

own unworthiness, to neglect the path of duty, believing that it would be a greater sin to enter the ministry unprepared than even to refuse to enter should it be a duty. While we allow that the Gospel in its influences over the spirits of men is calculated, from the facts which it exhibits, to expand, enlighten and refine the minds of those whom it pardons, yet it imparts no new faculties, nor does it necessarily impart ability for public teaching, without being subject to the culture which human learning bestows either before or after conversion.

The age of miracles is past, no one can now expect to receive the gift of *longues* and *prophecy* through the laying on of *Apostolic hands*, nor can the order of men designed for the ministry of the word be expected to attain to maturity of thought, or acquire a knowledge of general information immediately after their conversion to God, or at the time of their entering the ministry, without pursuing the ordinary means to which other men resort, in obtaining knowledge and ability for usefulness. Hence the necessity of urging such as are looking forward to the ministry to attend first to the cultivation of their mind. If the work of a minister of religion is to exhibit and illustrate the doctrines contained in the word of God, and thereby instruct and edify their hearers for the inheritance of the saints in light, who is sufficient for a work of such magnitude in the absence of mental training and the acquisition of sound knowledge? There is no law more apparent in the governance of the Universe than that of adaptation; but the idea of placing the inexperienced and unlearned, however pious or well disposed, as the interpreters of the oracles of God and the instructors of others in things pertaining to eternity, there is nothing but unmixed repulsion. This harmony in fitness exhibits itself in no part of the divine government more conspicuously than in the characters appointed by God as religious instructors of his people. From the time of the calling of Moses from the court and school of Egypt to the appointment of pastors in Apostolic Churches, studied care is manifest in committing the work only to such as were able to teach others also, and while the Apostles enjoined on the primitive ministers to be "examples to believers in the Word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, and in purity," they were at the same time admonished to give particular attendance to reading (or studying,) and meditation, by which their profiting might appear to all. In glancing at Scripture biography, we see that those who enjoyed the advantages of education previous to their call, to govern and instruct others, such as Moses and Saul of Tarsus, were immediately thrust into the work, while those who were deprived of such advantages were instructed to enter the schools of the prophets, or, as in the case of the twelve Apostles, who, after their call to the preaching of the Gospel, were retained by their master for upwards of three years in constant attendance on His own private and public tuition. And lest they should mistake the requisite qualifications for a work of such magnitude, He most emphatically admonishes them to tarry in Jerusalem until they should be put in possession of more power and wisdom for their work.

If after carefully examining the characters of those whom God has in all ages of the world called to *rule* and *train* his people, the irresistible inference is, that they were men who "magnified their office" by sound learning and mental discipline, as well as by unblemished piety and holy zeal; our duty respecting those from among our numbers who are looking forward to the work of the ministry is as clear as a sun-beam.

Dear brethren, if we expect to maintain the ground which our more elderly brethren have occupied, we must encourage young men who are willing to hazard their lives for the name of Christ, to prepare their minds for the communication of "sound speech cannot be denied." The solemn character of the work, and the rapid but certain progress of general intelligence in almost every section of our province, demand for us a greater supply of an enlightened ministry.

Dear young brethren, though the work to which you are looking forward with much solicitude is one of exalted character, and your anxiety respecting it is invested with many penetrating emotions, we would exhort you not to rest satisfied with present attainments. If the Head of the Church has called you to teach

others, in order adequately to do so, be certain that He wishes you to embrace every opportunity within your reach to acquire knowledge and capacity for communicating his will to the ignorant, and those who are out of the way. Be not persuaded, although you should already possess a respectable share of readiness of utterance, to believe that you have all that is necessary. Mere declamation, however affectionately and fluently uttered, will not instruct nor satisfy a discerning public. Let it be your highest ambition to show yourselves approved unto God, and workmen that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Let us, dear brethren, as Ministers of the New Testament and Churches of the Lord Jesus, diligently enquire if we have not been too remiss in respect to the rising ministry. And whilst we confidently hold fast the belief that it is God alone that endows men with qualifications for the ministry, and for every other good work, is it not imperative on us to pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out more laborers into the vineyard?

