

that the value of the Imports last year was £150,000 more than those of the preceding year.

At the end of the fiscal year there was to the credit of the Railway Impost Fund £7,277. The balance at the close of the preceding year was £25,415.

The indebtedness of the Province on the 31st October was £1,030,335 17s. 3d. about £800,000 of which is an account of the Railway works. The Auditor's Report on the Railway Accounts, we find that the expenditure to 31st October, 1858, was £225,093 14s 3d.

From 1st Nov., 1858, to 31st Oct., 1859, 329,252 2 2

Making a total of £854,345 16s 5d. The Auditor says that the net earnings of the Road to 31st Oct., 1858, amounted to £747 19s. 4d.; the net earnings during the year 1858 amounted to £5,795 2s. 7d.

The various items in the Report may claim our attention at some future time.

The accounts of all the different public offices are contained in this volume, and it is also stated in detail of the value of the goods upon which Export and Import Duties have been collected, with much other valuable matter in relation to the trade and finances of the Province.

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 23d. For Macpherson read Williston as fifth member of Committee yesterday.

A very thin House to-day, several hon. members engaged on Committee. McPherson's Bill relating to law of evidence referred to S. J. Committee.

Mitchell introduced a Bill to afford greater facilities for obtaining licences to cut and carry away timber from Crown Lands.

Afternoon occupied in discussing a Bill of Mr. Kerr's relating to settlement and support of the poor of the Province. The bill was reported last winter by a Select Committee, and passed by the House, and printed by direction of the Legislative Council—the Bill was agreed to.

Cudlipp presented a petition from Walker Tisdell & Son, and some 350 others, praying that all disputed claims of Contractors of the European and North American Railroad be referred for adjudication to some competent and disinterested Engineer. House adjourned at 5. 15.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 24.

Great many notices of address given; one by Speaker for dispatch of minutes of Council relating to resolutions passed in Session of 1852 concerning salary of Governor. Another by C. Parker for papers and plans relating to bridges at Woodstock. Report of Public Works laid before the House. Almost the whole day spent in Committee upon the Bill to incorporate the New Brunswick Free Stone Company; the question was as to whether the liability of Stockholders should be confined to the amount of stock or extended to double that amount. Several members stated that although formerly in favor of double liability, their opinion had undergone a modification. Double liability lost, 10 to 23. Another question raised as to whether any certain per centage of stock should be paid in within a certain time. Long discussion upon it, and upon policy of incorporated companies generally. Tibbits moved session requiring—per cent. of capital stock to be paid in, within a certain time, which was lost 10 to 24. Nothing said or done about Railway Committee. Gillmor gave notice of address for survey of a portion of European and North American Railway Line between St. John and Calais.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 25th.

Williston moved resolution for address asking for detailed statement of number and amount of the debentures unsold or amount still withdrawn under Act 20 Vic., chap 20.

Provincial Secretary stated estimates would be in on Tuesday next.

Gillmor's amendment to McPherson's motion relating to Railway Committee passed—14 to 9. Provincial Secretary thought that action parliamentarily showed opinion of the House against McIntosh being appointed. Speaker thought not, and appointed McIntosh and Cudlipp as additional members.

Mr. Allan spoke approving of appointment of McIntosh; he expressed regret for having voted for the Railway Bill in 1856—did so because the provision for carrying on extensions was added.

The object of the alteration in the original bill was to secure the support of the members of York, Carleton and Victoria.

McIntosh and Cudlipp both expressed desire to be excused, but no action taken.

Formal resolutions for supply passed. House went into Committee of Supply next Friday.

Progress made in End's Homestead Bill—general opinion seemed against it.

Bill to provide for prompt payment of all demands upon the Province Treasury passed.

Board of Agriculture have decided to hold first fair at Sussex, Oct. 1st 1861.

Adjourned at 3. 40.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 27.

House very thin—occasionally not quorum present. Mr. McPherson read a resolution for appointment of Law Clerk for House, which he intends to move on Wednesday.

