

vantage of the absence of members running their elections. He would not charge gentlemen opposite with a desire for a similar opportunity, but thought it safer to be present, and prevent such a proceeding.

Mr. Henry thought it an indication of weakness in the proposed government. When the elections were run in 1857 the supporters of the government left a large majority behind to carry on the business of the country. He thought the permission of Head of the Government should be obtained before such an adjournment was determined upon.

Mr. Howe said that if the Opposition had been there three years, and their majority had been brought down from eight to two, the argument of the Hon. Solicitor General might apply, but in the present case it would not.

Mr. Archibald considered that it was in the power of the House to manage their own adjournments. The business done in the house whilst elections were pending was not of much moment. He thought the petitions against sitting members would be soon disposed of.

Mr. Young spoke of the extraordinary document presented to the House yesterday as an insult to the members. They could not allow a minority to govern.

The Hon. Prov. Secretary was of the opinion that the discussion which had arisen from a statement of the leader of the opposition was irregular and uncalled for. He wished to know if they intended to announce the new Government.

Mr. Young was not prepared to say whether the announcement of the Government would be made before the adjournment or after.

Hon. Atty. General thought the answer very unsatisfactory. Such action would be looked upon with curiosity in the House of Commons.

After a call of the House it was found that several members were absent, and the House was adjourned till 4 past 3.

House met in the afternoon when the resolution of Mr. Wade was lost by an amendment of Hon. Mr. Young, that the petition be considered on Wednesday, the 14th March, which was carried, 28 to 26.

Petitions were then presented against the return of A. W. McLellan, Esq.; Ezra Churchill, Esq.; A. M. Cochran, Esq.; J. Bourinot and Thos. Caldwell, Esqs.; Henry Mosely, Esq.; Hon. J. W. Johnston, Moses Shaw and Avar Longley, Esqs.; Dr. Webster; S. Chipman, Esq.; H. Blanchard, Esq.; P. Smyth, Esq.; Hugh Munro, Esq.; C. F. Harrington, Esq.

THURSDAY, Feb. 9.

The House met at 2 o'clock.

A number of private petitions were presented. The 22nd of March was agreed upon as the last day for receiving petitions.

Hon. Mr. Young moved a resolution requesting His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to pass a vote of credit granting to each member of the House and Legislative Council £1 per day up to the adjournment, and the usual amount for travelling expenses.

Hon. Mr. Henry asked the leader of the opposition if any government had yet been formed and if he himself had accepted any office of appointment.

Hon. Mr. Young said the new Government would probably be announced in an Extra Gazette to-morrow.

The Legislative Council informed the House by message, that they had agreed to the vote for the payment of members.

After some time spent in an irregular debate on the adjournment to the 12th day of March, the Hon. Attorney General moved an amendment to the resolution before the House, that

Whereas, On Tuesday, the 17th inst., the Attorney General announced to the House, in his place, that the members of the Executive Council had resigned their seats at the Council Board, and their offices; and only held office until their successors are appointed by His Excellency the Lieut. Governor:

And whereas, the motion that has been made to adjourn this House for so long a period as until the 12th of March, and the failure to announce to this House the formation of a Government before said adjournment was moved, are acts inconsistent with the interests of the Country—the business of the people—a just economy of the public funds,—the usage of Parliament—and the dignity, practice, and privileges of this House; and therefore Resolved, That in the opinion of this House it is its duty to proceed with the business of the people; and therefore that this House do adjourn until to-morrow at two o'clock.

Which being put there appeared.

For—Hon. Mr. McKinnon, Hon. Solicitor General, Hon. Atty. General, Hon. Provincial Secretary, Hon. J. Campbell, Messrs. Killam, Townsend, Pryor, H. McDonald, Churchill, Longley, Cowie, Wade, Martell, Shannon, McFarlane, P. Smyth, J. McDonald, Harrington, Tobin, Hatfield, Shaw, Robichau, Bourinot, Caldwell, Colin Campbell.—26.

