

The Religious Intelligencer

AN EVANGELICAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER, FOR NEW BRUNSWICK AND NOVA SCOTIA.

That God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ—PETER.

VOL. VI.—NO. 35.

ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1859.

WHOLE NO. 296

THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER
An Evangelical Family Newspaper,
FOR NEW BRUNSWICK AND NOVA SCOTIA.
REV. E. McLEOD, Editor & Proprietor.
Published every Friday Morning.
At their office, No. 25 Gorman Street, St. John, N.B.

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5 Copies to one office, 3 5 0
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FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

Parliamentary Affairs—Indian Debt—Politics—Election Briberies, &c., &c.

LONDON, August 12th, 1859.

Our Parliamentary session is on the eve of termination—a short session but relieved from a commonplace character by the variety of important topics which have been discussed. So numerous have been the Bills abandoned that I might receive the sobriquet of an "abortive" if we did not know that much sectional business is done which never finds its way into an Act of Parliament. The Reform question is postponed, and nothing short of war can prevent its settlement when Parliament reassembles—that is to say, unless the Tory Peers reject the measure of the Commons and so compel Ministers to resign or dissolve. The City of London Corporation reform is also deferred; and so often has this delay been repeated that it might seem to sanction the idea of some abuses being nearly immortal. The Church Rates Abolition Bill which would certainly have been thrown out of the Upper House, was given up *pro tem*; and Mr. Dillwyn's Bill to render Dissenters eligible to the Trusteeship of Endowed Schools not confined by the terms of the trust to Church of England control had been so altered (amended or mangled) that he refused to go on with it. A measure to improve the constitution of the Divorces Court has passed, tho' last night in the Commons the clause giving the Judges leave to sit with closed doors at discretion, was thrown out. India has been under grave discussion, and not before the crisis had become grave enough. Since Burke thundered and lightened against the sins of the Company and the first Governor-General, Warren Hastings, the faults connected with the Administration of Indian affairs have been most conspicuous—and now with a military mutiny just off our hands, we find the debt so augmented that a hundred millions sterling would scarcely make things straight. Under good management, however, such a debt is not a matter of despair; and Mr. James Wilson, who has been mixed up with financial affairs for many years, has agreed to go out to Calcutta and act as a sort of Exchequer member of the Council there. His first effort will be to equalize the revenue and expenditure accounts, which has lost its healthy equipoise for several years; and this done the reduction of the debt will be the task before him. It is to be wished that repayment could be made of the most of this in Government lands, fit for European colonization; or that the sale of such land could be set aside for the discharge of the debt. The political state of Europe has also given rise to several debates. Mr. Horsey, a Guernsey Liberal, brought forward a motion on insular defences, which would have caused a panic if carried, implying, as it would have done, a chronic distrust of our Gallic neighbours. He did not succeed; and on Monday last Lord Elcho, a Liberal of the same "independent" type, moved a resolution intended to damage the Government, but which rather damaged the Tories who came to his assistance. The Tories naturally incline to Austria rather than France, and they are not a little vexed that a Liberal Government, sympathizing with Italy, should be entrenched in office at this particular time. They, therefore, wanted to frighten the Ministry into a pledge not to take part in any future Congress to which the great Powers might be invited, a pledge which the Ministry were too wise to give, and which the House of Commons was too generous to exact. So Lord Elcho's motion ended in smoke, leaving only a small of brimstone behind. About half a dozen Members of Parliament have been, unseated by the Liberal Committees appointed to take evidence and report. The bribery practised on both sides was frightful at the last election, and the case of Norwich may stand as an example of the worst class. The Liberals found before the contest that they had 500 votes of a majority; the Tories came down and bribed 700 electors; the Liberals retaliated and bribed 500, leaving them still in a majority of 300! Some curious scenes have come out of these Election Committees. Colonel Greville, an Irish M.P., tried to escape serving on the Hull Election Committee, and actually retired to his Irish home, but the house ordered him back and he was detained in custody of the Sergeant of Arms till formally released. Mr. Roebuck, who is the Ishmael of Parliament, was once distinguished for