Bill to provide for the payment of Grand Jurors by the Provincial Treasury committed. It was generally opposed. Opinion expressed by some members that the number of the Grand Jury might be reduced, and Chandler thought that it might be abolished entirely. Others dissented. 270 were reported, and bill referred to select committee, composed of Waters, McAdam, and McLeod.

Several private and local bills agreed to.

Progress made in bill to regulate sale of spirituous liquors in the City and County of St. John.

End's bill to abolish property qualification of members committed. End spoke upon it, when progress was reported.

Tilly, in reply to Gilbert, stated that Government intend to proceed with Grimros Canal this year.

Surveyor General, in reply to Tibbits, stated that the conveyance of certain ordinance lands at Grand Falls to the Province had not come to hand.

Read arrived to-day. House adjourned at five o'clock.

FREDERICTON, Feb. 28.

Lawrence gave notice of motion for address for details of statements of monies paid out of proceeds of sale of debentures issued under 19 Vic. Can. 16, an act to provide for construction of Railways as well as out of profits on sale of bills drawn against proceeds of said debentures from 31st Oct. 1858 to 1st March, 1860—1st, stating to whom paid—2d, amount paid and date—3d, for what service paid or on what account.

Tilly submitted estimates. Ordinary revenue estimated at £157,350. Expenditure £156,377. Expenditures of this year over last, £12,500 to meet deficiency of interest on Railway expenditure. £5,500, on grant by roads, £2000 towards addition to Lunatic Asylum—£1000 towards Hospital in St. John. Education, £1000. Mineral resources, examination, £500. There remained on 1st November, £30,000 sterling, and £30,000 currency, with Bank of New Brunswick to meet debt due the Savings Bank depositors. The excess of Revenue of last year more than met the deficiency of 1859, and all demands on Treasury for 1859.

House adjourned at 5. 30.

## The Christian Visitor.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., MARCH 1, 1860.

### BOARD OF WORKS.

We have received the "Fifth Annual Report of the Chief Commissioner," got up in the usual full, well arranged, and lucid style of documents emanating from this Department of the public service.

From the report we learn that the expenditures of the past year have been as follows, viz: (We omit shillings and pence.)

Public Buildings at Fredericton,	£583
Light Houses,	360
Inland Navigation,	1608
Great Bridges,	6,674
Great Roads,	12,200
Subsidies to Steamers on North Shore,	792
Travelling Expenses, Salaries, &c.,	715
<b>Total</b>	<b>£22,932.</b>

### GREAT ROADS AND BRIDGES.

By Act of Assembly seventeen additional lines of road (545 miles in length) were added on 1st November last to the Great Road Establishment. On this portion nothing was spent. The total extent of Roads to be provided for this year will be 2,201 miles. The Great Roads and Bridges throughout the Province generally are in good travelling condition and repair.

### LIGHT HOUSES.

A new Light House has been erected and put in operation on Grindstone Island, at the head of the Bay. A contract has been made to erect a Light House at Swallow Tail, on the Island of Grand Manan. Lights are wanted at Richibucto and Shediac Harbours.

### PUBLIC BUILDINGS AT FREDERICTON.

For these the usual grant of £750 will be required next year.

### LUNATIC ASYLUM.

These buildings were placed under control of the Board of Works by Act of Assembly at its last Session. Repairs to extent of £169 were made last year.

The completion of these Buildings, according to the original design, will cost about £3,500 and the importance of this being done, on account of the over-crowded state of the Asylum, is strongly urged. We hope it may be attended to.

### PROVINCIAL PENITENTIARY.

Little improvement has been made the past year—to extent of £90 only. From the Report of the Secretary in the appendix we learn that about £730 will be required this year to erect a Storehouse for the safe keeping of manufacturing stock, of manufactured articles, and for repairs of buildings erected and fencing.

### THE DREDGING MACHINE.

Is found to be a highly profitable investment, having earned enough in five years to pay its cost, £5000, and working expenses, £4,838, and leave a profit of £5,100. This calculation is arrived at by valuing its work at 1s. 3d. per cubic yard, which is stated to be a very low estimate. The Machine will require repairs to extent of £250.

### RIVERS.

On the St. John, and South West branch Miramichi, considerable improvements have been made during the past, to be followed up £3,500, next year.

