

For the Christian Messenger.

Rev. D. D. Currie and his Catechism.

DEAR EDITOR,—

You may be aware that the Rev. D. D. Currie once published a Catechism on Baptism. On page 12 of that book he asks, "How do you ascertain the classical meaning of the word baptizo?" Answer, "By the best Lexicons of the Greek language."

Then follows the names of ten of those "best Lexicons. Eight of them he makes define Baptizo by the English word Sprinkle. Of the other two Dwight gives according to Mr. Currie, "to tinge, stain, dye or colour," and Gases defines it, he says, by, "To wet, or moisten, to wash, to draw water."

In the *Wesleyan* of May 28, (last) I advertised for those ten books, and offered \$50 for a copy of either Lexicon, provided it gave just what Mr. C. in the Catechism says it does. Mr. Currie published my advertisement, and then gave two and a half columns of his paper to what seemed to me, to be the trick of a cuttle-fish, emitting a black liquid to dye the water, and so enabling him to conceal himself. In reading his editorial I was reminded of the old Pythagorean maxim, "*Septiam ne edito*," or, never eat the cuttle-fish."

First he informs his readers that my advertisement has the appearance of being "bogus," and he suggests two reasons on which he bases that conclusion (1) I have not specified a time for payment. As for that I say here, and now, I will pay the sum offered immediately on the receipt of the Lexicons mentioned by Mr. Currie in the "Catechism," provided they say just what Mr. C. in his Catechism says they do. His 2nd objection is that I have not appointed a committee and placed the money in their hands to be paid to the party who to their satisfaction first complies with the offer. I see no need of a committee. All that Mr. C. or any one else has to do, is to produce a copy of one of those Lexicons. Grove e. g. turn to the word Baptizo, and if it gives "*Sprinkle*," as the definition of that word, I am bound to pay the sum offered. But in the next paragraph Mr. C. says I "might without fear of being called upon for the payment, offer not only \$500, but \$5,000, or \$500,000 from the fact that among the rare old books there are no such works as Mr. Hall appears to desire." What then is the need of a committee? How could the offer be "complied with to their satisfaction," if there are no such books? Had Mr. C. stated that at first he could have saved nearly a column of his paper. I am glad to hear Mr. C. confess at last, "there are no such books," and "it may be said that Schrevelius and others, mentioned by Mr. Hall, do not give sprinkle as a meaning of the Greek word Baptizo, because they do not give an English meaning at all." True in part Mr. C., and glad to hear you say so. That is just what I wanted you to confess when I advertised for those books, as I did.

But how did you get Schrevelius in your Catechism to define *Baptizo*, "To immerse, to wash, to sprinkle, to moisten, to wet." Where did you find those words in his book? You tell your readers that sprinkle is the meaning of *Lavo*. You know it is not except in a figurative sense. Hear the testimony of John G. White, to whose Latin Dictionary you referred in proof of your position in your "open letters" some 18 months ago. Mr. White being written to immediately replied as follows, "I unhesitatingly say that when a word is used in a particular sense only by poets, no one is justified in applying that sense to it when occurring in a passage of even any ancient prose writer." To this says Mr. White, "I would add that in my opinion then to apply *lavo* in the force of sprinkle to baptism is wholly out of the question." So your last prop Mr. Currie was taken from under your fabrication by your own referee. Again when Mr. C. said, "Schrevelius and others, mentioned by Mr. Hall do not give an English meaning at all," he stated what was calculated to mislead. I find a number of his readers have been led to suppose that not one of the Lexicons I mentioned is a Greek-English Lexicon, which is not correct. Grove e. g. is a Greek-English Lexicon. Mr. C. says in his Catechism that Grove gives sprinkle as a meaning of *Baptizo*. I said I would give \$50 for the Edition that does so. Instead of producing it he tells his readers I "indicate a want of knowledge and there are no such books." Oh! Honesty ye are more "rare" than the books!!

