

Whatever may be said or thought, by our Evangelical brethren of the English Episcopal Clergy, of the sharp reprehensions contained in Mr. Spurgeon's late sermons, on the questionable honesty of their expressing at the time of their ordination, their *assent* and *consent* to all and whatever is contained in the Book of Common Prayer, there can be no doubt that one of the consequences of those sermons, has been to awaken many of the chief rulers of that church, to the gross inconsistency which such practice is daily producing, and that a certain amount of reformation is likely to ensue, in which every pious minister of the established Church must truly rejoice. To effect such reform a commission, composed of learned men, lay and ecclesiastical, has been appointed by the Queen, and who are now prosecuting the object proposed. The following extract from an Irish paper gives an outline of the proposed alteration in the form of clerical subscription, at the time of ordination, and although it still leaves much to be desired, it will in some measure tend to relieve the minds of conscientious candidates for the sacred ministry, from tying themselves down by oath and penance to unforgotten belief in all and every thing contained in a formulary, many particulars of which they afterwards feel themselves compelled to denounce and controvert.

"We believe that the commissioners appointed by Her Majesty to consider the forms for subscription and declaration of clergymen of the United Church of England and Ireland have unanimously agreed to recommend:—1st. That the declaration prescribed by the Act of Uniformity, viz.:—'I do hereby declare my unfeigned assent and consent to all and everything contained and prescribed in and by the book intitled the Book of Common Prayer,' shall not be required of or from any clergyman of the United Church hereafter; and, 2ndly, that there shall be from henceforth but one form for Subscription and Declaration, viz.:—'I assent to the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion and the Book of Common Prayer, and of ordering of bishops, priests, and deacons; I believe the doctrine of the United Church of England and Ireland as therein set forth to be agreeable to the Word of God; and in public prayer and administration of the Sacraments I will use the form in the said book prescribed, and none other, except so far as shall be ordered by lawful authority.'—*Dublin Evening Mail*.

SOUTHERN SLAVERY not founded on Scripture Warrant: A Lecture, by Rev. W. Somerville, A. M., Reformed Presbyterian Minister, Cornwallis, N. S.

A "Preliminary (Prefatory?) Note" says: "This Lecture was originally delivered before the Acadia Lyceum." It is a full, fair, and able discussion of what was comprised in the Slavery of Scripture, and shows the total dissimilarity between it and modern slavery.

PARLIAMENTARY.

At length the *Royal Gazette* has announced that the Provincial Legislature will meet for the despatch of business on Tuesday, the 9th day of February. It is not often that the People's Representatives have been called together to deliberate on matters of greater moment than will demand their attention at the present time. There is also probably less known of the course likely to be taken by them than usual. The views of the different sections of the country on the several questions to be considered, differ in many important respects, independently of party considerations; so that it is not easy to calculate on the probable results. We may just mention two or three subjects which will require attention.

CONFEDERATION with the other British American Provinces will doubtless be fully ventilated, and probably some progress made in that direction.

EDUCATION will demand prompt action. The year's experience with the School Act of last session will furnish valuable information as to what should be done to render our educational system practically beneficial. How far that Act has been successful in the several counties, will, we presume, be made known to the Legislature, and modifications of some features in the law will doubtless be suggested. What they are to be will be for the people themselves to determine through their representatives. Whether it is better to have free schools throughout the country, supported by compulsory assessment, or to leave each section to decide for itself whether it will have a school at all, and how it shall be sustained, are questions on which every member will be expected to have a well grounded opinion. This is a matter in which every man and every family is concerned. Whilst some parts are altogether without schools, others have had them greatly improved by the present law. An organic change like that of last session would not be likely to be effected without more or less of misunderstanding and difficulty, perhaps there has been less of these even now than might have been antici-

ated. It is to be hoped that the constituents will see that their representatives are properly furnished with all needful information, so that the legislation may be such as will subserve the great purposes of all good government—the welfare of the governed.

In connection with Education we may mention that the question of whether Dalhousie College shall still enjoy the favor not accorded to other and more useful institutions, will probably be again brought before Parliament. The circumstances under which the funds of that institution are being appropriated are not improved, and its present state is no less an offence to the well understood position of religious denominations in this country, than it was last year when the thousands petitioned against the Act, and we believe meant all they said in their petitions.

