

said, and truly of the great pressure of the new works, to the bursting of pipes, and the inconvenience of not a few, the pressure is of great service in time of fire; and Montreal has suffered so much from the opposite evil, we may be content to bear a little for a season, assured that all will be set right as soon as possible. We had a fire last week, which would have been serious but for the superabundance of water. It originated in a range of stables, and was confined to it. Four horses were burned, one of them a noble animal, the property of General Eyre, and greatly prized from the fact that he had come through the Crimean campaign unscathed.

Hitherto, however, as we supposed was confined to the old country, where it has been the rage for some time, and to such places as New York, more recently honoured with that species of assault and robbery. Montreal has within the past week furnished proof that we are not behind the times in this department of masculinity. A gentleman, partner in one of our largest mercantile firms, returning homewards last Thursday night about nine o'clock, was attacked by miscreants, who resorted to gatlinging to effect their purpose, and succeeded in the act; although the body gained was not much, some seven dollars. Mr. Emery was left senseless on the street, and is indebted to some passers-by for restoration to consciousness. At first he supposed himself stabbed, and the melting snow deceived him; but happily he has escaped without serious damage.

The Provincial Trade returns have been recently published. The total value of imports in 1856, was £10,941,787, being an increase over the past year of nearly two millions. The Custom receipts during the same year were £1,069,014, being £238,540 more than the preceding year.

A melancholy case of homicide occurred at Kingston a short time since. A private soldier named Dickson was shot by a comrade, and the verdict of "justifiable homicide" was returned. Dickson was under the influence of liquor in the barrack room at night; and had taken his loaded gun with fixed bayonet, and was chasing his roommates, with threats, thrusting at them, much to their danger. He had locked the door previously, and held the key. One, George Edwards, loaded his musket, and summoned him to surrender, threatening him with death if he did not. The shot proved fatal. Dickson expired in twenty minutes. What a curse this drinking is! Shall we never see its death? A friend at my elbow suggests that this sight is reserved for another generation. Be it so; it is our business to fight for it the sake of coming times.

A. B.

Canada Correspondence.

Trouble in the Roman Church—Parliamentary Affairs—Grand Ligue Mission.

MONTREAL, March 2, 1857.

Mr. Editor.—Those of your readers who peruse the *Canadian Correspondence* are by this time familiar with the names of Father Bévère and Father Chéniguy; the former a ready defendant of papal claims, whose publications are numerous and spread over the columns of many a newspaper; the latter at present, and for some time past fulminating against his Bishop, and giving utterance to sentiments which remind one of the impudent Luther. It is of him that I would write today. In a letter recently published this eloquent and energetic priest thus writes:—"The good confidence of Montreal does not like those voices, nor I either. But he is ignorant of the laws of custom, that when the robber is in search of his prey on the highway, and seizes his victim, he makes the least noise possible. It is always the poor victim who screams with all his might, 'murder, thief!' It is not always polite, but what is to be done? Custom wills it thus. The awful extortions which weigh on the Catholics of Illinois will soon bring, if there is not a prompt remedy, a crisis more terrible than that of which St. Anne's is the theatre. Do not imagine that the French Canadians are the only ones who groan and are oppressed. Among the Irish and German Catholics of Illinois, there is but one cry of indignation and of unspeakable confusion at the sight of the public actions of the Bishop of Chicago." The foregoing is exceedingly good, but what follows is even better—"Jesus Christ never said, 'I send you to lie and to thieve; and those who shall despise your lying words, and shall be exposed to your extortions, you shall curse them, and they shall be cursed by me; and that those who despise you for this shall despise me. Jesus Christ never said to his Apostles, 'I send you to preach my gospel to the poor; and the first thing you shall do will be to build a fine marble palace, and when you have not sufficient money to do this, you will sell the churches which the poor have built; you will carry off their property which they have gained by the sweat of their brows; you will drive the priests from their humble dwellings, and you will sell those houses, and if the priests and the people murmur you will excommunicate them, and no man will convince them that they are wrong you will quote this text of my Gospel—'He who despiseth you, despiseth me.'—Father C's people cleave to him, and it is impossible to force the result. They have published an appeal to the public in the United States and in Canada against the unjust and tyrannical conduct of Bishop O'Regan. At a public meeting held in Chicago about a month ago composed of French and Canadian Romanists they passed twelve resolutions expressing their want of confidence in their Bishop, denouncing him, as a scoundrel, a tyrant, a man unworthy of his position, guilty of simony, and mercenary in his ecclesiastical over-sight; at the same time decrying M. Chéniguy deserving of gratitude for having been the first to stop the impious tyranny of the Bishop of Chicago, pledging themselves to give him all the support in their power; and resolving to send a copy of their resolutions to every Bishop and Arch-bishop in the United States and Canada, and also to His Holiness Pius IX.

