

ments. Your hearts are unchanged, and your sins unforgiven. You were never my true disciples. You lived and died without giving your hearts unto me. You loved nothing but the world—you are dead to all spiritual life." To be wanting in the balances of the last judgment—how terrible the thought! Better to be wanting in everything than this—better to suffer all the dreadful evils of this world, and a thousand natural deaths, than to be wanting in the balances of God's righteous judgment. "And art found wanting!" Is it so, oh my righteous Judge!—then what shall become of me? Cast away—lost—lost for ever! This sentence will be the knell of eternal perdition. It was so with Belshazzar. "In that night was Belshazzar the king slain." What a night! Ah, what a night was that! That night separated him forever from his pleasure and his empire. That night terminated him from his opportunities of spiritual improvement, and quenched every hope in his breast. That night his sun went down to rise no more, and he was hurled into the darkness and the tempest of inconceivable woe. Sinner, whose conscience is asleep, the day of grace is waning fast; the hour of awakening steals on. How near is it, God knoweth. "The hour ye think not."—"The Judge is at the door."

"Who in vengeance clothed, Shall come down to stamp the seal of fate On erring mortal man."

Oh, let that hour be prevented by true repentance and faith in Christ. Thank God, the "blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin," and taketh away all guilt and condemnation. "Christ in you the hope of glory" this, only this, can give sufficient weight to turn in your favour the scales of God's righteous judgment. Believe in him; give your hearts to him—obey and follow him; then the day of the sinner's doom will usher you to the realms of everlasting blessedness.

For the Christian Messenger.
To the Churches.

Dear Brethren,—

Some of you know that I assumed the debt on the Baptist brick house of worship built at Montague Bridge, P. E. I., last summer.

For any assistance that any of you may find in your hearts to give I shall feel very grateful and shall acknowledge the same through the Messenger. Since the meeting of Association last summer I received the following sums:

William Simpson.....	\$10 00
Jas. Newson.....	5 00
Saml. Newson.....	2 00
Saml. Simpson.....	2 00
W. B. Howatt.....	5 00
F. D. Cooke.....	3 00
John Howlett.....	5 00
David Howlett.....	5 00
Mr. Curtis.....	2 00
Alex. A. McLeod.....	3 50

Address D. McDONALD,
Baptist Minister,
Charlottetown, P. E. I.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., February 7th, 1877.

THE NEW ENGLISH SCHOOL LAW.

Notwithstanding the many difficulties surrounding the subject of Popular Education in England arising from poverty and the disinclination of some religionists to encourage any general enlightenment of the people, there is substantial progress made. The Established Church has also been some barrier to a combination of the people of other denominations with the dominant church in the general diffusion of education on a common basis to benefit all alike. The law passed in August last came into operation on the first day of the present year. There has been but little public attention called to this measure, possibly in consequence of the grave position of the nation in reference to the affairs in Eastern Europe. It is likely that the new act as it becomes developed in its operation will affect the whole population much more than seems to be supposed. Whilst it is compulsory in many of its provisions it does not permit parents to neglect their duties to their offspring, but makes them responsible for giving their children a certain amount of education beyond the provisions of any previous enactment.

The Act makes provision for the permissive character of direct compulsion being adopted universally at the discretion of the local authorities. During the year 1877, no child under nine years of age, and after 1874 no child under ten may be employed at all. No child

who is under 11 years in 1877 (to be twelve in 1878, thirteen in 1879, and fourteen in 1880) may be employed who has not obtained a certificate of proficiency in reading, writing, and elementary arithmetic, or of previous due attendance at a certified efficient school. Every person who takes a child into his employment contrary to the provisions of this Act is liable to a fine not exceeding forty shillings. A parent who employs his child in any labor, exercised by way of trade or for the purposes of gain, is liable to the same penalty. It has thus been made the interest of every parent, anxious to send his child to work at as early an age as possible, to keep his child regularly at school. To encourage parents to send their children with regularity, those pupils who before they are eleven years of age have passed Standard IV. of the New Code, and also attended 350 times in not more than two schools during each of two years, are entitled to the payment of their fees by Government during three years. In 1879 the attendance qualification is increased to 350 attendances during each of three years; in 1880, during each of four years; and in 1881 during each of five years. The scholars whose fees are thus paid for them by the Educational Department must attend 350 times during each of the three years, and pass a higher standard each year. The fees are only paid for children attending schools whose average fee does not exceed sixpence per week, and can be obtained in any one year by not more than 10 per cent. of the scholars presented for examination at the annual visit of Her Majesty's Inspector.

