

to work like other people to gather fuel for the fire; he wanted to warm himself another man, and therefore he took his share at the toll.—*C. H. Spurgeon.*

TERMS AND NOTICES.

The *Religious Intelligencer* is published weekly, at the Office of Messrs. BARNES & CO., St. John, N. B.

TERMS—\$2.00 PER ANNUM.

PAYMENT IN ALL CASES IN ADVANCE.

JOSEPH McLEOD, Editor.

REV. G. A. HARTLEY, EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTOR, over the editor.

All Communications for insertion, should be addressed, Messrs. BARNES & CO., St. John, N. B., or to the Editor, at Fredericton.

Religious Intelligencer.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., MARCH 13, 1868.

REVIVALS.

Every person who has been made acquainted with the saving power of the truth, must feel a deep interest in the cause of religion; he must feel desirous that the cause of human redemption should progress—that that cause which in moral grandeur eclipses all others should be continually making progress. There are now, and it is true that there always have been, schemes and systems, the avowed object of which has been the amelioration of the human family. These schemes, too, have been at least partially successful; they have in some degree alleviated the distresses of the distressed, and they have lent, for a moment, relief to the saddened, sorrowful, wounded heart. But there is but one system that has been able to restore man to the favour and fellowship of God—that which he enjoyed before he fell; no other arm than Jesus Christ's has ever saved him from the destroyer, and no power but the gospel has ever been able to break the chains of his moral bondage and make him free. All who have felt the power, the love, and the blessedness of the truth, must feel an interest in its advancement, and cannot but rejoice at every prospect of its extension. Revivals are always events of interest; indeed, we cannot understand how a revival of religion can be other than a matter of deep interest to every lover of Zion. The fact is evident, however, that revivals are not always alike; there are different kinds. Some are not very desirable either; and we know we are not alone when we say that with the character of some modern revivals are everything but satisfied. The cause of dissatisfaction is, that they produce so little effect on the churches where they take place.—A religious influence which fails to deeply affect those professing Christianity, is not likely to be very lasting, and consequently of little, if any, benefit to our community. It is sometimes the case that a church remains unrevived even in a place where revival actually exists. This state of things is a real calamity; and under such circumstances revival is almost to be dreaded—not because we could not rejoice that sinners are converted, but because there is no "root and branch"—because the new-born ones must be left without care and nourishment. Attributable to this unrevived state of churches is the fact that many modern revivals are succeeded by declensions corresponding in magnitude to the revival experienced. There is a tendency to depart from God, which exists in the Christian church; this tendency exerts an influence upon the character of revivals, which is almost dangerous to the cause of Christ. It is sad to see individuals and churches retrograde from their "first love," and sink down into a state of coldness and indifference. Such a condition of lukewarmness and formality not only exerts a most pernicious influence on the cause of Christ generally, but makes it very difficult, to say the least, for the backsliding individual or church to attain to that position of usefulness which might have been theirs had they not departed from God. The deficient element in our modern Christianity—that which changes the character of our revivals, making them less powerful and general, is Christian holiness. That Christianity which makes justification, or what is usually called conversion, the summit of Christian attainment and "holiness unto the Lord" a dream of wild enthusiasm, will never make a deep or lasting impression on the world. It may produce a casual excitement, and fire the passions for a little season, but it lacks the sanctifying grace, and hence can only live in the fever of popular impulse. It is true that under its influence sinners may be converted, and many may be induced to join the ranks of the Christian church; but who does not know that the work is scarcely half done, with the mere conversion of the soul. And how lamentable is the fact that many who enter the church warm in their first love, and full of zeal and ardour in the cause of God, in a little while stop short in their course, sink down into a cold and formal state, or backslide entirely from God. It is easy in many instances to discover the cause of this. Unless there are in the church holy men and holy women to care for and nourish the babes in Christ, to nurse them in love, and lead them on to higher attainments in the divine life, they will decline and fall.—Where conversion and a visible fellowship with the church are regarded as the summit of Christian faith, religion will exert but a limited influence, and revivals in their general results may be deplored as much as desired. On the other hand, where holiness is the only element in which the church is satisfied to breathe—where there are fathers and mothers to guide, to nurse, and to watch over the young, there will religion appear desirable, its influence be felt without, while its purity and glory will silence the skeptic and unmask the hypocrite. Holiness is the doctrine of the Bible. At the very best, a religion without holiness cannot be more than a second rate religion; it lacks the grandeur, greatness, self-devotion, and love that is necessary to make it efficient. It is hollow, feeble, and uncertain. It may improve the morals, but it does not—cannot purge the conscience. It works from duty rather than from love, and consequently is unfruitful in its character. No one can doubt that we want revivals; a general revival is much needed. But we want revival in our churches first. Great efforts are made to get sinners converted, and thus increase our numbers; but we are looking forward to the time of trial, and what will large churches be if they are all dead. The want of zeal on the part of thousands who profess to be Christians is really deplorable, and may be attributed to their want of holiness. Those who are themselves unconcerned fail to see how important it is to others. We pray in sincerity, "O Lord, revive Thy work" revive it in the churches; let it be a revival of holiness; then shall we be able to record the conversion of thousands of souls.

