

THE FAMILY CASKET. Is issued on the first day of every month, at the office of the Christian Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR. SAINT JOHN, N. B., FEB. 4, 1857.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. No Communication will be inserted without the author's name and address.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. Correspondents are respectfully reminded that short communications, unless they contain some original and valuable matter, are not acceptable.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. In accordance with the request of the Editor of the "Presbyterian," we copy, as below, his leading editorial of last week on the subject of debate between us.

THE "VISITOR'S" ACCOUNT BOOK. The Editor of the Visitor accepts our offer, but thinks that accounts should be settled first, as we are in his debt.

How Accounts stand with the Colonial Presbyterian. In interchanging remarks with our friend of the Presbyterian on the baptism of infants, our object has been throughout to keep our Brother to the main point involved in the controversy, namely, the scriptural authority for the ordinance.

What next is to be done? We are told it is in the good book somewhere, and notwithstanding our good friend of the Presbyterian has chided us severely for presuming to ask his guidance in our perplexity, yet we must venture to renew our appeal in the hope that he will be in a more obliging frame of mind, and help us out of our dilemma.

Baptist church, we will be under the necessity of urging a measure of reform, which will put off at least the one part of the Baptist communicants, and reduce the Baptist Church to a moiety of its present self.

That the principle of reasoning adopted by the Visitor is false, is thus evidenced by its remorseless exclusion of women from the Lord's Table, and precluding our entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven.

Well if this were all we would try and think that "ignorance is bliss," and so console ourselves as best we could; but our trouble has but just commenced, for strange to say, our brother of the Presbyterian suddenly becomes a convert to the "doctrine of the Visitor," and is inspired with such earnestness to get into the Baptist Church, that he rushes in through ice fast feet thick and the thermometer down to zero.

In our earnest endeavour to know the truth, we carefully examine what the four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John have to say on the subject, and then we pass on through the Acts of the Apostles, and their epistles to the churches, carefully pondering every word that is uttered.

may give up the search. How is the application received this time? We regret to say, no better than before. He styles it a *dodge*, "a better-roostered plan," "sapient reasoning," "intimating all the time that it is there, but the "baptist vision is too obtuse to see it."

All our Pedo-baptist friends from the period when this law was first introduced into the church, away as far back as the opening of the third century, about the time that the dogma of baptismal regeneration, the conservation of the baptismal water, the use of sponsors, the use of material unction at confirmation, offering of prayers and oblations for the dead, &c., &c., gained a standing in the church, we say from that time to the present, our Pedo-baptist friends, embracing learned doctors, theological professors, Christian pastors, priests, cardinals, and popes, have, all in their turn, been searching the good book for this law, but they have not been able to produce it.

What matters it then mothers who weep over departed infants, whether you are admitted to a communion table? What consolation can you have when you think that there is no explicit promise, giving assurance that the child of prayer, and tears, and love, is gone to happiness before you.

Our good Brother must have been unduly excited when he penned that extraordinary passage; but we are prepared to make all due allowance, for his introduction into the Baptist church was a most exciting affair. He had to find his way through that ponderous cake of ice, no less than "four feet thick." It is no trifling matter for a man to come in smashing contact with such an iceberg as this.

Home Mission Appointments. The Board has recently appointed Rev. John Magee to labour for three months in Newcastle, Miramichi, North Esk, Little South West, and vicinity.

Opening Service. The new Wesleyan Chapel on Exmouth-street, was opened for Divine Service on Friday last, at 11 o'clock, A.M. The Rev. M. Ritchie, D. D., President of Conference, preached on the occasion, to a large and attentive audience.

have a prominent place in the apostolic church, positively partook of the Lord's supper therefore infant baptism has as much scriptural authority as female communion, and hence these females must all be expelled.

Our good Brother finding himself by the doctrine of this "remorseless" Visitor left without hope appeals with touching power to dotting mothers who are left in the same sad plight and the appeal is so rich in all moving paths, that we must copy it in this connection.

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The truth is like some young converts we have known he was in too big a hurry to get into the Church. He should have waited until he could have come in by the good old baptismal door instituted by Christ, and opened by his own spotless example when he was baptized (immersed) by John in the waters of Jordan, and thus like the primitive christians have been "buried with Christ in baptism."

Rev. James Walker is appointed to three months' mission to King's Clear, Prince William, and neighbouring settlements. We doubt not he will find the houses and hearts of the public opened to receive him.

The heading and plates for the Casket have arrived, and it will be published in time for our next issue.

THE LEADER.—We are glad to enter upon our exchange list this new tri-weekly. The Leader proclaims itself as non-sectarian in religious matters, as liberal in its politics, and as such a friend of Municipal Institutions, and of popular education under the guidance of religious teaching aside from sectarian preferences.

TEMPERANCE LIFE.—We rejoice to see that our good friends of the Temperance cause in the city are wakeful and vigilant. A number of meetings have been held in the Temperance Hall during the winter of thrilling interest.

DEAR BROTHER BELL.—You may recollect the insertion in the Visitor of the marriage of Mr. James A. Smith, to Miss Matilda Yerxa, of Douglas, on Christmas eve.

Our much esteemed friend W. D. Hart Esq., also died on the evening of the 22d inst., after a long illness. Between Mr. H. and myself an unintermitted friendship had existed for nearly thirty years, he was one of the few persons I have found during the course of my life, whose kindness and friendship remained the same under every variety of circumstances.

DEAR BROTHERS.—Please stay in your next issue that the necessary arrangements are made for brother W. J. Blakeney's return to the Seminary, and that he is expected immediately.

Progress of the Railway. We have recently passed over the line of Railway in progress between York Point, and the Cutting, a distance of six miles.

On Monday evening the Hall of the Mechanics Institute was crowded with a highly respectable audience to listen to a lecture from Rev. E. Clay, M. D., on "Physiology and Hygiene, in School House life."

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GOVERNMENT NOTICE.—Her Majesty has been pleased to accept the resignation by the Lord Bishop of Fredericton of his Seat as a Member of the Legislative Council of this Province.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENT.—His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to appoint, provisionally, Commander John James Robinson, R. N., of Camp Bello, in the County of Charlotte, to be a Member of the Legislative Council of this Province.

PUBLIC DISPENSARY.—We are pleased to learn that matters are progressing favourably towards the speedy establishment of this much desired institution, and that several of our leading citizens are taking an active part in the movement.

The brig Lilla, from Halifax for the West Indies, returned to port on the 26th inst., after having been at sea about 25 days. She experienced very severe weather, and lost the Captain and mate overboard on the 4th, during a gale.