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Hold fast the form of sound word 2d Timothy, i. 13.

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Old Series Vol. XVII., No. 52

For the Christian Visitor. THE BAPTISMAL QUESTION.

THE TENDENCIES OF PEDOBAPTISM-PART III. & Practical Results.

The practical results of the system above described are of the worst kind. Corruptio optimi est pessima, says the Latin proverb. That is, the

corruption of the best things is the worst kind of corruption. Thus corruptions in religion, the noblest thing in the universe, must needs prove the most injurious of all corruptions. Our Lord gives us this thought, in his own impressive man-ner, when he says, "If the light that is in you be darkness, how great is that darkness!" Yea, if our medicine be poison, where shall we look for healing?

& A corrupted membership. Infant baptism, then, to say the least, introdu-

ces into the church an unconverted membership. The New Testament still joins baptism and membership together. There is a difference here indeed. Thus the Peatecostal converts were first baptized, and then added to the church; as we have it, Acts ii. 41. "Then they that gladly received his [Peter's] word, were baptized; and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." Yet the two constantly went together; so that, in reading the New Testament. we can scarcely conceive of baptism and church membership as disjoined the one from the other. This is clearly the idea of the Church of England as when the officiating minister says, in immediate connection with the baptismal act, "We receive this child into the congregation of Christ's flock." So too, in the Westminster Confession, we are taught, that "baptism is a sacrament of the New Testament, ordained by Jesus Christ . . . for the solemn admission of the party baptized into the visible church." Dr. Williams also, as heretofore quoted, makes the subject of baptism say, "I was then added to the church." Nay, were it not for considerations of prudence and propriety, the doctor would not greatly object to admit them to the Lord's Table; in which many other Pædobaptists are agreed with him. The Greek Church, it is well known, practices infant communion as well as infant baptism to this day. Such, too, was the practice of the Church of Rome until the year 1000. Near that time the doctrine of transubstantiation was introduced; and then Rome dropped the practice of infant communion, lest, as Bishop Taylor tells us, "by puking up the holy symbols, the sacrament should be dishonoured." In truth, it is one of the anomalies of infant baptism, that infant com-munion is not always associated with it. But in any case baptized infants are always regarded as

having some sort of membership with the church from which they receive their baptism. Now, unless it can be shewn, that all who are baptized in infancy are made partakers of the grace of God, then infant baptism brings into the church multitudes of ungodly members. Pædobaptist churches, in fact, must contain far more sinners than saints. Such churches cannot be addressed, as were the New Testament churches, as "the saints and faithful in Christ Jesus." "I have written unto you," says Paul, "not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or au idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such a one, no, not to eat." But now, how often are such as these to be found in the church of God, and at the Lord's Table! Nav, let the ministers of Pædobaptist communities be ever so faithful to the unconverted portion of their members, ever so much concerned to strip them of false hopes for eternity, they cannot strip them of the Christian character, such as it is, imparted to them by their baptism. As heretofore intimated, men will cling to the delusion, that they have the reality of religion, though wholly destitute of its spirit, while they have access to what purport to be its ordinances. True, while human nature remains what it is, we may expect to find a Judas among the apostles; "foolish virgins" associated with the "wise" ones; those who "have a form of godliness, but deny the power thereof" mingled with those who have the "power" as well as the form." Discriminate as we may, and apply as we may the methods of a holy discipline, such as these will creep into our churches. But one of the grand mischiefs of infant baptism is, that it gives the Christian name to those who cannot possibly be possessed of the Christian nature. With that name they grow up; and it can-not be taken away from them, though it may be to the last no more than "a name to live while they are dead." And so "in the congregation of the dead" they "remain;" awakened from their dream of peace and safety only by the pangs of the unquenchable fire, and the undying worm. Dreadful this! dreadful indeed,

because it is so true. Nay, when the whole case

is brought under review; when we think how soon infant baptism arose, how far it has spread,

and how long it has continued; when we recognize the inevitable fact, that among those who

have received it, and grown up to a condition of

moral accountability, more, even in the judgment of charity, have died out of the faith of the Gos-

pel than in it, we are driven to this tremendous

conclusion ;-that, while it has never saved any.