What is all this, but a testimony to the value and importance which even awakened sinners are forced to attach to the Christian's portion, seeing as they do that it embraces all the sweets of an earthly paradise, and will be perpetuated in ever increasing splendour and blessedness in heaven.

"Though earth has full many a beautiful spot, As a poet or painter might show, Yet more joyous and beautiful, holy and bright, To the hopes of the heart, and the spirit's glad sight, Is the land that no mortal can know.

O who but must pine in this dark vale of tears, From its clouds and its shadows to go, To walk in the light of the glory above, And to share in the peace, and the joy, and the love, Of the land which no mortal may know.

There the crystal stream, bursting forth from the throne, Flows on, and forever will flow; Its waves as they roll are with melody rife, And its waters are sparkling with beauty and life, In the land which no mortal may know.

And there in its margin with leaves ever green, With its fruit, healing sickness and woe, The fair tree of life, in its glory and pride, Is fed by that deep, inexhaustible tide, Of the land which no mortal may know.

For the Religious Intelligencer.
THE SAINT'S PORTION.
BY REV. DR. HUBBARD.
No. 4.

We have already discussed the absolute necessity of God as a portion for the soul. We have seen that, without Him we can do nothing, have nothing, enjoy nothing, and that in the midst of all the wealth, honours, and pleasures of the world, we are of all men most miserable: in life, poor, wretched, blind, and naked; and in death, lost in the overwhelming anguish of despair.

What a testimony in evidence of all this is given by sinners when, under the horrors of an awakened conscience, they see the evil of sin by which they are defiled; the utter emptiness and poverty of their souls, without God, or an interest in the great salvation. What then would they not give for a share in the Christian's portion, and the joy of the Christian's hope? If gold could purchase it, their purses would be emptied in a moment; yea, all their earthly prospects would be readily bartered for a single drop of the comfort which this could afford. Thousands of rams, and ten thousands of rivers of oil; yea, their first-born, even the fruit of their bodies, would they give, that they might have God for the portion of their souls. As Mephibosheth said to the King, so would they say: "Let Ziba take all, forasmuch as my Lord the King is come again into his own house."

"Dearest Lord! may I so much As thy garment's hem to touch? Or but raise my languid eye, To the cross where thou didst die? It shall make my spirit whole; It shall heal and save my soul!"

How often, too, in their last moments have dying sinners set the highest value on those things which in life they affected to despise? Then in their eyes, a poor saint in his rags is more glorious than a wicked emperor in his robes. While in their life time they had their wealth, their pleasures, their honours, and their mirth, and like Dives, "fared sumptuously every day," they passed by God's Lazaruses with contempt, regarding them as poor, weak, and incapable of the out-scourings of all things. But now, when death knocks at their doors, their consciences are startled, and the very fires of hell seem to flash up into their faces, the picture is reversed, and they see Lazarus, whom they despised, borne by angels into Abraham's bosom, and Dives, with all his riches and splendour, tumbling down to the regions of eternal night.

