

But the American revolution is likely to produce an equally wide impression of a religious nature. The example of a great nation adopting the purely voluntary principle, will, it is extremely likely, be followed by others. The people who are now every where claiming for themselves the privilege of choosing their own temporal rulers, are not likely for any length of time, to allow the extraneous appointment of religious governors. The public will claim for itself the right of giving its suffrages in matters ecclesiastical. This principle, indeed, is already powerfully at work.— Either a pure voluntarism or else nationalism, which is only voluntarism in a national form, as seen from the tendencies of events, must predominate. A system which nations choose for themselves, may possibly find a place in the new order of ideas; but as to a religious yoke being imposed by a foreign church—as in the case of Popery in ancient times—this is utterly impossible in the present state of things.

The doctrine of the Papacy may indeed prevail in places where they have been held for a great length of time, till something better obtains; but as to anything like the old dominion of the Holy See, this cannot find place in the midst of the growing democracy of the world. Indeed, institutions of every kind seem destined to be controlled by the public voice.

CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1850.

THE PRECIOUSNESS OF TIME.

Time is precious. This remark is uttered so frequently, and commands so ready and universal an assent, that one can hardly be prepared to expect the serious waste of it.— How precious it is, who can tell? How much may be accomplished and acquired even in a brief space when wisely used. A happy eternity is but the recompense of well employed time. Treasures in heaven, incomparable, and eternal are its acquirements.

But its preciousness is greatly enhanced by the fact that once gone it can never be recovered, repaired, or redeemed. Health, wealth, friends, office, when forfeited or lost are at least occasionally recovered; time never.— What is gone is past recovery, and the value of the present and of what is to come are both actually impaired by the loss of what passed without improvement. Whether we seek information or property, we have less advantage in the pursuit for every hour we have lost; in the loss were involved both experience and capital; and if but a day, we are now only where we should have been yesterday, and so shall ever be a day behind hand. Many now far advanced in years die in comparative infancy, nor is there a more astonishing prophecy in the Bible than that which relates to the complete employment of time which shall characterise that happy golden age which most good men are anticipating for the church. "There shall be no more an infant of days, nor an old man that hath not filled his days, for the child shall die an hundred years old." The preciousness of time will then be well understood and felt, and in its proper use, the favour of God will be enjoyed; every honest enterprise will be pursued with a diligence which will ensure success; and the whole earth will be filled with competence and peace.

Rev. William Hall, who for several years past has been Pastor of the Baptist Church in Saint George, has recently relinquished his charge in that place, and passed through this city this week on his way to Windsor, N. S., the Baptist Church there having solicited his services. We regret very much to lose brother Hall from New Brunswick; his talents, acquirements, and frank and honorable bearing towards his brethren in the ministry command our best respects. We hope his labors at Windsor may be eminently successful. It gives us great satisfaction when our Ministers are changing their fields of labor to see that they are willing for the cause's sake to apply their energies where they are needed, and where there is work to be done, rather than be seduced by the hope of greater emoluments or of easier circumstances to the States, where, especially in New England, Ministers are already so numerous as to create great daintiness on the part of the churches, and leave scores who have no pastoral connexion; whilst in these Provinces one may truly say the harvest is plenteous but the laborers are few.— How Ministers can consistently pray the Lord of the harvest, to send forth laborers to the destitute, when turning their back upon poor

churches and destitute fields, for the sake of more polished society, better regulated churches, larger congregations and larger salaries, we are at a loss to conceive. This is not the case with brother Hall. He goes amongst an intelligent people, where we believe his talents will be appreciated; but it is to attempt to raise the cause where it is feeble and low, and where the graces both of diligence and frugality will be requisite.

Brother Hall has left an interesting field at Saint George; as important a point and at the same time as encouraging a field of labor as our Province affords. We hope it may soon be occupied by a well informed, judicious, and faithful Pastor.

We noticed a few weeks since that an apparently serious difficulty had broken out amongst the Sons of Temperance in New York State in regard to the jurisdiction of the Grand Division, two separate bodies claiming that right. We made no reference to it, regretting exceedingly that such an occasion of reproach should be put in the way of those who had no sympathy with the great and benevolent work of the Order. The honorable and satisfactory method of adjustment which has been pursued however must be a rebuke indeed to any who have rejoiced over the difficulty. The brethren in that State have illustrated in a very happy manner the efficiency of their principles, and have shown that Love, Purity, and Fidelity, exercise a controlling influence over them in their relation to the Order and its objects.