Against—Hon. Mr. Young, Hon. Mr. Howe, Messrs. Brown, Cochran, Eason, Coffin, Smith, A. Campbell, Bailey, Munro, A. C. McDonald, Mosely, McKenzie, Ross, Wier, McLellan, Hefferman, Blanchard, Archibald, Robertson, Grant, Morrison, Chambers, Chipman, Locke, Burgess, Annand, Webster.—28.

The resolution was then put and carried by the same majority.

The House therefore stands adjourned to Tuesday the 12th day of March.

There will be a total eclipse of the sun on the 18th of July. At the moment of obscuration, four of the principal planets—Venus, Mercury, Jupiter and Saturn—will appear in the vicinity of the eclipsed sun as a kind of rhomboidal figure; a phenomenon of such extraordinary rarity that many centuries will elapse before its repetition.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Prince Edward Island.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY

(No 1.)

Another missionary tour to the Island of Prince Edward does not cause its beautiful landscapes to be looked upon with indifference.

neither does a more intimate acquaintance with its inhabitants produce weariness of mind by a close interchange of thought, sentiment and feeling, and whilst walking along the broad streets of its Capital, or marking the aspects of the place so peculiarly English, one is constrained to say, in the words of Cowper.

"England with all thy faults I love thee still,
And while there's a nook that's left
Where English minds and manners can be found,
We must be constrained to love thee."

A year's residence under the starred banner striped with the blood of her Slaves, enables a person to form a proper estimate of American character and institutions. We have left behind the selfish individuality of New England, and once more treading on British soil can realize the truth of the sentiment, *qui trans mare currit cælum non animum mutant.*

A vast stride has been taken since our first acquaintance, five years ago with the Sicily of the St. Lawrence as to religious privileges and facilities for religious instruction. The Roman Catholic Chapel is still the most imposing object to the stranger entering the Harbour, as it towers towards Heaven in imposing grandeur, but after witnessing the robed priesthood of Sydney County, Papal display and assumption wears a very modest aspect in P. E. I., no processions are to be seen, no cowed monks, yet a holy sisterhood exists with its convent and educational establishments, where the daughters of Protestant parents are being trained. The Wesleyan chapel wears the same dignified and *outré* appearance, as to its style of architecture with its twelve hundred hearers and nineteen preachers, ordained and local. The Episcopal church stands on the square, surrounded with beautiful trees. On the lovely site once occupied by the Baptist chapel may now be seen a Free church of modest white, where an influence is gathering under the Rev. G. Sutherland. At some distance to the West may be seen the Kirk with its manse where Mr. Duncan officiates, who is an amiable young man of some logical powers of mind. Opposite the Methodist Chapel a large building has been erected by the Bible Christians under Mr. Barker. Along the square may be seen the most elegant place of worship on the Island built by the Presbyterians of Nova Scotia, whilst down the street under the eaves of the Catholic chapel may be discerned the Baptist House in which fifty persons or so meet for worship. verily this little city is well supplied with preachers, hearing fourteen sermons every Lords day. The religious element is very good and daily prayer meetings are sustained with great interest. The day is past when the Baptists can expect to grow rapidly here, they scarcely hold their own amidst the many religious interests around them, but there is a future for them on this lovely Isle, and in order to occupy it there must be pious labourers, men to lay hold of the English element. The Lord will bless his own truth notwithstanding the adverse influences opposing our progress. Though the religious interests of this place are the most attractive to the Christian observer yet the scenery in and around this beautiful town is all that can be pleasing to the taste or to the eye. The elegant villas and mansions, indicative of English taste and habits, strike the visitor as peculiar to this Island more than in any other place of the British Colonies, whilst the fruitfulness of the soil evinced by immense fields of grain, proves that this may be regarded as the Granary of British America. What will the farmers of Nova Scotia say when I tell them that on one farm may be seen forty acres in oats and this of frequent occurrence, and that within three months of the last year more than half a million of bushels of produce were shipped from the port of Charlottetown supposed to be one third of the whole quantity shipped from the Island, whilst a marked improvement is going on in agriculture; the porosity of the soil unfits it for grazing purposes, and the rains percolating so rapidly through the ground causes the hay crop to be light, but the farmers are providing a remedy by taking from the bed of their rivers a marly substance formed by decayed oyster shells; which both strengthens and enriches the land and the effects are very great in contrast to the old farms, the fields of which, in the drought of summer look as if they had been sown with salt. Plaster of paris or gypsum might be of vast benefit to the soil. Though a stranger might well