We are satisfied that this department of the public service is ably and economically administered, and great credit is due to the Chief Commissioner, the Secretary, and various officers connected with the Board, whose Reports appear in the Appendix.

### REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS AND SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PROVINCIAL LUNATIC ASYLUM.

From this report (excellent as usual) we learn that the gross expenditure for the year 1859, amounts to £4,938. The whole number of patients for 1859, 234; for 1858, 236. The average cost of maintenance for patients is about £33 pr. annum.

A safe and effective plan for warming the buildings is still unprovided. And the necessity for the addition of the North Wing is very pressing. We trust the Government have included these requirements of humanity in the estimates for this year. We subjoin portions of Dr. Wadell's report which we deem it important our readers should be advised of:—

"For many years, in my Annual Report, allusion has been made to the unfinished state of the Institution; the evils consequent upon over-crowding; the want of proper facilities for classifying; the dangerous and imperfect heating arrangements, &c., &c.; and I have appealed to the Government for aid, and humanity in others, for these essential additions and improvements. Year after year, you have fully endorsed my views, and urged their being carried into effect, and the Government Commissioners appointed in 1857 to inquire into the management and requirements of the Institution, and who reported in March, 1858, while of the former they write in terms of commendation, of the latter they use very strong language, urging the necessity of completing the building and furnishing it with increased facilities for carrying on the great work committed to our care."

"Throughout the Province, and among all classes, there is evidently a steadily increasing confidence in the idea that the Asylum is the proper place for managing their friends when they happen to be overtaken with mental disease, and, as a natural result from such a conclusion, almost every case of mental derangement is immediately committed to our care. Occasionally, however, valuable time is lost in the first of the attack by unsuccessful experiments at home. I would desire it to be understood by every person, and seriously considered too—that the chances of recovery are greatly increased by right treatment at first, and when patients are to be sent at all, it should be done with the least possible delay."

Relatives, from a variety of considerations, and these considerations differ in different families, do not always, at once, send their friends to a hospital, where the means of proper treatment should be provided, but keep them at home where they can have no suitable arrangements for their management till after fruitless efforts to accomplish an object quite beyond their power, and after disturbing domestic comfort, and submitting to great inconvenience and loss, finally conclude to send their friends to a hospital, as a dernier resort, and claim great credit for keeping them so long. This is reversing the order of things. The hospital should have the first opportunity of doing what can be done; if it fails, then the friends might, very properly, perhaps, make an effort to provide for them in some other way."

"O! the subject of treatment I may say that, as

a general rule, insanity depends upon an atonic condition of the system, and in many of these cases there is great excitement, and if treatment is based on the erroneous idea (as it sometimes is) that by lowering the system the excitement will cease, incalculable mischief may be done. Every step in such a course increases the violence of the symptoms, and, if persisted in, the patient will either sink from exhaustion in the acute state, or, if he possess vital powers sufficient to resist the evil effect of such treatment, it is, in many cases, but to decline into a state of hopeless imbecility. Insane person therefore, should be subjected to the best treatment at the earliest moment after the disease is discharged the duties of Chaplain, as usual, in his very obliging manner, and in that way promoted the comfort and best interests of the inmates."

"Dr. Henry Ward of Carleton, has continued to assist me at all times, when required, and has laid out the Institution and myself under many obligations."

"The Christian Visitor, Church Witness, Religious Intelligencer, Courier, and Halifax Presbyterian Witness, have been kindly and gratuitously continued."

"The Christian Messenger, through the Editor, Mr. Seltion, and the first and second volumes of the Journal of Education and Agriculture, through the Rev. Dr. Forrester, of the Normal School, Truro, Nova Scotia, have been added."

To all the parties interested in these valuable Journals I tender grateful thanks."

"To Miss Dix, also, I desire to express acknowledgments for a paper presented by her to the patients, and also to the Brussels Street Juvenile Missionary Society for a lot of small papers, such as the Family Casket, the Child's Paper, &c., containing a kind of reading much enjoyed by some of the patients."

