

4. The speech occupies at least as much time as ought to be allowed to all the speeches of one evening.

5. At the close the young brethren are exhorted to always take part in the social meetings, whenever they have opportunity. But the young sigh, alas! for the "opportunity."

Now this is no over-drawn sketch as to the manner in which many a prayer-meeting is "conducted." And this is one of the causes in the way of prayer-meeting success. Long chapters, long hymns, long prayers and long speeches are always bad in a prayer-meeting; but when these are given by way of illustrating and enforcing the best way to conduct a prayer-meeting, then the "madness of method" becomes all too powerful for the weakness of organization, and soon a vigorous decline in the attendance gives unmistakable evidence that the lack of interest is rapidly eating up the principle; and so the prayer-meeting becomes a place to be shunned, instead of what it ought to be a place of spiritual enjoyment, social culture and religious growth.—*Christian Standard*.

Some objection to the continuance of the International Sunday School Lessons, appears among Presbyterians. Dr. Boardman, in the Philadelphia Presbytery asks for the preparation of a series of Lessons, whereof one lesson each month shall be appropriated, to the study of the catechism. He says "the present lessons make no adequate provision for the instruction of youth in the doctrine of the standards." The "rapid spread of destructive errors and the supercilious disparagement of creeds which poisons the popular literature of the day," are cited as reasons for urging this measure.

The Baptism by immersion of persons who have come to years of understanding, occasionally takes place in the Church of England. On Sunday, December 2, at Christ Church, Wellington, Shropshire, the Rev. Mr. Butler, the vicar, at the morning service baptized by immersion, in a large bath provided for the occasion, the daughter, aged eight years, of the eminent Dr. Cranage, Principal of the celebrated Old Hall School for boys in that town. Dr. Cranage, although a Churchman, entertains the same views in regard to believers' baptism as the Baptists do.—*Christian Herald*.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., April 17, 1878.

"REJOICE WITH ME"

is the language of the heart, touched by the Holy Spirit's power. The soul that after long searching for the truth, has found out the preciousness of Christ longs to tell its joy to its chosen friends, either verbally or by writing. If believers would do this more frequently, they would find their joy increased by imparting it to others. There is something remarkable in the gospel plan of salvation that the moral, upright and cultivated find new joys from their new trust, the same as he who was the hardened sinner, and unless perverted by some wrong teaching, delights to make it known. Here is what we find in one of our western exchanges, as "the experience of a moral, cultured gentleman who had lately obeyed the gospel command, and wrote to his friend to tell him of "his joy in obeying":—

"Weary, worn, wasted! weary with watching and waiting; worn with the toils of life; wasted in health and age—thus I was found by the wayside. God knows I have been many long years on the road of life; no light, no guide, groping my way in darkness, under sombre clouds of sin, stumbling on obstacles that beset me at every point in my tortuous way, until I would almost cry out in despair. I strove to pierce the future with my feeble, limited vision, to find, if I could, what was revealed of man's future destiny. I asked the little brook that ran gleefully singing by—only a rippling sound answered back. I asked the giant rocks that walled the valley in—only an echo repeated back my words. Winged winds I asked, 'What of man?'—the answer was only a sighing, plaintive moan. I asked the stars that kept their vigil in the midnight sky—no answer—a passing cloud obscured the light, that was all. With uncertainty yet resting about me, I sought the counsel of a friend (a brother), and oh! what consolation he poured into my heart. He pointed to the Bible, and told me there man's destiny was revealed; there, said he, is the light, the true life. There the chart by which to steer. There was the preceptor left by the Lord Jesus Christ. I accepted his teachings and found the comfort sought for, thanks to God on high. Heaven's refulgent light has broken on my way; a halo of glory seems to rest

about me—I am happy. How beautiful is the thought—"home," "heaven." The Bible—blessed book—tells us what the realization will be. Oh, how beautiful!

