

ledge money and then parties who give it, know that it has been recorded.

At this place I obtained several new names for the Visitor, which I now send. Our respected agent here deserves our warmest thanks. I called to-day and had a delightful conversation with Father Crandal, who is, for his age, remarkably well, and as active as a young man. He desires his love to all, and hopes to visit the city soon.

I got to our active agent's, Mr. J. S. Triter to tea, and walked with him to the Chapel, where I preached and took up a collection for the Bible Union. His father, Lewis Trites, Esq., who is a Wesleyan, also most willingly made himself a Life Member, as did also Mr. Caleb Sherman, and our agent made me as a "love token," a present of a handsome gold pencil case—not, I truly add, "that I desire a gift, but I desire fruit that may abound to the account of the saints." I hope you are prospering in the city in all the churches. I do not forget to pray for you, as I sincerely desire an interest in your prayers. I go, D. V., in the morning to Coverdale, to see our brother, the Rev. Jas. Wallace, who is ill—and then on.

R. T.

Correspondence.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Doctrinal Perplexities.

John Foster in the preface to his Essays remarks: "The spirit of the third (Essay) may appear so different from that of the second, as to give an impression of something like inconsistency. The second may be thought to have an appearance of representing that a man may effect almost every thing, the third that he can effect scarcely any thing." After pointing out the different conditions under which the one asserts the efficacy of human resolution and effort, while the other asserts their inefficiency, he proceeds: "The author appeals to the experience of such thinking men as are accustomed to commit their thoughts to writing, whether sometimes, on comparing the pages in which they had endeavoured to place one truth in the strongest light, with those in which they have endeavoured a strong but yet not extravagant exhibition of another, they have not felt a momentary difficulty to reconcile them, even while satisfied of the substantial justness of both."

This remark, the truth of which every thinking man would attest, becomes still more worthy of notice, when the subject of investigation relates to man on the one hand, and to the divine Being on the other. Not only may there appear to be an inconsistency between two truths, but it may be impossible for human reason, in its present stage of development, to reconcile them. Of such a nature are the truths of the absolute immutability of the divine nature, and the efficacy of fervent inwrought prayer. Who can logically reconcile the fact that with God there is no variability, neither the shadow of a turning, with the fact that the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much? Yet where is the Christian man who will deny either of these facts, or even modify them, in order to make them appear in perfect harmony to his limited apprehension? If this is the case with regard to the plain duty of prayer, how much more true is it of the profound doctrine of election and human responsibility? Some may think it quite impossible to hold the doctrine of unconditional election, according to the good pleasure of God and not for any worthiness in the object; and at the same time to hold the obligation of exhorting sinners to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and the awful responsibility of those who bear and reject the truth. Yet there are not a few who hold both these and kindred doctrines, not because they have discovered the point of coincidence between these two seemingly conflicting truths; but because they find them both clearly set forth in the Bible, and they believe that what they know not now they will know hereafter. In their preaching they can freely speak to believers as chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world to holiness, while they can at the same time call on all men every where to repent. They can exult in the thought that the Saviour's joy in the salvation of men is not dependent on a peradventure for all that the Father has given him shall come to him, while at the same time they equally exult in proclaiming the full, free, unfettered promise, that whosoever comes to Jesus he will in no wise cast out.

They can cheer the downcast fearful child of God with the assurance that the sheep of Christ shall never perish, neither shall any pluck them out of his hand, while at the same time they can utter the warning voice with unflinching emphasis. Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. They can aim a deadly blow at the ever springing stalks of self-righteousness, which it is so difficult to kill or pluck up by the roots, by insisting upon the truth that salvation is not of works, that we are saved by grace through faith; and that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God, and can at the same time animate to the most persevering exertion in adding virtue to faith, and abounding in the fruits of the spirit. They can express the hope that God has not appointed those, to whom they minister to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, and yet can solemnly warn those to whom Christ is a stone of stumbling and rock of offence, lest they be appointed to the punishment which is in store for the disobedient.

They can expatiate upon the delightful thought, that God willeth not the death of a sinner, that he so loved the world as to give his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life; and they can also remind the hardened hypocrite that when Christ was on earth, he said to all such, "how can you escape the damnation of hell?"

It is not my intention to stir up controversy, the time has been when nothing would please me better than to argue upon these topics; then I saw only the human side of these truths; the mental struggle by which I emerged into a position where I could lay hold of the divine line of truth, while I retained my former hold of the human line, was too painful, too humiliating to allow of my wrangling any more about these subjects; yet has the result been so full of peace and steadfastness, that I could desire no better state on this side of heaven, for every mind perplexed by opposing doctrines, than that it should firmly hold whatever doctrine is taught in Scripture, and wait with patience for that day when we shall know far more than we can know now, and see, not darkly as in a mirror, but face to face.

Yours truly,

CHARLES SPURDEN.

