Temperance and Christianity.

It is astonishing how long it takes the world to learn the plainest and simplest truths. Those truths which to us appear on the very surface of the Bible and natural morality were not seen at all by the best Christians and moralists of a few years ago. The right of a man to his private opinions, and to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience, has but recently been recognized. Yet nothing seems plainer than that nature and the Bible both give man these rights.

But by the growth of the Christian principle, one by one the great evils of the world are being overthrown. Slavery for a long time subsisted, notwithstanding the truths of the New Testament were as plainly written then as now. But when the slow moving mind of man took the great Christian truth of human equality and human rights, the shackles of the bondman fell off.

For centuries men have been guzzling liquid fire, thereby making imbeciles or criminals of themselves, broken-hearted women of their wives, and paupers of their children. And when it was proposed to in some way stop this wholesale system of crime, men confronted us with the Bible! And so men went on drinking to the destruction of themselves physically. We see the poor, trembling inebriate tottering about, a mere physical wreck, until he stumbles into a drunkard's grave; his soul joining suggestions, and important statistics, that vast army, hundreds of thousands | showing the condition of the Common, strong, of drunkards' souls which go up annually to meet an offended God. Men continue to drink, though it is destroying them intellectually. How often do we hear it said that some man of commanding talents naturally, is unfit for business because of drunkenness. He goes on through this world little better mind sinks into the everlasting darkness of a drunkard's hell.

Man drinks to his destruction socially. He is polite, symmetrical in form, affable in bearing, brilliant in conversation, in short, everything that makes one successful socially. Cultured homes are open to him. Fathers enjoy his society, mothers smile upon him, and maidens blush at the mention of his name. He plucks the fairest, sweetest flower from the bed of roses in which she has been reared, transplants her to a neat, beautiful home, of which their united love is to make a paradise.

A few years have passed. The once neat home has now a neglected appearance. The once bright, happy eyes of the corresponding term of 1872, and the vice to many of our readers:the wife have now a wistful look. Her cheeks, once so like roses in their complexion, are now pale and wasted. During the years that have passed, the iron has entered into her soul. She is that hopeless thing—a drunkard's wife. About the beautiful faces of the children, which were borne to them in their happier years, there is a pinched, hungry look, and the tears have hardly dried from their eyes, for they have been crying for bread. This is a drunkard's house—no it is not, for it has been mortgaged for drink. Those are a drunkard's children, and the marks of violence we see about them and their mother have been made by their worse than brutalized husband and father. the grave. And he wanders about the earth, the veriest outcast without society, until he goes down to the vile and besotted society of the damned.

Does the Bible encourage a practice whose results are as described above? God forbid.

The Christian religion was given for with pride. all time. It lays down principles which are to work out the emancipation of the race from crime and vice of all descriptions. Those principles are like grains of mustard seed. The Saviour and apostles did not transplant the mustard tree, placing it here in the burning soil of sin, but they dropped the seed. Watered by the dews of heaven, the by the sun of God's providence, it grows; it pushes down its roots and spreads out its branches until the humblest opprotecting shade, and at last the poor drunkard finds that it will even shelter him if he will but come near to it.

Even in the days of Paul wine had become a dangerous enemy.

warn the people against its extravagant to have been given to that important use, but themselves totally abstained section of the work of education. from its use as a beverage. If not, why did Paul think it necessary to advise Timothy to take a little wine? The people were drinking it all the time. If Timothy was, so far as wine was con- 50 per cent of the enrolled pupils are cerned, living as the people about him, it would have been useless for Paul to tell him to take a little wine. But he did not live so. He was with Paul, and I doubt not, with all the leading preach ers and brethren, a "teetotaler."-Christian Standard.

Education in New Brunswick.

Dr. Rand usually favors us with a copy of his Annual Report of the Schools in New Brunswick and of the Educational Circular issued by him semi-annually. Whether he has done so with his last Report, just out, we know not; but it has not as yet come to hand. In its absence we have read with pleasure the notices of it in the New Brunswick press. The following from the Religious Intelligencer will be perused with interest by our readers.