The little brook may wander on and lose itself in ocean; the rocks may fall from their resting places, rent asunder, crumbled, powdered into dust; the starry lights that twinkle in the vaulted sky may be put out one by one, but the light from the grand old book will continue to shine brighter down and through future ages, a beacon light along the shifting shores of time, that will guide us home—to heaven at last, to meet our Father and our God."

Reader, are you halting between two opinions? Dwell no longer in the region of doubt, but offer the earnest enquiry, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" With this prayer and an examination of the Scriptures to find what others have done under similar circumstances you will be rightly guided and will soon be in the same condition of saying to others "Rejoice with me!"

The Ottawa House of Commons has had before it a bill to secure the attendance of voters at elections and to compel them to vote. What a farce! The author must have come from the dark ages! To think of any man at this day being compelled to vote! What a pity that legislators should be spending their precious time on such follies. The author will secure for himself the respectable standing of a visionary, rather than a legislator.

NEW VESTRY, SPRING GARDEN ROAD.

On Thursday next a Sale of Useful and Ornamental Articles will be held by the Ladies of Granville Street Church in the New Vestry Hall, in Spring Garden Road. Doors open at 2 o'clock.

In addition to the great variety of clothing, there will be a refreshment table. Tea will be provided in the rooms up stairs at 25 cents, from 6 o'clock in the evening.

PRESBYTERIAN THEOLOGICAL HALL.—We mentioned last week the offer made to the Presbyterian body. We have now in the *Witness* a description of the purchase as follows:

The Committee of the Board of Superintendence of the Theological Hall has purchased the Albro property, "Pine Hill," on the North West Arm. The purchase includes ten acres of land, very beautifully situated, and under excellent cultivation. The building is large, and in most admirable repair. It will afford ample accommodation for all the classes, and for dormitories for, say, 20 students. Besides all this there will be room for one of the Professors to reside in the Building. There are on the premises a well equipped hot-house, and three other buildings. The lawns and terraces and walks are most attractive. There is not a finer property on the whole peninsula except one or two. A moderate expenditure will convert one of the buildings on the grounds into a residence for a Professor. The whole property—houses and lands—will cost the church \$25,000. The purchase is considered an exceptionally good one, as land in the vicinity is very valuable, and is likely to be increasingly so. The Board purchased a site some months ago, on Robie Street, on which it was intended to erect a substantial College Building in brick; but it was found that a suitable building would cost not less than \$35,000. It was judged better therefore under all the circumstances to take the Albro property which will in itself be of great and increasing value, and the buildings on which will meet all the requirements of the Hall for many years to come.

The following is given as a list of the Russian captures during the late war:—

The Russian Army of the Danube captured 15 pashas, 113,000 officers and men, 606 guns of different calibres, 9,600 tents, 140,200 muskets, and 24,000 horses. In addition, 200,000 small arms, yataghans and pistols were taken from Turkish irregular troops, and also 13,000 lances and daggers.

The Russian army in Asia captured during the war fourteen pashas and 50,200 officers and men, 662 guns, 16,000 tents, 42,000 muskets, 18,000 horses, and immense stores of ammunition and provisions of all kinds. The number of firearms and miscellaneous weapons taken from the Asiatic irregular troops of the Porte was also, it is stated, exceedingly large, but no details are given. In Europe, as in Asia, a vast quantity of rice, bread and salt was seized, as well as an immense number of cartridges and a great quantity of loose powder. The Serbian troops also acquired a large booty during the short time they were engaged, their trophies being returned as 238 guns, 10,000 muskets, and thirty-seven standards, besides ammunition, provisions and horses.

Any combination between England and Turkey as it is at present would not seem to promise much of good alone. Such an army as the latter country may have left would need large help before it would be capable of effecting very much with such a formidable foe as Russia.

Politicians are busy in all parts of the country preparing for the coming elections. Meetings are being held for the nomination of candidates, Cape Breton, Yarmouth and Cumberland especially seem alive to the importance of having the best men they can get to represent them in Parliament.

