how many errors and sorrows they would have been saved, had this one plain prophecy been taken in its plain literal sense—evidently nothing could be made of (like several of the last chapters of *schariah*) on any other principle of interpretation.

When God raised up prophets to warn his people of old of their coming doom, and to urge them to "prepare to meet the God," the "trumpet" gave "no uncertain sound." Read Jeremiah, Isaiah, Ezekiel, and others. When Jerusalem was "teated with destruction by the army of Babylon, was not Jeremiah's language plain? Figures of speech he used, of figurative language indeed, but the terms, significance of his figurative language, as easily understood as his plainest addresses in private to the King. (see chap. 1 and 37; 16-21 and every where.) The speaketh the Holy Ghost respecting the perspicuity of prophecy and the importance of studying it, "We have also a measure word of prophecy, whereunto ye do well that ye take heed as to a LIGHT to SHINE IN a dark place until the dawn and the day star arise in your heart" (2 Peter i. 19) S. T. R.

For the Christian Messenger.
EDUCATION.

MR. EDITOR—

The deep interest manifested by the general public, in the success of our Educational Institutions, as evinced, as we see in the press, as otherwise, induces me to submit to you outlines of a project for improving our school legislation, and which I feel very surprised but to be mentioned to command attention and respect.

I am not the originator of the policy, and therefore lay no claim to any merit in connexion with it. It originates with the Government of Ontario, and a measure, as I read their Parliamentary debates, was then before the Provincial Parliament for carrying it out.

The project I feel very sure, as remarked, is one, that will commend itself to all sound educationists, and I should suppose, would obtain a hearing, and probably a very favorable one, from the Government of the day—for the difficulties continually arising out of subjects connected with Education are legion.

Instead of the Executive Government, for the time being, constituting a "Council of Public Instruction," Ontario's policy, as I gathered from the debates published, was to unite, say three counties, lying contiguous, and authorize them by ballot to choose each three, a member of the Council to hold office for—years, and retire in rotation. The vacancy to be filled by new elections as occasion required.

This would bring into office, men of first class qualifications for dealing with the highest interest of the country. But it would do more—it would relieve the Executive Government, from one of the most difficult and perplexing of all the troublesome questions with which they have to deal.

As things are now, each member of the Executive Council must be consulted, and unless his assent can be obtained to the views of his colleagues, if it be even as to a squabble about a schoolmaster's habits, or a schoolmistress, qualifications—there is a chance that a member, or a section of the Executive may retire, and a good government be broken up.

With the interests of Education under the care and surveillance of Educationists thus chosen by the people themselves, no change of Government could affect the Public Institutions devoted to the instruction of the young, nor jeopardize to any extent the well being of the policy, which

it might be the pleasure of the present or any future Legislature to propose.

This is the true, and in my opinion the only, sound basis for education to rest upon. The sooner it is resorted to, I apprehend, the better. I enter into no details, purposefully I refrain—I want the public to consider the project, and I hope it may be deemed worthy of discussion in the Press and Legislature too, at no distant day.

A LOVER OF LEARNING.

Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

THE REVIVAL IN GASPAREUX VALLEY, HORTON.

Dear Editor,—Feelings of gratitude to my heavenly Father, prompt me to chronicle a few things concerning the wonderful work of grace that we have been, and are still, enjoying in this Valley and surrounding country. When I last wrote to the Messenger the revival was mostly confined to the Valley, since that, the heavenly influence has extended, calmly, yet, with great power, till every section of my field has been visited with God's converting grace, and hill and vale now resound with the sweet songs of salvation. During the month of March I have had the privilege of baptizing 103 into the fellowship of the church, making in all 113 since the revival commenced. Others who had long been absent from the church have been restored to its fellowship; several more have been received for baptism, and large numbers are still enquiring the way to Zion.

The persons baptized have varied from 12 to nearly 70 years of age. Parents and children have been buried together with Christ in baptism. Scenes of the most thrilling interest have been witnessed by us in connection with this blessed work. We have had as many as 500 at one time in the conference room; not less than 1200, have once met at the baptismal waters, and between two and three hundred have sat together at the Lord's table. The beginning of this, as well as all other revivals is wisely hidden from us. It is the Spirit's work. The means so far as we can see, have been "The day of humiliation and prayer;" "The week of prayer;" the preaching of the gospel; the earnest supplications of God's people, together with personal effort for the salvation of sinners. "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy and thy truth's sake."

