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TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 19, 1871.

REMEMBER: ONE DOLLAR SECURES TO A NEW SUBSCRIBER THE "INTELLIGENCER" (post-paid) TILL JANUARY 1st, 1872.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Swapping is judged by some to be a disreputable thing. It probably is when carried to excess. For instance, when men swap their wives, cases of which (though we would not by any means like to vouch for their truth) are sometimes cited in the papers. Brigham Young might part with several of the lady members of his household for a class of property more easily controlled. He would doubtless feel greatly relieved of a heavy tax upon both his pocket and patience; and the women too would be relieved if they chanced to belong to the sensible order of beings, though the fact of their constituting a part of the "goods and chattels" of the sturdy "Prophet" leads us seriously to question it. Ordinarily, however, it will be conceded that wife trading is rather overdoing the matter—carrying the joke a little too far.

Then trading horses is also disapproved of in some quarters, as in the case of the late Abraham Lincoln, who thought it bad policy to do "when crossing a stream." At other times, also, it is not thought to be one of the strongest evidences of wisdom. We do not like to make a sweeping assertion in the matter, but to speak seriously, we verily believe that though it may be profitable (to one of the parties concerned) it would be wiser and more profitable in the strictest and best sense of those terms, for both parties to let the "dieking" alone. For ministers it is of course out of the question, for they cannot (ought not) to be "professionals" in the business. Do any of them do it? We hope not; unless indeed they can do as did two good brethren, much esteemed and whose "praise is in all the churches," who effected a trade, and then each boasted to the other and to his friends that he had made "a clear forty dollars by the transaction." Both got the best of the bargain in a very fortunate and unusual thing; and though "gentlemen of the cloth" are not supposed to rejoice in an advantage over their neighbours, both were fully satisfied. For fear that their good fortune should be an inducement to others to try similar speculation, we would throw out a friendly and brotherly caution against swapping, whether the commodities be farms, houses, horses, sheep, oxen, or even wives.

Swapping—or to use a less objectionable term—exchanging pulpits is we think within the limits of propriety; and of this we intended to write when we commenced instead of discussing the swapping mania generally. We are indebted to such an exchange for our present visit. Does some reader say, "O, I see now why it's justified." Not at all—it is a good thing whether practised by us or not; and preachers and people would be benefited if more of it were done.

ON THE TRAIN.

To St. John the time passed quickly and pleasantly. The extension of the line through Carleton is an advantage to travellers, and of course to the R. R. Company too. Fredericton is now well supplied with means of communication with the outside world. Especially in winter are the benefits of the Railroad realized. We have vivid recollections of wearisome winter days and nights spent on the New Brunswick road, and also of similar experiences in years farther back on the road between St. John and Sussex. In view of those days and the present rapid and pleasant mode of travelling, we are disposed to bless the introduction of Railroads, and wish that they may soon spread in every direction throughout the Province. It is pleasing to know that the traffic—both passengers and freight—on Western Extension and Fredericton Branch is increasing even more rapidly than the promoters of the road anticipated; and when the line is completed (the coming Autumn) it will doubtless do a large and profitable business.

The prevailing topic of conversation on the trains and elsewhere, was and is

THE "WASHINGTON TREATY."

(so called), which is more properly speaking a series of concessions to the United States. A great deal of surprise and indignation has been excited; and people of all classes express themselves quite strongly—very properly so too we think. At the time of writing we have not seen the Resolutions the Government proposed to submit to the Assembly. It is hoped that they are so clear and emphatic that the Dominion Parliament will not be able to turn a deaf ear to them. Nova Scotia will speak; Prince Edward Island, though not in the Dominion, will do the same. Ontario and Quebec are said to feel a deep interest in the matter, and are, according to report, very far from being well pleased with the terms of the "Treaty." If these all enter a forcible and unanimous protest, surely it will not be disregarded. An impression prevails that the Dominion Government can carry anything they choose. We fail to see why this should be made a Government question. Sir John A. Macdonald was not appointed to the Commission by the Dominion Government, but by the Government of Great Britain; and we cannot see that it is necessary that even his colleagues in the Cabinet should sustain the "Treaty" just because he happened to be a party to it. Its provisions concerning the Fisheries bear hardly on the Maritime Provinces; they actually give their fishing privileges away—hand them over to the United States without receiving in return anything like an approach to an equivalent. The prospect is dark as midnight; but the feeling of opposition to the outrage (for it is nothing else) is so strong that some hope may be entertained that the representatives of the people, whose interests are at stake, will hesitate before approving the action of the Commission.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