Men do sometimes sell themselves, but they do not often confess it so openly as in the following advertisement, which appeared recently in an English paper:—

A clergyman of the Church of England, 39, 5 ft. 9 in., considered good-looking, a widower, with an only daughter, wishes to hear from any lady with a view to marriage who has from £6,000 to £12,000 at command, and would be willing to invest about £5,000 in the purchase of an advowson (that is, the freehold of a church, rectory-house and grounds) in some beautiful locality, to produce £500 a year. Please write direct to the above reverend gentleman as this advertisement is genuine and bona fide. Address, etc.

The Bill now before the Dominion Legislature for the suppression of the Liquor traffic is not likely to prove very effectual if it should pass without any other provisions than those it had originally. It will doubtless bring forth an animated debate. The electors will do well to watch the progress of the bill, and especially what part their own representatives take in the voting upon it.

Rev. John Clark with his family arrived in Dartmouth on Saturday evening and are residing on the hill near Judge James's.

A very successful Sabbath School Review and Concert was held in the Dartmouth Baptist Church on Sunday afternoon. Some of the pupils from the Branch School at Tufts Cove were present, and took prominent part in the exercises. The recitations, conducted by Mr. Nalder, the Superintendent were excellent, and the singing, led by Mr. C. L. Weeks highly creditable. Here is a fine field of labor for pastor and teachers.

It is gratifying to find the benevolence of our citizens stirred on behalf of Mrs. Fredericks, whose son—her only support—was so suddenly stricken down at the fire on Sunday last. An effort is being made to raise a sufficient sum to purchase an annuity for her.

The City Council, too, have adopted resolutions of active sympathy and help to those who have suffered injury. It is to be hoped this movement will meet with cordial co-operation from the citizens.

Notices.

RECEIVED TOWARDS THE RE-BUILDING OF ACADIA COLLEGE.

Joshua Ellis, Esq., Cornwallis.....\$25 00
F. C. Johnson, Esq., Wolfville..... 50 00
John Brown, Esq., Paradise..... 7 00
From Rev. J. Williams, Mahone Bay, viz.:

Summerside Church.....\$10 08
Pleasantville "..... 3 30
Bridgewater "..... 6 36
Col. by Rev. L. M. Weeks. 6 00
Mahone Bay Church..... 3 00
New Germany "..... 3 84

Miss Marion Vaughan..... 10 00
\$124 58
A. D. W. BARSS, Treas.

Wolfville, April 13, 1878.

Treasurers of Baptist Funds.

1. HOME MISSION BOARD—J. C. Anderson, Yarmouth.
2. FOREIGN MISSIONARY BOARD—Thos. P. Davies, St. John, N. B.
3. ACADIA COLLEGE AND HORTON COLLEGIATE ACADEMY—Andrew D. W. Barss, M. D., Wolfville.
4. MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND—Jno. W. Barss, Wolfville.
5. NOVA SCOTIA WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AID SOCIETY—Mrs. M. R. Selden, Halifax.
6. WESTERN ASSOCIATION INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND—Rev. Atwood Cohoon, Yarmouth.
7. CENTRAL ASSOCIATION INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND—Charles F. Eaton, Canard, Cornwallis.
8. EASTERN ASSOCIATION INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND—Benj. L. Douglas, Amherst.
9. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ASSOCIATION INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND—James DeBrisay, Charlottetown.

Acknowledgments.

Dear Editor:—Allow me to acknowledge the kindness of a number of the members and friends of the church at Five Islands and Lower Economy who met in the Baptist Church at the latter place on Friday evening March 28th, for the purpose of expressing in a practical manner their brotherly love and friendship for their pastor. Deacon J. D. McCarty, Esq., after prayer—stated the object of the meeting in a neat speech full of sympathy and kindness. Short addresses were then given by members of neighboring churches, interspersed with vocal music by the Choir of Athena Lodge I. O. G. T. And then came the presentation of the gifts to the value in all—of about \$65, \$50 of which were in cash. The gifts themselves I highly appreciated and I shall not soon forget the kind words, so full of brother kindness christian sympathy, and hearty appreciation of my labours amongst this people which from the lips of speaker. More especially from the brother who presented the purse—Deacon Josiah Soley. May the Lord bless these dear brethren more and more, and may the reviving and sustaining influences of the Holy Spirit continue with them, is the prayer of

Yours fraternally,
A. E. INGRAM.