He also names Cole & Dwight in his Catechism among the best lexicog-

raphers. I said I would give \$50 each for any Edition of those Lexicons. Did not confine him to any language. Well! did he say there are no such books, for there are none, but he names them in his Catechism. In his editorial (*Wesleyan* May 28,) he kindly suggested that the *Wesleyan* Book Room of Halifax could obtain for me any Lexicon. I wrote him immediately asking him to order for me a copy of Dwight's Lexicon and a copy of Coles and I would send the money to a friend in Halifax to pay over to him. I also asked him to inform me by return mail what edition of Grove he copied from in his Catechism and I sent a stamp for a reply. Twenty days after I got a post card from him saying Mrs. DesBrisay of Sydney, C. B., had a copy of Schrevelius that she would sell for \$20. But of Dwight, Cole, and Grove, there was a *expressive silence*. In his editorial of Jan. 18, he acknowledged the receipt of my letter and says, "Mr. Hall still expresses a desire to obtain some favourite old books. We have a rare old copy of Schrevelius that we might part with etc." Mr. C. Is that honest? What books did I ask for in my second letter? I mentioned only Dwight, Cole and Grove. Why did you not say "there are no such Lexicons as Dwight & Cole. That either somebody had hoaxed you when you wrote the Catechism or else that it was a fabrication of your own. In the *Wesleyan* of June 18, Mr. C. says, "Bro. Hall appears to be desirous to know what the learned Dr. Dwight says about baptism * * * He announces by advertisement that he will give \$50 for Dwight in a rare old form. We have Dwight's works "his theology" in 6 vols., but they are neither very old or very rare * * * We don't like to take \$50 from Mr. Hall for these vols. as they are not old enough nor rare enough to command an extravagant figure, we will let him have the 6 vols. for \$10. Readers of the *Wesleyan*, Is that an honest putting of the case? When he has published to the world what Dwight says in his LEXICON, and I ask for the book is it honest for him to evade by talking about Dwight's Theology? Say, is it honest?

Mr. Currie moreover talks about mutilated Lexicons. Well surely he is the man to do so, for he has had a large experience in the matter. He speaks of Liddell and Scott's Lexicon as one of the mutilated kind. I have written to Harper & Bros. of New York, publishers of that standard work, and Methodists I am told, and they flatly deny the charge. But where are the editions you refer to that gave sprinkle for baptizo?

You had better stick to the ten and when you have cleared that up it will be time enough to introduce Liddell & Scott.

"Even" says Mr. C. "in the department of theology in which the best books of the age ought to be found there are many erroneous and misleading ones." True Mr. Currie, and did you not have your own Catechism in mind when you wrote that sentence? A more unreliable book could not well be written. I have not the writings of the Fathers at hand to which you refer in your Catechism. But a gentleman with whom I was conversing a few days ago told me he had examined the most of your references to the Fathers and positively you have not quoted one correctly.

And how kind in you to offer to sell me some other old books in lieu of those Lexicons!! I only wish I were in a position to appreciate your kindness. But as Brother Brown used to say of your writings it is clearly a case of "*red herring*." I am not disposed to be tricked from the track.

Now Mr. Currie I have a few questions which I would like to ask. Will you be so kind to answer them in a straight forward manner without omitting or evading any.

1. Did you ever see a LEXICON by Dwight?
2. Did you ever see a Lexicon by Cole?
3. What induced you to put those names in your Catechism among the "best Lexicographers?"
4. In what edition of Groves Lexicon did you find Baptizo to signify "To dip, plunge, immerse, wash, wet, moisten, stain, sprinkle, deep, imbue, dye, colour?"
5. In your Catechism you say Scapula and Hedericus define Baptizo the same as Schrevelius. Now you say Schrevelius gives *abluo* and *lavo* as its meaning. I ask do either Scapula or Hedericus give either of those words?
6. I have not a copy of Schleusner

(hope my advertisement will procure one) but I am informed by a friend that he defines Baptizo "Immergo acintingo; in aquam mergo." Is that so? Then how did you get "to wash or sprinkle; to pour out largely," from those words?

7. As it has been declared over and over again that you have not quoted one Lexicon correctly will you please publish just what the Lexicons do say and in their own language and then place under each your Catechism definition so that the public may judge for themselves?

Mr. Currie for your own sake; for the sake of the Christian ministry; for the sake of the cause of that God to whom you profess to belong you have a right to set yourself clear on those points.

Yours, &c.,

WM. E. HALL.

Melvorn Square, July 1, 1880.

Wesleyan & Christian Visitor please copy.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

For the Christian Messenger.

Ordination of Brother Augustus Freeman.

