

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

HOLD FAST THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS—Paul.

VOL. XXXV.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1882.

NO 6

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Justice does not make law, it only reveals law.

It is the pure soul that has in it the clear instinct of immortality.

The United States in 1880, produced \$34,510,843, value of finished silk.

Justice is simply transitive holiness, or holiness exercised towards creatures.

Get God's life into you, and it will come down to live and to assert that life forevermore.

Twenty years ago 35,000 men in the British Army could neither read nor write. Now there are only 7000. This indicates progress.

It is very generally believed that steam will supersede sails on the sea, and that railways will supersede canals on the land.

The Queen sent the Bible to an African Prince, in reply to his enquiry for the secret of England's greatness. It is believed that he would find that secret.

Moody's labours in Edinburgh are attended with great success. The quiet meetings elicit heart-rendering tales of woe, of family strife, of degradation and drunkenness.

In 1881 \$100,000,000 worth of property was destroyed by fire in America. The part that fell to Canada was \$49,000. There were 350 great fires. Canada was insured for \$1,250,000.

Statistics last year: \$2,335,000, value of exports from New Brunswick; \$1,250,000, value of exports from Nova Scotia; \$20,000, value of exports from British Columbia.

The treaty of Berlin made, at what was called the Insane Convention, gave Austria the protectorate over Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is intended by the protectorate that these Provinces should be kept from falling against Turkey, and when danger of rebellion was removed, Austrian rule was to be withdrawn, and Austria intended to annex these provinces, so as to get her territory nearer to the sea. Movements to increase her power over Herzegovina caused both Christians and Mohammedans to rise in rebellion against Austria. An encounter has already taken place. The war may spread.

Years ago it was thought the immigration of English Sparrows into Australia would be a great boon to the country. But since arriving in that mild climate, these birds have multiplied to such an extent that they have become a great nuisance. They devour all kinds of fruit and vegetables. The Government has offered 6d. per hundred, for their destruction. Apricots, cherries, figs, apples, peaches, plums, pears, nectarines, olives, wheat barley, oats, cabbages, cauliflowers, and indeed nearly all kinds of vegetable products are devoured by the whole flock. The Scotch Thistle and the English Sparrow have proved a great curse to that island colony.

In the United States 633,841 acres, devoted to the tobacco plant, yields 500,000,000 pounds of tobacco, which is equal to about ten pounds for every man, woman, and child, in the country. The forms of consumption of this hateful weed, are snuffing, chewing, and smoking. When will anti-tobacco societies be organized? The day for lodges, conventions and papers, may not be far off. This plant is making a fearful war on the nerve and temper of the race. Its effects upon the system in Germany, where it is used extensively, have been ascertained by medical experts. Men die of a cerebral affection of the heart, caused by the use of tobacco. The heart in that case is slow moving as the tobacco.

Use well the moments that are yours. Bring forth the best that you can do. And what the best is, you may find. It is just the thing that you are to do. When two men quarrel, who owns the coolest head. It is most to be feared. Nay, don't lose heart, small men and mighty nations. Have learned a great deal when they practice patience. Wouldst thou be a happy lover. Let the past be past forever! Fret not when pride and pedants bore you. Enjoy the good that's set before you; But chiefly hate no man; the rest Leave them to God who knows what's best. —Goethe.

The hundredth anniversary of the birth of Daniel Webster has caused this great man to pass before the eye of the public in Newspapers and Reviews. He passed away in October 1852, about two years after his speech in the Senate, in which he expounded the relation of slavery to the Union. It was regarded as an apology for that huge evil; and the result was a deep and wrathful state of feeling among the antislavery men. It was interpreted as a bid for the presidency of the United States. His great oration on Plymouth Rock, and his speech in the Senate expounding the Constitution of the United States are mentioned as two of the most profound and brilliant addresses ever given by that distinguished orator. Time and change has softened the feelings of the people, towards this great man.

The Century for February contains an article from the pen of the late Dean Stanley, on the late Rev. Frederick W. Robertson, of Brighton. In this article, Mr. F. is praised as the greatest preacher of the 19th century. Exception is partially made in favor of Cardinal Newman, Arnold, and Principal Caird. Spurgeon's Sermons are mentioned as generally circulated, but the late Dean says: they have not penetrated into the literary circles, which must after all, be considered the permanent test of celebrity, literary and otherwise." Here arises the question. In what does the true celebrity of a preacher of the gospel consist? The benevolence, humanity, and largeness of Robertson's heart can no more be doubted, than can the existence of the same elements in the heart of his panegyrist. He also had an active, fruitful, and original mind. But after his visit to Germany, his teaching on the vicarious and atoning work of Christ, was most unsatisfactory. No such uncertain sound has ever come from the pulpit of Spurgeon. These teachings will ever be a spot on the reputation of the great preacher of Brighton.