It is then they discern between the righteous and the wicked; between those who serve God and those who serve him not; and if the world were in their hands to dispose of, they would freely give it, if they might exchange conditions with those who have God for their portion. How, with wicked Balaam, they will then exclaim, "Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his." Alas, how many would like to die the death of the righteous; but they will not part with the world, or give up the hosts of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life, or practice any of the self-denial necessary to the life of the righteous. Some sins they might perchance abandon; but there are others much too dear, much too sweet, to be parted with even for heaven itself. They might reform a little; but they will not "cut off right hands," and "pluck out right eyes," or, in one word, "forsake all" to follow Christ. And why is this? Surely it is better to go to heaven with one hand and one eye, than with both hands and both eyes to be cast into hell! It is better to sing in glory a beggar, than to languish in perdition an emperor. And this the sinner will know and acknowledge, when his conscience is awakened, and his eyes are opened to see his fearful doom. How earnestly he will then enquire into the things which were treated with neglect! Nay, even ministers, whose persons they despised, and whose warnings they disregarded, will now be listened to with intense earnestness; or the poorest saint in the community will be called for, and his conversation preferred to that of the gay and the frivolous; if perchance they may throw some light into their darkened minds, some gleam of comfort into their sorrowing hearts, or some ray of hope into their despairing souls. How pitiable their exclamations then! Oh, that I had never derided or reviled them! Oh, that I had never opposed or persecuted them! Oh, that I had lived as they have lived, and walked as they have walked, and served God as they have served Him, and could enjoy a title of the comfort with which they are supported! Oh, that I could with them exclaim, "The Lord is my portion, my refuge, my deliverer. He is my strength and my song; He also is become my salvation."

And what is all this, but a testimony to the value and importance which even awakened sinners are forced to attach to the Christian's portion, seeing as they do that it embraces all the sweets of an earthly paradise, and will be perpetuated in ever increasing splendour and blessedness in heaven.

"Though earth has full many a beautiful spot, As a poet or painter might show, Yet more joyous and beautiful, holy and bright, To the hopes of the heart, and the spirit's glad sight, Is the land that no mortal can know.

O who but must pine in this dark vale of tears, From its clouds and its shadows to go, To walk in the light of the glory above, And to share in the peace, and the joy, and the love, Of the land which no mortal may know.

There the crystal stream, bursting forth from the throne, Flows on, and forever will flow; Its waves as they roll are with melody rife, And its waters are sparkling with beauty and life, In the land which no mortal may know.

And there in its margin with leaves ever green, With its fruit, healing sickness and woe, The fair tree of life, in its glory and pride, Is fed by that deep, inexhaustible tide, Of the land which no mortal may know.

OPENING OF NEW MEETING HOUSE AT WICKHAM.

The new F. C. Baptist Meeting-house at Wickham, Queen's Co., was dedicated to the worship of our Lord on Sabbath last. Many more people were present than could possibly get into the house. The services, throughout the day, were deeply solemn, and we think will prove profitable to the cause in that community. Of ministers there were present, Elders Merrill, McKenzie, Reid, G. A. Hartley, and Brother J. W. Carpenter, and Beckwith and Curry, Baptist. The dedication prayer was offered by Bro. McKenzie; reading the Scriptures and the sermon by the writer; the closing prayer by Brother Reid. All the others spoke or took some part in the services. Brother Merrill preached in the afternoon, at the close of which meeting, one brother was received into the church and the Lord's Supper administered. In the evening Bro. Reid preached, after which a good number spoke of their hopes in Christ, and enjoyed a good season. It was a day to which the little church and her friends had looked forward with pleasure and anxiety, and, at its close, feelings of thankfulness and satisfaction seemed to fill all hearts. The house is certainly a credit to the community. It is conveniently and handsomely located in the midst of a populous and prosperous section of the country, a few rods from the river side. It is most thoroughly built and furnished. It is not large, but just a good size for the accommodation of the congregation. It is 27x38 feet, and contains, I think, thirty-eight pews. There are two outside doors, and two aisles with three rows of pews. The pulpit or desk is very neat and is handsomely painted. It is furnished with a good sofa, and chairs, and stands for the platform in front of the desk. The painting outside, and inside is of the very best kind. The aisles, plat-

form, and all around the desk, is carpeted with good tapestry carpeting. A splendid chandelier hangs from the ceiling, while the walls are well supplied with side lamps. Upon the whole it is one of the finest Houses owned by the denomination. The joiner work was finished by Mr. David Dunham, most thorough and competent mechanic. Mr. Dunham was the architect and master-workman of that splendid House, so recently dedicated by our brethren at Little River, Hampstead. We cannot speak in too high terms of the workmanship of both these Houses, they certainly reflect much credit upon Mr. Dunham as a builder, as well as upon the people for the deep interest they have taken in the cause of God.

At a meeting held on Monday morning it was decided not to sell the pews, but to make it a free house. Enough was paid and pledged to cover the whole expenses, including furnishing, with the exception of only \$150. This amount, it is hoped, will be raised, and the House made free for all who wish to go there to worship.