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to Report as follows:

That the latest accounts received from Brother Burpe are of an encouraging nature, as it respects the great objects of his Mission. Eleven of the benighted Karens have been converted to God through his instrumentality, and immersed in the name of the Trinity. They would also state that the Missionary Board are in correspondence with a Brother, who, if approved, will soon be on his way to join our beloved Missionaries in Mergui, accompanied with a suitable companion.

They are convinced that it is only necessary for them to refer to the magnitude of the work; to point to a whole Province with but a single Missionary family to instruct them; to insist upon the command of the Lord Jesus which binds his followers to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world; and to remind their brethren of the pledges both express and implied, which they have individually and unitedly made to carry forward this sacred enterprise, in order to arouse their sympathies and call forth their liberality on behalf of the foreign Missionary cause.

All which is respectfully submitted.  
W. D. Fitch, Chairman of the Committee.

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE UNION SOCIETY.

The Committee regarding the successful operation of Union Societies as the most efficient instrumentality to promote the purposes of the denomination, regret that so little has been done by the churches towards sustaining the funds of the Union, and believing that the objects to be accomplished by the Union will be defeated, unless some suitable course be pursued to secure such funds as may be necessary.

They would recommend that an agent be forthwith employed to carry out the purposes of the Union, whose constant employment shall be devoted to it; and whilst laboring in said work, that he receive aid as a missionary from the different Boards. We have observed another serious evil in connection with the operation of the Union, which has led to some misconception as to the permanency of the subscriptions made at the organization of the several societies—and owing to this, many have not felt bound to continue their subscriptions as the Lord has prospered them; though expected, at the time, to continue their contributions from year to year.

We further recommend that the Ministers and Delegates present, be requested to urge the Churches immediately on their return to forward their contributions to the Union Society at the meeting of the Convention of the Provinces; and unless a special effort be forthwith put forth, we see no alternative but that objects to which we are pledged must suffer.

In behalf of Committee,  
A. McDONALD.

Rev. Daniel Dimock, late Pastor of the Baptist Church in Truro and Onslow has accepted the call extended by the St. John Ladies' Baptist City Missionary and Mariners' Friend Society to become their Missionary, and will as early as possible enter upon his labors as such. Brother Dimock will receive a cordial and earnest welcome amongst the Ministering brethren of New Brunswick and by his immediate associates at St. John.

We have reserved a part of the Essay upon War for our next paper, contrary to our intention last week, to make room for the doings of the Association.

**DISTRESSING CASUALTY.**—We regret to state that Capt. George Briggs, of the ship *Ann Dashwood*, of this port, met with serious accident on Friday night, by falling from the deck into the ship's hold. It appears that the after hatch way was incautiously left uncovered, and about half-past ten o'clock Capt. B., in walking across the deck from the cabin door, where he had been talking with one of his officers, with the intention of going on the wharf, was tripped by a rope from the hatchway, and fell to the bottom of the hold upon his head. He was taken up insensible, in which state, he has since remained, and we are sorry to say, that the injury done to his head is so serious that but little hope is entertained of his recovery.

Captain Briggs is the eldest surviving son of Mr. James Briggs of Portland—whose late melancholy bereavements are fresh in public recollection. He was a young man of much promise, having returned last week from his first voyage as Master of one of his father's vessels. We in common with their numerous acquaintances, sincerely sympathize with the afflicted family in their repeated trying visitations.—*Courier*.

The above announcement will no doubt be read with feelings of sincere regret, not only by the immediate friends of the family, but by the community at large. Capt. Briggs, as will be seen by an obituary notice in another column, lingered until Sunday morning when he expired.—*New Brunswick*.