"The Annual Report of the Chief Superintendent of Education for the school year ended Oct. 31st., 1877, is upon our table. It contains valuable Superior, Grammar, Normal and Model schools of our Province. Numbering about 100 pages, all we can do is simply to arrange a few of the many facts it has to tell, facts which tell more convincingly than any verbal argument can, that the Free School Act of 1874 is what our country needed. Six years have done than an idiot, until his once brilliant | much for New Brunswick in the matter of Education. An able man in the Chief's chair, a competent man as Principal of the Normal school, devoted teachers in the school rooms, and intelligent rate-payers all through our country, uniting their forces, have made wonderful advance in the cause of education. Contrast the attendance at School in 1872 and 1877 and the following ap-

Winter term,	28,756
Summer "	39,837
Winter term,	51,588
Summer "	54,472

Or in other words the summer term of 1877 has a gain of 37 per cent. over winter term a gain of 79 per cent.

more advanced years embrace the opportunity of attending school during mucuous surfaces of a diseased with that season. To the lovers of advancement and intelligence this is cheering, and proof of that appreciation of educational privileges, which in many sections of our Province is thus unmistakeably showing itself.

During the summer term ended 31st Oct., 1877, 1,349 teachers and assistants were employed in our Province, teaching 1,305 schools. But it must be remembered that neither the 51,588 at-

other professions.

The Provincial Normal School was neglected; but with care in these resnever in so efficient a condition as it is pects and early application of the reme-

preachers were not satisfied to simply new rooms, etc., a fresh impetus seems

There is one table of the Report which conveys unpleasant facts. It is this: that great irregularity prevails in attendance at school. Very little over daily present on an average. Whose the fault is we cannot say, but by the combined effort of teachers and parents so serious a drawback might be lessened we would think. The Chief in his Report expresses the belief that 75 per cent of the enrolled number might easily be reached.

The method of inspection by counties still remains unchanged. The Chief, in connection with the introduction of division inspection, says: "It appears to me of the first importance that the Board of Education and the Chief Supt. be placed at once in a position to prepare for a systematic inspection of a portion of the schools, as required by Section 13..... Under the plan suggest ed, the Board of Education would be able to proclaim one or two divisions next autumn, and thereafter gradually from year to year, as the interests of the school service permitted, complete the remaining divisions."

The idea of an Aid Fund for teachers, which the Chief Supt. has advocated in several of his Reports, and educational circulars, is again presented in his Report. He says: 'It is a necessity that the schools have the services of men and women of ability and good culture Such persons will not be had in sufficient numbers without an Aid Fund, for while many feel it a duty and a delight to give themselves to the noble work of thinking, and laboring, and living for the welfare of the children of New Brunswick, they will be deterred or turned aside, earlier or later, from such a purpose by the possible prospect of want in their days of weakness or old

There are many other points in this excellent Report which we would like to notice, but must forbear. It bears the marks of careful preparation, it tells of our advancement, and points out remedial measures for the defects in the working out of our school system.

Diphtheria and its treatment.

Diphtheria is prevailing to an alarming extent in many localities, and the following extracts from a sensible article on the subject in the Springfield Republican may be of interest and ser

Diphtheria is a disease which springs The improvement in the figures of from the growth of a real fungus on the winter term over the summer would | some of the mucuous surfaces of the seem to indicate that many of those of system, more generally of the throat. It may be spread by contact of the those of a healthy person, as in kissing, and is to an unlimited degree epidemic. From the local parts affected it spreads to the whole body, affecting the muscular and nervous systems, vitiating the lymph and nutrient fluids, and producing paralysis. As soon as the bacterium or fungus appears in white patches on the throat, it should be no more neglected than a bleeding gash or a broken arm, and there is almost as little need tending the winter term, nor the 54,472 of a fatal termination of the one inci-In a few short years these sufferers go attending the summer term, expresses dent as of the other. It has been found of one of Mrs. Hayes' school friends. to the only refuge left them on earth- the whole number of our population at by actual experiment, both in and out The bride to be is a sister to the baby, school. Many attend in one term that of the human system, that this bactercannot in the other, and from the re- ium is killed by several drugs, the safest turns forwarded to the Chief Superin- and most certain of which is chlorine tendent it is discovered that 67,803, or 1 | water, diluted with the addition of from in 4.23 of our population was at school two to four times the volume of water. during some portion of the year. This This wash is harmless, even when swal. exhibit is something that we mention lowed, and is pretty certain to arrest the disease. A well-known physician During the year there has been a in Springfield, who has pursued this absolutely from her family, and will not slight decrease in the average salaries of treatment for fifteen years, has found it teachers, due, no doubt, to the prevail- effective almost without exception, and now in Europe. ing hard times, but probably no class of has in that period often broken up the salaried men has experienced less dim- disease in localities where it had raged violently and defied treatment. Prior St. John stands highest and Queen's to its use he lost three cases out of six, Co. lowest in the scale of teachers' but has since used it with scarcely a salaries. We are pleased to note the failure during the above-mentioned perseed puts forth a plantlet; shone upon increasing tendency to advance the iod. The recent great cyclopædia of salaries of teachers, as it is only in this | Ziemssen on the practice of medicine beaten upon by the storms of the world, way that men of culture and devotion gives the highest place to this method may be secured and retained in the of treatment. To keep the patient well found to be an error. profession, because it is a fact that men housed and warm, with additional flanpressed slave takes shelter under its qualified to successfully teach are men nel clothing if necessary, to keep the that could make far more money in system well nourished and the bowels President's wives" of the past, because open are matters of nursing often