February 25th, 1854.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Fredericton, Feb., 27, 1854.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—Some two or three weeks since you copied a communication from Mr. Eccles, in reference to Mr. Irvine's statements about the Baptists in these provinces. This publication you accompanied with some well timed and spicy remarks of your own, which having read I felt rather proud of wearing the name of a Baptist.—Well, I suppose of course, Mr. Irvine replied to our friend and brother, Mr. Eccles; if so, and you can conveniently, pray publish it also in the Visitor. In common with others up here, I have from week to week been looking for something of the kind.

ASA COY.

We have not seen, as yet, any reply to Mr. Eccles.—Eds.

General Intelligence.

Arrival of the "Europa."

The *Europa*, with three days later news, arrived at New York on Saturday morning. No decided change in the Eastern question. Another talk of arbitration.

Severe fighting continues on the Danube, but no great results. Large Russian force preparing to attack Kalafat. The allied fleet is immediately to return to the Black Sea. France and England continue their armaments on a large scale.

Cotton for the week buoyant—at advance of 4d. Breadstuffs quiet during the week, closing firm. Wheat declined 4d. and Flour 1s.; Corn 1s. 6d.

For the week American securities steady.—Consols 91½ to 91¾.

The Cunard Company have denied the report of their steamers being engaged by Government to carry troops to Constantinople.—*Telegraph to News Room.*

Three Days later from Englad.

The steam propeller *Andes*, with Liverpool dates to the 14th Feb., arrived at Boston yesterday morning, at 8 o'clock.

Cotton was unchanged.

LONDON CORN MARKETS, Feb. 13th.—The sup-

ply of English wheat larger, but trade opened steadily at a decline of this day week. Foreign held firmly, rates unaltered. English 1s. to 2s. per qr. cheaper. Foreign steady at full prices.

The Cunard Company advertise that in consequence of the steamship Niagara being required for special service, the propeller Alps will be detained until Saturday the 18th Feb., to take the mails and passengers to Boston, instead of the Niagara.

Preparations for war are still proceeding. The Government has chartered the following steamers:—Golden Fleece, Jason, Cape of Good Hope, Propontis, Himalaya, Manilla, Ripon, Cambria, Niagara, Victoria, Queen of the South, Hydaspes, and Harbinger. It is reported that Lord Raglan is to have the chief command, and the Duke of Cambridge, Earl Cardigan, and Generals Evans and Brotherton are to have appointments.

The 4th, 11th, and 17th Dragoons are reported to be under orders.

Both in the Military and Naval departments extraordinary activity prevails.

The period of forty days allowed by the Porte for the Russian acceptance of the terms adopted by the Turkish Cabinet, expired on the 8th Feb.; the Porte and its allies are fully justified in taking any measures they may think necessary.

The Russians have 65,000 men before Kalafat. Bad weather alone had prevented an attack.—Active operations would not be commenced before 1st of March.

St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Odessa, are the only cities in Russia, whose population exceeds 100,000. There are only four towns containing more than 50,000 inhabitants each, and 18 or 20 with a population exceeding 25,000.

Domestic.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

(From Mr. Hill's Reports.)

FREDERICTON, Feb. 22.

SEAMEN'S HOME.—On the motion of the Hon. Mr. Gray the House went into committee of the whole on a bill to incorporate the St. John association of Seamen's Friends. The hon. member explained that this institution owed its origin to the benevolent exertions of one individual. Others had been induced to join with him, and a "Seaman's Home" had been established, where seamen were taken care of, instead of frequenting low boarding houses. The institution had flourished, and the applications had so much increased that the building could no longer accommodate them; it was therefore resolved upon to erect a new building, and already £4,000 had been subscribed of the capital stock. Under these circumstances they came before the Legislature and asked a charter.

MR. PORTER was pleased to see the Bill before the House; an institution of this kind in St. John must be productive of much good. He once crossed the Atlantic in a ship, and on arriving in Liverpool the crew left the ship and went to the Seamen's Home. He went through the establishment, and found everything in good order, and the men very comfortable. He hoped this institution would succeed as well,—it would, no doubt, be found very beneficial by both seamen and shipowners.

CAPTAIN ROBINSON said if the institution would be conducted similar to the Seamen's Homes in London and Liverpool it would no doubt be productive of good. He was fearful, however, that the projectors of the Seamen's Home displayed rather too much religious fervour, which was calculated to defeat the object they had in view.—He had been through the London and Liverpool institutions, and highly approved of them; the men were very comfortable there, and although they had to comply with the regulations, those regulations were not so rigid as to disgust them or frighten them away. One of the projectors of the St. John institution had called upon him to subscribe towards the undertaking, and he had done so; while they were conversing, however, he (Capt. Robinson) had described the manner in which the London and Liverpool institutions were conducted, but the gentleman shook his head and seemed to think that would not do. It would not do to make a monastery of the building, or to shut the sailors up in a box, and lecture them eight or nine times a day. They would not stand that;—(Laughter).