Miss Dix, of the United States, whose philanthropic interest in the Insane is so well and so widely known, visited the Asylum in September last. She spent a few days with us, exhibiting the liveliest interest in every thing concerning the prosperity of the Institution, and the comfort of the inmates, while, by kind words and womanly sympathy, she did much to encourage us in our work."

"For ten years of the most vigorous portion of my life, I have been working in the midst of insupportable difficulties, ever hoping that they would soon be removed, and notwithstanding that my hopes have been year after year deferred, still my sanguine nature prompts me to believe that they shall yet be realized, in seeing the Institution complete, and adapted to the wants of the Province."

If it happen that I should be disappointed in my expectations, and that the Government still delay the completion of the building, then it will be absolutely necessary to limit the numbers to be received, for nothing can be more unreasonable than that an unlimited number must be continued to be crowded into a space becoming every year relatively less and less."

Five years ago, when the Cholera prevailed in this neighbourhood, I called attention to the horrors that would likely ensue from the introduction of that epidemic among our crowded inmates. Hitherto we have escaped. Now Small Pox is in the City and vicinity, and if that loathsome contagious disease were admitted in our midst, I may venture to predict that the result would be that in overcrowding we violate the laws of nature, which apply to the preservation of health, and it is only reasonable to anticipate that these laws will be vindicated."

Deeply grateful to a merciful Providence for past preservation, and hoping in His goodness for continued favours; truly thankful to the Commissioners, their Secretary, and all others engaged with me in the conduct of the business of the year—for sympathy under domestic affliction, and for assistance in the discharge of official duty—I respectfully submit my Annual Report.

JOHN WADDELL, M. D.  
Provincial Lunatic Asylum,  
St. John, N. B., Oct. 31, 1859.

### THE REVIVAL IN GERMAIN AND BRUSSELS STREET CHURCHES.

This blessed work of grace is proceeding with distinguished success. Scores, who a few weeks ago were living without God and without hope in the world, are now exulting in the riches of God's regenerating grace. The social, as well as the Sabbath meetings are crowded, and the tokens of divine favor are manifold and impressive. Ride on thou conquering Prince of Peace! Last Sabbath was a high day for pastors and Churches. Never were so many baptized at one time in the city before, and never were there so many in attendance. The impression to many minds was overwhelming. We refer our readers to our esteemed correspondents "M." and "L." in another column, for further particulars. Brethren, continue to pray for us.

NOON-DAY MEETINGS.—These services continue to be full of religious life and fellowship. The attendance is highly encouraging, and blessings rich and full are descending in answer to the united supplications presented.

### DEATH OF THE REV. MERRIT KEITH.

It is our painful duty to announce the unexpected death of this faithful servant of Jesus Christ. This melancholy event occurred at the house of Deacon William Titus, Upham, on Wednesday, the 22d inst. His illness was short but very severe, but God's presence sustained him in the fearful struggle, and gave him a glorious triumph over the fell destroyer. A full account next week.

THE ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL REGISTER OF RURAL AFFAIRS.—No. 6, for 1860,—for sale by W. L. Avery, Prince William Street,—ought to be in every farmer's house. It is full of useful hints and illustrations in matters interesting to those who are improving the Country, and is very cheap for so valuable a work.

CROWDED OUT.—Our Editorial on Education and several communications, including one from Rev. Mr. Spurgeon, will appear next week.

The following which we cut from the London Freeman having reference to the Imperial Parliament and Government may not be unworthy the consideration of our own Legislative dignitaries at this particular time; and affords some valuable suggestions which are not inapplicable to the state of affairs in our country.

### WARNED!

The Government has had its first warning. On Thursday the House of Commons, by a considerable majority—121 to 93—adopted, in opposition to Ministers Mr. Wise's motion for the appointment of a "Select Committee every year, to inquire into the Miscellaneous Civil Service Expenditure of the preceding year." Mr. Laing and Mr. Gladstone spoke indeed, with some modesty, but they nevertheless opposed it. None could make, we believe, more sincere professions of their desire for economy, but they did not like the necessary means. They could not deny the enormous increase, after all qualifications, of the Civil Service Estimates, nor the impracticability of more than six hundred persons doing the work of Auditors, yet they did not relish the appointment of a "committee" of investigation. We do not wonder at it. Boards for the management of the nation's business, like those for managing a rail-

way, detest above all things the appointment of committees of shareholders. Members of Parliament are the elect, and should be the *deus*, of the national shareholders; and even Chancellors of Exchequer, who oppose demands on the public purse, oppose as strenuously the appointment of special auditors for its protection.

