

SAINT JOHN, N. B., JULY 1, 1859.

Religious Freedom in Italy.

The friends of true religion in both England and America are sanguine in relation to one result from the present Italian struggle; that is, that it will be the means of opening the way for the free and unobscured circulation of God's Word in those parts of Italy, which for centuries have suffered under the present form of religious oppression and tyranny. In Tuscany where the Medici family a few years since suffered imprisonment for distributing Bibles, the freest toleration is now allowed. The British and Foreign Bible Society, that Institution which of all others, Rome hates—is taking advantage of the present provisional opening, and has despatched a special agent to the authorities in Florence, to secure the free circulation of the Scriptures. Truly every Christian heart ought to be delighted in prayer to God for the success of this effort, and that the blessing of a free Bible may be given to the whole people of Italy. The London Christian Times says, "The war in Italy, undertaken by France and Sardinia, is the agent of civil and religious liberty. The light of history shines upon it, and by it we read that the wicked are blindly working the righteous will of Heaven, and that the present deplorable conflict is the agent to bring about in those blighted Papal lands the triumph of that Gospel which is not only to survive all changes, but is to be established through them. The candle lighted in Italy shall, by the grace of God, never be put out." This writer is no admirer of Napoleon III, neither does he believe that his enterprise is a scheme to especially benefit Italy, but that will ultimately be the result. At present the Bible has free circulation throughout the whole of his empire, and the head of the Romish church is virtually a prisoner in his hands, and as a matter of policy he will secure to Italy liberation from the Romish yoke under which it has so long groined. Such expectations entertained by intelligent men, who are well informed in the state of affairs and circumstances on the Continent, are of themselves a matter of gratification. "The Lord reigneth, let the earth rejoice and be glad."

Revival in Ireland.

Letters and papers from Ireland give accounts of an extraordinary interest in religion in some places there. The following letter from the Rev. F. Buick of the Presbyterian churches in the County of Antrim, to the N. Y. Observer, is deeply interesting, and describes the work in Abigail and vicinity.

The religious movement in Abigail and its neighbourhood continues to be deeply interesting and important. A very solemn impression of Divine things rests on the whole neighbourhood. Prayer meetings have been multiplied in districts and places where they never existed before. Men and women are exhorting one another on the concerns of their souls. Young men who, not many weeks since, were thoughtless and careless, have now made astonishing progress in divine knowledge, and are found addressing their fellow sinners on the great matters of their salvation, with a point and power that are truly astonishing. A thoroughly earnest spirit has been called forth.

The work is progressing with wonderful rapidity. It is calculated, by those who are best able to judge, that about two hundred have been brought under powerful convictions, and have embraced the Saviour, and new cases are occurring daily. It is a fact that many tremble through their whole frame. They are in agonizing distress for their sins, crying for mercy. Under the excitement it is not to be wondered at that the imagination is powerfully stirred; but the effects of this excitement soon subside, and on examination, I find that it settles down into a cordial acceptance of Christ. Love to Jesus takes deep root in the heart. The greatest delight is manifested in reading the Bible; where it was seldom or never read before, it is deeply pondered over now. Of this revival, prayer is a prominent manifestation. Confiding instant in prayer, with the deepest reverence and most intense earnestness, is the exercise in which the convicted and the converted take the greatest pleasure. It is astonishing the ready utterance that is given to prayer. Many pray to us, and are not ashamed to pray in public, that before this could not be induced to do so on any account. Even young boys and girls, not more than twelve years of age, have been found in the fields and in their houses crying out in an agony of earnestness to Jesus for mercy.

It was deeply affecting to see the youngest of a family of six girls, who were under conviction at the same time, praying successively by the side of each of her sisters, and exhorting them to persevere, and hold on by Christ—never let Him go. They are a very happy family in Christ now. I preached in their house last night to a deeply attentive audience. It is truly delightful to see young men who, a few weeks ago, by their own confession, were idle vagabonds, profaning the Sabbath, neglecting the worship of the sanctuary, and indulging in scenes of revelry with its concomitant evils, now decently clothed in the outward man, attending the ordinance of public worship—visiting the sick—exhorting the careless—taking a part in the prayer meeting—and, as far as man can judge, showing themselves to be new creatures in Christ—old things passed away and all things new.