his exposure of hon. members wishing to resign their seats and so evade the costs and other results of enquiry;—and returning the other evening to his old pursuit, but being out of practice he made a foolish attack on Dr. Mitchell, M.P. for Bodmin, who got the House to cheer him when he said that he had only promised to resign his seat because not rich enough to contest the petition threatened, and who also got the House to laugh outright when he offered to stand a contest if the House would bear the expenses! These expenses, be it admitted, are usually run up to three or four thousand pounds—sometimes higher; and it isn't every gentleman who has a taste for paying that price to retain the awful "M.P." addendum to his name. Mr. Bright has been concerned, and more successfully, in another case of suspected improper compromise. Mr. Overend, Q. C., was petitioned against by Mr. Childers, who lost the election by about 10 votes; the latter entered into an arrangement with the agent of the former, which to his surprise finished up by Mr. Overend quietly retaining his seat without more ado. This Mr. Childers resents as a breach of the engagement, and Mr. Bright obtained a select Committee to sit forthwith and report. These investigations of one sort and another have not served to brighten the reputation of the present Parliament, and they will probably have their weight in disposing of the House of Commons to try some remedy in the next Reform Bill. That remedy will not be the ballot, and I fear that every other plan will fail. To add to the penalties would, in the opinion of many, defeat the ends of justice by leading to evasion and perjury. A Royal Commission to examine into the Wakefield case has been carried, and Norwich will probably follow. I may add here that Sir Michael Seymour, who was our Admiral in the Chinese waters, has been elected M.P. for Devonport in the place of Sir Eskine Perry—and his election is said to have been achieved by the aid of the Temperance voters, with whom he had had a favourable interview.

WEATHER—WORKMEN'S STRIKE.
In the midst of these excitements, the weather has continued fine (with a few days of cloudiness and rain) and the agricultural appearances are inspiring. Potatoes and Cereals are likely to fill the horn of plenty to overflowing. The high rate of mortality in London which ruled for several weeks has also abated. Employment, too, is plentiful, and yet it is just at such a time, when the working population could clear off back debts and prepare for the winter—that the most formidable "strike" which has occurred in London for many years has taken place. The origin is this. The men employed in the building trade here, for about two years, agitated the question of a reduction of their hours of labour from 10 hours per diem to 9 hours without any reduction of wages; and a committee was elected to secure the change. The Masters were tested but refused. They did more—they formed an Association for their own protection, and about 300 builders one half of the whole and doing about two thirds of the business—have joined. Finding the charter inflexible, the Men's Committee resolved to select three firms which were to have been left suddenly without workmen, but the employees at one establishment having a special grievance "attacked" without orders. Their conduct was afterwards approved by the Committee. The Builders' Association now met, and resolved to shut up all their shops simultaneously till Messrs. Trollope & Sons' men returned to their work, and it was further resolved to employ no men who would not promise to separate from all "Union" Societies, whose relations now practically bind the workmen in their respective trades. Last Monday the battle began, and up to this time neither side has yielded. The men justify their course from the right they claim to increased pay or less labour—they choose the latter both for the sake of their own improvement and for the relief of many men who are now destitute of work. The Masters object that the change would be equal to an outgo of £300,000 per annum for the same amount of work, an expenditure for which there is no good cause. They also assert that combination for the purpose of raising wages ought to be resisted, or Masters will be ruined by their men; and they appeal to the public who will eventually have to bear the loss of paying dearer for house property and all that it represents. Some schemes of compromise have been broached, and offers of arbitration made, but without present success. The number of men out of work is moderately computed at 30,000. About the same number continue to work with Masters who have not joined the Builders' Association, or have seceded from it, and whose men continue to work 10 hours at the old price until it is seen which party in this deplorable struggle gains the victory.

THE GREAT EASTERN.
The "Great Eastern" is rapidly approaching completion, and will set out on her trial trip, it is said, early in September. She will not visit your shores, but steam up and down in the Atlantic for several days—perhaps meeting with a storm like that which almost sent the "Agamemnon" to the bottom a year ago. This magnificent vessel is to be employed in competition with the Peninsular and Oriental Company's overland journey to India. How strange if the old Cape route should again come into vogue as the safest, cheapest, and shortest passage to the East! This will make us less dependent on the Mediterranean for our political emittance—tho' our in-

terests in that direction must ever continue neither few nor trifling.