it has helped myriads down to ruin; and ranks

among Satan's most subtle and patent agencies

for deceiving and destroying the souls of men. & A secularized church. An unconverted membership must needs issue in the secularization of the church-in the confounding of the church with the world. The carnal view which so soon began to be taken of the text, John iii. 5, soon began to carnalize the church. The view speedily introduced, as we have seen, the practice of infant baptism. And then the church came to be all but possessed by the world. The process went on, through all the dark ages, until it attained to its consummation in the church of the sixteenth century,-awfu counterpart as it was of the Jewish church sucl as Christ found it, -almost wholly composed of individuals who had received a priestly regenera tion, but no other. The Reformation has wrough some improvement in this respect. Yet with all that it has done, it has retained infant baptism with scarcely abated claims. And what, for the not more of earth than of heaven? and may no the mass of their members be fitly pressed witl the mass of their members be ntly pressed with the pungent inquiry, "What do ye more than others?" Nor do the most spiritual of the Pæ dobaptist churches escape the carnalizing influ ence of their initiating rite. They naturally oper too wide the door into their churches. The child ren of God enter in; but with them are found after all fitting deductions and allowances, farmore of the children of this world than ought to be found there. And in how many ways doe the worldly spirit by which these are governed assert its presence and its power! In the demand for a ministry that shall please rather than profit in the concern for splendid temples rather than spiritual worshippers; in the measures that are taken to attract the ungodly rather than to con-

vert them; in the fashionable schemes of finance, which appeal to all sorts of motives rather than to those which have to do with God and souls; and in many other things, which may not here be under the writer's cares disease, which was particularized. Nor do the Baptists themselves obscure, caused him muffering. Again and escape these worldly influences. They lose sight too much of their spiritual theories, and are too ready to adopt the carnal practices of their neigh- at first as if he were go believe it. After bours. Thus it is, both by its direct and indirect while, however, he beg cavil. The last time influence, that infant baptism tends to lower the the writer saw bim he that if ever he was standard of personal piety, and invigorate carnal and debasing elements where the spiritual and

A SUNDAY SCHOOL TROPHY.

holy ought to reign supreme.

At the late anniversary of the Sunday School Union in London, Mr. Tucker, who was for some time a minister in Manchester, told an anecdote of James Kershaw, Esq., a recently deceased member of Parliament, which deserves to be reproduced. Mr. Tucker said:

When he was a lad ten years of age he was in a class in a Sunday-school in Manchester. The name of the president or superintendent of that school was Steele, a name very fragrant in that great town. James was a very troublesome boy. he teacher came up with his name to the superintendent, and again and again said, "I cannot do anything with him." "But," said Mr. Steele, I am sure there is something in James if one knew how to develop it." Again and again came the complaint, and again and again did this kind hearted superintendent set it aside. At last this little boy broke through a rule which involved exclusion; and when the next Sunday came the nquiry was, I believe, somewhat in this form-

Who of you have been to the races during the past week!" None in this class, none in the other, none anywhere but James. "Well," said the teacher, "you see the boy must go, Mr. Steele; a diseased sheep will infect the flock." But," said the superintendent, "I cannot part with that boy; let us have him up in the pre-sence of the whole school."

Up he came, a fine, daring, defiant, handsome ittle fellow, of ten years of age. All the school looked on, and the superintendent said, " Now, James, I am sure when you come to think of it, you are sorry you went to the races." The little fellow shrugged his shoulders; he was not at all sorry. Then, just as one of you ladies would touch the keys of a piano, did the superintendent in his address try to touch the key of that boy's heart, till at length he had produced some effect. Turning to the hundreds of boys in his presence, he said: "My lads, if we turn James out of the school he will go on from bad to worse. Shall he go?" "No, no, no," shouted three hund-red voices, and James burst into tears, fairly conquered by affection, fairly won by love. What he became afterwards there are Manchester gen- still the Pible, and strive do good; but take tlemen on this platform who can tell you better effectual neasures to makrour labour successful, he became a deacon of a Christian church. His £100 a year was always carefully paid into the London Missionary Society, and sixty guineas, as I know, to the Manchester City Mission; and I may also say, as I happened to have some pleasant acquaintance with him, that there were many things which his right hand did which his left hand was not allowed to know. Now, he has gone; one of the brightest trophies of Sunday

LEAVES FROM THE "DIARY OF A PHY-SICIAN."