The great revival now in progress at Berwick, where I laboured in the gospel for more than five years, and where Brother Wallace is now labouring successfully, rejoices my heart. I can adopt the language of the Apostle, in writing to the church at Corinth, "I have plaved, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase, so then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth, but God that giveth the increase."

Yours in the Gospel,
E. O. READ.
Gaspereux, April 2nd, 1874.

BERWICK AND CAMBRIDGE, CORNWALLIS.
—In our last we gave a line or two of what we had heard respecting the revival at Berwick and Cambridge. We have since received the following dated March 30th, 1874:—

"With much pleasure I inform you that Brother I. Wallace is still with us and the Lord is continuing to bless his labours in the conversion of sinners. He baptised forty-nine yesterday, forty at Berwick, and nine at Cambridge. There were also three received by letter at Cambridge, making seventy-seven added by baptism, since our brother came among us. Brothers Stevens and Good have been with us a few days assisting brother Wallace in the glorious work. Meetings continue this week with hopeful prospects.

Yours very truly,
A. A. PINEO."

Another writes somewhat more in detail of the meetings at which the above in gathering took place, and says:—

When Mr. Wallace came the cause was in a low state, but fervent prayer did not cease to ascend to God for a brighter day, and that day has now dawned. God has poured out His Spirit to an extent greater than was ever before witnessed in this region of country, and there are but few families who have not shared to a greater or less extent in the blessings of the great salvation. Many young men, some of whom are from other places and employed in the steam mills in this village are renouncing the ways of sin, and turning to God. On

Saturday last a special conference was held in Berwick, which was very largely attended. Thirty-eight availed themselves of the opportunity there given to offer themselves as candidates for the ordinances of the gospel! Others came forward, and with eleven who had offered themselves at Cambridge during the week made fifty two. When the Sabbath morning dawned, many hearts rejoiced at the prospect of a favorable day for the administration for the sacred ordinance of baptism. Crowds surrounded the beautiful and commodious place which had been prepared for the occasion. Brother Wallace, after quoting from the scriptures certain passages relative to the ordinance, buried those happy converts with Christ in baptism. This is a work in which the church is greatly rejoicing, and there are indications of its continuance until a great multitude is yet gathered in; for all of which let God be praised."

Rev. Isa Wallace baptized thirty seven at Berwick on Sunday last, April 5th.

LOWER AYLESFORD AND SOUTH WILMOT Church is experiencing a blessing, a brother writes from Greenwood, March 30th.—

Dear Bro. Selden,—God hears and answers prayer, and is blessing the Lower Aylesford and South Wilmot Church. Rev. N. Vidito is labouring with us to good acceptance in connection with Dr. Tupper. Nineteen have obeyed Christ in the ordinance of baptism at Tremont, and twenty more have been received and will follow next Sabbath at Greenwood. Many more we hope are laying up for themselves in store a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

GREENFIELD, March 30.—The friends of Zion are always glad to hear of her prosperity. God has been pleased to pour out his Spirit on the churches in Middlefield and Greenfield. The Sabbath before last I baptized five at Middlefield, and more will be baptized next Sabbath, and many are anxious. I expect to baptize at Greenfield after our next conference. Pray for us. I am yours, &c.,
H. ACHILLES.

BILLTOWN church is enjoying an encouraging state of revival under the labors of Rev. D. W. C. Dimock. W. C. Bill Esq. writes "We hope to secure the permanent labors of brother Dimock as pastor of this church. Pray for us that the reviving influences of the Holy Spirit may be abundantly poured out upon us as a church and people."

TRURO.—A brother writing from this place on the 30th ult. says:—Eight young persons were baptised last Sabbath and four received to be baptised to-morrow. Many more are anxious. How much we need "power from on high." We hope it will come.

NICTAUX.—Rev. W. J. Blakney baptized eighteen persons on Lord's Day the 29th ult. The work is progressing at South Williamston, Cleveland and Canaan stations connected with the Nictaux church.

MARGARET'S BAY, INDIAN HARBOR, April 6th 1874.—Dear Brother.—God is still blessing the Church. Yesterday 19 more were baptized and received into fellowship with God's people. Our prayer is that all our churches may enjoy the blessing.
Wm E. HALL.

NEW MINAS, HORTON.—Dear Brother,—I baptized nine yesterday in Canaan into the fellowship of the third Horton Church. April 6th, 1874. JAMES PARKER.