with reference to the School Bill is also exciting some murmuring. People cannot see any justification of their proceeding; and are not satisfied that a difference between the Council and Government about Mr. Botsford or any other man is sufficient cause for staying the progress of a measure of great importance. It is likely—we hope at any rate—that before this reaches our readers the Hon.

Gentlemen of the Upper House will have laid aside their pettishness.

THE SCHOOL BILL.

It is not received with so much disfavor in this country—as it is said—as was anticipated. Now that it is sure to come in operation, many of those who were opposed to it are beginning to think it will not be so bad after all. Perhaps the speeches of their representatives have convinced them of its justness and the benefits that will result from it. What a pity those speeches had not been delivered during the election canvass, for electors do not admire them so much under the "peculiar circumstances," with notes offsetting and neutralizing them, as they otherwise would.

Already candidates are canvassing in a quiet way for the next

GENERAL ELECTION.

representatives to the House of Commons at Ottawa. Several names are mentioned; some of them have been before the people before, others are new men—to political life unknown, and by political sin unstained. As there is yet considerable time before the independent electors will be called upon to deposit their ballots, opportunity is given for properly comparing the merits of rival aspirants for political position. The action of the Justices of King's in refusing to grant

TAVERN LICENSES.

has caused some consternation among the rumblers and their friends. Some of them have continued selling, but have been prosecuted and relieved of some of the surplus cash gained in their unholy traffic. Some are determined still to sell, while the Temperance men of the county are as fully determined that they shall not sell, or if they do that they shall be visited with the full penalty as all other violators of the law. Prompt and vigorous action will soon force the poison vendors to succumb.

Sussex, May 17.

LIFE BUILDERS.

Who has not, at some period of his life, stood in silent wonder contemplating the greatness and grandeur of some vast and magnificent edifice which stood before him? Who has not been struck in admiration as he gazed upon some grand structure which reared itself towards the heavens in his view? And as he has gazed upon the massive piece of architecture, the thought has come—To whom does this mansion belong—and in close alliance therewith—that architect has planned this. How he lingered over the thought of the happiness which must be the possessor's lot to enjoy, until we fancied him the most contented man on earth, and wished that it were possible for us, too, to enjoy such grandeur and magnificence. We, as before intimated, have also thought of the architect. This thought suggests another. We are all builders; we are all architects. It may be that few of us have ever planned houses of wood or stone or brick; yet, in reality, we are architects nevertheless. And still farther, we are architects for ourselves. The buildings we are rearing are for ourselves, not for others. Each one is rearing his or her own structure, and according to the materials employed—so will the greatness of the building be, and according to this greatness, so will our happiness, both present and future, be.

The structure we are rearing is our life. The opportunities for improvement which we enjoy, if properly received and acted upon, only furnish materials which will add to the greatness of our building, whereas, if neglected, such material is wasted, and the greatness of our structure lessened in consequence.

Prosperity comes at times, and assists in the rearing of our building. Adversity comes often, and harrows the mind and makes the heart sad, and then, oh! how often we let our tools drop and the work goes not on, but rather damage is done. This is wrong. Our adversity, too, should only nerve us to work indefatigably, and to perform our part manfully and well. Adversity is as necessary to the proper accomplishment of our edifice as is physical exercise to the full development of the man physically. But as every piece of timber must be properly prepared, and suitably placed, if we would have the building properly constructed, so must our prosperity, so must our adversity, so must all our material, be properly prepared and placed if our building would be completed.

