

lessen its value as a protector. He who would drag down the spiritual standing of the church to that of a club, or make it bend to the ties of family relationship, or of a political party, has no right appreciation of its value, or of its true position in relation to the salvation of the world.

Not only is the church of Christ the home of the believer, it is the source of our civil freedom. Where did liberty ever prevail but where the churches of Christ had leavened society with the principles of soul liberty. In past ages when a dominant church—the creature of the state—controlled public opinion where then was protection to him who would make the Word of God his rule of life, and where on the continent of Europe, is there to be seen, at the present day, any thing worth the name of liberty, except where independent christian church principles have gained some ascendancy over the spiritual despotism which has so long prevailed. As the principles on which New Testament churches are formed, have become prevalent so has our protection in serving our Master, been more fully secured. On our jealousy guarding those heaven-born principles, depends our retaining them in their integrity. We call upon our readers every where to watch the first attempt at departure, and cling to their blood-bought inheritance.

3rd. Benevolence.—The promptings of the christian heart are of a missionary character. When full scope is given to these, their means and ability are the only limits to the unrestrained exercise of love to all mankind. An extreme illustration of this is that of the little girl who prayed for her friends and enemies, and then that Satan himself might have a new heart given to him. Melancthon, overjoyed with the bliss of his new life, thought it only needed that the story of Christ crucified should be heard to win the love of all, but he soon found that the human heart was too far from God to return upon mere conviction—a divine power must be applied. By the combination of christians into churches, it is that the gospel is presented to mankind, Christ has ordained that his people shall unite their benevolences and combine their energies; and by that means send forth his message of love to a fallen world. A church consequently, representing Christ's body, becomes a sacred institution, and he who would do it violence in the pursuit of its legitimate work, or prevent it from exercising its proper functions, may expect to hear the Master enquire: Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

We do not propose here to discuss the several forms of church government and order, that exist and prevail, but simply to advise the humble christian to seek, with the followers of our Lord, an immediate participation of these three distinguishing principles of the Church of Christ on earth, that in the pursuit of them, he may be prepared to realize them in their fullest development in the glory of the church triumphant.

Letter from Miss DeWolf.

The following letter, received through the hands of the Secretary—Rev. Dr. Tupper—although brief, yet indicates a degree of devotion and courage highly gratifying. It also shows an amount of modesty and of dependence on Divine aid which will commend her to the sympathy and prayers of the brethren and sisters:

Dear Editor,—

Through the columns of this much loved paper, Mr. Editor and Christian friends in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, let me thank you, one and all, for the liberality and kindness received from your hands. May God reward you! Ere this reaches you, on the 17th (D.V.) about noon I bid you all a long farewell. May the Great God watch over us while we are absent one from the other! With joyful calmness I repeat the lines:

"Bear me on, thou, restless ocean,
Let the winds my canvas swell;
Heaves my heart with warm emotion
While I go far hence to dwell."

Continually in your behalf at a Throne of Grace (in my feebleness) I plead for Pentecostal showers; and when all the 'tithes are brought in' I feel sure you will have them. And I in turn am cheered when I remember, that daily there goes up to God morning and evening incense in behalf of her whom you deemed worthy to send forth, in the strength of Him who is "stronger than the strong man armed," and "mighty to save."

Your missionary and sister in the Lord,
MINNIE B. DEWOLF.

The services of Miss Norris, we learn have been secured for the Grand Pre Seminary at Wolfville.

Taxes on Knowledge.

As yet we have had no public announcement of the changes proposed in the new law respecting postage. It comes into operation we understand on the 1st of April. For letters the postage is to be three cents per half-ounce instead of five cents as hitherto. The following is the clause respecting newspapers:

7th. On newspapers printed and published in Canada, and sent to the regular subscribers in Canada by mail as follows:—

Upon each such newspaper, when issued once a week, the rate for each quarter of a year, commencing on the first of January, first of April, first of July, or first of October, of each year, shall be five cents; when issued twice a week, ten cents; when issued three times a week, fifteen cents; when issued six times a week, thirty cents. And in that proportion, adding one rate of five cents for each issue more frequent than once a week; and that such rate be prepaid in advance from the first day of the quarter from which the payment commences, for a term of not less than a quarter of a year, at either the office of mailing or delivery.