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

Europe is at peace, but men are asking how long is peace to last? The French, Austrian and Sardinian plenipotentiaries here met at Zurich to form the treaty of which the outline was sketched at Villafranca. Will they succeed? The Italian peninsula is exceedingly perturbed. Tuscany and Modena yearn for union with Piedmont but at Parma according to the latest news received via Austria the red republican party have gained the upper hand. If to, a pretext for interference is at once offered to the Imperial "Principals," and interference once commenced may prove ad infinitum. The cloud at Parma is but a man's hand breadth, but it may spread till it covers a wide extent of territory and works in fury on the head of millions.

Let us hope that this misfortune will be averted. Prussia and England, conjoined, might do much; but the question is, will their representations, if volunteered, by esteemed by France and Austria with the knowledge that their neutrality will not be broken?

Louis Napoleon would not, on slender grounds wish even a pacific rupture with England—and in that is Italy's hope.

Mazzini has written a long letter in our newspapers—inserted even by the times—in which he revives his opinion of Louis Napoleon's design against this country.

We have vainly tried to do with a very singular and enigmatical ally. At present he is with his troops encamped at Clifton and preparing for the grand fete of the 15th, when a large division of the soldiers employed in Italy are to enter Paris and pass before him. The foreign ambassadors, it is rumored here, refused to be present if any of the flags captured from Austria are exhibited.

It is reported of the Emperor that he is now intent on peace with much eagerness as he was intent on war in May. The navy even is to be put on a peace footing, and the greatest approach to quietude ever ventured in France is to be made almost without delay. At this we cannot repine. France has a right to every boon she can beg or borrow, and her advantage will be no disadvantage to us. The shallow, selfish sophism that one nation benefits by the evils of another is now exploded—political economy brands as a blunder what religion has always branded as a sin—and if the Emperor means to make up for lost time and to repair the losses instigated by war, we have but to wish him God speed.

To those who surmise dark things and who picture a league of despots against free England we are satisfied to say time must tell. With Prussia (whose king has suffered a relapse and is (loosely to survive long) on the side of constitutionalism, and America to back up, England need not fear what absolute monarchs choose to contrive. If they believe in their 'stars' we believe in that Providence who makes the stars his footstool and whose throne is in the heavens.

Barrington, N. S.

Messrs. Editors:—Since Barrington has become the subject of considerable "circular" and newspaper discussion, I have thought it would afford me an opportunity to throw a few remarks into the stream of circulation, through the medium of your paper. What I write, however, will be particularly applicable to Barrington Proper, as Mr. Taves terms it.

This township is the South western extremity of Nova Scotia. The harbor cuts a nick into the end of it something in the shape of an acute triangle, at the opening, and it would be impossible but that the western shore is somewhat irregular, and falling suddenly to the westward in the vicinity of the west passage, leaves the eastern shore the longer, while Cape Sable Island stretches itself some 6 or 10 miles in length from Bear Point. A western extremity of the main to Baccara, another extremity on the east, leaving a ship passage between each of these points, leaving the Island and a safe harbour within. The Island itself forms the base of the Triangle. At the head of this harbor is the Sabin River, which connects itself with the salt water, by three short streams, up one of which large quantities of herring make their annual visits, contributing to the wealth of the inhabitants. On the western stream stands a Grist Mill, Carding Machine, and Shingle Factory combined. On the opposite side, years ago, stood a Saw Mill, which in those times with youthful feelings and curiosity, I frequently visited. Logs having failed, it became useless, and is now fallen into decay. Not far from this spot, eastward, stands a Methodist Chapel, lifting its spire heavenward, and can be seen for miles around, telling the people "here is a place" in which you may "solemnly worship God." Some twenty-six years ago, on a bright Sabbath morning, I stood within its altar, with a brother and sister, who now sleep in the dust near its side, and was the recipient of an ordinance observed by that respectable and pious body of Christians. Through its portal was I first led to a Sabbath School, as far back in time, almost, as my memory will extend. Hither by the hand of a strict and loving father Sabbath after Sabbath was I led, and seated by his side, listened to the Gospel, which often happened to be preached by the Local Minister, who still survives, and is a hoary headed, venerable man.