It may be well for the people to advise their Representatives on this subject, and give them to understand that the vote of last session is by no means to be taken as a final disposal of the matter. We are mistaken if there is not a growing dissatisfaction with the Dalhousie College arrangements, and if Presbyterians themselves are not becoming conscious that they are compromised by accepting such patronage as that they there receive.

THE RAILWAY TO ANNAPOLIS will have to be more distinctly stated than in the form of newspaper paragraphs. The bridge over the Avon seems to be the only difficulty in the way of carrying this through. As a matter of political economy, we suppose it would be wise to let it go immediately to Kentville, and as a matter of justice and expediency it would not then belong in reaching Bridgetown and Annapolis. In connection with this we hope something will be done either to bring the cars from the Depot at Richmond into the city; or provide some means for the travelling public to reach and depart from Halifax with regularity. The present omnibus arrangement, with no office in the city, is exceedingly unpleasant and disgraceful; and unquestionably prevents many from making use of the railroad who might otherwise do so.

The Financial Secretary, Hon. James McDonald, was returned for Pictou, without opposition, on Thursday last.

The Nomination of Candidates for the representation of Annapolis County took place at Annapolis town on Thursday last. It passed off most peacefully, we learn. The Election will take place to-morrow.

EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the Nova Scotia Educational Association held in Truro on the 28th and 29th ult., was attended by a large number of Teachers from various parts of the province.

T. H. Rand, Esq., read a paper on "The practical duties of the Teacher." This was highly spoken of and a wish was expressed that it should be printed and extensively circulated.

On a discussion which arose subsequently, and after several gentlemen had expressed their views, the following motion, proposed by Mr. George, and seconded by Mr. Calkin, passed unanimously:—

"Whereas the principle of compulsory assessment for the support of Education commends itself to reason, and has been almost universally approved of by the enlightened friends of Education;

And, whereas members of this Association have reported the good results of the system, as they have come under their own observation;

Therefore, resolved, that this Association express their most emphatic approval of the system of Free Schools, which involves the principle of compulsory assessment, as alone adequate to meet the educational wants of the Province, and earnestly deprecate a return to the old law, in so far as the support of Education is concerned."

A vote of thanks was passed to the Superintendent for his excellent paper.

Mr. J. S. Hutton, by request, read a paper on "School Discipline." He reviewed three principles of proceeding, which he characterized as the Rule of Terror, the Rule of Sentimentalism, and the Rule of Reason. Members spoke of the pleasure and interest with which they had listened to his views on this important subject.

Mr. Mulholland explained and illustrated the "Mulholland System of Writing."

The Rev. Mr. Joplin then made some remarks on the importance of good reading; and read Longfellow's well known poem "Excelsior" with fine effect. The thanks of the meeting were cordially voted to Mr. Joplin.

After a vote of thanks to the Council of Public Instruction for the use of the Normal School, the Association adjourned to meet in Halifax in 1865.

Notices, &c.

Some two or three of our Subscribers complain of irregularity in receiving their papers. We shall be glad to make any change which may be requisite in the address placed on them; it that be correct, whatever irregularity occurs, must be charged on the Postal service, either from carelessness or mistake in putting the papers in the wrong mail bag.

We are given to understand by many of our friends in the country—especially the postmasters—that there is less difficulty with the *Messenger* in this respect than with many of the other papers. We have even been told by some that no paper comes so regularly and so well put up. We endeavour to do the best we can, and shall be glad at all times to know how we can make improvements, so that the *Messenger* may reach its destination as early as possible.

Acadia Athenaeum.

The next lecture before the above society, will be delivered by the REV. G. M. GRANT, in the Vestry of the Baptist Meeting House, Wolfville, on the evening of Wednesday, the 18th inst.

SUBJECT:—"Holiday Travels."

Tickets at G. V. Rand's.

THOMAS S. McLEAN, Cor. Sec. Wolfville, Jan. 9th.

Letters Received.