**INGENUOUS FRAUD.**—An ingenuous mode of defrauding the Revenue was detected on board steamer *Senator* yesterday, by the Officers of the Provincial Revenue. Two tierces apparently filled with onions, and three barrels with beans and three with flour, were opened, and inside of each was found a cask containing American rum, which fitted so tightly as to afford only room for a small quantity of the articles mentioned. The fraud was most skilfully planned, and aptly illustrates the tricks of old smugglers.—*New Brunswick*.

**CUTTING AND STABBING.**—A young man, named Johnston, was frightfully cut on Monday night, in Lower Cove, by the Cook of the ship "Zetland." The side of his head was laid open, from the top to the middle of the throat, and his ear split; he was also stabbed through the right wrist and in the side—so dangerously as to render his existence extremely doubtful. The assassin was arrested and lodged in Gaol.

These are the facts, as near as can be ascertained.—*Bee*.

**The Fredericton Reporter** of last Friday says:—We are sorry to say, that one short week has made woful havoc among the potato fields in this vicinity. Vines which were a few days ago in a healthy state, are now withered down; and most of the potatoes brought to Market are diseased.

**WRECK OF THE BRIG BELLE ISLE, OF ANNAPOLIS, N. S.**—On the 26th instant at 11 p. m. whilst the B. I. was on her passage between Annapolis and Boston, and when under close reefed maintop-sail and double reefed foretop-sail, foresail and foretopmast staysail, the lee tiller rope parted, when the vessel rounded too and immediately capsized—both masts were cut away; when the vessel righted full of water, and with the loss of deck load. The Captain and crew were on the wreck 48 hours, during which period five vessels passed by, two of which schooners were almost within hailing distance, none of them however possessed sufficient humanity, to induce them to offer relief. The crew of the B. I. depended altogether upon rye flour wet with salt water for sustenance, whilst they were lashed to the stump of the mainmast, ultimately all hands were taken off the wreck by Captains Boudrot, (father and son,) of the British schooners Shannon and Eliza, of Pictou, N. S., by whom they were treated with the greatest kindness and supplied with clothing. The persons on board of the B. I. 10 in number, were hauled on board of the schooners by means of a line, one at a time, the sea running so high as to prevent the use of a boat. The B. I. was owned by Messrs. Thorne & Son, of Bridgetown, N. S.

**GRAND MANAN FISHERY.**—In consequence of the unceasing exertion of Captain Carmichael of the Provincial Revenue service, the disturbances which hitherto prevailed amongst the fishermen at Grand Manan, have been entirely suppressed. And the fishery has latterly been prosecuted with great success. We learn that the arrangements of Capt. C. by which fair play on all sides can be fully attained, have been marked by sound practical sense, and that the impartial conduct of this efficient officer has been such as, to secure for him the respect of all the parties at Grand Manan, whose interests he is now protecting with the most unceasing vigilance.

**ANOTHER FIRE IN CHATHAM.**—We have the unpleasant duty to perform this week of recording another fire. The alarm was given yesterday afternoon about half past two, when it proved to be the stable and waggon shed of Mr. Sherwood Peck, on the mill hill, and subsequently extended to his barn—the whole of these buildings with their contents, were burned to the ground, with the exception of a small quantity of wheat in sheaf, which was removed from the barn. We regret much to add, that Mr. Peck has lost his best horse, which it was impossible to remove from the stable, and also his waggon and harness, which of themselves must have been worth to him little less than fifty pounds.—*Miramichi Gleaner*.

**DESTRUCTIVE FIRES IN THE COUNTIES OF PICTOU AND SYDNEY.**—The *Pictou Chronicle* of the 24th inst., states that the fires raging in the woods have done considerable damage to the farmers in consequence of an almost unprecedented drought. A number of houses and barns, with their contents have been consumed, together with great numbers of sheep and cattle. In the country around Antigonish the fires had extended in every direction, and the people were leaving their homes, in consequence of the density of the smoke around their dwellings. The Saw Mill of Mr. James Fraser, at West River, has been destroyed by fire.—*New Brunswick*.