With a scratch of the autocratic pen the Emperor of Russia freed 22,000,000 serfs who were converted into free peasants, and proprietors of the soil. Much remains to be done before they enjoy the blessings of full freedom.

The Rev. Henry Lansdell—a missionary—has made a journey round the world, and has given the results of his travels in two volumes. He passed through the northern parts of Russia and China, thus traversing that land of horrors, real or supposed, Siberia. He visited the prisons and other public institutions. His account of the physical condition of the country and also of the people generally, including the banished ones, differs widely from the popular belief. The country in many parts is represented as fertile and capable of great production. The prisons are well kept and hospitals are well sustained. He had some dangers but experienced much kindness. Mr. L. has gone through a part of the world little known to travellers. It will doubtless like Livingstone's travels in Africa, lead to the founding of missions in those northern regions. There is plenty of room for the disciples to go and preach the gospel.

Every variety of Sunday School books and papers, at the Visitor's Book Store.

Correspondence.

DEAR EDITOR.—Dorchester Corner is still moving in the right direction. We have finished the outside of our church, and all that now remains to make it *un fait accompli* is the wainscoting, painting, and furnishing the audience room. We had a meat supper, or rather three meat suppers in the vestry, and refreshments in the main building during the first and second weeks of the new year. It took three afternoons to dispose of all the good things provided, and the proceeds reached nearly \$270.

With this and the amount on our subscription list we can about meet our liabilities up to now, but want an extra \$1000 to finish and furnish the main audience room. We do not despair but hope in the summer we will be in a position to invite you and other Revs. to partake of our hospitality and help us dedicate the building.

Our pastor, T. M. Munro is holding special meetings. The attendance, attention and indications are good. Two have been received into the church by letter and two by experience, and others are waiting for their dismissals to join us.

By the by our good pastor in his letter to you of the eleventh inst. spoke *unadvisedly* where he said "I wish sometimes that the devil was dead or rather that the 'Scott Act' was in the bottomless pit." This unguarded expression has done harm; it has been quoted with approval by one of our local papers hostile to temperance, and has afforded much consolation to rum sellers generally.

Our Brother should not thus have yoked good and evil, the devil and the Scott Act together. He might consistently have wished that His Satanic Majesty would absorb himself from our Supreme Court, when questions concerning the Canada Temperance Act were under consideration. "Only that and nothing more."

I know something about Westmorland and believe after careful inquiry that no more liquors are sold in it now than before the adoption of the Canada Temperance Act. I would like to ask Mr. Munro: When had we a law to prevent rum shops from multiplying all over our land? It certainly was not the license law which made us all participants in the taking of the price of blood to support our municipal institutions, and to legalising vice and crime.

Speaking of Dorchester Corner it was never in a better moral state than now, and this is remarkable when we consider the sudden increase in its population on account of the copper mines, and the location of the Penitentiary.

Yours truly, C. O. Dorchester, Jan. 25th '81.

THE SCOTT ACT.

DEAR EDITOR.—I will try to act on your suggestion in respect to the Shakespearean reference; and will also endeavor to set a good example in another respect to my Sackville opponent so far as personal fling is concerned, and in this may manifest a little brighter "judgment" than he has done in charging me with a lack of it without showing wherein I did betray an imbecility of judgment in the wish I made respecting the Act. So far as the Scott Act is concerned, I maintain that if it could be banished to Siberia or driven into a nonentity it would be better for the cause of temperance. From this law we are deriving but little benefit, and the revenue none. Temperance is suffering on the one hand, and the public income is diminished on the other. Let my opponent deny this if he can.

Again this law is so full of holes that every transgressor can find a passage through—it is a law by reason of failure in so many instances, that it is now lying on the temperance battle-field pierced through its legal bowels by the knife of the rum-vender. And now some of our temperance people are lashing this dead monster upon their backs crying do not touch it, it is the best thing that ever we had to dry up the streams of the fire-water, and to put to silence the mischief of ungodly men.

It might be wisdom for us to cut ourselves and cry like the prophet of Babel did on the top of Mount Carmel. It may be one part is asleep or is on a journey, and will return about next March or April in full legal strength.

The St. John Baptist Minister's Conference has put upon record in favor of the Canada Temperance Act. "It has done so much for us! Look at the next sentence hypocritically appended. 'If the Scott Act, so called, will to any reasonable extent, prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors, it is deserving of endorsement.' If my wife were a woman she would be my aunt."

You may prop it up on one side by your resolutions; but some rascal will knock it down on the other, even to the disengagement of true temperance workers. Legal sanction on one side and legal prescription on the other.

Brethren we should be contented with nothing less than a prohibitory liquor law, through and through. This only should satisfy us, let us preach it, talk it, write it and pray for it till we are conquerors.