CUMBERLAND CO., AND WESTMORELAND, N. B.—Rev. G. F. Miles on the 4th inst:— "Had baptism last Lord's day, at Little River, Cumberland Co., and yesterday (Good Friday) baptized four at Point de Bute, N. B., where God is pouring out this rich grace, and souls are being saved. The church is quickened into new life and there are cheering prospects. Some of the former pastors of that people will rejoice with those that rejoice. Had they been at some of our meetings they would have wept with those that wept.

YARMOUTH is to some extent partaking of revival influence. On Sunday last, 5th inst., Rev. W. H. Warren of the Temple church administered the ordinance of baptism to three believers and Rev. G. E. Day pastor of the first church baptized two persons on a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus.

WOLFVILLE—Lord's day, April 5th, was rough cold windy day, and the courage of the candidates for baptism was severely tested. Nevertheless the pastor had the

privilege of leading into the water and baptizing and rejoicing converts.

One was an aged lady who had passed her three-score and ten. Another her son, a man of middle-age. Another his son and her grandson, a lad of fourteen years. Another was a convert from Roman Catholicism who with his wife professed faith in the one Mediator. Another was the second son of Bro. A. R. R. Crawley, now on his return voyage to Burmah. Another a native of Germany formerly a Lutheran; and two more both interesting proofs of the saving power of Christ. Three were received into the church the same day. Several more are waiting for baptism.—Com.

HALIFAX, AFRICAN BAPTIST, April 6, 1874.—Allow me a small space in your valuable columns to report the progress and great work of the Lord, which has been going on in the little church, of which I have the pastoral charge. We commenced our protracted meetings the first day of the year under very favorable circumstances and continued the same every evening (Saturday excepted) for the first two months, after which we found it advisable to drop Monday and Thursday evening meetings, continuing the same on the other evenings, and it is a source of gratification to state that the church has been revived to renewed zeal. The stately steps of the Lord have been felt in our midst. It is a pleasing fact to report that we have received 35 willing converts for baptism, and several have united with us.

The meetings are well attended and the great work of the Lord through Jesus Christ his Son is still going on, and we pray that the same may continue, until all come to know Him whose right it is to rule over all our thoughts and actions.

The enthusiasm manifested in the meetings led to the contemplated project of enlarging the present place of worship, in order that we may be enabled to accommodate the many, who are desirous to worship with us, but for the want of sitting room are unable to gain admittance.

Yours in Christ,
JAMES THOMAS.
Pastor of the African Baptist Church Cornwallis Street.

ST. STEPHEN, N. B.—Rev. J. W. Manning writes March 30th, 1874.—Yesterday I had the privilege of burying rejoicing believers with their Lord in baptism. [The number is not given but we have since heard that it was ten.—Ed. C. M.] Expect more to follow next Lord's day—the fruit of a quiet work of grace which we enjoyed the past winter. It is so cheering to hear of the gracious rain which is descending and watering God's weary heritage. Oh, that showers yet more abundant, might fall—that all our churches and pastors might be gladdened and refreshed. For this let us all pray.

Rev. C. Goodspeed, formerly of Frederick Seminary, has been invited to the pastorate of the Baptist church, Woodstock, Ontario, and has accepted the invitation, intending to enter on his labours there in August.

MONTREAL.—Twenty five young persons, some from Grand Lige and some from the Feller Institute, were baptised at Montreal on the 20th ult., by the Revs. L. Koussy and T. Lafleur.

Dominion & Foreign News.

HALIFAX, N. S., APRIL 8, 1874.

After the opening of the House of Commons the Premier moved that when the House adjourn it stand adjourned till Tuesday night the 7th.

A lengthy discussion took place upon Mr. Chisholm's motion to abolish the sale of liquor in the House of Commons. The principal supporters of the measure are not teetotalers. The motion was carried without division. The Speaker said he would have the order of the House rigidly carried out. (Cheers)

Sir John A. Macdonald moved for all papers respecting the appointment of Mr. Edward Jenkins as Emigrant Agent in Great Britain, including a copy of his instructions.

Mr. Wood (Hamilton) moved for a committee to consider the manufacturing question. The Committee named was composed mostly of Western men.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell hoped the committee would be extended to members of Maritime Provinces, as consumers were interested in these questions and should be represented on the Committee.

Acting on Mr. Mitchell's suggestion the mover added the names of Pickard, New Brunswick; Carmichael, Nova Scotia; and McDonald, P. E. Island, to the Committee. On motion of Donald Smith, a Committee of nine was appointed to enquire into the North West troubles of 1869.

