

Religious Intelligencer.

class is called in its turn, and when it is called, the Superintendent saves the class in regard to us he noted them in his first visit. The class is then examined, as thus it is made to appear with what success the class is passed the term. This process serves to make or unmake the reputation of a teacher, according to his merits or demerits.

We are judgment-bound beings, and the more distinctly we keep before us the account we be rendered up, the better we perform our duty in our various relations.

WALPOLE, Feb. 12, 1856.

Mr. Editor.—Whether my letters reach you or not, be the last five or six weeks. I am not informed, as I am entirely shut out from the world by the snow storms. It is now two weeks since our pastoral meeting was to begin in this place, but such is the state of the weather we have had, that, but six or seven days. There has been unusually deep interest when we have been able to have meetings.

The meetings are appointed at eleven o'clock in the morning, and at half-past six in the evening. When the snow drifts that the trains cannot get through, the meetings, of course, adjourn themselves till the roads are rendered passable by the process of shoveling. As soon as the wind subsides the men are out to clear the roads, apparently nothing disengaged than in an hour or two their work will need to be done over.

Last Saturday evening, for instance, was very mild when meeting commenced. All the afternoon it was, in pleasure, remarked that the *"snow day"* was at hand. Before meeting closed, it was, before eight o'clock, the wind was blowing most strong to a hurricane, and when the meeting closed, I heard the boys saying, the snow had suddenly taken a bad cold. All day yesterday (Sabbath) the storm continued. Not a train passed. Not even did the sexton reach the church. The storm continues. There can be no meeting to-day, nor this evening. Some young friends came a few miles on Saturday evening on account of the meeting to spend the Sabbath; they will think themselves well off if they can return as soon as Wednesday. Such scenes are so new to me I cannot further write about them, and if they are familiar to your readers they will have many on my goodness.

I said there was no meeting at church yesterday, but it was still so interesting Sabbath to me, I am spending a few days in the interesting family of brother Francis Hill. This brother is one of that class of laymen who feel an interest in missions and other causes of benevolence. He is a member of the Board of our State Missions Society, and otherwise identified with the public interest of the church, such as the institutions of learning. His family, and that of his sisters, are at hand, with the friends passing the Sabbath with them, were together with one accord, in one place, viz., in brother Hill's parsonage, at eleven o'clock, despite the storm, some sixteen or eighteen, mostly of young gentlemen and ladies. It is often we are in prayer-meeting more solemn and interesting than that of yesterday. One of our number and the second chapter of the acts, and two or three engaged in prayer. One remarked that he was accustomed often to attend meetings at private houses. He was glad, however, he said, to be permitted to attend one where he saw not the coffin and bier at the voice of lamentation, for it was funeral to which he had alluded. He was reminded that we are to have a home where death can never come. So deeply interesting was the meeting in the morning that we could not forbear to have another in the evening. One of our number in the evening meeting read a chapter, each one present posing any question or offering any remark occurring to him from the reading. When the reading was over, some eight of the young friends present, requested prayer in behalf of their conversion. He assured it was a solemn scene, the whole company prostrated before God, while three of our number led in prayer. I think, with one exception, this was the first time any of the eight manifested any interest for their conversion.

This is a good place to remark, where there is a will to serve the Lord there is a way. In our friendly social circle yesterday, it is quite likely some of the young friends made known their requests for prayer, who, in other circumstances, would have registered till the death bed. That one step taken, the principal hindrance to conversion seems to be removed, as such is perfectly free to converse on the subject of the soul's salvation.

May we not see, too, from this, the duty of parents to accustom themselves to converse with their children on religious subjects, especially in reference to their personal duty? May not impatience in Christian families be traced to the neglect here hinted at? What must be the pain of a Christian parent on a death bed, to reflect that he has not often impressed upon the attention of his child the duty of personal duty? Christian parents resolve upon setting your houses in order before God, and his blessings be upon you and your children in the latest generation.

China Persecution.

New York, Feb. 9, 1856.

Mr. Editor.—It may not be known to many of your readers that the demolition of China is carried on to a great extent in this city, and that a great portion of the beautiful vases, dinner, and tea ware, that ornate the houses and tables of our wealthy citizens, our magnificent hotels and steam-boats, are destroyed in the City of New York.