Delightful fruits are growing up on every side. I know of discord among neighbors entirely uprooted by this movement. It is with deep gratitude that a wife acknowledges her husband, whose mouth was filled with curses and bitterness, is now completely cured. Since this change has come upon his wife, a husband intimates he never was so happy in his family in his life. It is the testimony of sober and respectable men, who have opportunities of judging of the effects produced, within the sphere of their observations, that a very great and a deeply important change for good is being wrought.

A powerful interest is being awakened through the entire country here. At the prayer-meetings, no common house, or school-house, is able to contain the multitude that flock to them; and on the Sabbath, the road-side of the field is the scene of an intensely earnest service. Nor is there any disposition to weary in these pleasant exercises. It is most encouraging to witness the sustained and unwearied interest that is kept up. Meetings are held almost every night in the week and many meetings in different localities on the same evenings. Last Monday night prayer-meetings were held in the Presbyterian churches of First and Second Abigail, at the same hour, and both places were crowded. It was deeply affecting, and many shed tears, to see and hear a little boy, in the meeting of the Second Presbyterian Church, about ten years of age, who came forward and made public prayer—truly astonishing, bearing in his countenance, which I joined very heartily myself, and I have no doubt, very many along with me. In this work we acknowledge with gratitude the assistance of our lay brethren from Antrim. In my church, which has been cheer-

fully opened to them, they conducted, on several occasions, religious services with great earnestness and power. Many brethren in the neighborhood are throwing their whole heart into the work. In these services I have heard no exaggerated statement uttered. There are some who mock—and more who are dubious—who, having little grace in their own hearts, having little or no sympathy with the work. Public opinion is, however, forcing many out of their coldness and opposition. There are hundreds who, from what they see and hear, take it to be from God.

FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, June 17th, 1859.

Both at home and abroad events have been moving fast of late. The Austrians after acting an aggressive part on the Sardinian frontier have retreated farther and farther eastward, till they are now within that celebrated quadrangular line of defence which has cost an incalculable expenditure of money and labour. But it is difficult to say where the retreat will eventually stop, so rapid has been the change of position in one short fortnight. General Hess is now at the head of affairs, and to him the Austrians look to effect for the Imperial Kaiser what Radetzky did in 1848. The battle of Magenta was, indeed, a hard fought field, but it is pretty evident that if Geyl had but had his troops better in hand the fortunes of the day would have been reversed. The attitude of Prussia is causing considerable anxiety, as any attempt by whomsoever made to defend Austrian interests in Italy will indefinitely extend both the area and duration of the war. We cannot sigh over the temporary deliverance of Austrian Lombardy; and if the promises of the Emperor of the French are meant to be preserved Italy must be the gainer by the sweep of his intervention. It will, however, take long years to convince Europe that he is without sinister motives in anything he undertakes. His reputation for imperial jobbery is too deeply sunk to be easily shaken. The publication of the diplomatic correspondence of the last five months between our Government and those of France, Austria, and Sardinia has left, or rather confirmed, the impression that the causes of strife were from the beginning not to be disposed of except by the sword. Austria rested on the faith of treaties to support her armed dominion in Italy; the allies looked to the European sympathy for Italy to abet them in their original design of subverting that dominion. Hence the struggle; and we have nothing for it but to stand by till the combatants have ascertained where resources of men, means, and money are the largest. Then we may interpose as mediators—their it is doubtful whether the Italian question can be settled, and supposing the allies to be completely victorious, without a General Forey. The Italians themselves will claim to be heard deliberately in the re-partition or homologation of their own sunny soil.