The case for such a committee as Mr. Wise asked is strong in its simplicity and complexity. In its simplicity, because, since 1839, these estimates have crept, sometimes rushed, up from £2,651,000, to £7,880,000. In 1817 they did not amount to one million and a half, and fell far short of two million up to the time of the Reform Bill. Here is a very simple reason for a committee of scrutiny. The complexity of the work is an equally strong reason. Mr. Gladstone, indeed, with his clever but perverse logic, endeavored to represent the multiplicity of accounts to be examined, as a reason why no committee could do the work. But, *a fortiori*, a house consisting of hundreds must be still more overwhelmed. No men of business ever think of doing the work of accountants or auditors, when they meet by hundreds as shareholders in any company. We believe Mr. Gladstone may be partly right, and that the work may be too much for one committee. This, however, would only be an argument for a division of labor, perhaps by appointing a committee large enough to divide itself into sub-committees, to meet afterwards and consider, and combine their reports. Mr. Gladstone must also have been conscious, highly as we rate his honesty, that he was guilty of a little special pleading.

It is curious in the division list to find our Liberal Ministry voting in a minority with the Tories; and even Mr. Milner Gibson and Mr. C. Villiers going into different lobbies from their old friend, John Bright, and all the advanced Liberals who voted on the motion. Mr. Bright would assuredly have had Mr. Gibson's company, had not the latter been in the Government; but we suppose members of the same Cabinet must act together, except on reserved and open questions. Mr. Bright, moreover, made almost the last, and a telling speech too, in favor of the motion. He had sat on a similar committee to that proposed, and expiated effectively (what the committee had induced the Government to do, and quite as effectively on the *last* year, Lord Russell, being then at its head—had treated some of their recommendations.

From his remarks it appeared to us very plain that with the fear of an annual committee before their eyes, so that one committee could call the Government to account for neglecting the recommendations of its predecessors, Governments would feel their responsibility far more than they now do. Mr. Laing spoke strongly of the danger of *divided responsibility*; there is much more danger from an inefficient audit. To provide a more efficient one is the object of the proposed committee. If it be not equal to its work, it must be made stronger.

If there be no other item in the estimates which requires the revision of a committee, there is certainly that of Education. It seems that Mr. Baines, of Leeds, was quite right in predicting, when the irresponsible Committee of Council on Education was appointed, that its expenditure would soon reach two or three millions, and become a national burden. Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Gladstone alike now concur in this view, and Mr. Bright adds that it is almost entirely a sectarian expenditure. The grant to this committee is now declared by persons in office "to be the greatest offender" in the fearful increase of our civil estimates, while it is not denied that one sect appropriates the lion's share of the Treasury spoils. The patronage created, and the subjugation of all the best minds of the humbler classes to Church and Governmental drill, render the expense incurred not only unfair to those whose principles compel them to repudiate State aid, but also convert the grant into an instrument of repressing ardour for civil and religious liberty. From the Slave States of the American Union, to the politically enslaved States of the Austrian Empire, Government expenditure is always, more or less intentionally, converted into an instrument for strengthening the dominant party in Church and State. The committee proposed by Mr. Wise may be the means of checking the centralized and irresponsible expenditure which, incurred ostensibly in the cause of education, is practically drilling our population to ecclesiastical and political subservience.

Correspondence.

### For the Visitor.

#### THE REVIVAL IN ST. JOHN.

DEAR VISITOR,

At your request I pen a few thoughts for your readers on the great work which God is doing for you at Germain and Brussels Street Baptist Churches. On Sunday last the largest concourse of people I ever saw at a Baptism were assembled at the Ballast Wharf to witness the sacred ordinance administered by Rev. Messrs. Robinson and Bill to 25 young converts, 13 male and 12 female. Considering that there was from 4,000 to 5,000 persons of all classes and denominations present, the order and decorum observable was praiseworthy.