We believe God will bless this people. It is now desirable that they secure pastoral labor and care, and humbly and faithfully serve God. G. A. H.

IMPORTANCE OF SABBATH SCHOOLS.

A correspondent (W. J. G.) in the *Christian Messenger*, says:—

Too high an estimate cannot be placed on the importance of S. S. instruction. If any part of ministerial labour must be neglected let it not be the Sabbath School. The Sabbath School is an important auxiliary to the Church. If all our church members had been carefully trained in such a nursery, there would, I think, be more consistent Christians than at present in the churches. They would better understand the principle upon which Christianity is based, and be more willing to make sacrifices for the good of others. Our Saviour made great sacrifices; from the time of leaving the joys of heaven to the moment when he finished the perfect work of redemption for his people, was one act of sacrifice. See him at the well—as he converses with the woman of Samaria—he thinks but little of ease or food, but is intent on doing good. His was a work of sacrifice. He would have his disciples take up the cross, and follow in his footsteps, be willing to make daily sacrifices for his cause. This sacrifice comprehends more than the public or private exercise of gifts. Our selfish natures are to be subdued and made to harmonize with the spirit of the Master. How trifling the largest sacrifices we are capable of making, when compared with the wonderful sacrifice made for us. O how willingly should the gifts of the Church be brought into requisition, where such a worthy cause as that of Sabbath Schools is languishing for want of proper teachers. I am aware that many good Christians treat this subject as a matter of no moment; such have never been taught principles of sacrifice in early life, but probably indulged by the mistaken kindness of parents and friends, who, if they could but realize the future would have "trained them up" very differently, and thereby have avoided a "sea of evils."

Those who were neglected in early life often become despotic, and are without consideration for those under their control; and when coming in contact with spirits of their own order then there is war. Even where such evil spirit of stubbornness shows itself, to the great discomfort of peaceful Christians. The neglect of early culture is one cause of the difficulties, which sometimes disturb the peace of our communities and churches. Would that the principle of self-sacrifice and love—the foundation of all correct action—were more thoroughly understood.

In my opinion, Sir, the Sunday School is the place to instil right principles into the young and tender mind, especially when it has not been trained by the fireside. This institution has already accomplished a vast amount of good. Youth is the seed time of life—the mind is then susceptible of deep and lasting impressions. When an individual is of sufficient age to comprehend and appreciate a sermon, how sad if they make up their mind to do as they please, regardless of the evil consequences. How very important, then, that ministers and members should enter into the spirit of the Sabbath school cause with all their might, seeking by earnest prayer to have the youths of our land early instructed in the principles of godliness. O, Christian reader, do nothing to retard the Sabbath school cause, but rather lend a helping hand, so that our churches in the future may be composed of members well trained in scripture knowledge.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

"OUR HOUSE AS IT IS."

This afternoon your correspondent Spee sits in the ladies gallery—no matter how he came there—and the assembled wisdom of our Province is before me in every attitude, from the dignified uprightness of certain members of the Government who nobly sustain the burden of their country's honors, to the careless, take-it-easy style of others who feel no such weighty responsibilities. Well, after all one does not see any very striking prominent features of superior sagacity in the forty-one men who are here to do the people's business and pocket the people's money; fair, average men they all are—apparently ready to work, and let us hope, sincere and honest in their labors. If variety is the spice of life, verily here you may have enough to flavor your dish for a long time. Men of all sizes, from the diminutive southern representative who has lived on the fogs of the great city for half a lifetime, to the burly northern up to their eyes in lumber and fisheries; countenances—full, open, shaded, inviting and forbidding; complexion—going through all the variations of dark, light, bleached and sallow; craniums—well-developed and ill-developed, covered with nature's own spontaneous growth, or by an extemporized protection like the periwigs of old; voice—from the deep, full-toned bass to the shrill soprano; men of English, French, Irish and Scotch extraction, all meeting and commingling under the high guise of the people's representatives. One notices the calm, business-like style of the old *stagers* who have passed many sessions in political strife and toil, contrasting strongly with the nervous impatience and agitation of the young aspirants, eager for laurels and ignorant of defeat. But I will sketch some of these as they appear to me now. Here, in the extreme south-west quadrangle of the house, sits Mr. Fry, the new member from Charlotte (perhaps from Fry's Island, but I am not sure), perfectly at ease. Any one coming in the lobby would be sure to mark him among the first. A man of fair height, well conditioned and healthy looking, slightly bald, but what hair he possesses is almost white, yet not from age. Some one suggests that he is a veritable *toned-head*; certainly, he may be distinguished as the man "w/ixen hair." He pays all attention to what transpires, is always in his seat, but seldom commits the indiscretion of speaking; he goes on the principle of watching everything and saying little, which is the very course the sage *Telegraph* counsels to all new members. Taken altogether, he conforms more nearly to the "easy man in easy circumstances" of any before us. He will, no doubt, make a good, honest representative, although the reporters will have little trouble in sketching his speeches.