About eight years ago, two enterprising young men came to this city from Sudbury, England, and commenced this import and beautiful art. Their skill and industry soon attracted the notice of the firm of Simon & Blightworth, now in the name of E. V. Blightworth, 501 and 503 Broadway, which is one of the largest and most beautiful stores that adorn the City. Seventy or eighty persons have been employed in the various branches of decoration; and their gold now glitters in every city and State in the Union, and in the President's home in Washington. When the gold is put on chin, it has the appearance of black paint, and is laid on with camel hair brushes. The gold is dissolved in acid, and reduced to a fine powder by mercury; it is then mixed with flux and ground in

turpentine, and is ready to be laid on the chin. After being well dried it is put in the furnace where it is subjected to a very severe heat. It comes out of the furnace a dull yellow and requires much labor in polishing, which is performed by females.

Many of the workmen in this establishment are very skillful, turning out every week the most beautiful fruit, flower, figure, crest, and landscape painting, and most elaborate gilding.

The establishment has just completed an order of seven hundred pieces of decorated chin for one house; and have an order in hand now still larger, besides several large orders for the Bay State and other lines of stores.

Canada Correspondence.

MONTREAL, C. E., Feb. 13th 1856.

Mr. Editor.—Do newspaper readers possess memorials sufficiently extensive to recall what they have read three months before? Do you readily remember a letter in your issue of Nov. 30th, he did "Canada Correspondence?"—Would they permit a word from the same source?

Will you help me to give them the opportunity?

It is not safe to dwell upon first impressions, after four months residence in my locality; yet I may be permitted to state that I have a distinct recollection of being presented with, "Want a coat, sir?" for some weeks after my arrival, till my countenance became familiar; that the narrowness of the streets in some parts of the city, the foreign aspect of many of the houses, and the continual hearing of the French language arrested my attention; while I could not help noticing whenever I passed along the streets, the many proofs that fire had at some time or other, done extensive damage. Seeing still this much, perhaps needless, for the sake of connexion, allow me to speak of the Religious Anniversaries which were held on the evenings of the week, beginning January 20th. These are the Evangelical Tract Society, the Canada Sunday School Union, the Montreal Auxiliary Bible Society, the French Canadian Missionary Society, and the Montreal Temperance Society; the whole concluding very appropriately with a Union Missionary Meeting. These Anniversaries are anticipated with pleasure, and well they may be, if they always wake such Christian cordiality and sentiment as was characteristic of the meetings of the present year. The place of meeting is a commodious building belonging to the Wesleyan brethren, erected at a cost of £14,000, admirably adapted for comfort both to speakers and hearers, and capable of containing when the aisles are crowded—as they were two or three times during the week—about three thousand persons.—The two meetings which attract the largest share of attention are those of the Bible Society and the French Canadian Missionary Society. So great is the rush that policemen are stationed at the doors to preserve order, and eventually to warn those who have been truly told that they are late. It would intrest your readers in no respect to be told the names of many speakers who took part in these religious meetings; rather let me notice some of the sentiments which impressed my mind afresh, and seemed worthy of serious, practical, and practical consideration.

Among the benefits connected with Tract distribution were named—the importance of the truth they contained—the simplicity of the agency entrusted to power to go where the living voice would not be profited if you were to gain the whole world and lose your soul. If you regard its interests as deserving of little personal consideration, so much so, as to render the exciting of your fires for its safety unnecessary; this nevertheless, renders it none the less imperative on me to study to show myself approved unto God, in the discharge of the solemn duty of endeavoring to allay your apprehensions, and beseeching you in the name of God to "stop and think" before you proceed one inch further. How many there are who value their eternal destiny so little, as scarcely to give it a duly thought. Immersed in care, in pleasure, or pride, they unconsciously rush onward to their own destruction. But allow me to repeat the question, *are you a Christian?* Your friend, the writer, understands Christianity to be a *good* deal more than a profession of religion, and mere external conformity to Christian morals. These are constant in their place, but they do not constitute religion. We may occupy prominent places in the visible church of God, and our merits be as irreconcilable before the world, as were those of the Scribes and Pharisees in the days of our Lord, and yet we are as far from the kingdom of Heaven as they were who would neither enter themselves nor suffer those who were entering to go in. The Bible, the *Bible only*—God's own exposition of the science of eternal life—is the only infallible rule of faith and practice; but by our religion must be esteemed; by it we must be judged; and though now neglected and condemned by both professor and infidel, as uninteresting and strangely mysterious, yet by it we shall be condemned or acquitted in that day when God shall judge the spirits of men.