A short walk from this house in the same direction is an elegant and commodious house, for the education of the young, a credit to any community. The Academy in Yarmouth is perhaps but little its superior. At a less distance from the banks of the River on the River on the western side stands another Meeting House used by various denominations, but chiefly, I believe, by the Free Will Baptists. Many of the dead rest here. Memory goes back to days long since and calls up times when Elder Reynolds preached there, and I was not much frightened. Close by the side of this is another School house; westward some fifteen hundred yards another, and a quarter of a mile hence, on an eminence, stands the "Bethel" erected some years since by the Free Will Baptists. Its walls and spire can be seen a long distance in several directions. Regular monthly preaching is sustained here. A half mile further brings us to the Free Christian Baptist Meeting House, which, I think, ranks among the first built, and will seat some four or five hundred. The attendants here are neither unable nor unwilling to have their desks supplied. Again along this western shore is a first class School House furnished with a bell, and accommodates two excellent Schools.

A step now takes us by the door of the Episcopal Church, and another brings us to a Hall used by the Baptists and owned by a man of that denomination.

Another half mile further, and at what is called the Passage (on to Cape Sable Island) is a Methodist Chapel; a former one being accidentally burned, this was erected by the untiring zeal and efforts of these people. At Bear Parish and Shay Harbor, about two or three miles distance from each other, is a Meeting House, both belonging to the F. C. Baptists, so that the shore of Barrington Proper is literally lined with Meeting and School Houses. And it is probable that not much short of £350 or £400 are received yearly among the different Preachers serving there. A fair proportion of students to Normal school at Truro, is furnished from this Township, which speaks well for its educational enterprise. Its commerce is quite extensive and its fishing privileges great. Many thousand cans of Lobsters are yearly exported from this shore. And altho' the sand is in no great danger of being washed away, defended and rendered permanent, as it is, by many a large rock, yet the soil is productive, and from between the granite hillocks grow various thrifty vegetables, truly edible.

The people are blessed with abundance of the comforts of life and some in every temporal sense of the word are rich. They are accounted by all acquainted with them as an intelligent, generous and hospitable people. The Ladies of Barrington merit high encomiums for what they accomplish for religious and benevolent purposes, by sewing circles &c. The servants of Christ have often shared their gratuities and the subscriber would take this opportunity of tendering his gratitude to them, and acknowledging to your readers their beneficence. From my earliest recollection, I have known that the inhabitants of Barrington were proverbially Religious, aid for Sobriety or freedom from intemperate habits they stand out unrivalled and perhaps unequalled by any on our shores.

SAMUEL W. BENISON.

Rev. Father Chiniquy and His People.

Many of our readers have felt deeply interested in the labours of Father Chiniquy as an Apostle of Temperance, even before his separation from the Romish Church, but more especially so since he embraced the Gospel, taking with him as he did about five hundred families of French Catholics, over whom with other converts who have subsequently united with them, he has since been a faithful pastor. Although they have been persecuted and reduced to want, they have remained steadfast in the Christian religion. The following correspondence written by a clergyman in the colony of St. Ann, the *New York Observer* on the labours of Father Chiniquy among his much persecuted people, will be read with much interest.—Eos. REL. INTEL.

St. ANN, Kankakee Co. Ill., Aug. 7th, 1859.

Dear Christian brethren in the Lord:

The interest shown in behalf of the Rev. Father Chiniquy and his cause, by the contributions of Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York city, has awakened the liveliest feelings of gratitude among all classes of society here. Upon his return from the East, he related to his congregation assembled for public worship on the following Sabbath, the sympathetic good feelings of the disciples of Christ in the East; their readiness to contribute some of their surplus wealth for their suffering brethren in the far West. Tears of gratitude were shed in abundance when they heard of, and saw the boxes of goods and received them from the hands of their venerable father. From morning till night you might see men and women, with their children, coming and going, like bees to and from the hive, not carrying thither, but taking away the blessings to comfort them—blessings coming from the children of God in a distant land. None went away empty; the hungry were fed and the naked were clothed. When the boxes were emptied, orders upon the stores in the place succeeded. It was truly a time of great rejoicing and gladness at the distribution of about \$2,000 worth of the necessities of life, in the space of a few days.