Our Provincial Parliament was opened on the 26th ult., last Thursday, at Toronto, by His Excellency the Governor General.—Among the recommendations given in the speech from the throne, it is suggested that steps be taken to ensure greater efficiency in prison regulations. The present position of gaol affairs is strongly condemned. It is to be hoped something will be done. Our prisons are sinks of iniquity, and the entire absence of classification makes them schools of vice, which the young are corrupted beyond hope of reform. Canada may be a great country, but it is sadly deficient in some of its provisions. A Juvenile Reformatory Institution is a pressing want of our Province. A Bill is promised which His Excellency hopes will prove the first step towards admitting to the full rights and duties of British subjects the more educated and civilized of Aboriginal Indians yet dwelling on their own lands. From the concluding sentence of the paragraph devoted to this subject, the measure contemplated would seem to have a reference to the purchase of lands at present owned by the Indians. The Hudson Bay territory, a topic of interest, and connected intimately with the welfare of Canada, is referred to, and as the Imperial Parliament has under consideration, His Excellency sent an agent—one of our Judges—to look after our interests. The general wish throughout the Province is that this territory be annexed to Canada.

The Annual report of the Grand Ligue Mission, recently issued, shows that the society, which is connected with the General Baptists, and has its field among the French Canadians, employed five ordained missionaries, three Scripture readers, and three colporteurs. The debt of the society is about \$1,500. The income for 1856, including \$792 borrowed money, was \$10,582; and the expenditure a little over \$10,400. Plausible indications of good are reported from all the stations.

Many fears are entertained respecting our late unprecedented thaw. Its effect in preventing the farmers from coming to market is believed to be among the least important. The full wheat stands a poor chance of surviving exposure to the frost, which has set in again, without snow to protect vegetation.

A. B.

preach, or whatever may be the result of our preaching; if we do not preach the Word, we are not bearing precious seed. This is the burden of every one of God's faithful ministers—it is to stir up in their bones, and they long to speak it. Unto themselves it is precious—like Job, they esteem it more than their necessary food—it dwells in them nicely"—To you that believe, he is precious." This is what makes the Gospel so precious. Christ is in it, and whatever we may preach, if Christ be left out, the word is not preached. Neither is it enough to preach about Christ, or about the word; we want Him who is the life, and the power. Where the word is not sown there will come up cockle instead of barley, and tares instead of wheat. Oh brethren in the ministry, do we bear this precious seed—is our burden the Word of the Lord? Is it unto ourselves "the incorruptible seed?" "the Word of Life?" Unless this is the case, we can never hold it forth to others. Alas! how many go forth without bearing the precious seed. Like Ahimeaz the son of Todah, they run without duds! (2 Samuel 18: 22.)

3. Come again rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. This will be the reward of the faithful labourer. He shall have a joyful harvest.

Like the Apostle, he shall "rejoice in the day of Christ, that he has not run in vain, nor laboured in vain." Many discouragements have met him while going forth—many fears and temptations have assailed him,—often has he wept as he scattered the seed by "the way-side," on "stony ground," and "among thorns," as well as on "good ground." Often has he waded that with tears, which the birds of the air have plucked up, as the sun has scorched, or the thorns choked, as well as that which brings both the harvest of a hundred, or sixty, or thirty fold. Often has he felt that he "laboured in vain and spent his strength for nought, yet his judgment was with the Lord, and his work with his God." He has been a "saint of death unto death," as well as of "life unto life." The Minister of Christ should remember that the "precious seed" is not always a plant of rapid growth. It spreads its roots, before it shoots forth its branches—it "takes root downward, and brings forth fruit upward." Almost every seed grows more rapidly than it—another need we wonder at its slow growth in barren soil as the human heart. It requires to be watered and nourished continually; and here is where we find abundant room for the exercise of that which is implied in the word *sheep*. Much seed is lost for the want of care—many a tender plant has been left to die "because there was her in the Sella." The conversion of souls and their admission into the Christian church, is only the buying of the labor of the ministry—"Feed the flock of God" is the solemn charge which is bound upon every elder, and which can only be fulfilled by those "whom the Holy Ghost hath appointed as our heirs." Hence it is not only necessary that the seed be sown, but also that it be watered and nourished. Then will the harvest be joyous. One may labor another enter into his labor, but in the end he that soweth and he that reaps will rejoice together. Happy he whose work in the day of the Lord will endure the trial of fire—whose sheaves in the harvest will be jewels for the master's crown. "Here am I, and those whom thou givest me" will be the joyful exclamation of every faithful minister of Christ in the day of God." Here are the souls whom I begin in the gospel—here is the flock, over whom that didst make me an overseer." While unto such the Judge himself will say:—"Well done good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things, enter thou into the joy of the Lord." That! O that, will be joy indeed!