Upper Economy, April, 8, 1878.

Rev. D. G. Shaw will please accept my thanks for five dollars forwarded to me by S. Selden, Esq., April 6th, 1878.
R. S. MORRISON.

Letters Received.

Alfred McKeen, \$4. E. Fraser, \$2. W. C. Bill, \$2. H. C. Sabean, \$2. T. H. Randall, \$2. Rev. P. R. Foster, \$3. J. F. Covey, \$2 to Ap. 1, 78. W. M. McVean, \$2. N. R. Morse, Esq., \$10. J. Whitman, Senr., \$10. Rev. J. A. McLean, \$2. 1 sub. T. M. Martin, 50c. Rev. J. F. Kempton, \$2. W. Aymar, Esq., \$10.

DOMINION & FOREIGN NEWS.

ON MONDAY the Protection Debate continued till midnight when both resolutions were lost by 148 to 48.

ON TUESDAY Sir John A. McDonald gave notice that he would move a resolution in relation to the Quebec coup d'état.

ON THURSDAY the Address to Earl Dufferin on his return to England was moved by Hon. Mr. Mackenzie and seconded by Sir John A. McDonald. The following is the text of the Address:

"We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate and Commons of Canada, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to approach Your Excellency with the expression of the deep feeling of regret which we experience at your approaching departure from Canada. We feel it to be a duty to assure Your Excellency that the zealous devotion of your great abilities on all occasions to the public interests is held in high appreciation, and that especially the visits to each of the Provinces and territories of the Dominion, by which Your Excellency has familiarized yourself with the character of the people, and the resources of the country; and the eloquent speeches in which Your Excellency has enlarged on those topics, have been attended with the most beneficial results in attracting attention to Canada. We are highly sensible of the great degree in which literature and art and the industrial pursuits have received encouragement from Your Excellency's efforts and liberality. We venture to convey the assurance that Your Excellency and your distinguished consort will bear with you on leaving us, our warmest wishes for your future welfare and happiness, that we rejoice in the conviction that though Canada may no longer possess the advantage of Your Excellency's experience and knowledge of public affairs in so exclusive a degree as she has enjoyed them in the past, this country will continue to have in Your Excellency a friend and advocate, and that it is our heartfelt wish that for many years the empire at large, may have the benefit of Your Excellency's ripe wisdom, experience and eminent abilities."

In the discussion of the address the speeches were all expressive of the highest regard for the Earl and the Countess.

In accordance with the notice previously given Sir John A. McDonald moved the following:—

Resolved, That the recent dismissal by the Lieut. Governor of Quebec of his ministers, was, under the circumstances, unwise and subversive of the position accorded to the Advisors of the Crown since the concession of Responsible Government to the British North American colonies.

Sir John spoke from 4.30 to 6, and in the evening from 8 to 10 o'clock.

The galleries were packed. Hon. Mr. Mackenzie spoke in reply and went into a lengthy defence of the Quebec Lieutenant-Governor.

Mr. McDougall moved to adjourn, but Mr. Mackenzie refused to adjourn, wishing to secure a division without further delay or discussion, whilst many of the members had gone home for Sunday. Speakers continued to rise, and so, either by reading from books or otherwise, passed the whole of the night and all through the next day. Neither

party would give way. Some of the members slept in their chairs whilst others indulged in singing "Auld Lang Syne," or the "Marseillaise." Some members spoke in French and others in English. Coffee was brought in to several members at their desks. Others in groups went away to get their breakfast.