Formerly, when yet under Romish subjection and influence, this people had been taught by their priests that there was no remission of sins and no salvation to be obtained in any of the Protestant churches, and that all Protestants were "the children of the devil led captive at his will." They were consequently looked upon by those children of the Romish Church with horror and distrust. But now all those errors were swept away from their minds, and the remnants of prejudices which still clung to them, are also entirely removed, since those tokens of charity have come before them. Those evidences and fruits of true Christian love have wrought a wonderful revolution.

Last week fifteen families in the neighborhood were converted from the Romish Church to the gospel of Christ, and there added to the Church of Christ daily the saved. They come to the gospel because they are now convinced that their former spiritual guides had deceived them and had led them astray. They all receive copies of the Word of God. You can form no conception of the extent of this blessed good work, which has but just begun. Before this, the Sunday School was small—very small; but now the Church is filled with Sunday School Scholars; for now they have books, shoes and clothes, men and women over 50 years of age—yes, more grown persons than children—young men and maidens, and children of all sizes, all coming to learn to read the Word of God. Many grown persons, having been raised in the Romish Church, in Canada, had never been taught to read; but now since they have come to the light of the gospel, they are so anxious to enjoy all the blessings of the Gospel that they are willing to come every Sunday afternoon to learn to read the blessed Word of God, though in the afternoon and evening of their lives. The church is crowded at every appointment for public worship during the evenings of the week days as well as on Sundays: Two evenings of the week days they come from five to eight, and in some instances, eighteen miles, to hear the Gospel preached, and to worship God in his sanctuary, and always draw along with them some of the Romish Church, who become subdued under the benign rays of the light of the gospel. This is the case in all the churches in which the Rev. Father Chiniquy preaches.

During his absence in the East in behalf of his flock, Popery made desperate efforts to reclaim this people and to take them back again into slavery and degradation. Several priests were sent on by their bishop, for that express purpose; and it seemed for a while that the craft and low cunning of these emissaries would have deceived even the very elect of God. But God be praised, so soon as the Great Shepherd and Bishop of this flock restored to them their absent pastor, all their works of darkness crumbled into dust, and the foot of Romish Popery, which so impudently trod on this holy ground, was so crushed that it will hardly venture upon this forbidden ground again. This blessed good work, which has but just commenced, was brought about by the labors of the Rev. Father Chiniquy, and through your liberality in the East, as the instruments. It is the work of God by the instrumentality of his own choice. Paul may plant and Apollos water, but God gives the increase. Father Chiniquy may labor, and you and all other disciples of Christ may water by their charity, but God adds the blessed increase. This is a mere sprouting of the mustard seed, as compared to what will follow, by the blessing of God if Christians will continue to pour in the evidences of their benevolence, and widen the stream according to the abundance of their earthly treasures. If it is more blessed to give than to receive, then surely it is more blessed to give much, when it is in our power to do so, than to give but a little. And if an immense deal of good can be done, as is unquestionably the case in this instance, by giving much, then the blessing to the giver and benefactor will be proportionately increased. Every dollar collected in behalf of the object presented by the Rev. Father Chiniquy, or his agents, will be devoted solely for that expressed object. Let thousands upon thousands flow into this colony, to save the unfortunate and to give prosperity to both the temporal and spiritual conditions of all; and the fruits of these charities will be increased tenfold. All these people have relations and friends left behind in Canada who are under the gall of yoke of Romanism. These all will soon become acquainted, through the constant communications, with the true state of things in relation to the spiritual interests of this colony, and will come under the power of the saving influences of this band of Christians, and be also finally redeemed from their state of superstition and ignorance. As soon as these friends of Canada are convinced that the anathemas of Romanism cannot reach them in Illinois, nor at St. Ann; and that they shall be protected by the fostering care of the saints of God, as well as by the strong arm of our laws, then will there be an ingathering by thousands, from the land of Egyptian Romish darkness, to the marvellous light of the children of God. When Father Chiniquy was among those people in Canada last winter, several thousand, not less than 6,000 and probably over 10,000 heard the voice of the gospel of Christ through his preaching during his short stay of about five weeks. Those proselytes saw the violent persecutions and the determination of both priests and bishops to destroy the life

of this servant of God, who wielded the Word of God as a two edged sword, to the downfall of Popery, and to the building up of the kingdom of Christ. It was visible to all that these persecutions would follow him to St. Ann, and if possible there destroy (if not his life,) at least his reputation and power to labor in the great work of reformation assigned to him by God. Those fears were literally realized; for he had no sooner reached home when the persecutions were renewed with redoubled fury by the Romish priests and bishops, through their agents. False accusations have been heaped upon him by his Romish enemies; suits were pressed upon suits to involve the whole colony in debt. All these evils constitute one great cause of the present distress.