Pursuant to invitations sent from 2nd St. Mary's Baptist Church to the Baptist Churches in Guysboro' and Antigonish Counties, a Council convened at Melrose, July 6th, 1880, to consider the propriety of ordaining Bro. Augustus Freeman to the gospel ministry.

Council organized at 11 o'clock, a. m., by appointing Rev. H. Eagles, Chairman, and the undersigned, Secretary.

DELEGATES PRESENT.

2nd St. Mary's Church.—Deas. James McKeen, Adam McGrath, and Brother Edward McKeen.

1st St. Mary's.—Rev. H. Eagles.

Isaac's Harbor.—Bros. Allen McMillan Samuel Giffin, Stephen Sweet.

Goshen.—Bros. John McGregor, and John Nicolas.

Tracadie.—Bro. Alex. Bowden.

Antigonish.—Rev. L. M. Weeks.

Minutes of meeting calling Council were then read.

Rev. M. P. Freeman, and Bro. E. W. Jordan, (Lic.), were invited to seats.

The candidate being called upon, gave a clear and interesting relation in regard to his acceptance of Christ for himself, and call to preach Christ to others.

After a close examination of his views on Christian doctrine, the Council adjourned for deliberation, when it was unanimously decided to proceed with the ordination.

The following programme was adopted:—

Sermon.—Rev. M. P. Freeman.

Ordination Prayer.—Rev. H. Eagles.

Right hand of Fellowship and charge to candidate.—Rev. H. Eagles.

Charge to Church.—Rev. L. M. Weeks.

Benediction.—Rev. A. Freeman.

The programme was carried out in ordination service, commencing at 2, p. m.

The congregation was quite large and the meeting solemn indeed. The sermon was clear and forcible, founded on the words, "Go forward," and every Christian present must have felt the necessity of taking "Forward" as his motto.

Brother Freeman has some whole-hearted men to stand by his side, and is encouraged to move forward with the assurance that his work will not be in vain in the Lord.

L. M. WEEKS,
Secretary of Council.

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—Two orphan boys, one a negro, of Ottawa, have been awarded the Royal Humane Society's medal for saving two other boys from drowning. The Princess Louise will present them on her return to Ottawa.

The Civil Service Commission had ordered a statement to be prepared, showing the age, nationality, date of appointment, and length of service of all persons in the civil service.

H. McLean, Warden of the County, states that a veritable sea serpent has been seen in Duchene Lake. A year ago a fisherman named Pauquet told a story of having seen a big serpent in the lake, but it was generally discredited. Mr. McLean says a couple of men saw the creature at the same time as he did. They could see about four feet of its back from the head, but it appeared to be more than three times that length from the motion of the water, while in thickness its body seemed to be about the size of a small telegraph pole, and it was dark green in color. Duchene Lake is part of the Ottawa River, nine miles above the city.

There is some talk in Montreal of a monument being erected to the memory of the late Hon. John Young, whose services on promoting the trade of the country and more particularly of that port, are historical.

The war in South America has seriously affected the shipment of lumber from Hochelaga to that continent, several millions of feet have thus been accumulated at the lumber wharves.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—It is reported that fifty Chinamen are shortly coming to Woodstock, N. B., to work in the Iron Works, 35 men are at present employed refitting the building.

A lighted cigar thrown on the St. John Suspension Bridge set the structure on fire. The fire was discovered in time to prevent much damage.

UNITED STATES.—The United States Grand Jury, has appointed a committee of nine citizens to examine all steamboats in this district, whose owners are required to obtain certificates from the local board of steamboat inspectors.

At Des Moines, Iowa, July 8, there was a terrific rain storm last night and twenty miles west taking the form of a waterspout. At Van Metre the town was submerged three feet, and forty rods of the embankment of the Chicago and Rock Island road was washed away. Part of the cupola of the Court House was blown away, and the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad round house is demolished. Corn is crushed and badly twisted, causing serious damage. The worst effects of the storm is westward.

Eighty-eight children died here yesterday from heat and summer diseases. The new board of fifty sanitary inspectors have already visited several thousand poor families, and over a thousand sick children were attended to.

Miss Goodsell, of this city, heroically saved the lives of four other ladies from drowning in Passaic River on Tuesday evening. Their boat capsized by collision with another and the occupants of both were thrown out, she swimming ashore with them.