**THUNDER STORM AT YARMOUTH.**—The *Yarmouth Herald* of the 24th ultimo, says that a thunder storm which occurred there on the Sunday morning previous did considerable damage to the Light House on the Cape, the lightning having struck the building with terrific force.—One of the huge corner posts was split—one of the knees was shattered almost to splinters—four of the studs were knocked out of place and destroyed—every pane of glass was broken in three of the windows—boards and shingles were removed, and it will be at considerable expense that the damage can be repaired.

**FRESHETS IN STEWIAKKE.**—We learn by a person from Stewiacke, that the freshets of last week have destroyed a great deal of property there. In Upper Stewiacke a new grist mill and carding mill, belonging to D. & A. Fisher, and a new stone dam which they had put up last season, were swept away by the stream. A grist mill, the property of Mr. William Newcombe, and the bridge over the river, near the Rev. Mr. Smith's, were also destroyed. Several persons have lost a portion of their crop, and one individual, Mr. C. Cox, has lost twenty tons of hay. It is said to have been one of the greatest freshets ever known there. *Pictou Chronicle*.

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.**—The Public Offices at Charlottetown were opened on the 21st ult., in the Colonial Building, recently finished. A period of more than five years has elapsed since the erection of the building was commenced. A census of the Island has lately been taken, from which it appears the entire population is nearly 63,000. The inhabitants at Charlottetown and Royalty number 4,500.—*Halifax Recorder*.

**LORD ELGIN.**—The rumor is still kept up in the Montreal papers, that the Earl of Elgin has tendered his resignation as Governor General. The retirement of His Excellency would be regretted by men of all parties in Canada, particularly if the reason assigned be the true one the continued illness of his amiable lady.—*Quebec Gazette*.

**THE CROPS IN CANADA.**—The progress of the crops during the last fortnight has been almost marvellous. The accounts from the various parts of the surrounding country, agree in stating that the farmers are pushed very hard to find labor and time to get them in, as they are ripening so much together. About ten days ago a report was current that the spring wheat was threatened with rust, but we have not yet heard it confirmed.—*Toronto Patriot*.

**TERRIFIC EXPLOSION.**—The extensive iron foundry of Sanson & Co., corner of Broadway and Schuyler streets, was this morning the scene of a most alarming accident. About half past 12 the boiler burst with a tremendous explosion, demolishing one side of the furnace, and damaging the new furnace on the opposite side of Schuyler street. There were eleven men in the moulding room, through which bricks, rafters and the fragments of machinery were scattered, some of whom were seriously injured. No less than 118 men are employed in the foundry. They were at dinner, but had the accidents occurred while they were present, the loss of life would have been immense. The boiler is said to have been perfectly new, and never had more than 120 lbs. of steam on; was usually run with about 90 lbs. on. A man on board of a sloop is said to have been blown off.—*Albany Atlas*.

**NIAGARA.**—A clergyman who is among the visitors at Niagara, thus speaks of his impressions on a first view of the mighty cataract. We are indebted to the *New York Christian Inquirer* for the extract:

Let me say from the fullness of an overcharged heart, that my most excited expectations, my highest conceptions of what Niagara was, are by the reality so surpassed, that I am almost giddy with the wild, thrilling, joyous, and tremulous, fearful, soul subduing emotions which are rushing over me with every gaze. Tell our dear M—that she may gather my first impression which I felt the first moment my eyes rested on the sublime spectacle from the words of the Liturgy:—"The Father of an Infinite Majesty." No earthly object was ever so clothed in majesty as this—none ever spoke so at once, and so awfully to my soul of God, the Ever a King One. It is not of earth, it is not of this world—this beauty and high and terrible majesty. The veneration of the Heavenly Father was never inspired by a diviner glory than this. But I cannot find utterance. Thank God I have seen it and felt it and drawn into my worn heart, rich and solace and a new life from it.