We have been in the midst of a political embroilment, but have been content to decide matters with armed words in lieu of swords. For three nights did the battle rage at Westminster, and on the morning of the fourth day was decided in favour of the United Reform party. There were several deserters, but a majority of thirteen left Lord Derby no choice but that of resignation. The debate was ably conducted, and as the dock point d to the small hours of Saturday the excitement deepened. I was in the lobby of the House from 11 o'clock, P. M., to the rising of the Commons; and saw—perhaps shared in somewhat the nervous condition of all parties as the inevitable division drew on. Up to the last there were several votes which could not be counted on either way, mostly I grieve to say inflated Liberals—or that it was not till the word was given—323 against 310 for the amendment—that we were sure of triumph and all the sweeter because long deferred. The blow had at length been struck which destroyed the anomalous, not to say unconstitutional, system of Government by minority, and justice being satisfied there were none unwilling to award such meed of praise to the Derby ministry as it fairly assumed. Its very character as a by-leave administration compelled it, in a measure, to be active when it could, and the ministers, with their subordinates did unquestionably labour with a vigour and general ability which were highly to their credit. In constructing a new government great difficulty was encountered owing to the antecedent want of union among the Liberals but the Times of this morning has set forth a list which Lord Palmerston was to lay before the Queen to-day. If it is accepted and no hitch occurs, Lord Palmerston will be Prime Minister with Lord John as Foreign Secretary, Sir G. C. Lewis, Home Secretary, Mr. Sydney Herbert, War Secretary, the Duke of Newcastle, Colonial Secretary, and Sir C. Wood Secretary for India. The Chancellor of the Exchequer will be Mr. Gladstone, the Postmaster General Lord Elgin; the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Duke of Somerset; the President of the Poor Law Board, Mr. Gibson; the Privy Seal, Sir G. Gray; the Chief Commissioner of Works, Mr. Cardwell; and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Sir C. P. Villiers; Lord Grandville, will be President of the Council; and Lord Campbell, Lord Chancellor; an eminence to which the sturdy Scotchman has long been looking with keen and aspiring eyes. These will be the cabinet ministers leaving other able men to occupy subordinate positions as Under Secretaries, etc. With the exception of the Secretaryship for India, which ninety in a hundred would sooner see in Lord Elgin than Sir C. Wood's hands—these names comprise an oratorical and practical power unmatched in any administration for many a long day; and if they can manage to agree among themselves, it is hard to conceive what opposition they need fear to encounter. Their measures will be sufficiently liberal to please the friends of progress, and on general points they may trust to a fresh support from many Conservatives who would resist any effort of Mr. Disraeli to embarrass the Government by party manoeuvres. They ought, in fact, to be ashamed by this use of the recreant manner in which their party came into possession of office last year—the proceedings connected with which form a chapter in the history of party which are discreditable to our times.

A Liberal coalition to displace a Tory Cabinet is natural; but the Tory coalition with the Radical party last year to oust Lord Palmer-

ston was utterly unprincipled. Among the appointments none has been reserved for Sir J. Graham, no doubt at his express desire, and Sir R. Patehall is to remain in the Commons as Attorney General: will some great legal prize fall in? The Chief Justiceship is to fall on Cockburn with a Peerage—or honour (I mean a peerage), which is said to be also reserved for Sir B. Hall, ex-Minister for Wales, and a long time the hon. Member for Marylebone.

Turning from political to social concerns, I wish I could report a more general amendment in those things wherein lie, more than in Cabinets, fleets and armies, a nation's security and greatness. Pauperism is entirely low and crime may not be relatively on the rise, but we are sadly vexed with the perpetration of offences of an aggravated kind, which put to shame our boast of Christian civilization. Whitsuntide holidays have been attended with considerable public intemperance; and this time plays its old and prominent place in the creation of development of every other base and injurious vice lured by Divine and human laws. Some legal questions have been decided of late involving the disposal of large sums of gold. The Thelluson case has ended in the award of £200,000 or thereabouts, to the two surviving heirs—who have lost millions, it is believed, by the disputes which have followed the will made in 1791. The great Roman Catholic family of Howard have also lost a valuable property which was bequeathed by the late Earl of Shrewsbury, but secured their legal action by the inheritance of the title.—Baron Goldsmid, one of the rich Jews of the age, lately died worth millions it is affirmed—the duty on a million has been paid, the highest impost. Religious questions have been exciting no small stir. The Westminster priest who was concerned in the removal of a girl from her father's home, was compelled to yield to the call of law, after a desperate struggle, which proves that Rome pays no respect to any ordinance of man or God which thwarts her proselytizing plan. The Bishop of Chichester is charged with refusing proper enquiry into the alleged Romanizing of a clergyman in his diocese; and in the East of London a zealous Evangelical minister Rev. H. Allen, who has delivered Sunday afternoon lectures in St. George's in the East, has been compelled to proceed against the Rector for refusing to admit him into the pulpit. The Rector is a Puseyite; and last Sunday the public indignation against him was so strong that service could not be carried on all day, or any part of it. With these acrimies in the establishment, its prospects have not been improved by the Triennial Conference of the Liberation Society under the presidency of Mr. E. Baines, M. P. The conference lasting the 7th and 8th inst., was well attended and harmoniously effective. It cannot be denied that the forces tending to dissolution of Church and State are gaining on the conservative forces day by day, and that the divorce is a result of time alone. When it arrives the farce now enacted of convoking the clergy of Canterbury and York and permitting them to do nothing, hardly to open their mouths, will be done away with. I am grieved to report the decease of Dr. Morrison, formerly editor of the Evangelical Magazine and author of several useful works. He had long been suffering from a brain affection and his death, while it renders this affliction irreparable as regards his friends, has been to him like the removal of a heavy load and allowing the mind to discourse with more than its former vigour on the mysteries of Providence—many of them mysteries to him no longer. Another man of wider fame, Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham, has received, as you may already know, that tribute of respect from his townsmen which Englishmen never render for gold. But the value of a good man is above rubies, and those who thus estimate him confer honour on themselves.