At Tyrone, Pa., on Thursday, July 8th, a fire broke out which destroyed about 30 buildings, including all banks, the opera house, and post office. Loss \$150,000.

Lawrence R. Jerome, jr., son of the well known banker and sporting man in New York and Edward M. Patchell, manager of the banking house of Guy, Bevan & Co., were arrested on a grave charge. A messenger boy in the employ of Brayton Ives & Co. was sent out last Saturday to deliver stocks valued at \$87,200. He returned, saying he had lost the package on Wall Street. Mr. Ives, who is President of the Stock Exchange, reported the loss to the police. After a long search the securities were traced to the possession of the prisoners. Both are unmarried young men and familiar with the ways of Wall Street, Jerome being engaged in the stock business. After their arrest the stocks were found in Patchell's office and it was admitted by the young men that they knew to whom the securities belonged. They intended to send them to Europe and have them negotiated there. The manner of obtaining possession of the stocks was not divulged.

ENGLAND.—The corn harvest will be very small in the northern districts. In Prussia only half of the ordinary harvest is expected. A great deficit in Russia, Hungary, and Galicia is also reported.

The weather all over Ireland has been most favorable, and it is expected that the potato crop will be enormous. It promises to exceed anything in Ireland since the period anterior to the famine of 1847. Root, and cereal crops are also luxuriant.

At a meeting of the trustees of the Duchess of Marlborough's Irish Relief Fund, very encouraging reports of the improved condition in the West of Ireland were given. The Register General read returns for the last ten years, showing that there is nothing remarkable in prevalence of fever in the Swineford district, which is epidemic. So much for a sensational report about the terrible outbreak of a famine fever.

RUSSIA.—The *Globe* raises its voice in view of the Chinese difficulty, to point out the sad condition of the country, and how much worse it will become in the event of another war demanding a draw upon its already exhausted resources, and retaining the introduction of reforms. The press has for several weeks been full of complaints of the ravages by locusts, flies, beetles, and worms, hunger and poverty among the peasantry, the rapid increase in the price of everything, the increase of the cattle plague, and the large spread of disease.

Marriages.

At Bridgewater, on the 5th inst., by Rev. S. March, Mr. William Orle, to Miss Druscilla Baker, both of pleasant River Road, Lunenburg County.

At Pugwash, on 23rd ult., by the Rev. H. Bool, Mr. Henry C. Betcher, to Emma A., youngest daughter of Mr. J. G. Smith, Pugwash.

At Riverside, Aylesford, June 23rd, by Rev. J. L. Read, Mr. Kinsman Brown, to Miss Maria McKenzie.

By the same, July 1st, at the Baptist Church, Morristown, Mr. Asaph Robinson, to Mrs. Elizabeth Hassett.

At Wolfville, Tuesday 6th inst., by the Rev. J. B. Logan, A. M., Angus S. Murray, to Miss Charlotte Munroe, both of Wolfville.

At Mount Amelia, Dartmouth, July 7th, by Rev. J. W. Manning, Frederick F. Doggett, A. B., M. D., of Harvard University, to Mary C., eldest daughter of Thomas L. DeWolf, Esq.

At St. Mark's Church, July 1st, by the Rev. H. J. Winterbourne, Mr. Eben Whyte, of Halifax, to Hannah, youngest daughter of William Dodd, Esq., of St. John's Nfld.

At Pictou, May 24th, by the Rev. Mr. Burnett, A. D. McIntosh, to Mary Evelyn, daughter of John Fraser, Esq., merchant, all of Hopewell, N. S.

At St. George's Church, on the 8th inst., by the Rev. Mr. Winterbourne, Mr. Geo. P. Judge to Miss Amanda Bremner, both of this city.

ELECTRICITY.—THOMAS' EXCELSIOR ELECTRIC OIL.—"Worth Ten Times its Weight in Gold—pains cannot stay where it is used!"