We add in conclusion a few supplementary thoughts.

1. He that goeth forth. This is the characteristic of every faithful minister of the Gospel. Not implying, however, that he is always a missionary or evangelist in the common acceptance of these terms; but he may be a stated pastor, having his labours limited to a certain district or parish; but nevertheless goeth forth in his work of faith, and labor of love. "Go," is the first word in the Divine Commission—"unto all the world"—into the lanes, and streets, and highways, and hedges. Not for men to come to you, but do you go to them; this is the Spirit and Commission of the Great Teacher.—It implies the embracing of every opportunity to do good, and teaching men every lawful means, in the discharge of the sacred duty of preaching to Christ. Go forth—stay not at home when there is work abroad to do. Up and into the field, now or nay as the case may require—to do both not infrequently by the every day labour of every faithful minister of Christ. Going forth leaves no room for idleness, it makes no compromise with the flesh, or it conforms not with feelings; we hear a voice saying, "Go work in my Vineyard," and if we would receive wages we must GO.

2. And weep. This implies the *miserere* in which we should go. Not indifferently, and carelessly, not without anxiety, and deep interest in our work. The faithful minister is not unfortunately a man of tears—in weepeth! And why should he not? Who could stand amidst the ravages of famine, pestilence, and war, and not weep? Who has not wept at human woe? But what are these to the interminable misery that awaits a guilty world? What is sorrow here to the death that never dies? The worm will never die, the fire will never be quenched! Wonder not, O sinners! that ministers of Christ weep; but rather wonder that they weep so much. But there is more than even weeping implied in the manner of going forth. It implies earnestness, laboriousness, faithfulness. "Came he to that earth he who professes to go forth in the Gospel Ministry, and yet lacks earnestness, fervency, and self-sacrificing zeal in his master's cause, is deceiving himself and others, and must incur the displeasure of God.

3. Sowing precious seed. This implies sowing also, as is expressed in the preceding verse, "They that sow in tears, shall reap in joy." Every man bearing some kind of seed, and scattering it abroad; and what each sows, also will be reaped. "If he sows to the flesh, he will of the flesh reap corruption; if he sows to the spirit, he will of the spirit reap life everlasting." Every Minister in his holy calling is sowing seed; and O the importance of sowing the precious seed. It is not enough to go forth and weep—merely weeping tears—it is not enough that we sow seed, it must be the *precious seed*. Ministers may sow something else—false doctrine, discord, strife, bitterness, sectarianism, their own notions and opinions, and much else to injure, rather than help the cause of God. They may sow tares instead of wheat, and seed of corruption rather than precious seed. And they may be assured that whatever they hear that will they sow. They cannot bear cockle, and sow barley.

"out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Oh! how much evil has been sown in the church of God! How have the seeds of error and corruption been scattered, followed by a harvest of ruin and death! But brethren, we are persuaded better things of you, though we thus speak! Jesus himself said, "the word is the word," and Paul solemnly charged Timothy to "Preach the Word." Whatever else we may

In consequence of being called away from the city about fifty miles, to attend the funeral of a deceased brother, we are obliged to defer some favours from our friends until next week. Our paper will go to press during our absence.

BOSTON STEAMERS.—We are glad to announce the safe arrival of the *Albion*, yesterday morning. She has been repaired and thoroughly refitted and performed the voyage in admirable style. She brought rather more than the average amount of freight and passengers, and returns this morning as notified in our advertising column.—Lester.

News from our Churches.

We have pleasure in publishing the following letters.