It would be a vain expectation and a most unjust judgment with reference to the Order to expect that all who attach themselves as members should conduct worthily and not violate their obligations. Its numbers are now so great, its general credit and influence so conspicuous, and it affords so many opportunities for personal display, that many might reasonably be expected to be attracted to its fellowship by unworthy motives, or to make an improper use of their position and standing as members or officers of Divisions. These will occasionally involve Divisions in trials, and may create distrust or even disgust in those who have but a superficial acquaintance with the Order; but the sterling and tried friends of Temperance have now so generally rallied to its support, and have so identified their character and influence with it, that great confidence may now be placed in it, and the final decisions of Divisions, subordinate or grand, be anticipated as honorable and just.

THE COLPORTEUR.—We have received a note from brother Mutch, dated at Penfield on Monday last, in which he writes encouragingly of his work. The travelling last week was unfavorable, as was also the weather for several days. Brother Mutch visited Musquash and Dipper Harbor. In the latter place brother Wells travelled with him, and assisted him in his work on Tuesday and Wednesday. Wednesday night he reached Penfield, and had visited most of the Parish when he wrote. He had sold 100 volumes, and distributed 500 pages Tracts, and had preached five times. At Saint George, Masquareen and Bacabeck, we have no doubt brother M. will be kindly received and aided in his work. The stock of books which he has, has been selected with care, and we shall keep the stock replenished during his tour with books, which we can most confidently recommend.

We publish to day the Prospectus of the American Messenger for 1851. It will be seen that this excellent paper has now a circulation of 170,000 copies; of this number we have circulated the past year 832 copies. We propose still to supply it in parcels of 10 or more to subscribers in any part of the Province, sending them by the earliest opportunities, which except for the two or three months of Winter, are frequent to any part of the Province. Our Price is *One Shilling in advance.* We regret that the past year several have taken advantage of us to order parcels, with the promise of speedy and sure pay, from whom, though the year is now up, we have received nothing. We see in consulting our books that 230 have not paid us, though some of them may have paid their agents; from two thirds as many more we have received but part payment. We shall send the December number to these parties after which we shall stop till their accounts are paid up. The January number is the proper one to commence with, and we solicit the attention of those who wish to do good by circulating

good reading matter, to the Prospectus and our terms. We would of course rather receive subscriptions to the Visitor, but we know that many who cannot afford the latter would be glad to procure the former.

THE YOUTH'S PENNY GAZETTE is giving great satisfaction to those who receive it. Some schools find that it quite supersedes by its frequency and freshness the necessity of much increase of Library. This excellent paper comes twice every month, at *One Shilling per annum.* **THE SUNDAY SCHOOL JOURNAL**, for Teachers and Superintendents, contains double the amount of reading matter, is issued also twice a month, and may be had in parcels of 10, at *One Shilling and Sixpence per annum.*

The above papers are not denominational, though strictly evangelical; the former is by the American Tract Society, the two latter by the American Sunday School Union, and we furnish them already to Pastors and Schools of all the leading denominations of the Province, as we have also the valuable books of both societies; indeed this is one of the most acceptable and efficient departments of our Colportage operation. *Cash must accompany the orders.*

THE WORKING FARMER.—We have had the pleasure of sending several times in behalf of subscribers for this excellent Journal. It comes monthly and regularly, full of admirable matter, no number of which but would abundantly pay any farmer for the year's series with large interest. We are about sending on again, and if any wish to forward their names and subscriptions, we will cheerfully enclose them.

ORDINATION AT MACCAN, N. S.—We learn from brother Francis that a very interesting ordination service was held at Maccan, on Thursday, 14th inst., when brother John Rowe, Licenciate of the North Sidney Church, (C. B.) was set apart to the solemn work of the Gospel ministry. Brother Rowe, who was originally from Scotland, has studied three or four years at the Institution at Horton, and is a promising preacher.

CAUTION.—A young man of genteel appearance has been imposing upon the community the two weeks past, in this vicinity, against whom people should be on their guard. Several articles were stolen by him in this city from the house where he put up. At Hampton Ferry he styled himself Captain Jenkins, professed to be an acquaintance of Rev. John Francis, and as such introduced himself to Mrs. Francis, in whose absence from the room he searched her draws and stole a sum of money amounting to several pounds, with which he made off.

We directed a letter to brother Francis last week, to Harvey Post Office, and another by Wednesday's mail, to care of Mr. Crandal at the Bend.

We are much obliged to Mr. Wallace for his attention to our business at Sussex, we will endeavour to communicate with him in the course of a week.