Hitherto School Boards have been empowered not only to remit the fees charged in their own schools, but also to pay for children attending Voluntary schools. This is no longer the case. Any parent wishing his child to attend a Voluntary school, who is himself unable to pay the fee demanded, must now apply, not to the School Board, but to the Guardians of the poor.

These are great advances in the provision made for popular education. The stimulus offered will doubtless secure attendance at school far beyond anything in the past.

ANCIENT BAPTISTERIES.

How strange it is that men of intelligence in these enlightened days refuse to believe that the baptism of the early Christians was an immersion. The ancient baptisteries are perhaps among the most striking proofs of this fact outside of the scriptures themselves and the meaning of the term baptizo. Our attention has just been called to one of these found in a highly interesting work the author of which cannot be supposed to have any sympathy with Baptists. It may be found in "The attractions of the Nile and its Banks" by Rev. Alfred Charles Smith, M. A., vol. 1, page 123.

In describing the Coptic churches, the most ancient of the Christian churches known, in Egypt, he says: "Among the most interesting sights of the capital the very ancient Coptic churches in Old Cairo claim particular mention. Riding out one day on those invaluable institutions of oriental luxury the hack donkeys which have been well called 'the cabs of the East' we reached the now desolate and half deserted suburb once the capital of Egypt. There are three of these ancient churches, all of which in town we visited, and which certainly bear the marks of extreme age; they are said to date from the close of the sixth century."

The writer in describing the different parts of the churches says:

"They were divided into: (1) The *Heykel* or *Sanctuary*, within which stands the principal altar and the celebrant priest, divided from the choir by a close high screen-work, effectually shutting off the holiest place from the view of the people: the altar stands forward from the east wall, almost close to the partition, while in the apse, with which the east end invariably terminates, is fixed the throne of the patriarch, facing west, and the seats of the priests on either hand. (2) The *Chancel*, in which the priests, of whom there are many, have their stalls, and in the midst of which stands the lectern, holding the office book in Coptic. (3) The *Nave*, which the congregation occupies, the men in front, the women behind. (4) What answers to our *Ante-chapel* at the extreme west of the nave, containing beneath a large trap door a broad and deep tank, called the 'Well for Epiphany immersions,' and in which at that festival men and boys dip, in commemoration of Our Blessed Lord's baptism. These are the chief portions of the Coptic church."

"The baptistery is usually a small side apartment, generally very dark, with a sunk font: in this the baptized are immersed; sprinkling only with water being unknown."

The "Newfield" has arrived from Sable Island and reports no wrecks there. She brought in an abandoned brigantine, "The Priscilla May."

CHRONOLOGY OF THE WEEK.

Feb. 5. Battle of Plassey.....	A. D. 1757
Death of Galvani, discoverer of Galvanism.....	1799
6. Death of King Charles II.....	1685
Death of Dr. Priestley.....	1804
7. Death of Joseph Caryl, author of a bulky comment on Job.....	1673
8. Mary, Queen of Scots, beheaded.....	1587
9. Martyrdom of Bishop Hooper.....	1555
Death of Dr. Claudius Buchanan.....	1815
10. Murder of Lord Darnley.....	1567
Marriage of Queen Victoria.....	1840
18. Death of Descartes, Philosopher.....	1650

PUBLIC FLUNDER.

DALHOUSIE CAPACITY.

We learned on Wednesday last that whilst our protest against the proposal to take Ten Thousand Dollars from the pockets of the Halifax citizens and put into the coffers of Dalhousie College was being written, the thing was actually being consummated. In the City Council negotiations between the Governors of Dalhousie College, and the Committee on Laws and Privileges were submitted and recommended for the adoption of the Council. The scheme is, to have the South end of the Parade vested in the city, and a portion—about 20 feet—of the North end vested in the Governors of Dalhousie College; the central portion to be kept open to the public; in consideration of which the city shall pay the Governors of the College the sum of \$10,000.

The matter was discussed in the Council and the report adopted by a vote of 8 to 7.

For the Report—Aldermen McPherson, L. G. Power, Macdonald, Murray, M. J. Power, Mackintosh, Forsyth and Connolly—8. Against it—Aldermen Hart, DeWolf, O'Connor, Smith, Taylor, Harrington and Graham—7.