It is the cheapest medicine ever made. One dose cures common sore throat. One bottle has cured Bronchitis. Fifty cents' worth has cured an old standing cough. It positively cures catarrh, asthma and croup. Fifty cents' worth has cured crick in the back, and the same quantity lame back of eight years' standing. It cures swelled neck, tumors, rheumatism, neuralgia, stiff joints, spinal difficulties, and pain and soreness in any part, no matter where it may be, nor from what cause it may arise, it always does you good. Twenty-five cents' worth has cured bad cases of chronic and bloody dysentery. One teaspoonful cures colic in 15 minutes. It will cure any case of piles that it is possible to cure. Six to eight applications is warranted to cure any case of excoriated nipples or inflamed breast. For bruises, if applied often and bound up, there is never the slightest discoloration to the skin. It stops the pain of a burn as soon as applied. Cures frosted feet, boils, warts, and corns, and wounds of every description on man or beast.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.—Ask for Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. See that the signature of S. N. THOMAS is on the wrapper, and the name of Northrop and Lyman are blown in the bottle, and TAKE NO OTHER. Sold by all medicine dealers. Price, 25 cts. NORTHROP & LYMAN Toronto, Ont., Proprietors for the Dominion.

NOTE—ELECTRIC—Selected and Electrized. June and July. eov.

Deaths.

At Greenville, Cumberland Co., June 20th, Samuel Webb, Esq., in the 75th year of his age. Brother Webb professed religion about forty-two years ago and united with the church at Greenville then called Wallace Road, and he remained a steadfast member always, when in health, filled his seat in the house of God and was ever ready to take part in worship, he was ready to every good word and work. He was way office keeper and held a magistrate's commission for a number of years. He was clerk of the church for a long time and has left a widow and a number of children besides grandchildren to mourn their loss. They sorrow not as those who have no hope. He will be greatly missed in the church and community. A funeral discourse was delivered by the Rev. Samuel Thompson from the 118 Psalm 18 verse. "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord they shall rest from their labours and their works do follow them."

At the Newton Mills, Upper Stewiacke, on Friday, the 17th June, John A. Morrison, in the 65th year of his age.

On the 9th inst., Arthur Newton Creighton, son of the late Augustus O. Creighton, in the 22nd year of his age.

On the 19th June, at Lynn, Mass., Thomas Smith, a native of Halifax, aged 91 years.

On the 8th July, Thomas Drew, aged 60 years, a native of Halifax.

At Mahone Bay, on Thursday, the 8th inst., after a lingering illness, borne with much patience and resignation to the Divine Will, James Dechman, Esq., in the 79th year of his age, a Justice of the Peace for many years in the County of Lunenburg.

At Amherst, on the 5th inst., Eliza, aged 29 years, wife of Mr. W. J. Moran, and second daughter of Mr. Atcheson Moffatt, leaving two children.

On the 8th inst., Margaret, beloved wife of George Crockford, aged 43 years.

At Windsor, on Sunday morning, the 4th inst., Camilla Wilson, wife of the late Benjamin Wilson, Esq., in the 77th year of her age.

At Three Mile Plains, Windsor, Thursday, July 1st, Margaret Sevrigh, wife of the late Joseph Sevrigh, aged 61 years.

At Maitland, on June 30th, William D. Lawrence, Esq., aged 89 years.

At South Maitland, on June 2nd, of diphtheria, Innis, aged 3 years and 5 months, and on June 7th, Jessie, aged 1 year and 9 months, children of William P. and Abbie Cameron.

At South Maitland, on June 7th, of diphtheria, Lewis A., aged 8 years and 10 months, and on June 13th, Harriet G., aged 10 years and 2 months, and on June 19th, Louisa, aged 11 years and 9 months, children of Agnes and the late Duncan Cameron.

At the Provincial and City Hospital, July 5th, Patrick Dean, aged 24 years.

At Truro, on Wednesday, July 7th, at the residence of his father, William E. C., beloved son of W. R. Mulholland, aged 19 years.

At Clements West, on the 19th ult., after a lingering illness, Susan M., wife of Mr. W. H. Ditmars, aged 47 years.

Suddenly, at Melvorn Square, on the 29th ult., from the effects of temporary insanity, the result of severe injuries to the brain, received several months since, Mr. Jacob Miller, in the 68th year of his age.

At Lawrencetown, at the residence of Silas Margeson, Esq., Alexander Dillon, aged 84 years.

At North Range, Digby Co., June 14th, Mr. John Andrews, Senr., aged 89 years. Brother Andrews was baptized about 76 years ago by Rev. Chas. Randall. He died suddenly; yet trusting in the merits of his Redeemer, leaving an aged widow and four children.