Sick-bed vows are, proverbially, unenduring. So indeed, they are, in common with all other righteousness of the flesh. But the gospel is the power of God unto salvation, alike in sickness and in health; and where it is fully and freely preached it will meet with success. The experience of the writer in personal effort to win souls in connection with the discharge of professional duties, may encourage others to make like at-

Some years ago he had under his care a young lady who had been living in thoughtlessness, till she was struck down by consumption. She was possible. At last found in a gambling saloon, much prostrated mentally by the attendant fever, so that for long she took little interest in anything. At each visit the writer was wont to read a verse of Scripture, and ask blessing in a sentence or two of prayer. After about two months, quite suddenly, her mind opened up to the reception of salvation of his onl. He laughed me to scorn. the gospel; and the remaining weeks of her life He assured me I sed my time and money to very

on her, and that in point of fact there was evidence of very serious disease in her lungs, and that her recovery was very doubtful. It was then

"Now don't begin trying to be religious on account of what you have heard." She looked surprised, and said, "That is just what I have trying to be "Tell me, do you think God loves you?"

"Not unless I am good." "If God loved only the good, He would not ran my hand inmy pocket for the purpose of find an object for his love among the whole race showing him the letter. "O," said he, "don't

moved his remaining dies. In a few days

after he died in peace.

A sergeant in the neuring barracks came again a free and preseration was put before him. It was evidently to him, and it seemed raised from that bed of ass he was resolved to lead a different life. is pressed upon him that thus he was only gabout to establish his own righteousness, and as urged to accept of Christ. He said that il be an easy way of being saved if it were t During the evening a Christian woman, liviear him, visited him, to whom he said it wa very fine that easy way of being saved, builded not believe in it. Next morning the anei from which he was suffering burst, and he enstantaneously.

In conclusion, in ordiat this work may be done wisely and well, wn the Lord for direc-tion. The few minutes often spends alone in a drawing-room before g up to a patient, are precious time for asking gel and guidance. Be courteous; the truest fainess to souls does not require the violation of sule of true politeness. Bring the same tact andicacy into operation here that you would in discharge of difficult professional duty. Be t, plain, and pointed, and, above all, preach a gospel.

RECEIVING THIOLY GHOST. Many will remember the dying sergeant, in that affecting parrative, Nictory Won, charged

his wife to pray daily, "God, fill me with the Holy Ghost!"

"It is a short prayer, added, "but it will have a long answer." C struggling Christian, will you not say it too, awith all your soul, and mind, and strength ?

You are suffering; yeare weary; you are sighing for holiness. I feel that you shall never be satisfed until yean cheerfully choose God's will rather than youwn, and even rejoice in the tribulation he has jointed.

Why should you to lainfully up this hill Difficulty, when you mahave the strength of God to guide you and me your way perfect? How must our Father's a be grieved away, if he sees you striving to fit your battles alone, when he has exhausted lauage in proving how full and free is the offered p of the Holy Spirit? Why not receive him intoour heart, dear child of God ? You keep him t, even when you are most in earnest to overco, sin, if you go about it sadly, doubtingly, and one. And you who long for ser union with Christ,

continue your prayer at painstaking. Study

PRAYING MHERS. A clergyman from Calinia related the follow-

ing incident, in connectionth his own experience and observation :--

As he had a large circle friends and aequaintances at the East, and at was known that he was travelling to a great tent over California, he received many lettersom anxious friends, begging him to hunt up rother, or a son, and endeavour to bring therto Christ. Many an earnest letter of this kd he had received. Among the rest was one fin a mother, so urgent, so full of entreaty, that look a deep hold upon his heart. The letter toldin how she had agonized and prayed for a som California, until she had lost all traces of him nd begged of him that, on her behalf, he would deavour to look up the lost boy, who she feared as in the broad road to ruin, and, as he loved son do all he could to save

Then the speaker we on to say, "I hunted for that son a whole yet. I made inquiries for him everywhere. I dermined to find him, if were passed in triumphant joy.

On one occasion a young lady called on the writer, and mentioned that she had had an attack of hemorrhage from the lungs, and wished advice.