The failure of the last two years crops had almost ruined them, and now the hopes of this year's crops are also in a great measure blasted. In the night, when awake, at all hours of the night, with my head at the open window, I saw the broad fields of wheat all in a blaze. The drought and the insect had done the work of destruction so completely that the dry straw alone was left without a grain to satisfy the hungry laborer for his toils. Very much of the oats suffered in the same way. The straw was burnt to destroy the power of the insect from procreation. The corn crops looked well for a while, but the drought and insect also made dreadful havoc in many sections. Nearly all the families of this colony came here poor and were to pay for their lands by the proceeds of those lands, but unfortunately those lands refused to remunerate the husbandman for his toils, for three years in succession. The country round about St. Ann, not many miles distant, yielded this year good crops because of the frequent showers. But why is it that this colony has been so signally marked out by Divine Providence? This question has been put over and over again by Romish Popery. It is evident, say they, that God's wrath is upon them for having left the mother Church!! Not having the Word of God in their houses, they could not learn from it that "whosoever the Lord loveth he chasteneth." And why scourge the answer is evident. In their distress they call upon the Lord for succor and the Lord answers their prayers according to his infinite wisdom and goodness, by putting it in the heart of their pastor to go abroad into other parts of the land to obtain help from the disciples of Christ in those places which are more richly blessed with temporal treasures. Their sympathies are awakened and they give of their surplus wealth and receive a blessing from heaven for so doing. Through these new relations light will burst in upon this infant colony from all sides, and "God will beat down their enemies before their face, and they shall prosper and have good success." Has not God brought about such changes over and over again by similar means? and is he not the same God to-day and yesterday and forevermore?

I have, since here, seen families subsisting, all the winter through, upon nothing under the sun but corn-bread baked upon the stones, without even a bacon rind wherewith to grease the plate. This dry cake and water constituted the only diet for father and mother with baby at her breast, the big boy and girl and all the little ones! This has been the case with not only one but many families, to my personal knowledge. Many who a few years ago had a half-dozen, and some a dozen and more of cows, lost them nearly all—Some had one and some had none left. A mortal disease had got among them, as was the case in England in 1860, which caused such a mortality. Hence their extreme poverty. The lands or homes of most of those colonists had to be mortgaged for money borrowed at a very high rate of interest, (for it could not be obtained under any other conditions,) several years ago, when the crops were so very luxuriant and the times good, for the purpose of saving their homes. But being placed by Providence entirely beyond the power of raising the interest from these lands, i. e. from the proceeds of those lands, the amount of the whole debt (interest at 30 per cent. and upwards) has swollen the sum to such an extent that if relief be not speedily coming, their homes, worth \$500, \$1,000, \$2,000, or more, will be sold at a sacrifice of hundreds of dollars to each one, and they turned out of house and home, to be driven away from those homes upon which they had toiled so long, and spent so much in the improvement of the same. A few sharper, disciples of Popery, triumph in their power to crush the unfortunate, especially if it tends to their own self-aggrandizement.

If from 20,000 to 30,000 dollars could be made up by the merciful among God's children, those donors would not only receive a hundred-fold in return from their heavenly Father, but those hundreds and thousands of hearts made so glad by their benefactors, would bless them (their benefactors) as long as they should have life and breath and should move upon the face of the earth. The fathers would bless them, the mothers would bless them, the sons would bless them, and the daughters would bless them.

It may be said with marked propriety that the prayers, sincerity and patient resignation of the families of this colony are acceptable in the sight of God; and moreover that they are worthy of the deepest interest of the Christian world. I can give my testimony unhesitatingly and unreservedly that I never before saw in all my travels a place of equal size, where the Christian good