8. On each newspaper other than those specified in the preceding Resolution, and Exchange papers sent by post in Canada, a rate of ten cents.

9. On periodical publications other than newspapers, a rate of one cent per four ounces, or of half a cent per number when weighing less than one ounce, and posted singly.

This tax on newspapers is a thing we did not expect at the hands of the Dominion government, and we feel that in leaving it they have carried these Lower Provinces back in educational progress and damaged themselves in the estimation of the people. The tax is a very small one, and where any at all is demanded it could hardly be less. But it will involve the post-office officials in much additional labor which should be paid for. Whilst therefore the revenue from this source will be very trifling, it will greatly annoy those who have heretofore enjoyed the privilege of the free postage of newspapers.

We are quite aware that there are cogent reasons why there should be payment made for labor performed by the government, as well as by individuals, and that where there is no charge made there will be a much larger amount of labor demanded than where there is a small tax levied. This argument it will be perceived is based on the supposition that the government are a business firm and the people are another separate party, which we do not admit. We hold that the whole postal service is an arrangement made by the people themselves through their representatives, for the purpose of carrying information from one part of the country to another at the lowest possible cost. To bring the charge for this down even lower it has been considered a legitimate appropriation of our revenue to make up whatever small deficiency there may be and to regard that in the light of an economical and wise addition to the educational grant.

The arrangement being required for the carrying of letters no material addition is occasioned by the carriage of newspapers.

We think that before the time arrives for carrying this law into effect, proper steps should be taken to press upon the government the objections there are to this obnoxious tax, and to show how much better it would be to adopt the practice of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick all over the Dominion. We trust that our readers will give us their aid in endeavouring to effect this great and desirable object.

Another highly injudicious tax is that of 15 per cent on the importation of paper. This duty was long ago abolished in Great Britain as a barrier to the spread of information and a relic of the dark ages, and yet we are to have it imposed on us at this day. The object of the impost is doubtless to encourage the manufacture of paper in this country. But we do not think the publishers throughout the Dominion should be made to pay a tax for the purpose of benefitting four or five manufacturers. If those manufacturers cannot compete with other countries, let us have free trade in this article so essential to the mental food of the whole people. We protest against this as a decided retrograde movement, and we trust that at the session of Parliament, to be held in March next, there will be a revision of the tariff in this particular, and a change of the postage law, for the purpose of bringing back to us the privileges we have heretofore enjoyed in the spread of knowledge and the encouragement given to education.

The Rev. A. D. Steele has received a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Amherst Baptist Church, and has commenced his labors there with encouraging prospects. May the church and pastor have a large measure of the divine favor resting upon them.

Provincial Teachers' Association.

The Annual Convention of this body held in Halifax during the past week, was attended by a large number, probably about one hundred, of ladies and gentlemen in the Teaching profession from various parts of the province. We had an opportunity of being present at one meeting, and were much pleased with the intelligent appearance of those in attendance.

On Wednesday evening, T. H. Rand, Esq., gave some statistics shewing the remarkable advance which had been made in the work of education during the year. The subjects which were discussed were—the examination of Teachers—the nature and extent of the Teachers' authority—Text books—the relation of common school education to higher education—the Dynamical theory of heat—Hints on Teaching Arithmetic and Mathematics—an address to His Excellency Major General Doyle. Much of the success of this Association is due to the untiring industry of W. George, Esq., the Secretary.

Votes of thanks were passed for railway advantages and for the use of the Hall. The officers for the current year are Rev. T. A. Higgins, Principal of the Collegiate Academy, Wolfville. Vice Presidents, Mr. Patterson, of Horton, and Mr. McDonald, of New Glasgow.