They present an encouraging state of things in the Churches to which they refer, and we trust will stir others up to vigilance, and labour in divine things, looking for the blessings of our Lord Jesus Christ.

WAKEFIELD.

EMMA C. E. BALL writes us from Victoria, March 5th—

"I have pleasure in informing you of the state of Zion in this place. I have been labouring with the Church here one half of the time since last August. We had an encouraging season through the fall, and the first part of the winter; after that there seemed to be a declension. We resolved to make an extra effort, and did so. A protracted meeting commenced two weeks ago last Wednesday evening, and the Lord has accepted our endeavours to promote his cause. The Church has been much revived and *ullen* have been a special blessing. Brother Hartley was baptised *ullen* in Coverdale, and could labour no longer there, he believes that many would be added to the church. Brother Hartley will continue until July, in Westmorland.

the most of the time, whilst in Dover, he is now on a visit to the North River.

EDWARD S. HARTY writes to us from Sussex on Saturday last, that he had just returned there from Westmorland, where he had left Brother Hartley, who was labouring successfully in the work of God. The cause in that region requires much more labour than can possibly be bestowed by one man. The churches are being revived and strengthened, and the labour recently expended has proved a special blessing. Brother Hartley baptised *ullen* in Coverdale, and could labour no longer there, he believes that many would be added to the church. Brother Hartley will continue until July, in Westmorland.

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School Question in Prince Edward's Island.

The excitement created in Prince Edward's Island relative to the Bible in the public schools, a notice of which we gave some time since, resulted in a very large and influential Protestant meeting in Charlottetown, on the 23rd ult. At this meeting the whole Protestant population of the Island was well represented, and appropriate resolutions sustaining the Protestant sentiment of the people were adopted. We have no space for this in our column this week, the following petition, however, which was agreed to by the meeting, and which is to be circulated throughout the country for signatures preparatory to its being presented to the Legislature, expressing the sentiments embraced in the resolutions—

PETITION.

We the undersigned, inhabitants of a Protestant colony, and subjects of the British Empire, being convinced that no system of education, National or otherwise, can be good, or suited to the national and immortal nature of man, which is not based on the Word of God, and being called on to pay by far the larger portion of the revenue for the support of the State and the maintenance of the public schools, and being unable to obtain for our children generally any other means of instruction than that provided by the Government who have taken into their hands the management of, and prescribed the course of instruction that is given in the several schools, of which the Word of God forms no part,—humbly beseech your Honorable House, now that the Education Act is about to expire, to take into consideration our wishes on this subject, especially if it be the intention of your Honorable House to frame any new law, or to make any amendment or alteration in the present Act.

We seek not to interfere with the rights or liberties of others, or in any wise to compel others to adopt a course of instruction for their children which we think fit to pursue with regard to our own.

We feel that we cannot any longer be a consenting party to the exclusion of the Word of God from our public schools—a book which is the standard of our math, and the source from whence all Christians derive those doctrines which make man wise unto salvation, and prepare his soul for the kingdom of God; and therefore humbly beg that your Honorable House will direct that the holy Scriptures be placed on the list of books now in use in the public schools, and that it be introduced into the Academy and Normal School; and that the children of those parents who desire it, or do not object to its use, shall have the privilege of reading a portion of Scripture the first exercise of the day after the opening of the school with prayer to Almighty God, and of being taught thereby by such teachers as the parents or guardians approve of. We beg further to assure your Honorable House, that, in asking these things, we are actuated by no political motives, or with no desire to stir up strife or religious controversy, but simply with the view of promoting the peace and prosperity of the colony, and furthering the real and lasting interests of the people.

WESTMORLAND.

Elder G. A. Hartley writes to us from Taylor's Village, Feb. 25th—

"Since my last letter to you I have spent the most of my time at Dover. I made one short visit to Moncton and Coverdale, and one to this village previously to the present. In my last I informed you of the very low state of the church in Dover, and now I am pleased to be able to communicate to you the encouraging intelligence that God in His goodness has again blessed the church and people of that place with a season of revival. The many and earnest prayers that were offered up to Almighty God, who said, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee," have been answered. The Lord is blessing the labours of Elder Bell here. On one of my visits to the church at Lower Perth, I baptised four, who with one other united with the brethren. They are striving to live. Pray for me that the Lord may bless my feeble efforts to advance his cause."

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