There are two packages at the Colportage Depository directed to Mr. D. Palfrey, Bridgetown, N. S., upon each of which is a charge of 1s. 3d. for freight and duty.

WHO CAN EQUAL THIS.—On the 16th inst. Mr. Daniel Pugsley, of Sussex, King's County, killed a bull 2 years old, the quarters of which weighed 740 lbs. This extraordinary animal was of an English breed, imported by A. C. Evanson, Esquire.

LETTERS RECEIVED.—Rev. J. Francis, (2) with remittances; Rev. F. Merriam; Mr. N. P. Kemp; Mr. L. Wallace, with remittance.

Correspondence.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

THE BAPTISM.

It was on a lovely morning which ushered in the sacred Sabbath that we witnessed this delightful and impressive ordinance. The sun burst forth in all his glory, and the earth robed in the rich garniture of summer, seemed to rejoice in his first bright beams. Light clouds, tinged with the tender tints of the rose, floated gracefully along the clear blue sky, and the hills were bathed in golden light. Whilst each shrub and flower was radiant with

diamond dew drops, seeming as if they had indeed drank in the generous gifts of heaven.

But though the sweet harmonies of nature subdued the heart by their gentle influences, still it was the sacredness of the Sabbath that imparted a hallowed calmness to the soul, and surrounded the spirit with a holy and heavenly spell.

On the eastern shore of the beautiful pond whither we bent our steps a large concourse of persons were already assembled, awaiting the administration of the sacred rite.

But not a sound broke the stillness of the hour until the servant of God read the word of the hymn, when the mingled voices of the choir rose on the perfumed air, was borne over the water, and heard echoing even in the wood lands beyond. Then fell gently on the ear the earnest pleading tones of prayer, and so over-powering was the solemnity which pervaded the multitude that many an eye was dimmed by tears.

"And there amid the waters stood,
The man of God with solemn brow;
Alone he trod the chrysal floor,
With courage firm and footsteps slow;
Calmly he gazed on all around,
As if he felt his Saviour near;
And then immersed with awe profound,
The convert in the waters clear."

And though a dove did not descend on downy wing "shedding swift music from its plumes," nor did we hear a voice saying, "This is my much beloved son in whom I am well pleased," yet we humbly trust that angels hovered over the scene and that the Almighty beheld it with benignant eye.

"O never can the soul forget
The beauty of that Sabbath scene,
The hour, the place, we see it yet,
A leaf in memory's chaplet green."
LEONORA.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

MR. EDITOR.—Is it consistent for a Church to withdraw fellowship from a member walking disorderly, who at the same time is generally by the Church considered to be a truly converted man?

St. John, Nov. 25, 1850

We should not hesitate to answer the above question in the affirmative or rather to say that some circumstances would certainly warrant it. If we had received the enquiry earlier we would have given our reasons; we will endeavour to do so in our next paper.—Ed.

Missionary Intelligence.

From Orissa, India.

We are enabled to lay before our readers the substance of a highly interesting communication from Orissa, a country lying in the heart of India, between Madras and Calcutta, and the seat of the horrid temple of Juggernaut. It is from the Rev. John Buckley, of the General Baptist Mission, written April 22, in the absence of our esteemed friend the Rev. Amos Sutton, who has just left this country on his return to Orissa from a visit to England and the United States, and happily illustrates the necessity of Tract operations in Pagan lands, and the rich blessing with which God has graciously attended them. After striking the chord of Christian love that unites the hearts of all who are laboring to spread the gospel, "One family we dwell in Him," and begging the united prayers of God's people for India, he proceeds to adduce motives and encouragements.

"Light is spreading, inquiry is excited.—Hoary systems of idolatry destined to fall, have begun to totter. Brahmins and Gooroos dread our tracts and scriptures, and have sometimes, even with tears, but much more frequently with enraged feelings, besought the people not to regard them, threatening them with perdition if they did. Occasionally one and another cheer us by saying, 'Surely our fathers inherited lies, vanity, and things wherein there is no profit,' and by joining themselves to the Lord in an everlasting covenant. But the masses of the people are still in ignorance and unbelief, forgetting God, and therefore going to hell."

After stating that "in no former year has more abundant evidence been furnished that tracts are extensively read, and producing an impression on the minds of the people," he mentions three great festivals during the last year, which the missionaries have visited for preaching and distribution. One at Trebain, in the Cuttack district, at which about forty thousand were assembled. Another "near the black pagoda, the renowned temple of the