Next him sits his young colleague, Mr. Stevenson. He has attained a very respectable height—over six feet in his stockings, I should say, and, judging from his present appearance, his most sanguine well-wishers would never predict for him a state of corpulence. He has dark hair and side whiskers, with a countenance expressive of no uncommon sagacity; he, too, has a virtue which is lacking by many: that of being almost always in his seat. Just now he seems to be up to his eyes in letter-writing. He does not intrude very much on the time of the House, but speaks emphatically and to the point when he does arise, and always commands a respectful attention. He is a graduate of the University, and as such will be no doubt a champion for liberal education and all proper advancement. By his side sits the Hon. Solicitor General, Mr. Skinner, physically a little man, with a spare face, long, dark, straight hair, and a head which phrenologists would call peculiar, but which contains a powerful machinery of work and action. He does not seem to aspire at being close up to the fashions, and no one would, from his style of dress, ever think him guilty of foppishness. He speaks calmly and well, but his voice is seldom heard, as it seems private business has more urgent claims on his time than the care of the public interests—certainly, we have only seen him in his seat a very few times this session. Rumor says he is about to retire from public life, and take the position of Judge of Probates.

On the next chair sits Mr. Pickard, the new member from York. He is a middle-aged man, with an honest, open countenance, expressive of determination and perseverance in what he undertakes. His voice will never allow him to be a pleasing public speaker, and his nervousness is a little remarkable for a man so long in business. York County may feel safe in confiding her interests to his keeping, and rest assured that every measure of improvement will meet with his support. He is a sterling, honest man, and will no doubt be as well liked in political circles as he is deservedly esteemed in social life.

On the row of seats directly in front of these sits, first, Mr. Perley, who has for a long time represented Sunbury. He is not a very old man, yet, I should think, but about as high in political fame as he ever will be. Your correspondent has never heard him speak on any subject; but his judgment is likely good, and he can give his vote, and so his constituency retain him.

Mr. King, the young representative from St. John, occupies the chair beside him, and we think his constituency have chosen well in sending him to the Legislature; he has rather a peculiar appearance, of middle height, full built, with black hair and whiskers; a jolly, cheerful countenance; one whom you would put down as capable of enjoying life, and troubled with few fits of melancholy. He appears fully self-possessed, does not seem to be annoyed at trifles, studies great ease of position, and in dress and manner altogether up to what you would expect from our commercial metropolis. Just now he is speaking in favor of direct assessment, and is attentively heard. His voice is full and clear, and his thoughts come forth clothed and in their right place. He believes that education will make the country what it should be, will make every man a power in himself, and he advances the idea that it should have the first place in our consideration, and the first lien on our property. He bids fair to make a mark of no mean note, and if his energy is sufficient will be a real live man in the councils of our country. Beside him is *parley you* Francis Monsieur Theriault, from Victoria, who, for the first time, puts on the gravity of an "honorable member of this House." He is a man of the French build with a full, red face, light hair, chin whiskers, and moustache. He has a rather bright, intelligent look, and, I have heard, is very well educated, but has not much to say in English. He would make a good representative for Ottawa, no doubt, were his knowledge of French would give him a position at once. Frenchmen always seem out of place in this Local Legislature.

Next him sits Mr. Hartley, the new member from Carleton. He is rather tall and well-built, but with quite a stoop of the shoulders, perhaps occasioned by bending so much over his *Telegraph*, for he is a surveyor, I think. He is of fair complexion, with light hair and whiskers; a broad, high forehead, eyes sharp and keen, and deep sunk under his brow, and altogether is one of the most intellectual looking men in the House. He has already placed himself prominently before the House, in his resolutions on the Railway route, the School question, &c., and the speeches he has delivered on each show him to be possessed of both ability and practical experience, whatever smoke the little squibs of the *Telegraph* may raise to the contrary. Mr. Hartley is a self-made man, and deserves all credit for the progress he has already made—the more so because he shows himself fully equal to his position. If he have any fault, it lies in his too good opinion of his own abilities; a fault common to young aspirants, and which time will largely correct.