A motion was afterwards made to reconsider the vote. It will therefore come up again at the next meeting of the Council. The decided opinion since expressed by the press of the city, will, we should think, induce at least some of those gentlemen who voted for it, to reconsider and possibly rescind the vote of the last meeting.

The Governors of the College were very considerate and obliging to give the city permission to build on the southern portion—the expectation being probably that the school commissioners might build a High School there which they might utilize. The City Recorder has given his opinion that the city already owns the whole of this vacant property. An attempt was made some years ago by the Governors to put up merely a fence across the parade, this was met with decided opposition on the part of the citizens, and the fence was immediately pulled down as a nuisance. We have never heard that the city authorities have given up their claim. If the Governors wish to have the northern part secured to them as an open area, not to be built upon, why should not they give the city \$10,000 for such guarantee. Suppose the Roman Catholic body occupied the same relative position Dalhousie College and the Grand Parade that the Presbyterians now do, and have always done, would not the proposal to get \$10,000 for permission to build, etc., be met with an indignant remonstrance from all the Protestants of the city? Why should Presbyterians have what would not be granted to Roman Catholics, Methodists or Baptists? We fancy the Governors themselves are surprised that the Council so readily yielded to their demand. If the Council had set about and repaired the walls and fences of the Parade ground they probably would have thought themselves well paid for their effort.

European Turkey is made up of six different races; two Slav—the Bulgarians and Servians; three Greco-Latin—the Albanians, Greeks and Roumanians; and one Mongol—the Turks. The number of Servians under the direct rule of Turkey is estimated at one million. North of the Danube and the almost uninhabited marshes of its northern banks are the Roumanians. The Bulgarians are spread over not only Bulgaria, but also over nearly the whole of Thrace and Macedonia. German Geographers estimate them at nearly three millions. Others put their number at five millions.

It is estimated that the population of Turkey in Europe consists of five millions of Bulgarians. Of Servians, Albanians, Greeks and Turks there is

about one million of each. The Turks are comparatively few.

From a dazzling throne in Delhi, on the first day of January, Lord Lytton represented Her Majesty in the ceremonies of proclaiming Queen Victoria Empress of India. Princes, numerous, in gorgeous costume, and their retinues, were present. Soldiers, native and English; elephants and horses; men, women and children; thousands upon thousands were assembled and stirred up the dust. Cannon belled, muskets rattled, flags waved, and the people shouted; and then dispersed to eat and drink and talk about the Empress.

Here was ceremony and pomp. Oriental jewels and gold displayed in such profusion as made Milton's fancies facts; but in strong contrast with this, grim famine raises its gaunt form in the great empire of which England's Queen has just been proclaimed Empress. A million of persons are besieging government to give them work that they may have a handful of rice to keep starvation at bay. In the South and West scarcity prevails. Bombay and Madras are suffering.

Dr. Schliemann has sunk a shaft into the Acropolis of Mycenæ in Greece, and has found a number of remains of human beings in places which he argues are the tombs of Agamemnon, Cassandra, Eurymedon and their companions. Pausanias stated that a King of Mycenæ, Agamemnon, his charioteer Eurymedon, a Princess Cassandra and their followers had been treacherously murdered and buried in the Acropolis of Mycenæ. The ex-German Merchant, on this historic statement, directed his shaft for their resting place. There he found bodies covered with gold and ornaments of vast value; but no inscriptions—letters not being known in that place at that time. The bodies had been burnt, but the bones and parts of the flesh were not consumed. This agrees with the ancient customs. Wonderful to find the bodies of Homer's contemporaries!

France astonishes the world in her rapid recovery from the German war. Two hundred millions of pounds were paid to Germany. This it was thought would cripple France effectually for many years; but the burden is borne lightly. "France now raises more revenue than any other nation ever did in time of peace." She raises \$34,000,000 a year more than England. At this rate she will soon be able to try Germany again.

There was a large quantity of ice on the coast to the eastward of Halifax the early part of last week. The steamer *Alhambra* could not get into Cow Bay, C. B. Ice from six inches to a foot thick impeded her passage there, and the captain decided to come on to Halifax. Floating ice in our Harbor caused a little trouble to the Dartmouth ferry for a few days, but the trips were kept up regularly except in two or three instances. By Friday the harbor was quite free.