Sir John A. Macdonald said that exaggerated statements were made respecting the appointments made by the late Government prior to resignation. He moved for a list of appointments. Carried.

The Riel question then came up, when further consideration was postponed till Wednesday the 8th.

After which the House adjourned till Tuesday.

A telegram on Saturday last said Riel's friends held a caucus on Friday night and unanimously decided that Riel should take his seat on Wednesday, and they will see him protected. Should Riel take his seat and then try to escape from arrest there will be blood shed, as people are getting excited over this insane attempt of the French members to shield Riel.

Immense crowds thronged the House on Wednesday last, expecting to see Riel. The guards remained mounted at the armories. The Military were under orders. The Dominion Police were stationed in the corridors, while several Detectives watched the entrance to the Chamber, but Riel did not come.

It is said he is willing to be arrested, if he can first take his seat and speak.

Before adjournment Cartwright said he would probably deliver the "Financial Statement" in a week from Friday.

It is said a movement is on foot to establish a Military School in Canada, similar to West Point.

A proclamation in the Gazette provides that the Collector of Customs in ports shall be registrars of shipping.

The act respecting carriage of dangerous goods in ships has received the Queen's consent, and came into operation on Saturday last.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The estimates of the public revenue and expenditure of the Province for the coming year were submitted to the Legislature on Monday of last week. The revenue, it is computed, will be made up as follows:—

Total from local sources.....	\$ 59,030
Subsidy.....	140,800
Interest of Land Fund.....	\$22,500
Legislation.....	15,000
80 cts. per capita tax.....	37,608
Difference of interest.....	45,500—120,608
	\$320,438

The Local Government are about to erect another Public Building in Queen's Square, Charlottetown, for a Court House.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

A telegram to North Sydney, C. B., March 31, said:—The Newfoundland sealing vessels which have arrived at St. John's to date, are the brig "Havlock," two thousand and old seals on board, steamers "Eagle," twenty-three thousand; "Commodore," eighteen hundred; "Hawk" (disabled) four thousand; "Wolf," fourteen thousand.

A despatch on Saturday says:—Further arrivals of the Newfoundland sealing fleet are the brig "True Blue," with 5,000 seals, and the steamer "Island," with 20,000.

UNITED STATES.

It was expected that Congress would reach a final vote on the Currency Bill by Monday.

A fire in Londonderry, Vermont, on Thursday, destroyed the buildings of David Babboth, Biss, Goddard & Cotenfarhen, and 8,000 dollars in Government Bonds belonging to Goddard.

The loss by the burning of the Rosedale Mills, New York, on the same day, amounts to \$400,000.

Leading merchants of New York and Boston are strongly protesting against the proposed inflation of the currency.

The Lower House of Congress has adopted a resolution requesting the President to intercede with the Queen of Great Britain for the release of William Congdon, of Cincinnati, arrested in Manchester as a Fenian.

The public debt statement shows a reduction during March of over two million dollars.

A disastrous conflagration occurred at Millerstown, Pa., on Wednesday, and occasioned, besides pecuniary loss, the death of several persons.

Fires are also reported from San Francisco—loss \$50,000; and from Burlington, Iowa, and Lewiston, Maine.

Thursday last was the annual fast day in Massachusetts, and business was suspended.

Three men were killed and a number severely wounded by the bursting of a steam pipe of a steamer at Memphis on Sunday 29th ult.

The carpet weavers of Philadelphia are on a strike for higher wages, and express determination to hold out.

Rio Janeiro dates of Feb. 24th, state that the Catholic Bishop of Pernambuco, for the fulfilment of a decree of the Pope against Free Masons in Catholic churches, without first obtaining the endorsement of the Brazilian Government, has been tried, condemned and sentenced to five years imprisonment. In answer to his indictment the Bishop compared himself to Jesus Christ, assuming his judges to be like Caiaphas and Pilate.

There was a Boston New York Exchange 4 per cent.
LATE
ENGLAND on the 31st mense crowd force, the G of Wales made Sir G der of the G on Lord G ceremony troops rebe bers of the Wolsely.
In the H mond, and Israeli, m ley and off menting t speech. T with cheer The Lord quet at the General W Prince Art count Davo present. A toast, g the Ashant King Kofe ted war. the greater was freque The Tim a financial to causes s York and bined with Indian fam will probab instance. Commis expedition, pool, and v Advice 12, report its escort from the A that they sacrifices, indemnity. Professo the "New cates givin for the adu liar to the States.
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