In the front chair, on the Speaker's right hand, sits Mr. Lindsay, an old politician, who has represented Carleton for a long time, in company with his ex-colleague Mr. Connell. Mr. Lindsay is up to all the turns and dodges of public life, and is never caught napping. He seems always ready to "argue the point," and in faculty of harsh, rough, cutting repartee is perhaps without an equal in the House. He is, however, often tedious, as men who have a high opinion of their own wit generally are, and takes up a deal of precious time unnecessarily. He is about as old a member as any here, and just as old and antiquated in some of his ideas; but if there is any money to be got for his County, he is right up, and clings to the purse-strings till he obtains his handful. Carleton needs no better member for her local interests. Next him is the Hon. Mr. McAdam, from Charlotte, with a countenance and expression which justifies the sobriquet of "Honest John," which is often given him. He is veering on toward the threescore and ten, as his gray hairs indicate, and with one or two others shares the honor of Father of the Government. He will never stir up a revolution through the powers of his eloquence, but will very likely make an efficient Board of Works—that is, if Mr. Babbitt & Company do not throw them overboard.

Occupying the next chair is A. R. Wetmore, the Hon. Attorney General, and leader of the Government. He is a tall, rather slim man, with dark brown hair and whiskers, a set of teeth, reckless, daring, determined expression of countenance which would invite few to make an opponent of him. He is a rather forcible speaker, although dealing too much in repetition for our fancy. His chief forte lies in the keen, biting sarcasm of which he is master, which scathes wherever it falls. We question very much, however, if he be sufficiently judicious and politic to sustain his position as leader of the Government; and his slashing style of cut and sarcasm tends rather to provoke hostility than procure friends. By his side sits the patriarch of the House, with his bald head and thin, gray hair—the Hon. Provincial Secretary, Mr. Beckwith. He seems to be bowed down under the weight of his responsibilities, and we do not hear so many of his jokes and puns as before he assumed the duties of office. He hesitates and stutters in his speech, mingling and mixing his sentences generally, and would never carry away your friend "Spee" on the rushing tide of his eloquence. He has an inveterate habit of nodding and shaking his head, which during the last session drew down on him the wit of the Hon. J. M. Johnston, who told the honorable gentleman that "he might shake his head, but there was nothing in it"—an expression which admits of an interpretation noways complimentary to the Hon. Secretary. However, we are informed that he is thoroughly at home in accounts, and no doubt will completely discharge the duties of his office, though in event of the Government being attacked, he would be able to show but poor fight.

(Continued next week.)

THE DISTRESS AMONG THE NOVA SCOTIA FISHERMEN.

Though all have heard of the distress existing among the fishing population of Nova Scotia, but few are aware of the utter destitution which prevails in many places. Families are literally starving, notwithstanding all that has been done to relieve their suffering. It is to be hoped, that our Local Legislature will do something handsome. But we should not confine ourselves to a simple grant from the public treasury, private contributions should be solicited. Let subscription lists be opened in this city, in Fredericton, Woodstock, St. Stephen, and other places in the province, and we are assured that the freewill offerings of New Brunswick's sons and daughters would be no mean amount. Humanity demands that an organized effort, in behalf of the suffering in our sister province should at once be commenced.

The accounts occasionally received cannot fail to excite the sympathy of every one possessing in the least degree the commonest feelings of humanity. We subjoin a portion of a letter written from St. Margaret's Bay by the Rev. John Ambrose:

The poor of this parish have had one helping of flour and meal pretty much all round. But as a great number of them had been living by *borrowing* for nearly a month before hand, and had now nearly a month since the relief was shared out and divided with the *lenders*, a second helping will soon be required. This, however, is coming in answer to orders signed by myself and the Local Aid Committee. I what remarkable for a man so long in business. York County may feel safe in confiding her interests to his keeping, and rest assured that every measure of improvement will meet with his support. He is a sterling, honest man, and will no doubt be as well liked in political circles as he is deservedly esteemed in social life.