We are in the midst of great enterprises, mechanical, engineering, and scientific, which I cannot pretend to detail. A new telegraphic company for joining our world to ours is commenced, and is patronized by the Times. The "Great Eastern" is being built up ready for sea in September; and it is given out that completed ships of war are to be prepared, armed with the new rifle gun, which will hold the ocean against all comers. Gerson, in his Notes on England, referred in terms of wonder to the fact that if all the material products of our industry were totally destroyed, the national resources could restore them in a year.—We do something better with this mire of energy than build Babels and Pyramids—yet how much is wasted in folly, how much is lost by self-inflicted misery and disease, and how holy a thing labour would be if lighted from within by Love to the City Blessed Potentate! The shame of France culminated in its atheism, and the glory of Britain can only attain its zenith when the ambition of greatness is made secondary and subservient to the emulation of Christian goodness.

(For the Intelligencer.)

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

NEW YORK, June 22, 1859.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Among the many reforms needed in our city none is so obviously necessary as a temperance reformation, and I know of nothing else that can be named which seems to be so nearly the "root of all evil" to our besotted city as alcoholic drinks and their concomitants; yet there is scarce any interest which is so powerfully and vigilantly guarded as the right of selling logwood brandy and wild fire whisky. The "Liquor Dealers' Association," composed of some four or five thousand of our liquor sellers, literally rules our city, selecting our officers, appointing judges, and controlling their decisions, and working the whole machinery of government to favor their own interests. Until the people can be roused to shake off this incubus, and elect officers who are not pledged to its support, I fear the friends of temperance elsewhere will look in vain for any efficient temperance movements, yet the picture is not all dark, for there are faithful and efficient temperance laborers here, who though they create no excitement, are in various ways quietly and constantly presenting to the people facts which must occasionally call the attention of every thinking person to the subject. I believe too there is progress in the right direction. Within the last two or three years several attempts have been made to stop the sale of liquors on Sundays. The law strictly and explicitly prohibits this desecration of the Sabbath, yet all attempts to en-

force it have hitherto proved ineffectual. Either the officers would not make arrests, or the judges would liberate those arrested, in defiance of the law, or some other screw would be loose, showing that the money and influence of the Liquor Dealers' Association outweighed the laws both of God and man; and thus our 7000 or 8000 grogshops have gone on dealing out their poison seven days in the week. But a sentiment in opposition to this has sprung up and been gradually increasing, until about a month ago it manifested itself in several deputations from Christian Associations, the "Down town Merchants," and others, who, at different times, waited upon the Police Commissioners, and requested them to enforce the laws against Sunday liquor selling. The Commissioners assured them that they and the whole police force were ready to do their duty in the matter whenever the judicial branch of the government would not nullify all their efforts. These deputations and committees have since been at work in other quarters, and the result has been that for three or four Sundays the liquor shops have been generally closed, and quiet and good order prevailed. But the most encouraging feature of all is, that such a force of public opinion has been brought to bear upon the Liquor Dealers' Association, that, fearing their power might be taken from them if they were too unyielding, they have passed resolutions that they will not resist the enforcement of the laws against Sunday liquor selling, and requesting all liquor sellers to close their shops on the Sabbath. Of course it remains yet to be seen how permanent this movement will be, but should it continue, there is reason to hope that it may prove to be the entering wedge for a more thorough temperance reform, which is so sadly needed.