of the disease proceeding to a fatal terillness and painful cauterization which go together in its later stages. As to the origin of diphtheria, the weight of testimony is that it belongs to the class of filth diseases, but further than that its source is not clear. Families which would be scandalized at the suggestion of untidiness are attacked, while others of filthy surroundings escape. This simply shows that our sense of cleanliness needs cultivation, so that we may discriminate between what is offensive secluded, but requires constant watchto the system and what offensive to our ing. Her insanity consists mainly in a falsely educated tastes. The farmer's wife, to whom the closed and carefullydusted parlor, or the preternaturally nor money to pay. scrubbed floor are the essentials of neatness, may endure the proximity of a sour swamp or of the kitchen cesspool for years without taking offence. To many a careful and laborious house. keeper, a chance cobweb or the children's 'litter' of a few hours' play will outrank in heniousness a defective drain for the cellar or a badly conducted privy.—Boston Journal of Chemistry.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger. United States Correspondence.

Washington, D. C., April 2, 1878. There is no prospect of an early adjournment of Congress. The real politicians appear to be just warming for battle. The Republican Senators are daily becoming more open in their hostility towards the President and his policy, and propose taking such action before they adjourn, as will compel Mr. Hayes to enlist himself with the Republicans or drive him utterly out of the party. Whether they can do this is a question for time to decide, but a number of those whose terms expire next year and whose re-election depends upon the result of the elections to be held this fall, are very earnest in the matter. Don Cameron gave a dinner party to these gentlemen the other evening, at which the future of their party was considered; and it was decided to begin at once some action at once for the purpose of reviving Republican enthusiasm. Howe's speech against the President occurred the next morning, and was the first step towards carrying out their programme. The President is fully informed of all these movements, and although urgently pressed by many of his friends and supporters to make some reply to Howe's attack, he refuses to notice it, averring that his acts will best interpret his motives and prin-

It is authoritatively stated that there is no foundation for the rumor that the President intends to re-organize his Cabinet. He expresses himself as well content with it as it is, and asserts that the Cabinet is perfectly agreed and harmonious. Secretary Thompson, however, has some idea of retiring when the hot weather comes on, as the duties of his position connected with the naval affairs are too arduous for him in his present state of health.

Mrs. Hayes is still in Ohio, where the President will join her this week. They are to attend the wedding of a daughter Lucy Webb Herron, who was christened at the White House on the occasion of Mr. and Mrs. Hayes' silver wedding. The prospective groom is brother to the lady who married the Prince de Lynar, of Germany, a few years ago. The Prince received a dowry of \$100,000 with his bride, but he has separated her even allow her to see her mother who is

A wild rumor was rampant here, one evening last week, of the sudden death of Carl Shurz, Secretary of the Interior. He was confined to his house at the time with neuralgia, and nobody knew how the report started, but newsboys were crying his death from neuralgia of the heart, and quite an excitement prevailed in the streets over it until it was

The President, in private conversation recently, fell to pitying the "Poor they were expected to return all visits made to them; but he was promptly reminded that that was in the days at present.' With new surroundings, dies above suggested, there is no need before Madison, when Executive's ladies

did not receive such a very vast number mination, or even to the debilitating of callers as they do now. Either President's wives do not feel the burdens of State as much as their husbands do, or they have greater powers of endurance, for see how they outlive them. Genl. Grant is our only living Ex-President, while there are quite a number of their widows-Mrs. Tyler, Mrs. Polk, Mrs. Lincoln, and one or two others.

By the way, it is said that Mrs. Lincoln's mother follows her abroad as well as at home. She lives in Europe very propensity to purchase innumerable articles, for which she has neither use

MERRILL.

For the Christian Messenger.

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