The Rev. George F. Miles was requested to close the Convention by prayer. After which the National Anthem was sung, and the Convention adjourned after enjoying the series of meetings and being benefitted by the excellent papers read and addresses given.

Revenge is, perhaps, one of the meanest and most diabolical exhibitions of human nature. When once determined upon a perversion of the truth, if it be but plausible, is rather delighted in. When it becomes the ruling passion it admits no barrier, but Nero-like will kindle a flame, and burn a city, if by so doing the persecution of its victims can be secured. When an individual is determined on giving the reins to this passion it perverts his judgment. The issue then ceases to be, What is right? but How much can we injure? The dearest ties are severed and the most sacred things must bend or be sacrificed. The Church of Christ should be free from such influences. Whenever Christians seek, whether openly or in a covert manner to practice revenge, there will surely be stripes to follow. We always need to offer the prayer: "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

We were not proposing to notice the circumstance referred to by our correspondent on "Devouring one another." We believe the brethren generally in New Brunswick as well as those in Nova Scotia, are sufficiently intelligent to perceive the design of our contemporary and manly enough to resist it. We hope his friends will endeavour to save him from self-destruction. One would have supposed that the mistakes of former years would have taught him better. Experience, it appears does not always give wisdom!

The Rev. Geo. F. Miles has been spending a few days in Halifax. The churches in the city have enjoyed the benefit of his communications and fellowship.

NEWS SUMMARY.

The Pan-Anglican Synod or Convention, so called, composed of a majority of Prelates connected with the Protestant Episcopal Churches of Great Britain and her Colonies, and of the United States, lately assembled in London, to consult upon the best means of advancing the interests of the body at large, appears to have closed their labors with the year just expired. Their labours do not seem to have been at all successful. They have accomplished, however, about as much as was expected by any but themselves—that is, about nothing at all. Taking into consideration their high titles and assumptions, and their extensive nominal authority, there is no class of men in the present day, who have so little influence or power over the great masses of society, which make up what are termed christian communities. About one third of the English Bishops kept aloof from the meetings. Those who attended, British or Colonial, were, a few of them, advanced Ritualists, and the rest more or less inclined to High Church principles. Several of the U. S. Bishops were equally so. It would seem next to impossible that very many of the men termed Low Church or Evangelicals, in England can, with a safe

conscience, remain much longer in contact with those who are daily exhibiting such grossly Romanizing proclivities as are now so rampant in the established church. Should they continue to maintain such a communion, they must very shortly experience the extinction of all spiritual life.

Notwithstanding the oft repeated reports in the papers that the Cretan's had finally succumbed to the Turkish arms, it appears that they are still carrying on the apparently unequal contest, with vigour and occasional success; and as Crete is a mountainous country, and full of difficult passes, they may still hold out until some intervention of the Western Powers may relieve them from the hated dominion of Mahometan rule.

Much anxiety and agitation still prevail in some of the large cities of England and Ireland on account of the Fenian conspiracy. Numerous outrages have been committed and are daily threatened by this reckless and unprincipled body. It is evident that, hereafter, whenever convictions of crime shall have taken place, the extreme penalties of the law will be strictly exacted.

Notices, &c.

Notice to Foreign Missionary Board.

The members of the Foreign Missionary Board are respectfully and earnestly requested to meet, as fully as possible, in Tremont, Aylesford, on the third Tuesday in this month, at one o'clock, P. M.

CHARLES TUPPER, Sec'y.

Aylesford, Jan. 3, 1868.

N. B.—As a remittance to Barmah must be made soon, for both the male and female departments, the friends of this Mission will please forward us means as speedily, and as bountifully, as may be in their power.

C. T.

We have not been favored with a printed copy of Judge Johnston's letter or should be happy to send it to the brethren who have requested us to do so. We forbear comment.

Donation Visits.