While attending the meetings during the week, at which nearly all of these converts took a part, I was struck with some features of this Revival which I think worthy of record.

The absence of undue excitement. After reading so much in the Visitor and other journals about "striking down" and other physical manifestations in Ireland and elsewhere, one almost expects to see something of this kind attending a revival, but so not here—calm, earnest and intelligent expression marked the relations which were made to the Church by old and young, and in most instances conviction was stated to have been caused by some simple circumstance—as the preaching of a sermon several months previous; seeing the ordinance of Baptism administered, or Sabbath-school instruction.

The prominence given to prayer as the cause and the effect of conviction. One person attributed his conviction to the prayers of a Christian wife. He had lived a life of pleasure and of sin, but his wife's prayers haunted him and he could get no rest until he was forced to pray himself, and now he is praying earnestly for his late companions in iniquity.

Another young man who had set at naught his Christian parents' counsel and reproof, and gone on in a course of impiety and profligacy with a determined will, was rescued from the jaws of death, almost miraculously, and brought home to his parents, to whose prayers he attributed his rescue from death and from sin, and now he is engaged in looking up his wicked companions to pray with them.

But the case of a whole family was exceedingly marked in this respect. I hope I may be excused for referring to it.

Mr. T—, who is a very intelligent young man—said that if ever man had tried to excel in wickedness, he was the man, his ambition was to be "a devil of a man"—three weeks previously he went to the Baptist to ridicule, he came away

a convicted sinner; what to do he did not know, he had not been in the habit of attending any place of worship and knew no minister; he skulked into the noon-day prayer-meeting—fearing to be seen by any of his ungodly companions, but his convictions would not let him go. He went to God in prayer for himself, his wife, his mother and two sisters—he was introduced to the Pastor of Germain Street Church, and invited him to come to his house and see him and his relatives. In compliance with the Pastor's invitation he went to a prayer-meeting, and there in the agony of his spirit cried to God for mercy, and asked for the prayers of the Christians present; and now, in answer to prayer, his wife and younger sister had the Sabbath previous been baptized, and here was his mother, his other sister and himself candidates for baptism on the morrow.

Mrs. T—, the mother, then rose and stated that she had been left a widow with the three children before alluded to. That her whole care in life had been to provide for their worldly comfort; of religion or the salvation of their souls she had never thought; she had been brought up an Episcopalian, and had told her children to say their prayers, but as to *praying*, she had no idea of what it was. She had not attended any place of worship regularly, and although she advised her children to do so, she did not know whether they did, nor was she particular as to where they went. The anxiety of her son and her daughters about their souls' salvation had led her to conviction, to prayer, and to the Word of God, and although she had at first abhorred the thought of becoming a Baptist, she was now convinced that Baptist sentiments were in accordance with the teachings of the New Testament, and in submitting to them she was enjoying great peace of mind.

Miss T—, the eldest sister alluded to, stated that she had never been able to find in the vanities and pleasures of life which she had pursued with avidity, any comfort or satisfaction; she had been in the habit of meeting a few sceptical friends to read and discuss infidel works and sentiments, and to disparage the teachings of the Bible, had come to the conclusion that the Saviour was but a man, and that it was blasphemy to pray to him as God. She had been induced by her mother and brother's state of mind to attend the meetings, and had become convinced of the necessity of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as her only hope of happiness here or hereafter, and was now determined through grace to live in obedience to the requirements of the Gospel.

I had not the happiness of hearing the experience of the younger sister, or the wife of Mr. T. both of whom had been baptized previously; the former I heard has been in the Sabbath School, and was awakened by hearing a Sermon from the pastor of Germain Street some time since; the latter was brought to reflect upon the necessity of religion through her husband's instrumentality. Thus was converted and baptised a household of believers—like that of Lydia of old. In all the cases related in our hearing, prayer was the prominent theme, the cause, the result, the means of conviction, of conversion, and of peace with God through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Let Christians pray! Let sinners pray! Let all, young and old pray!