We think there is a vast difference between the religion of the Bible, and the religion (so-called) of the present day.

Primitive Christianity was heart-purging, soul-cleansing, cross-bearing, and cross-glorifying, world-hating, and God-loving. And *real Christianity* is the same still.

The service of God is not an irksome service,

it is the service of the heart, it is the fruit of choice.

The true Christian, like Moses, chooses rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season.

True Christianity is Christ in the heart and life, God in us, and we in God.

It not only improves men's minds, but it purges the conscience, it makes a clean heart, it removes a right spirit, it brings with it the witness of acceptance with God, and augments in the heart the sense of immortality and eternal redemption.

It enlightens the understanding, it changes the affection, subdues the will of man to the will of God;

in a word, *It is a new creation—“true to Christ in Christendom.”*

But we speak advisedly when we say that such generally speaking is not the religion of the present day. In the boasted progress of the age, religion has outrun its own—*that* deep, intense, and glowing love, which marked it in earlier times. With some it has only become the senseless discharge of all religious duties. With others, it is the abomination of a creed, or a companion with a creed. With others it consists in bustle and outward zeal. The blindness to living religion is the want of a purified conscience, and until the conscience is purged from dead works, there can be no real religion, no true service of God.

The religion of the day is an *empty-minded* religion—a religion without conflict and wrestling, self-denial and sacrifice; a religion which knows nothing of the *pangs* of the new birth in regeneration, and nothing of the impulsive struggle with the devil, day by day, making us long for resurrection-deliverance, for the binding of the adversary, and for the Lord's arrival. It is a *second-rate* religion—a religion in which there is no largeness, no grandeur, no potency, no infinite-mindedness, no elevation, no self-devotion, no all-constraining love. It is a *haloed* religion, with a fair exterior, but an ailing heart—a heart

an object of admiration in all who behold it. Hence, education has raised from obscurity men whose illustrious names will never be blotted from the annals of history; have not the words of sublime poetry issued from the lips of the prophet; & the plough-boy become the distinguished orator, and the shepherd boy an orator.

Luminous are the instances wherein education has snatched gems from the lowest depths of poverty, and placed them where they have shown so bright that time cannot dim their lustre. An educated man disgusts every company in which he enters, either by his wisdom and stupidity, or by the ignorance and impertinence of his observation. He is obliged to act an inferior part among his equals in fortune, and often forced to seek shelter for his ignorance among the lowest orders of mankind.

Education goes hand in hand with religion & receives the smiles of the aged, the favor of the good, and the support and encouragement of the wise.

Fathers, educate your children; if they possess faculties susceptible of a high degree of cultivation, their happiness will be promoted by the improvement of those powers. Education is better than wealth or vast possessions; for if it be acquired in humble life, it can be used as a means of support, but if in a more elevated position, it is required to embellish its possessors for the circle in which they move. From these considerations we must make the means of education among the vital interests of mankind, & ensure it demands the most serious attention and liberal support of every individual in the community.

N. F. L.

The Intelligencer.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., MARCH 14, 1856.

The following article was written by us, and published in tract form, several years ago. We have often been requested to republish it on our columns; and in consequence of our being absent from our post this week, it therefore becomes convenient for us to comply with these requests. We pray that God will bless it to the awakening of some soul.

Are you a Christian?

Start not, kind friend. Your soul, also! your soul, which must exist forever, is of too much value to be unconcerned about; for you would not be profited if you were to gain the whole world and lose your soul. If you regard its interests as deserving of little personal consideration, so much so, as to render the exciting of your fires for its safety unnecessary; this nevertheless, renders it none the less imperative on me to study to show myself approved unto God, in the discharge of the solemn duty of endeavoring to allay your apprehensions, and beseeching you in the name of God to "stop and think" before you proceed one inch further.

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But, perhaps dear reader, you frankly say I have not professed religion. I am not a Christian. What! and are you willing to lay upon your bed-to-night unconnected to God; under the curse of his law, under sentence of death from *Him that came!*

How despicable would you think that man's case who might be confined in one of the jails of your country under sentence of death, speedily to be executed. But the condemnation is much greater. This soul that *sins it shall not*—sentence is passed—but execution has not taken place, because the long suffering of God is salvation.