On the row of seats directly in front of these sits, first, Mr. Perley, who has for a long time represented Sunbury. He is not a very old man, yet, I should think, but about as high in political fame as he ever will be. Your correspondent has never heard him speak on any subject; but his judgment is likely good, and he can give his vote, and so his constituency retain him.

Mr. King, the young representative from St. John, occupies the chair beside him, and we think his constituency have chosen well in sending him to the Legislature; he has rather a peculiar appearance, of middle height, full built, with black hair and whiskers; a jolly, cheerful countenance; one whom you would put down as capable of enjoying life, and troubled with few fits of melancholy. He appears fully self-possessed, does not seem to be annoyed at trifles, studies great ease of position, and in dress and manner altogether up to what you would expect from our commercial metropolis. Just now he is speaking in favor of direct assessment, and is attentively heard. His voice is full and clear, and his thoughts come forth clothed and in their right place. He believes that education will make the country what it should be, will make every man a power in himself, and he advances the idea that it should have the first place in our consideration, and the first lien on our property. He bids fair to make a mark of no mean note, and if his energy is sufficient will be a real live man in the councils of our country. Beside him is *parley you* Francis Monsieur Theriault, from Victoria, who, for the first time, puts on the gravity of an "honorable member of this House." He is a man of the French build with a full, red face, light hair, chin whiskers, and moustache. He has a rather bright, intelligent look, and, I have heard, is very well educated, but has not much to say in English. He would make a good representative for Ottawa, no doubt, were his knowledge of French would give him a position at once. Frenchmen always seem out of place in this Local Legislature.

Next him sits Mr. Hartley, the new member from Carleton. He is rather tall and well-built, but with quite a stoop of the shoulders, perhaps occasioned by bending so much over his *Telegraph*, for he is a surveyor, I think. He is of fair complexion, with light hair and whiskers; a broad, high forehead, eyes sharp and keen, and deep sunk under his brow, and altogether is one of the most intellectual looking men in the House. He has already placed himself prominently before the House, in his resolutions on the Railway route, the School question, &c., and the speeches he has delivered on each show him to be possessed of both ability and practical experience, whatever smoke the little squibs of the *Telegraph* may raise to the contrary. Mr. Hartley is a self-made man, and deserves all credit for the progress he has already made—the more so because he shows himself fully equal to his position. If he have any fault, it lies in his too good opinion of his own abilities; a fault common to young aspirants, and which time will largely correct.

In the front chair, on the Speaker's right hand, sits Mr. Lindsay, an old politician, who has represented Carleton for a long time, in company with his ex-colleague Mr. Connell. Mr. Lindsay is up to all the turns and dodges of public life, and is never caught napping. He seems always ready to "argue the point," and in faculty of harsh, rough, cutting repartee is perhaps without an equal in the House. He is, however, often tedious, as men who have a high opinion of their own wit generally are, and takes up a deal of precious time unnecessarily. He is about as old a member as any here, and just as old and antiquated in some of his ideas; but if there is any money to be got for his County, he is right up, and clings to the purse-strings till he obtains his handful. Carleton needs no better member for her local interests. Next him is the Hon. Mr. McAdam, from Charlotte, with a countenance and expression which justifies the sobriquet of "Honest John," which is often given him. He is veering on toward the threescore and ten, as his gray hairs indicate, and with one or two others shares the honor of Father of the Government. He will never stir up a revolution through the powers of his eloquence, but will very likely make an efficient Board of Works—that is, if Mr. Babbitt & Company do not throw them overboard.

Occupying the next chair is A. R. Wetmore, the Hon. Attorney General, and leader of the Government. He is a tall, rather slim man, with dark brown hair and whiskers, a set of teeth, reckless, daring, determined expression of countenance which would invite few to make an opponent of him. He is a rather forcible speaker, although dealing too much in repetition for our fancy. His chief forte lies in the keen, biting sarcasm of which he is master, which scathes wherever it falls. We question very much, however, if he be sufficiently judicious and politic to sustain his position as leader of the Government; and his slashing style of cut and sarcasm tends rather to provoke hostility than procure friends. By his side sits the patriarch of the House, with his bald head and thin, gray hair—the Hon. Provincial Secretary, Mr. Beckwith. He seems to be bowed down under the weight of his responsibilities, and we do not hear so many of his jokes and puns as before he assumed the duties of office. He hesitates and stutters in his speech, mingling and mixing his sentences generally, and would never carry away your friend "Spee" on the rushing tide of his eloquence. He has an inveterate habit of nodding and shaking his head, which during the last session drew down on him the wit of the Hon. J. M. Johnston, who told the honorable gentleman that "he might shake his head, but there was nothing in it"—an expression which admits of an interpretation noways complimentary to the Hon. Secretary. However, we are informed that he is thoroughly at home in accounts, and no doubt will completely discharge the duties of his office, though in event of the Government being attacked, he would be able to show but poor fight.