Again, we know that a good foundation is necessary to the support of a building. The base must be firm and solid. In the walls no yawning gaps must be seen, no stones must be improperly or loosely laid, if we would have our building secure. Just so it is with our lives. Truth must be the base on which our structure must be reared—a truth which has no gaps; no loose stones in it, but the truth taught by the word of God. But as solid and substantial walls have been undermined by the burrowings of the smaller animals, so may the foundation of our structure be very easily undermined if it is not properly watched, and if the small beginnings to crumble away are not continually being checked and reconstructed. How apt anger, jealousy, envy and hatred are to undermine our walls, and how strictly do we require to guard them. When we discover an aperture in the wall, or evidences of its yielding, we must immediately attend to it—must close up the breach. Though it may require much self-denial, though some enjoyment must be sacrificed, yet it must be done if we would ensure our safety.

Just in accordance to our determination and effort to make our building grand shall it be. It is in the power of each one of us to make our lives a success. Every hour we spend in the acquisition of useful knowledge; every time we check an evil in our nature, and seek something ennobling and truly great, every act of kindness we perform, every act of self-denial we practice, every effort made in pulling down vice and uprearing that which is good, is an addition to our material—is a step in the construction of our building. From these, and other acts of merit, will rear a structure which shall be grand and serviceable while we last; and after we shall have passed away, will remain embalmed in the memory of others, and we shall have left behind us "foot-prints on the sands of time."

We said that we were apt to think of the happiness which the owner of a mansion enjoyed. This is not always so. Sometimes he who owns the most magnificent residences sees little of happiness in life, and often, very often, the resident in a humble cottage leads a life of happiness and content. But not thus shall it be with us. If we make our lives a success—if we do all the good we can—if we make our mansions truly grand and great—there can be no impossibility as to our future enjoyment. The structure will only be completed when Death clips the thread of Time—when the last earthly ties are dissolved; and then, if our lives have been true and useful, we can look just a little further, and see a mansion in heaven for us.

A portion of Editorial Correspondence intended for this issue had to be held over till next week.

On the first page next week we will publish the "Treaty of Washington," as many of our readers will not otherwise have a chance to read it.

A large party of London Editors purpose coming to America this summer.

OUR INDIA LETTER.

BALASORE, INDIA, March 14, 1871. MR. EDITOR.—Again my writing day finds me at our Southern station. A sudden change in the weather took our invalid brother very much at a disadvantage. He was still so weak after the late illness that the chill of a long, heavy rain storm brought him down with fever. I had left home for a few days in the Santal work with my dear father at Satpore, but a note met me on the road summoning me here. Our semi-annual conference comes at Patna on the 17th inst., and as Brother Smith is recovering nicely, I hope to have him accompany us to the meeting.

And this leads me to speak of what has been on my mind for months past. We should have a lay brother in the mission to attend to many duties which now occupy the time of the missionaries and greatly interfere with their regular work. Could we have a man capable of taking charge of the mission press, of superintending the schools, and of managing the mission finances, it would lift a heavy burden from our shoulders and enable us to devote our time and energies more completely to the great work of preaching to the heathen. The fact is, the missionaries are so taken up with "serving tables,"—so burdened with secular duties, that their proper work suffers seriously.