J. T. Foster, Esq. Jas. B. McNutt, Esq., 31st, \$7. G. Whitley, 21st, \$2, 1 sub. C. Longville, 29th, 1 sub. D. Webster, 1st. Chas. Bill, Esq., 2nd, \$6.50. Rev. W. E. Hall, 31st. T. M. King, 2nd, \$15, and 4th. M. J. Bowden, 27th, \$2. L. Harpell, 27th. C. H. Blair, 2nd, \$1.80. J. Wheelock, 26th, \$1. Rev. Dr. Tupper, 22nd, \$19.30. H. E. Payson, Esq., 31st, \$12.—Whichever is most convenient. J. M. Parker, Esq., 3rd, \$6.50, 1 sub. Rev. J. C. Morse, 2nd, \$5, and 31st, \$7. Rev. A. D. Thomson, 29th.—We prefer original. Rev. Jas. Spencer, 31st, \$4. W. Churchill, Esq., 31st, 1 sub. Nelson Miller, 3rd, \$6, 1 sub. Calvin Chute, 6th. Asaph Marshall, Esq., 4th, \$14. Rev. Chas. Randall, 4th, \$12.12. W. R. Doty, 3rd, \$12. Jas. E. Potter, Esq., 3rd. David Page, 2nd, 1 sub. S. Whitman, Esq., 3 subs., omitted. J. M. Parker, 26th. John Bew, 2nd, \$2. C. H. Harrington, Esq., 5th, 1 sub. J. S. McLean, 9th. W. F. Cutten, Esq., 6th, \$12. Rev. G. Armstrong, 7th. A. Whitman, Esq., 5th, \$16. Mrs. J. F. DeWolfe, 5th, \$1.—All right.

The kind and complimentary expressions of our Correspondents at the opening of the New Year, demand from us some acknowledgement. It would be impossible for us to give a separate one to each. They will however each please accept this, as if written to himself, and believe that we fully reciprocate their good wishes. May their blessings abound in their persons and families, and may each year find them only the better prepared for a translation to the land of perfect joy and blessedness, where days and years are no longer known, and where—

"Infinite day excludes the night,
And pleasures banish pain."

General Intelligence.

Domestic.

SUDDEN DEATH.—On the day before Christmas, as Mr. Enoch Grant, of Weymouth, was returning from the village, whither he had gone to purchase some articles for family use, when about a mile and-a-half from his home, at about 2 o'clock in the day, he fell dead in the road, probably from disease of the heart, as it did not appear that he had moved after he fell. The deceased was the youngest son of the late John Grant, of Weymouth, was 65 years of age, and has left a widow, ten children, several grand children, and a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn their loss.—[*Canadian Baptist* please copy.]

SALVAGE CASE.—The Schooner "Harkaway" with a cargo of cattle for Bermuda sprung a leak off Prospect on Thursday last. The master and crew abandoned her and went ashore, it is said to seek assistance. Some fishermen boarded her and brought her back to the city. They claim the salvage. The case is referred to three merchants for a decision.

JUDGE OF ADMIRALTY.—The Chief Justice by the death of Judge Stewart becomes *ex officio* Judge of the Admiralty Court. He was sworn in and assumed the duties on Thursday last.

DISASTERS AT SEA.—The new brig, *Iris*, Doane, of Barrington, bound for Bermuda with coals, was run down at sea by a vessel bound to Antwerp. The crew were saved.

The brig *Mira*, Capt. McMillan, of Antigua, was lost last Thursday on Cape Sable.

The brig, *Neander*, Capt. Hines, from St. Thomas, during a heavy south-east snow storm, on Wednesday the 4th inst., was driven on the rocks, above Sandy Cove, Liverpool, and after thumping heavily all night became a total wreck. The "Neander" was owned by James DeWolf, Esq., of Liverpool, and but partially insured. She was in ballast.

CIVIC.—A committee of the City Council has been appointed to investigate the origin of all fires that may hereafter occur in this city. A committee has also been appointed to examine and report upon all applications for licenses to retail spirituous liquors.

The *Galatea* with about 1200 souls on board mostly of the 22nd Regiment left for Bermuda on Thursday last. About 400 of them are men who came thence during the ravages of the yellow fever last summer.

The remains of Judge Stewart were taken to Amherst and interred there on Thursday last. The Bench and Bar Society of Halifax attended the funeral towards the Depot on Wednesday afternoon. At Amherst the Court then in session adjourned, and with the Magistrates in a body, attended the funeral.