The fact that the Bible has been excluded from the public schools in some of the wards of our city has been widely published, and now I have some other facts resulting from that action which are of a more gratifying nature. At our last election of city officers, a few months ago, the principal interest in many parts of the city centered upon the Board of Education, and the main question was, Shall the Bible be read in our public schools? The result was that a large majority of the Board elected are in favour of having the Bible read in the schools. On Tuesday last week the question came up before a meeting of the Board for decision, and it was certainly amusing to witness the gyrations of some of the members, as they hung wavering between the pledges given at the time of election and a desire not to displease Catholic voters, upon whom they might wish to rely at some future time. Though the whole number voting was but forty one, it required about two hours to take the final vote, so numerous were the explanations which the members felt it necessary to give of their votes for or against the measure. The vote was finally declared 25 in favor of requiring each teacher to open school daily by reading a portion of Scripture, and 16 opposed. By this vote a provision was incorporated into the by-laws by which the schools are governed, that "all the public schools of this city under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education shall be opened by reading a portion of the Holy Scriptures, without note or comment." The penalty for violating this rule is, that the pay of the Teacher shall be withheld, and the situation forfeited. This rule takes effect from the first of August next. Thus it can be seen that the temporary success of the enemies of the Bible has become the direct means of bringing that Sacred Book into every public school in the city, whereas, had they been less confident of their own strength, they might, by more cautious means, have secured its omission from a considerable portion of our schools without exciting any very serious opposition. Truly God can cause the wrath of man to praise Him, and the remainder of wrath will be restrained.

CANADA CORRESPONDENCE.

COBURN, June 21st, 1859.

Lengthy accounts of the annual gatherings of six denominations are before me, from which I may be permitted to draw such particulars as seem most interesting. Following the order of time, the first place must be given to

THE SYNOD OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, which met at Ottawa on the 25th May. The Synods in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were represented. A gratifying report of Queen's College was read. Eleven students in Theology, fifty three in Arts, and seventy-nine in Medicine, attended last session; total 153. Forty-five are studying with a view to the ministry. The report of the Widows and Orphan's Fund was satisfactory, its receipts being in advance of last year. The Jewish Mission report recommended a Mission in European Turkey, as its first missionary field. The Rev. E. M. Epstein will proceed thither shortly, first visiting the Lower Provinces. One missionary is employed among the French; authority was given to engage another. The Juvenile Mission presented an interesting report. The children support a ministry at Bombay, a large number of orphan children at the orphanages of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay; and another school has been opened at Calcutta, called the "Canadian School," which is attended by thirty children. £100 was declared to be the smallest sum per annum which the Synod would consent to accept on behalf of a pastor. The congregations in the district of "Lepers" were put under the control of the Presbytery of Miranichi, New Brunswick. A Committee to devise a plan for the employment of catechists, was appointed. The next meeting of Synod is to take place at Kingston, on the last Wednesday in May, 1860. Next in point of time we have

THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CONFERENCE.

The thirty-sixth session of this Conference commenced June 1st, in Hamilton. A resolution was passed to memorialize the Post Office, and other authorities requesting the discontinuance of Sabbath labor. Thirty-two young men having completed their probation, were examined and set apart to the ministry. Thirty years ago the Conference numbered thirty-six ministers, being only four more than the number received into full connection this year. One of the survivors of that band alluded touchingly to his compa-

nions, now no more, in supporting a motion to receive the young men. The Rev. Wm. Ormiston, Presbyterian minister of Hamilton, who was educated in the Wesleyan College in this town, was introduced to the Conference, and gave an address which is favourably noticed in the Wesleyan organ, and called forth a resolution expressing the satisfaction with which his remarks had been heard, and praying for his happiness and the interests of the denomination with which he stands connected. The Victoria College debt was brought before Conference, and it was felt that strenuous efforts must be made to remove financial embarrassments. The agent employed for two years past was released from his engagement, and the President takes his place. The rule passed at the conference of last year, restricting the attendance of members who had been in full connection for four years and longer, was rescinded, and the number appointed to attend next year was set at 200, each district to send its proportion. The rule prohibiting "tobacco, snuff, and drinks" to young men on probation, it was resolved should be strictly enforced. Why ministers in full connection are permitted to exercise their own judgment in these matters, while the incoming young men are rigorously tested, does not appear. Resolutions on education were passed, moved by the President of Victoria College, and seconded by the general Superintendent of Education, calculated to strengthen the hands of those who are agitating for the establishment of separate Schools. The members of the denomination are entreated to use their influence to elect men prepared to support the distribution of public money to denominational Colleges. Hitherto the theory has been to foster a national system of education, open to all creeds and classes; but the permission given by law to Roman Catholics to erect separate Schools, was the beginning of an end deprecated by many intelligent persons. Dr. Ryerson has committed himself to the advocacy of the separate system, and may live to see it destroy the Educational Institution which he has devoted so many years to establish. A platform having been erected outside the chapel, an enterprising artist of the city took a photographic picture of the Conference by permission, and it is said to be quite a triumph art. The next Conference is to be held at Kingston.

THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

Met on June 8th in Toronto. The secretary reported the number of churches from which returns had been received to be 75, with a membership of 4,335. Seven new churches had been organized during the year. Reported increase of membership, 546; removals 218, about \$39,000 had been contributed for all purposes. Of this sum \$20,000 were for ministerial support, and \$5,263 for missions, home and foreign. Opportunity being given, a report of the financial prosperity of the Independent Magazine was presented, and provision made for its continuance. An essay on "The Permanency of the Pastoral Relation" was read, and the manuscript was placed at the disposal of the Union for publication. An adjournment took place to permit the subscribers to the Widows and Orphans' Fund to transact the business of the society. One church had distinguished itself for its liberality to the Fund, but the appeal to the churches generally had not been successful, owing to the commercial pressure. The permanency of the organization was thought to be secured. A circular from Dr. Ryerson on the present system of education was discussed, and elicited a warm debate. Fears were expressed that the superintendent of education was acting craftily, and seeking to draw forth a resolution of approval which would be construed into a sanction of the present sectarian movement, to which the Wesleyan Conference had committed itself, a committee was appointed to take the documents into consideration and report next year. The friends of the Theological Institute were presented with a report in all respects satisfactory, with the exception of a deficiency in the finances. The large number of students in attendance last session was larger than at any former session. Public meetings of great interest were held, one of which was the designation service of the Rev. W. F. Clarke to missionary work in British Columbia. The Rev. Robert Wilson represented the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Montreal is the next place of meeting.—Out-of-door services were held on the Sabbath in different places with success.

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD.

Also met in Toronto June 13th. It comprises 8 Presbyteries, 96 congregations, a total average attendance of 11,818; members added 1,132; removed 137; members on the roll 6,968. Total income \$38,554, giving an average of \$326 to each worshipper, or \$5.53 to each member. The reports before me do not reach the close of the session. The most important topic before the Synod was the proposed basis of union between the U. P. and the Free Churches. The discussion was animated, and exhibited on the one hand an earnest desire to see the fusion of the two denominations, and on the other a jealous watchfulness over the conditions, lest some compromise should be made of important principles. The Free Church, being the stronger, it was natural to fear the issue. A further communication will resume this subject. The next Synod is appointed to meet in Hamilton.

THE FREE CHURCH SYNOD was convened June 14 in Toronto. The choice of a moderator, after the preaching of the annual sermon, was devoted to an examination of applications of different Presbyteries to take several students on trial for license. In one case an animated discussion arose which terminated in favor of the applicant. 17 students were taken on trial.—The evening diet had under consideration an appeal from the Presbytery of London. After some discussion, the case was referred to a committee, to report during the session. One gentleman remarked that if a committee were to sit for ten years, it would not be able to come to a satisfactory conclusion. Memorial from the sons and daughters of Temperance and J. J. E. Linton Esq. were presented. This gentleman stated that the liquor traffic in Canada was confined almost entirely to Presbyterians, Episcopalians, and Roman Catholics. It was moved that as the Synod had heretofore given no uncertain sound on the question of Temperance, that no

deliverance be now given. The mover was opposed to the Synod's co-operation with secret societies. This called forth strong expressions of feeling, and an amendment that without committing themselves to any opinion concerning the organizations from which the petitions emanated the Synod renew its testimony against the evils of intemperance, rejoice in the passage of a Sabbath Liquor Law, wish success to every well directed effort to destroy intemperance, recommend the subject to the Presbyteries, and resolve to appoint a standing committee, was carried unanimously. The action of this Synod on other matters of importance will be noticed at another time.