On New Year's day the friends of the Pastor of the 4th Cornwallis Church, met at the Baptist Meeting house at Long Point, and after partaking of the excellent refreshments prepared for the occasion, presented him in the person of Deacon George Gould, the handsome donation of \$51, \$40 of which were in cash. After which appropriate speeches were made by the Pastor, Rev. J. L. Read, Rev. James Parker, and others.

May temporal and spiritual prosperity ever attend the donors is the prayer of J. L. Read.

Dear Brother,—I wish to give notice in the Messenger of two Donations which I lately received. The first was from a number of friends in Great Village who, on Dec. 23rd, made a present to myself and partner, amounting to 30 dollars. The other was from my former church in Portauquique, and members of the Presbyterian Church. They met on New Year's Eve and gave to me about 38 dollars, chiefly in cash. Both evenings were spent very agreeably. That the Lord may reward all those exceedingly kind persons, is the sincere prayer of the happy receiver.

JAMES REID.

Letters Received.

Rev. Dr. Tupper, \$4.1 sub (omitted before.) D. Mosher, Esq., \$10. H. Rushton, \$4. Chas. Bill, Esq., \$10. Rev. J. M. Parker, W. Churchill, Esq., \$25. N. Miller, \$5. T. H. Patton, \$5. N. R. Westcott, \$2. G. Lewis, \$2. J. S. Witter, (2) \$5 and \$8. Asaph Marshall, Esq., \$5. J. W. Bars, Esq., \$4. Rev. Dr. Spurgeon, J. McLearn, Esq., Rev. D. Freeman, 1 sub. X. Z. Chipman, Esq., \$11. A. T. Baker, Esq., Rev. P. F. Murray, \$8. Weston Hall, Esq., \$28. 1 sub. W. R. Doty, Esq. W. F. Cutten, Esq. Rev. J. Reid.

Our Agents and brethren will please accept our best thanks for their kind endeavours on behalf of the Messenger, in seeking for new subscribers and obtaining payments due. We are aware that great difficulties exist at the present time, to prevent a good many who, but for the pressure of the times would gladly give their names. We can fully sympathize with such persons. Our hope is that on the approach of spring there will be a change in commercial affairs and a more free circulation of money.

Commercial.

Halifax Markets. (Wholesale.)

Corrected for the C. Messenger, Jan. 8th, 1868.

Butter, N. S., per lb.....	0 17	a 0 22
Coffee, Laguira, per lb.....	0 16	a 0 18
Jamaica, per lb.....	0 18	a 0 20
Tea, Congo, per lb.....	0 43	
Sugar, Porto Rico, per lb (duty paid) 0 08	a 0 08	
Cuba, per lb.....	0 08	a 0 08
Molasses, Porto Rico, per gallon...	0 35	a 0 45
Cienfuegos, per gallon...	0 30	a 0 35
Salmon, No. 1, per bbl.....	16 00	
No. 2, ".....	13 00	
No. 3, ".....	10 00	
Coal, Sydney, per chaldron.....	6 50	a 7 00
New Mine, per chaldron.....	5 00	a 6 00
Wood, per cord.....	3 00	a 4 50
Hay, per ton.....	\$14 00	a 16 00
Beef, Fresh, per lb.....	0 10	a 0 12
Pork, Fresh, per lb.....	0 09	a 0 10
Bacon, per lb.....	0 12	a 0 15
Mutton, per lb.....	0 08	a 0 10
Poultry—Chickens, per pair.....	0 35	a 0 40
Ducks, per pair.....	0 50	a 0 60
Turkeys, per lb.....	0 12	a 0 15
Geese, each.....	0 40	a 0 50
Butter, Fresh, per lb.....	0 24	a 0 25
Cheese, per lb.....	0 10	a 0 12
Eggs, per dozen.....	0 40	a 0 50
Oatmeal, per cwt.....	3 50	a 4 50
Oats, per bushel.....	0 40	a 0 50
Apples per barrel.....	4 00	a 5 00
Potatoes, per bbl.....	0 60	a 0 70