imagine that independence and wealth would be the necessary results of so much fertility, yet this is far from being the case, and were it not for the many wealthy English families scattered up and down who come and go like birds of passage, this Island would be poor; and even Charlottetown is by no means a wealthy place. Many causes may be assigned. In the first place the tenure by which the people for the most part hold their land is not a freehold tenure, they have long leases paying one shilling per acre, and the rent of a large farm is only nominal at this rate, yet it is a constant moth gradually eating up the profits with the prospect of losing eventually the labour of many long years. Attempts are being made by the government to buy up the estates of absent land-owners, and to sell out in fee simple to purchasers. Another cause may arise from the failure of ship-building and the neglect of the fisheries carried on by our neighbours the Americans. By a recent law they can hold property on the Island, and infusing their keen enterprising spirit into the tamer element here, a more progressive spirit may be aroused, and lastly the use of immense quantities of alcoholic beverages, tobacco and tea, militates against the prosperity of the population. Systematic and persevering industry and sobriety are the best remedies for all these evils. There is likewise a credulity in following political as well as religious teachers, which mars the prosperity of P. E. I. More anon.

H.

For the Christian Messenger.

DEAR BROTHER,

In December last, commencing on the 16th, we held another of our Quarterly Meetings. It took place, as announced, at Uiggs. Brethren Shaw, McLeod, Hall, with myself, were the ministers present. The services extended to Wednesday in the week following that in which they began. Every week night we had preaching, with two sermons on the Lord's Day; for the most part in English, though sometimes in Gaelic. If full houses, and fixed attention be signs of good, then great good was done by these services. But there, we must again leave results to the future. One cannot help thinking, however, that the seed sown, not only at the late Quarterly Meeting, but for these twenty years past, by our brother McLeod, must prove fruitful at last. If not, it will be a terrible thing. How terrible may be learnt from 2 Cor. ii. 14-16. No! the means of grace never die. Oh! who would be haunted by lost opportunities throughout a lost eternity? Alas! for our unconverted hearers! "Oh! that they were wise! that they understood this! that they would consider their latter end!"

Brethren on the Island will please remember, that our next Quarterly Meeting is appointed at BELFAST, commencing on Friday, the 16th of next month, (March). This will be the only, but sufficient notice of this meeting.

Let me repair an omission into which I fell in my last. Brother Dobson, well known about Pugwash, spent several weeks last year in and around Tryon. A considerable movement arose in those parts, largely traceable, under God, to his agency; in connection with which some twelve or fifteen at least were baptized. Great was the regret of the good people thereabouts that they could not detain him among them, at least through the winter.

In my own special field we keep together, and keep moving, though the signs of harvest are not very apparent. Yet the "word" of the Lord "shall not return to him void." What could a minister do without faith? He must soon lay down his commission. But we want faithfulness as well as faith. Else what room for an appeal like that in Isa. xlix. 4? Oh! the priceless

"Fountain filled with blood,
Drawn from Emmanuel's veins,

The priest of old must offer blood, first for himself, and then "for the errors of the people." And what must become of us poor ministers if there were no blood for us? And there is grace too—yea, "mercy, and . . . grace to help in time of need." Here was Luther's refuge. Satan would often assault him fiercely, on the ground of his shortcomings, and unworthiness. His only resource lay in fighting his way to the cross, and committing his cause to the hands of the great Advocate. And so he came off conqueror, through the blood and pleading of the Lamb. What other way is there for any of us? Oh! for grace to use it!