After a careful examination had been made, she said she believed physicians never told the truth to baughty disdainand contempt. But I had a their patients, and therefore she would send her commission to full. So I requested him to go sister to learn the result of the examination. She with me to the imperance room and there sign was assured that no deception would be practised the temperance ledge; and then I wished him on her, and that in point of fact there was evitogo to the prayr meeting with me. He flatly refused to do einer. Stepping up close beside him, I placed in hand upon his shoulder and said, "Charlie, Ilelieve you have a pious, praying mother. I am he at the request of that mother. All this long yea have I sought you, from place to place, in obedince to a request of that mother. I have the letter a my pocket asking this of me; would you like t see it?' The young man was struck dumb for moment with astonishment. of man; but the good news I have for you is, that show it to me; on't produce the letter. I canGod loves sinners." If any young man owes a debt The gospel was then opened to her. Next day she came again, apparently to hear more; and in a day or two after, she wrote a note to say that for months she had been seeking to commend herself to God, but that now she had found peace in Jesus. She lived but a few months, and died in the Lord.

It is some years since the writer became the attendant of a gentleman farmer. He had been was soon in great scopy of spirit.

It is some years since the writer became the attendant of a gentleman farmer. He had been religiously brought up, but had become rather sceptical. He had suffered for many years from disease of the heart. When visiting him during any illness, the writer was wont to read and pray with him. On one occasion he was asked very pointedly if he were saved or not. He seemed a little annoyed at the time, but it opened the way to closer intercourse. This went on for some years, and his mind appeared by degrees to open up to the reception of the trath. During the first part of his last illness he was very much prostrated, and could only speak a few words at a time. He then rallied, and said one day—

"I have been face to face with death, and I have been considering how I can meet it. I see I am a lost sinner. I see plainly the nature of the work of Christ, but here is the hitch—Do I believe?"

"I have been a gentleman farmer. He had been rather then rallied, and said one day—

"I have been face to face with death, and I have been considering how I can meet it. I see I am a lost sinner. I see plainly the nature of the work of Christ, but here is the hitch—Do I believe?" believe?"

The reply was, "If you see the work of Christ thanks that she sent you that letter, and O, a thought to be a fact, that is believing. If you have any doubts, they will be removed not by looking into your own heart, but by looking at the testimony of God in his Word. Assure yourself thus of the reality of that on which you are resting."

He expressed great satisfaction from having this view of the truth presented to him, and shill it rethe believed without and to be a three by a band a decision with the Health

plain of the faithfulness of a covenant-keeping God, if they would give him Lo rest as did this mother -my dear, dear mother. Farewell."-Fine Years of Prayers and Answers.

THE LATE CONFERENCE AT QUEBEC. Sketches of the Delegates.

[Concluded.] PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND DELEGATES. GLORGE COLES.

The Hon. George Coles was born at Charlotte town, on the 30th September, 1810. He became member of the House of Assembly for Queen's county in 1842. In 1851, when responsible government was granted to the colony, Mr. Coles became Premier of the government, and held Her Majesty's commission to administer the go-vernment in case of the death or absence of the Lieutenant Governor. He resigned office in 1854, when the conservative party gained a temporary ascendancy in the House. At the general election of that year Mr. Coles was returned at the head of a large liberal majority. He became again leader of the government and Colonial Secretary, in which position he remained until 1859, when the conservatives again gained the majority in the House. Since then Mr. Coles has been leader of the opposition in that chamber.

EDWARD WHELAN.

The Hon. Edward Whelan was born at Ballina, County of Mayo, Ireland, in 1824, and is connected with some of the first families in that county. He was partly educated in Ireland, partly in Scotland, and completed his education in Halifax, to which city his family emigrated in 1833. He studied for a considerable time at St. Mary's College, Halifax, under the direct tutorship of the Very Rev. Dr. O'Brien, then principal of that institution. His tastes were practical, and led him to learn the printing business in the office of the Hon. Joseph Howe. Having mastered it, he commenced to edit a newspaper in Halifax, the Catholic Register, in 1842. He set- and the latter is almost in the same terms as Mr. tled in Prince Edward Island in 1843, where he published a paper styled the Palladium, in the interest of the liberal party. He was returned land, as it has elsewhere, wherever adopted. Mr. by that party to the House of Assembly, in 1846, Cartier belongs to the conservative party, which for the second district of King's County, which now has control of the government, and is a man he has ever since represented, having been inva- of superior ability. riably returned at the head of the poll. He established the Examiner newspaper at Charlottetown in 1847, and steadily advocated in its columns the principles of his party, and the introduction of responsible government, which he saw pointed Queen's printer in the same year, which appointment he held till 1854, when the liberal legislative sanction to the Reciprocity Treaty. In 1859 the liberal government losing its majority at the general election of that year, resigned, and Mr. Whelan has since been one of the leading members of the opposition.