CORNWALLIS BEEF AND PORK.—Mr. Melatiah Kinsman, of Cornwallis, killed a beifer on the 19th of Dec. last, which weighed 624 lbs., and gave 70 lbs. of rough tallow. She was but two years old last Spring.

Mr. John North killed a pig, nine months old, which weighed 384 lbs. Who can beat that?

SMALL POX.—In consequence of two or three cases appearing in the city, orders have been given by the Board of Health for a general vaccination.

The following medical gentlemen have been appointed to carry out the order forthwith:

- Ward 1. Drs. Pryor and Cowie.
- 2. Drs. Gossip and Garvie.
- 3. Drs. Hattie and Twining.
- 4. Dr. Davies.
- 5. Drs. Moran, Rigby and McFarbridge.
- 6. Drs. Wickwire and Forman.

APPOINTMENTS.—To be a Notary and Tabellion Public—John Y. Payzant, Attorney at Law.

Kings Co.—To be a Seizing officer at Chipman Brook Wharf and vicinity.—Simon N. Porter.

Halifax Co.—To be a Justice of the Peace, Charles Twining.

Antigonish Co.—To be Custos—John McDonald.

Cumberland Co.—To be a Justice of the Peace—George McLellan.

Pictou Co.—To constitute a Board of Health for the town of New Glasgow—George Murry, M. D., William Fraser, M. D., Basil Bell, James W. Jackson, Donald McDonald.

COUNTY SHERIFFS.—The list of Sheriffs for 1865 appears in Wednesday's *Gazette*. The only alteration is that in Queen's County, Joshua N. Freeman, Esq., takes the place of John Scott, Esq.

FIRE.—On the 5th inst., a new building at Shelburne, owned by Mr. Condon, was destroyed by fire. Loss, from \$1200 to \$1400, besides carpenters' tools amounting to \$250. No insurance.

We regret to learn that the new school-house at Milton, Yarmouth, was totally destroyed by fire on Wednesday night last. It was under contract to be built for \$6,000. The loss will not be less than \$5,000. It was partially insured.

On Monday last an old man named John Townsend, was found drowned near the Richmond Railway Depot. He had been missing for several days.

Several bridges in Cape Breton county have been carried away by the late freshet.

INSTRUCTION IN WRITING.—Mr. Staples gives instruction in writing every day and evening, at his rooms, 57 Granville Street. Gentlemen are taught a bold rapid hand for business purposes; and the Ladies a fine, pretty style of writing. Visiting, Wedding and Address Cards furnished and written to order. All orders by Mail promptly attended to.

The ship *Anna Schmidt*, which was destroyed by the Alabama off the coast of South America, had on board a quantity of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for California. Dr. Ayer & Co. now appeal for address direct to the British Government, as the responsible party in this wicked business, and base their claim for payment and protection on the ground of humanity, as their commodities are wholly for the sick. Their point is well taken, and will doubtless be pressed with the pluck and persistency which characterize the operations of these celebrated chemists.—*Baltimore Clipper*.

Brenton H. Eaton,

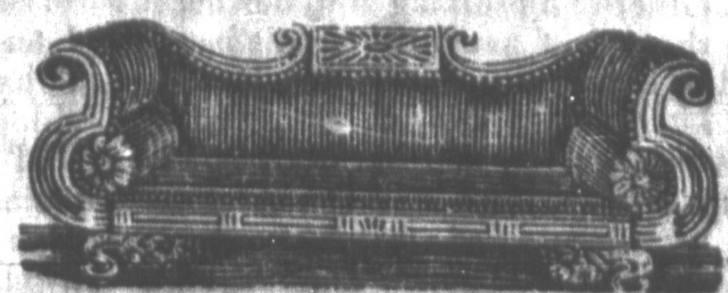
BARRISTER AND ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.
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Halifax, N. S.

Nov. 30. 1m.

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Prince Street, near Fuel Yard.



ALWAYS ON HAND,

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

PARLOR & BED ROOM FURNITURE.

Also, Mattresses of all kinds, Feathers, Looking Glasses, Iron Bedsteads, &c., &c., selling at the lowest prices.

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April 27.

1 yr.

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP
FOR CHILDREN TEETHING.
IT RELIEVES COLIC.

June 15.