I know nothing of brother Hall or his doings just now, and therefore can say nothing; which is of the less consequence, as I perceive from time to time he reports himself.

The second week in the last month, as you

probably know, we had our week of prayer in this city, in common with so many in other places. Every night we had a united prayer meeting. Three of these meetings were held in our Temperance Hall, and the other three in places of worship. All were full—some of them crowded—and all deeply solemn. Truly it was a great thought, a thought from heaven, thus to open this new decade. Some seventy-five years since the Monthly Missionary prayer Meeting was commenced, and was soon adopted by evangelical Christendom. In the story of modern missions we see what has become of the prayers which have thus gone up to the throne. Are we not now entering on a new era in the religious history of the world? And this new era has been ushered in with new and signal offering of special prayer. Why should not this week of prayer likewise become an institution, and successive years witness its repeated and widening observance? God has greater things in store for his people than he has ever yet bestowed. But if so he will have them sought with greater and greater fervency. Their being thus sought is a sign that their bestowment is near at hand. And so let us "pray, and not faint." The next seven years will show that these prayers are not offered in vain, and turn them largely into praise. Which thoughts have their application to the United Daily Prayer-meetings now so widely established. Our own is still maintained, and not without its encouraging tokens.

I am thankful to observe the appointment of brother Skinner as successor to our lamented brother Bentley. The Lord prosper him in his work! It is well also, very well, that Dr. Cramp is replaced in his former position as President of Acadia College; and that the deed was done so frankly and heartily. Long may he flourish in his important and difficult office!

Your fellow-labourer,

J. DAVIS.

Charlottetown, Feb. 4th, 1860.

For the Christian Messenger.

Things I don't like to see.

I don't like to see a crowd at the door of God's house, after the service has begun, eagerly discussing business, politics, or pleasure, and then rushing in when the sound of singing falls upon their ears. Singing is a part of divine service and ought not to be disturbed.

I don't like to see people coming in after the hour, disturbing the preacher. I don't like to hear the slamming of pew doors, and the heavy tread of feet up the aisle. I don't like to see the preacher come in fifteen minutes after the hour. Preachers should be an example of punctuality. I don't like to see men and boys—gentlemen would not do it—walk up the aisle with their hats on, as though they neither regarded God nor man.

I don't like to see people chewing tobacco in meeting or spitting the juice about, thereby "defiling the temple of the Lord." Those who love tobacco well enough to use it in sermon time, ought in pity to their neighbours, to swallow the juice, or get a spittoon in their pew and empty it after meeting.

I don't like to see the congregation turn their heads to look, every time the door opens, thereby turning their backs on the preacher. How would they like it if he were to turn his face to the wall and talk, or to the window, should there be one?

I don't like to see a group standing around the stove on the Lord's day talking about the price of wood, &c.

I don't like to see persons looking over the hymn book during the sermon. It shows great inattention, and is an insult to the preacher and the congregation.

I don't like to see people beginning to put on their wrapping before the benediction is pronounced, as if getting ready for a rush ere the "Amen" comes from the pastor's lips.

I don't like to see members of the church going away from the table of the Lord. It seems like turning their backs on Christ. And I don't like to see people taking the "emblems of his broken body" with their gloves on in a manner which etiquette would forbid their doing at their own table.

Finally, I decidedly don't like to have the Minister preach so unmercifully long, as to present a strong temptation to the commission of many of these improprieties.

Should these imperfect thoughts be deemed worthy a place in your paper I may perhaps inflict further upon your readers respecting what I do like to see.

IOTA.

Thistle-down Avenue, Jan. 1st, 1860.