Now a word to your Sackville Doctor. He has done me an injustice by ranking me among that number "who is anxious that there should be no stop to the floodgates of intemperance." So far as that is concerned the Doctor is not my judge. I am not condemning a "law on account of its prohibiting tendency," but because it is a perfect humbug as it now exists. Liquor-vendors are multiplying, and intoxication is increasing despite a "law of prohibiting tendency." The Doctor dares not touch it. To my mind it is the greatest outcome (the Scott Act) of imperfection that ever appeared to enlightened men and women who know how to understand and appreciate freedom and good laws.

T. M. MUNRO.

SHEDDIE.

"VOLCANOES."

The above was the title of an admirable and instructive lecture by the Rev. J. H. B. in the Bible Division of the Church of Monday evening last. The hall was filled with an appreciative audience, who were not only deeply interested in the matter of the lecture, but were highly delighted with the numerous fine diagrams and illustrations of the most remarkable volcanoes in the world, and also of the remains of Herculaneum and Pompeii, that have been unearthed by the excavations that have been made in the interests of science. These diagrams and illustrations were quite extensive, nearly covering the entire end of the hall, and were procured by the Doctor from London a few years since, and are copies from the best pictorial contributions to science concerning the wonderful burning mountains of the earth. The Rev. lecturer divided his subject into four parts—the causes, uses, phenomena and devastations of volcanoes.

The causes were chiefly found in the accumulation of inflammable materials or in chemical combination. The lecturer said that many of the scientific men of our day believed in the existence of an immense sea of liquid fire in the interior of our globe, on account of the lava thrown out by volcanoes being of intense heat, mixed with trachyte and granite. The latter being the lowest stratum of the earth's formation indicates the great depth from which the lava comes.

The uses of volcanoes were next referred to. They give relief from the greater evils of earthquakes, for even in those countries where both phenomena exist, they draw to their crater internal forces that but for their action would produce most terrible destruction in continuous upheavals of the earth. The chemical uses of volcanoes were shown to be of great importance in throwing out for the natural requirements of organized beings those elements which are deposited in the interior of the earth, and which form a component part of its sustenance.

The phenomena of volcanoes were illustrated by diagrams representing Mount Hecla and the geysers in Iceland, Jorullo in Mexico, a mountain which was thrown up from a valley in the year 1750; Stromboli and Etna, and the air or wind volcanoes of Sicily; Vesuvius, of Italy, and Kiranaea, of Hawaii, and water volcanoes, one of the latter bursting up from a depth of sea 600 feet. The remarkable burning mountain of the Sandwich Islands, Kiranaea, was spoken of as being in a plain depressed from 200 to 400 feet, and sixteen miles in circumference, surrounded on all sides by precipitous rocks. In the midst of this plain, in a gulf 800 feet deep, rise 51 volcanoes, 22 of which are in active operation almost constantly,

emitting flame and lava, the most wonderful of the group being Kiranaea.

The devastations of volcanoes were illustrated by ten diagrams, which were vivid pictures of the overthrow of Herculaneum, Pompeii and Stabia. The terrible destruction caused in Iceland by the eruption of Skapta Jokul, which lasted 25 days in 1783 and which destroyed 20 villages. The stream of burning lava was 50 miles long, from 12 to 15 wide, and from 100 to 600 feet deep, laying waste a vast extent of country, poisoning air and water, and producing in the two succeeding years the death of over 9,000 people out of a population of 50,000, besides thousands of sheep and cattle. To this day Iceland has never recovered from that dire visitation of Providence. The eruption of Vesuvius in 1631 entirely destroyed the city of Torre del Greco, and was the most disastrous in its effects of any action of the old volcano since the overthrow of Pompeii, which event occurred in the year 79.

The Rev. gentleman closed an excellent lecture by introducing some practical reflections that were in keeping with the time and place, indicating that the many phases of the liquor traffic were due to the volcano in their allurements and destructiveness, and with a warm-hearted appeal to all present to be active co-workers in a cause that seeks to rescue man from the evils of intemperance. Y. Herald.

READING THE TELEGRAMS.

The greater part of the messages, sent over Continents and under oceans are utterly worthless. It is a waste of time to read them; but not a week passes but some facts of wonderful significance are flashed over the world's wires, these should be carefully pondered by the Christian.