"I will be engaged by the house of Israel to do these things for them."

Yours, &c., M.

DEAR VISITOR.—The work of God is indeed developing itself wonderfully in our midst. How can we do otherwise than praise and bless his holy name for visiting us with such power. Oh! who can doubt his almighty influence when he is daily, nay, hourly visiting his creatures, and drawing them more closely to himself. Who can help exclaiming with the Psalmist David, "Bless the Lord, oh! my soul and all that is within me bless his holy name?" His favor and blessing has been extended in such a manner that we cannot help saying, "He doeth all things well."

When the flowers of the field are drooping and dying for the want of rain, let but a few drops descend, how soon they hold up their heads, and shed their sweet fragrance on all around, anticipating the supply which is sure to follow. Thus it may be, and I trust is with us all, we have felt the fast approaching shower of blessings, the few drops have fallen, and now how fast they are descending. Blessings are falling thick and fast. Oh! who will not try for a share too? We can all enjoy them, if we only stand ready. Our hearts were again made glad at seeing twenty-five persons acknowledge Christ by Baptism, on Sunday the 20th.

The day was most beautiful, and thousands of persons were present to witness the lovely sight. A number of the youth of both sexes, members of the Germain and Brussels Street Sabbath Schools, have been among the favored recipients of God's blessings. We cannot but speak of one family, particularly, which like the household of Lydia have all been enabled to rejoice in God. The meetings at the two Churches have been increasing in interest for some time past. The Vestries have been crowded.

The Vestry in Germain Street not being large enough to accommodate all, it has been found necessary to throw open the doors of the meeting house, which was done for the first time on Saturday evening. The meeting was one of intense interest, and all interested in the cause of religion must have felt it to be such. We hope that many then present who are strangers to the delightful influences of God's Holy Spirit will be enabled to feel his love in their hearts, and come out as "bright and shining lights" before the world.

St. John, Feb. 27th, 1860.

From our Fredericton Correspondent.

Feb. 29, 1860.

Messrs Editors.—Your excellent paper seems to lose nothing in public favour in this metropolitan City; in fact the Visitor is said to be increasingly interesting of late, to its patrons and friends. I hope you will not ascribe my eulogiums, simply to a characteristic, which might be attributed to my Irish pedigree, when I repeat the oft-spoken remark of "How welcome the Visitor always is," for if judicious selections, evangelical doctrine and a bold and unequivocal expression of opinion, political or religious, without fear or favour, be the attribute of a good Newspaper—then I clearly think yours will readily be admitted to the category.—while we appreciate your enterprise and

successful labors, we must not forget the necessity of rendering suitable equivalent.

The usual dullness of the winter months here is being somewhat enlivened by the assembling of the Legislature, more especially as other public business of importance is often transacted at the same time.

Commendable enterprise is shown in the training of volunteer rifle companies, and the drilling which may be witnessed more or less, every week is a very interesting sight as evincing the readiness of us *Bluenoses* in attaining military proficiency. Since the opening of the session, several interesting meetings have been held at the Temperance Hall, including an excellent lecture on "Mental Culture" by Rev. Mr. Albrighton,—also on "Ruined cities of the Bible" by Rev. Dr. Brook, a very interesting paper. The Anniversary of the Auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, also drew a crowded house, which were suitably entertained by Revs. Albrighton, Sterling, Spurgeon, Wilson, Brooks, as well as Judge Wilmot, Hon. Mr. Tilley and George Botsford, Esq. It is a pleasing feature here, and quickly noticed by strangers, that lectures before the Young Men's Literary Association, and appointments for moral or literary improvement are well attended on nearly every occasion. This is the more observable, because the attitude assumed by Bishop Medley and his subordinates, considering their numbers and importance, might indicate a different condition. Brother Spurgeon is labouring with his usual energy and zeal, in the faithful discharge of his double responsibility, as an educationist and christian minister,—his health seems to be as good as usual, and his sermons are characterized with the usual fervor of spirit, purity of sentiment, and depth and simplicity of diction, which always combine to render them pleasing and useful.