On the 8th inst., our Sabbath School at Midnapore held its eighth anniversary. When organized by Dr. Bachelor, in 1863, there were eight persons present. In 1865, when it came into my hands, there were about fifteen or twenty in attendance. We now have nearly a hundred and fifty names on our roll, and there have been nearly two hundred under instruction during the year. I am happy to be able to speak of real progress in several directions in our Sabbath School work the past year. To begin with, the teachers have been very devoted and punctual; not perfect, yet to be sure, in these respects, still far in advance of former years. Our weekly teacher's class has been a great help to the school. It used to be in our school (may be now, Mr. Editor, there are such cases on your side of the world) that some teachers would take their places before their classes not knowing what or where the lesson was. But now we are surely past that. The substitute system works admirably. I am done with impressing people with the Sabbath School service. It don't pay. Now only volunteers do the work. Let me assure you it makes one's heart glad to hear some one offering his or her services in this blessed work. Not many weeks ago a young man, one of our press hands, came over to our bungalow, and said, "I wish to carry a part of the Sabbath School burden. Won't you give me a class?" He is succeeding well. His boys love him, and show their love by good behaviour and good lessons. The other evening, it was Saturday night, after a hard week's work, as I was musing by my study alone, and thinking over the morning sermon, two lovely girls, of our Home, came in so quietly, and when I asked why they came, begged, with true modesty and sincerity, for classes in the Sabbath School. God bless them! One is already a teacher, and the other's name is on my list of volunteers, waiting for the next new class. There are now fourteen classes, thoroughly organized, and well instructed.

Another cheering feature of the School has been the improvement made in learning the lesson. It was very hard starting this, for it took time and study to learn even no more than half a dozen verses. But the teachers helped me nobly, and soon a score of pupils had the lesson. These were called upon to rise at the opening of the School, just before prayer was offered, and recite the lesson in concert. Gradually the number went up, until now nearly all who can read recite the lesson together. This helps the teaching a great deal. Bibles are used in the classes only for reference.

Still another encouraging thing about the School is the interest in reading that has been awakened by our little Sabbath School Library. The teachers and pupils now read a good many excellent books in the course of a year. Some fine additions have been made to the library of late, and our people, one and all, look upon it as a great blessing to the community.

Best of all, the past year has witnessed the conversion of several of our pupils. No richer, more precious fruit than this. Our hearts have been cheered by seeing teachers labouring with remarkable faith and fervor for the salvation of their pupils. And we have more than once rejoiced over souls born into the Redeemer's kingdom. Pious reader, may you and we know more of such holy joy during the year to come! What more exalted privilege than that of bringing sinners to the blessed Saviour! Let us all pledge ourselves anew to Christ, and consecrate all our powers to His service, and let it be our daily delight to spread a knowledge of His name among our associates and all upon whom we are exerting an influence.

Brothers, pray for our Sabbath School, for the heathen, for the world's redemption, and God help you to pray in faith.

J. L. P.

STATESMEN OF THE DOMINION.

MR. EDITOR.—I have given your readers a short sketch of the gentlemen on the front Ministerial Benches, and purpose to supplement this with brief notices of the remainder of the Ministers and others of the Commons and Senators. And I shall first speak of

DR. TUPPER, C. L., PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL, a man who has steadily mounted the ladder of legislative honor, who in his own Province fought off by way against men of acknowledged ability and long experience, although they did their utmost to thwart his aims and diminish his influence. He is a man of high moral character, and carried in the Legislature, the measures providing for the union of Nova Scotia with Canada. We must say, however, that we cannot, or never could, agree with the policy of Dr. Tupper in this carrying the measure for Confederation without giving the people of Nova Scotia a voice in the matter—a policy which has been fruitful of bickerings, contentions, and petty grievances which have not yet subsided; a policy which a vast majority of the people condemned, the vivid remembrance of which is still fresh in the minds of the people of Nova Scotia. He is just in the prime of life, being fifty years of age, well built, features slightly rounded, with hair jet black; and so long as honesty is the plummet by which he tries his acts, so long as we wish to have a place in the Council of our Province, he is a man who will not be overstepped the boundaries of true justice. We must, however, give him the credit of possessing superior talents; of having defeated his boldest antagonists in the above question by the strength and breadth of argument. He commands the respect of the House of Commons as much as any, and more than most speakers. As a speaker he is fluent, at times eloquent, always attractive and pleasing, occasionally employing a soaring and fanciful mode, when defending himself from the unjust attacks of his political opponents. 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