THOMAS HEATH HAVILAND.

The Hon. Thomas Heath Haviland is the younger son of a gentleman of the same name. who was Provincial Secretary from 1840 until 1851, when, on the adoption of the principle of responsible government, he retired from office with a pension. Mr. Haviland the younger, was born at Charlottetown on the 13th of November, 1822. He was educated in England and at Brussels, and admitted as a barrister of the Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island in July. 1846. having studied law in the office of Judge Peters, of Charlottetown. He was elected to the House of Assembly in August, 1846, for Georgetown and Royalty, and has represented the same place ever since. He was a member of the Executive Council from April, 1859, till November, 1862, when he retired from office in consequence of a difference with his colleagues on the land question, which has much distracted political parties in the colony. Upon the meeting of the new Assembly last year he was elected Speaker without opposition, which office he resigned last session owing to a difference of opinion with the majority of the House upon a point of order.

Mr. Haviland has been always attached to the conservative party, but has been progressive in his views with regard to the principles usually advocated by that party. He was not opposed to the introduction of responsible government, and supported the policy of the liberal government on the educational question the free system having been inaugurated by it. He also supported the land purchase scheme proposed by the same government. He was appointed Lieut. Col. of the Queen's County Rifles in 1862, when the volunteer system was placed under the direct control and patronage of the local executive. ANDREW ARCHIBALD MACDONALD.

The Hon. A. A. Macdonald, member of the Legislative Council of Prince Edward Island, was born at Three Rivers, in that colony, on the 14th of February, 1829. He was elected to represent his native town of Georgetown in the House of Assembly in 1854, and again in 1858. The House having been dissolved in consequence of the refusal of both parties to elect a Speaker, he returned to his constituency, and wis elected again, but his political opponents having gained a majority of one in the House, he was unseated on a petition. When the Legislative Council became elective in 1864, he was elected to that body after a very hot contest. On a scratiny in the Council the election was declared foid, and a new writ was issued. Mr. Macdonald returned to his constituency and was again elected, his opponent who petitioned against his previous election having retired from the contest Mr. Macdonald represents liberal and progres

sive opinions in the Council, and is generally regarded as the leader of the opposition of that

THE NEWFOUNDLAND DELEGATES FREDERICK BOWKER TERRINGTON CARTER.

is, and possessing of itself little political influence, makes it peculiarly desirable to its people that it should be united with the other Provinces. The public men of the colony are all in favor of the change, and although the government, of which Mr. Hoyles, Attorney General, is Premier, had no representative at the Conference, there can be no doubt that the two unofficial delegates present represented the feeling of admini-The position of Newfoundland, isolated as it legates present represented the feeling of admini-stration and people on the question of Confedera-

REV. I. E. BILL. Editor and Proprietor.

Address all Communications and Business Letters to the Editor, Box 194, St. John, N. B.

THE OFFICE OF THE

CHRISTIAN VISITOR,

Che Christian Bisitar

Is emphatically a Newspaper for the Family
It furnishes its readers with the latest intelligence,
RELIGIOUS AND SECULAR.

Mr. Carter was educated for the bar in Newfoundland, and was the first to article under the act incorporating the Law Society of the island. He studied under the present Judge Robinson of the Supreme Court, and was admitted as an attorney in 1840. He then went to England, where he completed his legal education, and returning to Newfoundland, was called to the barin 1841: From 1843 to 1852 he filled the office of solicitor to the Assembly, which corresponds with our office of law clerk to the House; and in 1858, upon the introduction of the principles of responsible government, he went into the Lower House of the legislature, at that time composed of fifteen members. He represented the district of Brenta, and has continued to sit for it to the present time. After the general election of 1861, he was elected Speaker of the House, which under a new representation law, consists now of thirty members. When Mr. Carter entered it, it was elmost filled with officials of the government—surveyors and inspectors of the board of works, preventive officers of customs, and others—and it became his first object to pass a bill disqualifying for seats all