YARMOUTH is enjoying a season of revivals. Union Services were held during the Week of Prayer in the various churches. We learn from the *Herald* that in consequence of the large gatherings the evening meetings last week were held in the First Baptist Church, that being the largest and most central place of worship in the town.

The Editor of the *Wesleyan* curiously enough finds a "simple reason" for some Methodist ministers baptizing their converts in Baptist places of worship in Boston, as mentioned by our correspondent last week, in the fact that there, as here, they find "so many who are educated to believe in immersion, that when renouncing the Baptist faith, they give up every thing but this—they must be immersed."

What he means by "renouncing the Baptist faith" we are at a loss to conceive. Far more likely that the converts so baptized were the children of Methodists or other Pædobaptists, who, having no faith in Infant Sprinkling or even Adult Sprinkling as being Christian Baptism, have perhaps received the former, but finding nothing like it in the New Testament, and wishing to follow Christ in his own ordinance, conclude from its teachings that the immersion of a believer alone meets the demands of that word, as used in the Sacred Scriptures; and in this matter they choose to obey God rather than man, although often at the expense

of the favor of their teachers. We should be sorry to believe that even Methodist converts, who prefer true Christian baptism, had so little appreciation of a profession of religion as that they should be baptized without an intelligent and scriptural understanding of the subject. We are surprised that the *Wesleyan* should lay such a charge upon his brethren, and suppose that his brother ministers were without any settled conviction as to what really constitutes scriptural baptism.

The editor's story about a minister being made an invalid by standing in the water and immersing, we think, conveys an important lesson to Methodist ministers who attempt to administer the sacred ordinance without believing in its being a command of Christ. His ghastly effort at sarcasm, about "apostolic waterproofs" &c., it too childish to notice by way of argument. Methodist ministers seem well pleased to accept all such 'apostolic conveniences' at the hands of their Baptist brethren.

Rev. Mr. Elliott formerly pastor of the Congregationalist Church at Salem chapel in this city—now a Presbyterian minister settled in Ontario—preached with much acceptance on Sunday last in the Dartmouth Presbyterian church, now without a settled minister. Mr. E. was much esteemed and respected whilst formerly residing in Halifax.

Many of our readers will be glad to learn that our brother, Rev. George Churchill is returned in safety to Canada with fairly recovered health. We have just received a letter from him dated Dec. 25, 1876, with an account of his visit to Australia. It will appear in our next.

The Conference has broken up and the Plenipotentiaries have returned home. The Ports has made overtures to Serbia, and Serbia has gone to Russia to learn what help can be expected and what action will be taken by the great northern power. In the meantime prophets are busy in forecasting.

We shall probably know by this evening who is to be President of the United States. The probabilities are largely in favor of Tilden. Our summary of United States telegrams will show what the joint Convention and Commission are doing.

EDUCATIONAL RECORD.

The tendency of the times is to break down the exclusiveness of the old, and sometimes arrogant, Universities. Several English institutions of learning, of modern origin, are demanding recognition from the old Universities, as being worthy to share with them in the honors and privileges hitherto hedged round by the barriers of custom and law. The prospect is that this demand will be respected. As an expression of the same feeling, we may note the proposal that has lately emanated from a high source, that all the Scotch Universities should adopt the same terms of matriculation. As these Universities are all called national, the wonder is that the Government has not adopted such a rule before this. The proposition has not now been offered by the civil authorities, who are supposed to guard literary degrees, but it comes from the Faculty of one of the Universities.

SALARIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS IN BOSTON.

Latin and English High Schools.—For head-master, \$3,500 and \$4,000; masters, \$2,800 and \$3,200; sub-masters, \$2,200 and \$2,600; ushers, \$1,700 and \$2,000; instructor in military drill, \$1,500; teacher of French in Latin School, \$600; in English High School, \$1,300; assistant-instructor in drawing in English High School, \$800.

Girls' High School.—For head-master: first year of service, \$3,500; subsequently, \$4,000; head-master's first head-assistant, \$2,000; head-master's second head-assistant, \$1,500; head-assistants, \$1,200; assistants, \$1,000; teacher of chemistry, \$1,500; teacher of drawing, \$800; teacher of French, \$750; teacher of German, \$750; assistant in laboratory, \$500; teacher of physical culture, \$600.

Normal School.—For head-master, for first year's service, \$3,500; subsequently, \$4,000; head-assistant, \$1,500; assistants, \$1,000.

Grammar Schools.—For masters,