Can you, *now*, close your eyes in such a state as this. Reader, I am speaking to you in such a state as this.

Reader, I am speaking to you young men, young women. But back! I hear the distant thunder—*dy, dy, dy, dy,* *Shazam, it shakes.* I hear my voice, "*Crasus in*

EVERT ONE THAT OBTAINETH NOT IT ALL THINGS WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW TO DO THEREIN." On you, sinner, that curse rests whether you believe it or not.

And if you escape not to the only refuge provided, you must experience it to the full. *That refuge is Jesus Christ.* "*He has BEEN MADE A CURSE FOR US.*" No other means in Heaven or earth whereby you can be saved. He has been given for salvation to the ends of the earth. O then escape to Christ! Are the stars awaiting you, put away from the *sky, sun, moon, and stars* *and believe in Jesus Christ, and thou shall be saved.* Let not the day close in the darkness and despair, think when thou liest on thy bed "*I am more than a brute, I now exist forever, and where shall I be when ages of ages have rolled on in eternal unintermission?*" O reader consider!!

unshaken, a soul not of rest, a conscience not at peace with God; a religion mocked, it may be, by activity and excitement, but betraying all the while the consciousness of a wretched habitation and unheeded within, and hence unable to animate to lofty doings, or supply the strength needed for such doings. It is a *feeble* religion, lacking the sinew and bones of harder times—very different from the indomitable, much-enduring, stern-braving religion, not merely of apostolic days, but even of the reformation. It is an *uncertain* religion, that is to say, it is not rooted in certainty; it is not the outgrowth of a soul assured of position, and rejoicing in the filial relationship between itself and God. Hence, there is no liberty of service, for the question of personal acceptance is still an unsettled thing: there is a working for position, not for freedom. Hence all is bumble, heedless, irresolute. There is a speaking for God, but it is with a faltering tongue; there is a laboring for God; but it is with faltered hands; there is a moving in the way of his commandments, but it is with a heavy drag upon our limbs. Hence the inefficient, unfruitful character of our religion. It does not tell others. It falls short of its mark, for the arm that shows the bow is paralyzed.

The "Amelia" sailed from Liverpool on Saturday, March 1, at 1 o'clock, p. m., and arrived at Halifax on the 11th, at 11 o'clock, p. m. She brings 133 passengers.

The "Hermes" sailed from Southampton

on the afternoon of Wednesday, 27th ult., with 90 passengers and a large cargo, partly transhipped from the "Belgique."

The "Quaker City," had not arrived.

The "Arabia" met no ice on her passage. The "Pacific" non-annual caused the following despatch to be sent to Brown, Shipley & Co., Liverpool, agents to the Colling Line:

Glasgow, Feb. 27.—The steamer "Edinburgh" which arrived here from New York on the 14th inst., passed on Jan. 17th large quantities of broken ice, and on it saw a quantity of broken cabin furniture, five ornamental doors, with white on glass handles, a lady's workbox, and some other articles, such as would be in use in the cabin of a first-class ship or steamer. The "Edinburgh" was there on 5 days from New York, lat. 40° 36' long. 45° 40', time 9.30 morning, 7th Feb.; it is not thought to have been damaged.

Insurances have been made on the cargo of the "Pacific" at £25 5s. free of average.

The ship "James Barnes" is out 94 days from Melbourne; anxiety felt.

Conferences.

Plenipotentiaries held their first meeting at the Hotel de Foreign Affairs, Paris, Monday, 25th. Present—Boul, Huber, Walewski, Czerny, Cowley, Orlitz, Beauvois, Casimir, Wilewski, Ali Methem, Count Walewski.

Washington's birthday was duly celebrated by the Americans in Paris.

Pairs, Feb. 29.—The Congress has met to-day, it will sit to-morrow. Rumours

of break-up of the whole.

It is announced that if Napoleon's child

is a son, the Emperor of Austria will be God-father by proxy, and the Pope will come personally to Paris to baptize.

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Session lasted three and a half hours. Walewski opened by an interesting speech.

Cordials exchanged. Written guarantee given

not to divide proceedings until the whole

concluded.

Discussion on armistice. Armistice settled until the end of March, but not affecting blockade. Austrian propositions were finally proposed as basis of negotiations.

On Tuesday there was no meeting, that time might be afforded to formulate and ratify the armistice agreed to