What of the night? should be the enquiry. Quite recently the world has been startled by a backward movement of the Ottoman Kaiser of Germany. That country is now the foremost in the world in the possession of Universities and Schools. The fruits of these institutions have already appeared. In the Franco-Prussian war Germany sent out an army of scholars, just when the world was expecting, and from the condition of things reasonably expecting, the liberalizing of the too kingly government. The old King, through Bismark, tells the people of Germany and of the world that authority emanates from and centres in the Kaiser. In the "Rescript," communicating the intelligence, that on the 22nd of March next the Crown Prince Frederick William will be appointed Regent, as his father will then be 85 years old. Next comes the startling intelligence that the divine right of kings is the doctrine of the Court of Berlin. While we write the news arrives that the announcement of this doctrine in the German Parliament—Reichstag—by Bismark was accompanied by violent demonstrations. The old Premier seems to have lost his usual calmness. He challenged any one to charge him with cowardice.

The collision between this despotic principle and the doctrine of responsible government, such as exists substantially in France, Great Britain and the United States, cannot be very far in the future. The system of schools and the great Universities have unfitted the people to submit to any despotic assumption. This bold avowal of the Emperor William, through his courageous Chancellor, will hasten the day of responsible government.

But every Christian must see that the discussion of the principle, whether sound government rests substantially with the people, or whether it is in the person and will of the monarch, must of necessity involve the discussion of religion and the doctrines of the Bible in the matter of civil government. Baptists have taken a leading part in such discussions both in Great Britain her Colonies and in the United States. No doubt can be entertained that their voice will be heard in Germany where their numbers are multiplying fast, before that country gets as far along in the matter of responsible government as Great Britain is at the present time. In the latter country the divorce of the Church from the State in both England and Scotland will come in due time. "A free Church in a free State," was Count Cavour's doctrine for Italy. Sobriety is the doctrine every where held by Baptists. When Germany gets her principle of Government in

regard to the balance of power between the monarch and the people settled, then she will be forced to settle the question of Church and State. SIGMA.

HALIFAX NOTES.

The Rev. A. McArthur pastor of the Granville St. Church has been holding special services since the close of the week of prayer.

The church has been much revived, and quite a number of the unaved in the congregation seem much concerned. We trust that the Spirit of God is working in many hearts and that ere long we shall see many turning to the Lord with full purpose of heart.

Mr. McArthur is a workman that needeth not to be ashamed. He is a pleasing and forcible speaker, drawing very large congregations on the Sabbath, not by any sensation in his manner, but by an agreeable, yet plain and earnest presentation of the truth. He is very highly appreciated by his people, and is evidently making a good impression on our city, as a faithful and efficient minister of the gospel of Christ. We anticipated for him by the blessing of God a long and successful pastorate. He is a robust son of old Scotland and a convert from Presbyterianism.

There is a blessed work of grace in progress in the Cornwalls St. (Colored) Baptist Church.

The pastor, Rev. H. N. Johnson, comes from the Newton Theological Seminary, Mass. He is an earnest and faithful worker, and a very acceptable preacher.

Ten have this week been baptized into the fellowship of that church. We greatly rejoice with our brother in the success of the Lord's work.

We understand that Rev. E. J. Grant, and his people across the water in Dartmouth are being much encouraged in their work. The brethren and sisters in Dartmouth believe in hard work.

Yarmouth Notes.

DEAR BRO.—The weather has been most changeable here for the last few weeks. It seemed to have been made up of odds and ends, first snow, rain and sunshine, crowded into almost every twenty-four hours, consequently we have a great deal of sickness in this community at present. The First Church had their annual meeting in aid of Convention Scheme on Monday evening last. We had Day light on the Scheme at the very outset. Matters thus were made quite clear. With Goodspeed the proceedings were brought to a close as the result will show. Subscription and contributions in all, over \$400 with strong hope of adding to it very materially. The other churches are setting themselves in order for a vigorous effort in this direction.

The good work is still going on in Hebron. Rev. A. Cohoon baptized four or five last Lord's day.

The Ohio church is pastorless at present, Rev. Mr. Rowe having recently resigned. Arcadia is also vacant. There is considerable religious interest in the Deerfield church. Bro. Stubbart has baptized a number lately.

The Mission in Carlton, supported by the neighboring pastors is wonderfully blessed. I had the pleasure of baptizing the first convert that was baptized in that place for the last seventeen years. Two weeks since, one evening twenty-two arose for prayers. Bro. Parry baptized five there last Lord's day, and the good work is going on. A council is called to-day to consider the propriety of organizing a church in that place; the stormy weather preventing some of us from attending. They are to proceed with the erection of a meeting house at once. Thus God smiles upon the efforts of churches and pastors who are willing to do a little work out side of themselves, without drawing on Home Missionary treasury which is in rather straitened condition at present.

Amount received for H. M. B. Jan. 26th per Dr. Day Convention Funds \$190.33, wanted at least \$1000 to pay off present liabilities.

J. A. GORDON. Treas. H. M. B. Feb. 2nd 1882.

Men are apt to mistake the strength of their feeling for the strength of their argument. The heated mind resents the chill touch and relentless scrutiny of logic.—Gladstone