THE NEWS and THE PRESS.

MARCH 6, 1868.

LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

(From telegrams to Morning Papers.)

FREDERICTON, 5th March, 1868. The Provincial Secretary brought a bill to protect Cheese Manufacturers. He also laid before the House a detailed audited account of the receipts and expenditure for 1867.

The Honestated Bill was in Committee, and after the principle of it was affirmed, progress was reported. After the Provincial Secretary made the explanation respecting the money paid for unforeseen contingencies in the year 1868 and 1867, the House was moved into Committee on Supply.

Mr. Hibbard moved as an amendment that the House go into supply on Monday. He objected to going into supply to-day on the ground that the expenditure of last year was not audited properly before them, and that as they had assumed the reins of Government when the late one resigned, they were responsible for the acts of the late Government, and should have had the business in a more forward condition. Another article of centre was an unprecedented contingency of the Crown Land Department. He made a long speech, bringing in all the charges against the Government.

Wetmore replied to the charges, and said the opposition which Hibbard was leading would not have the chance of making a new Administration. He charged Hibbard with pursuing an ungenerous course, asked him why he hadn't looked for the account in the office of the Secretary, and said he was hardly fit for the office to which he aspires if he was ignorant of the proper source to which to look for them.

Debate adjourned.

March 6, 1868. Bill relating to Coroners for St. John County agreed to in Committee, and Bill to designate polling places and provide for non-residents voting in Lancaster agreed to.

Debate on Hibbard's resolution to postpone supply continued.

Wetmore spoke for two hours. He said the Government were willing to give every facility to examine accounts, but were not responsible for the acts of their predecessors, and if this was meant for vote of want of confidence, they were prepared to try the question there and then. If the Committee really wished further time, he would consent to postpone supply.

Caird, Chairman of Committee on Accounts, disclaimed intention to embarrass Government or pass vote of want of confidence.

Moore thought that the Government being master

of situation should not have called this House together until accounts were ready, but did not want to see them defeated.

Peck took similar ground. Lindsay, as a member of the Committee, did not intend this motion as a vote of confidence, only desired details of accounts.

Coram thought the accounts should be shown; but felt inclined to sustain Government in all good measures. He moved debate be postponed until Wednesday next, which was carried without opposition, and the House adjourned.

March 7th. A bill relating to the administration of Justice in Equity was agreed to in Committee. Hartley introduced a bill to authorize the town of Woodstock to give further aid to the Branch Railway.

A bill to protect Cheese Manufacturers was discussed in Committee. A bill to change the time of sittings after term in the City of Fredericton was agreed to in Committee. The Legislative Council have agreed to bill to repeal the Act relating to Coal Licenses.

A Committee was appointed to investigate the papers relating to the construction of the Pettigoe Bridge. At half-past four the House adjourned in consequence of there not being a quorum of members present.

March 9. Bill to enable French of Westmorland to assess for their own poor was agreed to. Pickard's bill to incorporate Fredericton Bridge Company was agreed to.

Moore's bill to prevent certain office holders under the Dominion from holding seats in the Legislature was committed and progress reported. Hartley introduced Bill in reference to Roads through private property. It provides they shall be assessed as much per acre when roads built through private lands to open up Crown lands.

FREDERICTON, March 10. A bill to authorize the town of Woodstock to take \$20,000 additional stock in the Branch Railway passed in Committee. The order of the day to examine the accounts and documents connected with the General Public Hospital was then taken up.

Keans began by presenting a petition for aid from the Government on the ground that the sick and disabled of every county in the Province were cared for in the Hospital, and that the original intention of the Hospital was merely to accommodate St. John, but it was impossible to turn those away who applied for admission. He then moved an address asking for an appropriation.

Sutton said a committee of the House should investigate the matter, and find how many not belonging to St. John had been cared for, before the House made an appropriation. Wetmore supported the resolution. He said St. John had incurred a great expense, and they should receive the assistance asked.