Lady Macdonald and several other ladies stayed in the gallery till five, and at nine the wives of members began to drop in, searching for their husbands.

The debate continued till six o'clock on Saturday evening; when the House adjourned by agreement between Sir John A. and Mr. Mackenzie that the division should take place without further discussion at 10 o'clock on Monday morning.

Lady Dufferin was present on the floor near the Speaker's chair during Saturday afternoon and witnessed the uproar which was conducted amidst great mirth and good humour. The French members sang "En roulant ma coule" and the English members "Auld Lang Syne." Her ladyship seemed greatly amused and remained about an hour. When she was leaving, the whole ministerial side rose to their feet and sang "God Save the Queen," the Opposition took up the refrain, and while the anthem rolled through the vast arches the densely crowded galleries joined in this tribute to Her Excellency. A grander effort of good will from all parties could not be conceived.

The Quebec Railway Commissioners on Thursday last demanded possession of the Montreal, Ottawa and Occidental Railway from Duncan McDonald, contractor of the Western Section, and latterly lessee of the road. The latter refused to hand over the road as the lease has not expired. McDonald was to have the section completed and fully equipped in October last, for \$3,600,000. The Government have advanced him over \$200,000 in excess of the contract price, and it will take \$600,000 more to complete the work specified in the contract. The government will probably take forcible possession without delay.

The steamers "Quebec" and "Francis Smith" arrived at Montreal last week, the earliest recorded, being two months earlier than last year. They brought 150 emigrants for Manitoba.

Since June last, 190,000 persons have signed the Temperance pledge, in Canada.

On Monday after recess Peter Mitchell, spoke for over an hour on the Quebec resolution. The vote was then taken; resulting for Sir John's motion, 70, against, 112; majority, 42; absent, 24.

Mr. McKenzie introduced a resolution authorizing the Government to enter into negotiations for obtaining possession of the Quebec branch of the Grand Trunk Railway, subject to Parliament's ratifications.

Sir John pointed out that this was superfluous, as Government already had this power.

Mackenzie accused Sir John of being hostile to the plan of getting possession of the branch line. Sir John and Peter Mitchell both protested they were strongly in favor of it.

Mr. Blake also condemned it, and advised its withdrawal.

Mr. Mackenzie then withdrew his resolution.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—Baldwin and Molloy, of Bathurst, fresh fish exporters, shipped to the United States last season two hundred thousand pounds of fish, principally salmon. Their freezer, is capable of freezing forty thousand pounds. Their principal market is Boston. They intend shipping large quantities this season also, having made preparations for as large transactions as last year.—*Moncton Times*.

A Fredericton despatch to the *Moncton Times* says: "It is rumored that Charles Burpee, Esq., M. P., for Sunbury, will be our new Governor. There is the best authority for the statement that Governor Tilley was offered a second term and declined it absolutely."

It is rumored that a new opposition paper is shortly to appear in St. John. It is supposed the Dominion elections will come off in June.

The Fredericton Auxiliary Bible Society held its annual public meeting last week, a large audience being present. The meeting was opened by singing, and prayer by Rev. Jos McLeod. The Secretary, Mr. H. C. Creed, read the Report, and an opening address was delivered by the President, Judge Wilnot. Speeches were made by Revs. Messrs. Daniel and McLeod, and Professor Foster. Lieutenant-Governor Tilley, Patron of the Society, was also on the platform.

It is said that the murderer Vaughan has made a partial confession to Rev. Mr. Parsons, who has visited him. It is believed, that before his execution he will make a statement of all the facts in connection with the horrible crime for which we is to suffer the death penalty. The poor creature is but 28 years old, and can neither read nor write. He has led a very dissolute life, spending most of his time in drinking and debauchery, allowing the baser passions to have control of him.

The New Brunswick Legislature is still in session but will likely be prorogued this week.

P. E. ISLAND.—Among the items from P. E. Island we have the following:—The Legislative Council proposes to abolish itself. A resolution to that effect was moved in the Council by Hon. Mr.