HON. MR. GRAY said there was no intention to treat the men with any unnecessary severity. He had visited the present establishment, and found the men very comfortable, and instead of their being anything monastic in it, they were sitting chatting, and smoking their pipes. Of course they were required to keep regular hours; they were all required to be within doors by eleven o'clock, p.m. The subscribers were chiefly owners of ships, or merchants interested in shipping, and of course would not countenance any severity having the effect of driving the men away, and the very fact that there were more applicants than the present building could accommodate was a proof that the men were well treated.

The bill passed without further discussion, the capital being limited to £30,000.

A message from his Excellency was received, containing returns from King's College. His Honor the Speaker informed the House that these returns did not embrace all that were asked for by the address laid on the table by the hon. member for Westmorland (Mr. Smith.)

Mr. McLeod presented a petition from Isaac McLean, of Queen's County, containing certain allegations against the Hon. Surveyor General, and other members of the Government, connected with a license obtained by him to cut lumber; and praying to be released from the payment of ten pounds, awarded by an arbitration agreed to by himself and the Government, to settle certain disputed claims, on the ground that it was improper.

The Hon. SURVEYOR GENERAL defended the Government by replying to the allegations, and, ascertaining that Mr. McLeod wished the matter to be referred to a select committee to investigate the same and to report thereon, said he had no objections. The petition and accompanying documents were then referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. McLeod, Johnson, Porter, Purdy, and Gordon.

THURSDAY, Feb. 23.

This morning a great number of petitions were presented, and among several praying for the repeal of the present liquor law and the enactment of the license law; and others praying for the enactment of a law to prohibit the importation of, and traffic in spirituous liquors.

MR. BOTSFOED presented a petition from the Trustees of the Wesleyan Academy, at Mount Allison, Sackville, praying for legislative aid in establishing and maintaining a Female Academy in connexion with that institution. The hon. member remarked that an institution of this kind was much wanted in the Province, for that, notwithstanding the ability of some of our female teachers to whose care the instructions of girls was entrusted, the practice of allowing mixed schools of boys and girls was objectionable, and could not be defended. He then hoped the present application would receive the attention to which it was entitled, and therefore moved for a select committee.

Capt. ROBINSON approved highly of the project. The practice of teaching boys and girls in the same school was one to which many evils could be traced. Female schools were absolutely necessary, if they would have the minds of young females properly trained, and he was glad to see the present movement. The petition was received and referred to a select committee.

THE CODIFIED LAWS.—The House on the motion of the Attorney General, took up the order of the day, and resumed the passing of the codified laws. After passing some sections, the Revenue Law, as codified, came under consideration.

MR. JOHNSON appealed to the Hon. Attorney General whether it was worth while to encumber the statute book with the codification of a law about to expire, and which must be either renewed or amended the present session?

The Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL thought no distinction should be made in consequence of the law being about expiring, for the hon. members objection, if valid, would be against all the Acts that were limited in duration. Some would expire this year, others next, &c. The object in view was to have a set of codified laws, without altering them or extending the period of their operation, and he thought this should be done without reference to the time when the re-enactment of any law might be necessary.

The Hon. PROVINCIAL SECRETARY thought it would be a mere waste of time to enact the codified bill before them, as the order of the day for 6th of March was that they should go into committee of ways and means to raise a Revenue.—This should stand over until they saw what the committee would recommend.

The Hon. SURVEYOR GENERAL did not think there was any disposition on the part of hon. members to break up the revenue law the present session, and endure all the agitation, disputes, and scrambling they were obliged to undergo four years since. If they did, instead of finding it a popular movement they would have the whole country about their ears. As the law was about expiring, they must take up the subject, and pass a new bill or re-enact the old one, but they should always bear in mind that constantly changing the revenue laws was not the way to give stability to trade.

MR. ENGLISH said there was a few things connected with the present revenue law that required alteration, and he should do his best to effect those alterations whether the committee determined to pass the codified law, or allowed it stand over while the committee on ways and means reported. There were duties levied upon articles we must import while our lumber trade is carried on to its present extent, and the only effect was to draw the money from the pockets of our own people. The Province had lost in this manner many thousands of pounds last year by levying duties on bread. The duty on foreign flour of three shillings per barrel, while Canadian flour was allowed to come in duty free, afforded us scarcely any revenue, while the difference went into the pockets of the Canadians, and American speculators, as flour was no cheaper here than if it all paid duty. This was the more oppressive on people during the present dearth, and whenever this section came before the House he would move for the reduction of the duty to 1s. 3d. per barrel. As to the duty of one shilling per barrel on rye and Indian meal, that was also oppressive, and he was not sure but that it would be wisest to remove it altogether.

MR. SMITH thought it better to pass over the chapter until the committee of Ways and Means report. Should the House conclude to re-enact the present revenue bill, with a few alterations, the committee would embody the amendments in the codified law.

The Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL said this was

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