THE SYNOD OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

Held its second session June 15th in Toronto. This Synod comprises the clergy of the diocese of Toronto, and lay delegates. There was a large attendance of both classes, the latter being in the majority. After divine service in the cathedral a sermon by Dr. Beaver, and the communion, the meeting adjourned to assemble in the St. George's school house. After some routine business, the Bishop addressed the Synod, at considerable length. One noticeable feature in it is a public apology. Last year, it would seem, one clergyman, without previously conferring with the Bishop, had called the attention of the Synod to the fact that the Bishop of Toronto's salary expired on his decease, and recommended that some thing should be done to meet the emergency. Taken by surprise His Lordship expressed himself with warmth and refused to listen to any proposals; but a year's reflection having convinced him of his error, he concluded that he had been too hasty, and tendered his apology to the Reverend gentlemen. There was something truly manly in this.

The Synod adjourned to permit the church society to hold a meeting to decide upon a basis for the division of the funds with the Huron Diocesan Society. It was resolved to leave the decision to the two Bishops and the Hon. Sir Jas. B. Macaulay, the latter to act as umpire, should the Bishops differ in judgment. A memorial from the Sons of Temperance was read.—Dr. Ryerson's circular was referred to the committee on schools. A resolution designed to provide for the better support of the poor clergy was declared premature, and the whole subject referred to a committee. A committee was also appointed to consider the difficulties connected with endowments. The report of the committee on Drunkenness—an excellent one—was adopted. It petitions the Legislature to provide an asylum for drunkards, in the hope of reclaiming them, and asks for an Act to disqualify habitual drunkards from holding office, and to put them on the same footing with regard to property as other insane persons. A warm discussion arose on the report of separate schools. The Toronto Board of Trustees had refused to establish such schools in connection with the Episcopal Church, and it was decided to appeal first to the courts of law, and failing them, to the Legislature. Some amusing remarks on the report of the committee on Pews and Hymns were made. One asked if the compilation of the committee was confined to the hymns of churchmen, or was the production of "all sorts under the sun." It was admitted that others besides churchmen had written the hymns; two of the best in the book being the production—one of a Methodist and the other a Presbyterian. Thus, said the questioner, occasion is given to the remark that members of the Church of England are no better than dissenters! An effort to take steps for organizing a body of lay readers to minister by prayer and preaching in destitute places, was opposed by the Bishop and fell to the ground. 24 delegates (12 clergymen and as many lay men) were elected to attend the meeting of the Provincial Synod. An address to Her Majesty, asking for the appointment of one of the Bishops as Metropolitan, was adopted. A motion for the appointment of a committee to inquire into the working of the voluntary principles, shared the fate of the resolution concerning Lay Readers.

With one or two exceptions, I have recorded without remark, the action of these Religious Assemblies; and the length of this communication forbids extended comment. Four quotations from the inspired Volume will express my views and feelings.—"One is your master, even Christ and all ye are brethren."—"Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men."—"Let all things be done decently, and in order."—"Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity, amen."

THE MILITIA.—The British Standard in re-

lating the influence of the Militia system, says it is strongly to be deprecated on the score of morality. The Montreal Witness says, "The formation of volunteer military companies in Canada has been attended with great evil to the moral and religious character of young men. Smoking and chewing are more common than formerly among this class. Saloons and taverns are more numerous, and these are largely patronized by members of Militia Corps. The waste of time and money, and the pernicious influences ungodly associations, make these militia companies a grievous and dangerous evil to our young men."

ASYLUM FOR INEBRIATES.—A recent Synod of the Church of England in Toronto, has drafted a petition to be presented to the Legislature, setting forth first, the unhappy consequences of using intoxicating liquors to excess, and secondly, praying that suitable buildings may be erected as an asylum for those desirous of being reclaimed; and further praying that "habitual drunkards" may be disqualified from holding any public office, and also to be declared incapable of managing their own affairs, and hence their property to be placed in trust for their families. It does not, as it should not, meet with sympathy from a large portion of the Temperance body, not being considered a proper mode of reform.

A Convocation of Young Men's Christian Associations is to be held at Troy, New York, on the 13th of July.

Mr. Merridan, of Brooklyn, N. Y., has lost 379 persons who have been benighted to death, and 477 who have been seriously injured by Camphene since 1850; while the loss of property from the same cause, exceed one million dollars.