who held offices of emolument under the Crown, except ministers themselves. He introduced a bill for this purpose in 1855, but so strong was the influence of the officials that it was defeated session after session. Mr. Carter, persisted, however, and in 1861, when he was Speaker, he had the satisfaction of seeing his measure, introduced on this occasion by another member, become the law of the colony. It is customary in the Newfoundland Assembly to conduct all the important discussions in committee of the whole, when the Speaker is as free to take part in them as any other member of the House. Mr. Carter, as was the case with Louis Joseph Papineau, when he was Speaker of the Lower Canadian House of Assembly, before the Union, is accustomed to do so, and was thus enabled to urge the measure, which though his own, it was not in his power to introduce. In its provisions it resembles the "Independence of Parliament Act" of Canada, Carter's bill, when he first introduced it. This reform has produced good results in Newfound-

AMBROSE SHEA.

The Hon. Mr. Shea, the other delegate from Newfoundland, was also born in the town of St. John's, and is in his forty-seventh year; he is now engaged in mercantile pursuits. A man of large accomplished on the 23rd of April, 1851, when and vigorous intellect, he has taken an active part he took office with his party as one of Sir Alex. in the public affairs of the island, for the past Bannerman's responsible advisers. He was aptwenty years, identifying himself in some way with all the important questions which have affected its welfare in that period. Always a memparty was defeated in the House. Mr. Whelan ber of the reform party, in a colony where party and the party returned to office in the autumn of lines are drawn, perhaps more from religious feelwhen their first act was to give ings and prejudices than considerations of political principles, his energetic habits and marked ability have placed him at its head as its recognized parliamentary leader, although a Roman Entering political life, he was elected for the

Placentia district, and in the House soon distinguished himself as an advocate for the introduction of responsible government. This was opposed by the conservative party, formed of the great body of the Protestant population. They believed that responsible government would throw the control of affairs into the hards of the Roman Catholics, who, although in a minority, it was feared would entirely predominate over the Protestants. The result has shown this belief to have been erroneous, but at that time it was firmly adhered to. A very animated, and in some respects, bitter struggle took place; but justice and sound principles of government finally prevailed, and responsible government became a recognized doctrine among all parties on the island. Under it conservatives have shared power with the reformers-in fact, have rather enjoyed the monopoly of it, and public affairs are conducted to the satisfaction of the great mass of the peopole. In 1855, Mr. Shea was elected for the town of St. John's, and unanimously chosen Speaker of the Honse. In 1859, he was opposed to Mr. Hoyles, the conservative leader, in Burin district, which is a sort of battle-field for the whole island, and turns the balance of the political scales. After a hot contest, Mr. Shea came out victorious, and in the House was again made Speaker, which post he filled till 1861, when he was succeeded by Mr. Carter. He now represents the district of Placentia. In 1853, he was sent by the legislature to look after the interests of Newfoundland in the negotiation of the Reciprocity Treaty then on foot. The first draft of the treaty did not include the Province, and both the American Government and Sir John Crampton, the British minister at Washington, were under the impression that this omission was the result of representations to that colony from the Imperial Government. Mr. Shea having proved to the American government that Newfoundland was desirous of being included, they were unwilling to conclude a treaty which did not embrace the colony; and the British minister wrote to his government for further instructions in this respect. Newfoundland was consequently included with the rest of the Provinces in the provisions. of the treaty. Mr. Shea also took a prominent. part in remonstrating with the British government against the convention it entered into with France in 1857, by which the privileges of the latter in the fisheries of the coast were conside ably enlarged without conferring upon the colanything but a nominal equivalent. The co tion contained a provision requiring the c of Newfoundland to render it valid -are nial franchise encroaching on the sou and of the mother country, and which app have been first exercised in the case of

rocity Treaty three years before. On the resignation of the Kent go overnment, an attempt was made by Mr. Hoyles to form a coalition, but the Roman Catholics, or liberals, who had formed part of, or supported the Kent government, refused to join, and three seats in the Executive Council, then left open for them, have to the present time remained unfilled. Though

Contention.—I Dever loved those Salamand