

ST. JOHN, N. B., JULY 19, 1866.

## Eastern Association.

Rev. J. C. Hurd, M. D., as the acting Moderator of last year, opened the meeting at the hour appointed, on Thursday, the 19th instant. The ministerial Conference lasted for a couple of hours. The past, present and future were referred to as the brethren went on speaking freely of their experience and prospects in the work of the Lord. It was a season of sweet christian communion. At the close, the Association was organized by the appointment of the following officers:

## MODERATOR.

REV. T. W. COREY.

## SECRETARIES.

REV. A. W. COREY.

A. B. McDONALD.

## TREASURER.

ARTHUR BRANSCOMBE, Esq.

After the election of the usual committees, the session adjourned. In the evening we had an excellent and soul-stirring discourse from Rev. A. B. McDonald, followed by spirited exhortations from the brethren.

## ON FRIDAY MORNING

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. D. Crandall. It was one of his happiest efforts, founded upon Heb. xiii. 1. "Let brotherly love continue," and rich in evangelical and spiritual point and power.

## THE LETTERS

from the churches were not remarkable for either revival indications or benevolent contributions. Conversations had occurred at several points upon a small scale, but no one church had enjoyed an extensive ingathering.

## THE AFTERNOON OF FRIDAY

was occupied principally with the educational report, and speeches from the brethren on this important subject. All felt cheered with the brightening prospects of the Seminary at Fredericton; and a collection was taken on the spot, to assist in making needed repairs, amounting to sixty or seventy dollars. Rev. Dr. Spurgeon informed us that a young brother in Fredericton, who is limited in his financial means, had proposed to give \$100, as the commencement of an endowment fund for the Institution, and Rev. T. Todd and Rev. J. C. Hurd proposed to supplement that amount with \$200 each, providing \$25,000 could be raised and invested as a permanent endowment. This is a noble idea, and we have no doubt will be taken up with energy and success in the future.

## FRIDAY EVENING

was devoted to Home Missions. The report stated that seventeen ministers had been assisted in their fields of labor during the year, and that success had attended the faithful exertions of His servants. The speeches were zealous and stirring.

## SATURDAY—ALL DAY—

was occupied with reports on Temperance, Sabbath Schools, Union Societies, Home and Foreign Missions, and other matters of interest, and the Association closed its proceedings on Saturday evening by appropriate addresses from several of the brethren on the subject of Foreign Missions.

## THE SABBATH SERVICES

at the 1st and 2d Range were of a deeply interesting character. Sabbath School addresses, prayers, sermons, exhortations, and all seemed filled more or less with the revival element, and the Divine presence was powerfully felt. Some were awakened to a sense of their sin and danger, and one or two found peace in believing. In fact, the revival cloud seemed ready to pour forth its refreshing showers to water the barren wastes. Many regrets were expressed by the people that the ministers had to leave so soon. We trust the pastor, Rev. Henry Charlton, will be permitted to reap a rich harvest of souls. He is much esteemed by his people, and is evidently doing a good work. The neighbouring stations—Newcastle, Grand Lake, and Chipman—were occupied by Brethren Rees, Beckwith, D. Crandall, W. A. Crandall and others, and we are informed the Spirit was present to bless.

## THE REPRESENTATION

from the churches was not as large as usual, owing principally, probably, to the fact that the Association was so far removed from the centre; but never did a community exhibit a more whole-hearted hospitality in making ample provision for the accommodation of their guests than did the people of the 1st and 2d Range. There was an abundance and to spare, and the visitors expressed themselves as deeply grateful and as highly delighted.

The Churches of Sackville and of Hillsborough both invited the Association to be held with them next year; but Hillsborough having invited it once or twice before, and the invitation not having been accepted, it was decided to comply this time, and have the Association there next year.

## THE COUNTRY

on either side of the River and the Lake is looking beautifully; refreshing rains and plenty of heat make crops of all kinds promising. The Lord grant a full realization of present expectations.

Thanks to the Forest Queen for good accommodations, and to her Captain and officers for kindly attentions.

## A Faithful Pulpit.

BY THE REV. G. M. W. CARY, A. B.

The Christian Ministry is of Divine appointment. It is clothed with the authority of Him who has commanded his disciples to "Go and teach all nations."

The standard of faithfulness in teaching the nations, must be sought for, in a written and authoritative revelation. Where Revelation alone is an infallible guide, the decisions of the human intellect can "lead only to bewilderment, and dazzle only to blind." And conscience is as unreliable as the dial-plate without the sun. The opinions of men may be taken in questions of civilization, but cannot, in determining for the Christian Ministry the kind and degree of their faithfulness.

Even the verdict of the Church is not ultimate. The Church may assist in interpreting, but cannot originate the standard.

The explicit statements of a written and authoritative Revelation are the only measure, and the only test of a faithful Christian Ministry. The Divine record must therefore be examined carefully and perseveringly, with filial and confiding prayer to the Holy Spirit, whose enlightening influences alone can guide into all truth; and when truth is found, to be effectual, it must be deposited not only as a clear and logical deduction in the intellect, but also as a firm and unconquerable conviction in the heart. Whatever the word of God teaches should be believed and taught, no matter how it rises above, and stretches beyond the feeble comprehension of the human intellect—or mortifies the innate pride of the human heart.

Now he who is faithful in the pulpit will feel in his inmost soul that a trust has been committed to him—a sacred trust, the communication and the guardianship of truth. In speaking of God and man, salvation, life and death, he will be careful not to travel out of the Divine record. In his heart he has already determined the teaching of the Scriptures on these topics; and in bringing them forward in the pulpit, the law of truth will dwell upon his lips. The trumpet will give certain sound, and that sound will be the faithful echo of the voice of God in revelation.

cur a paragraph, not in strict accordance with the testimony of the law, the prophets, the psalms or the gospel, no matter how beautiful the rhetoric, or how candored the period, he will brand it as a traitor against the God of truth, and reject it. He will speak of God as spoke Horeb, and Carmel, and Olivet, and Calvary. He will speak of him in all his fulness, and freeness, and harmony of revelation. He may not, he dares not, lower the standard of the Divine perfections to suit the taste of his hearers, whatever be their condition, capacity or culture. He will not spare the sins of the wealthy for their patronage. He will tell them plainly that position and influence in the Church of the living God, cannot be sold for wedges of gold and Babylonian garments.

Like John the Baptist with Herod the Tetrarch, he will reprove sin, though the penalty be a dungeon or death. He will hold up the Divine requirements in their unapproached and unapproachable holiness, as the expression of God's nature; he will also unfold the underlying principles of man's mental and moral constitution, that he may reveal to his hearers the presence and nature of sin. He will not shrink from declaring to them the depravity of their hearts, their utter helplessness, and the dread denunciations of Jehovah against every failure of obedience to his revealed will. Nor will he fail to portray Christ in all the fulness of the gospel, an all-sufficient and ever living Saviour. He will consider truth as a globe, having a divine and human hemisphere; on the one hand thick darkness and deep-toned thunders uttering immutable decrees; and on the other the light of the gospel and voices of more than maternal tenderness, breathing pardon and love. The teachings of both he will reverently hear, and faithfully reiterate.

Such a man is fixed in his convictions of truth, and cannot easily drift away from the anchorage ground of a Scriptural faith; and this is indispensable to the faithful guardianship of truth.

He must have unity and stability in his final teachings, but these do not preclude variety and adaptation to the wants of the age.

He will study the history of doctrines, and mark the signs of the times, so that facts, the best interpreters of God's purposes, may become powerful auxiliaries in contending for the faith. The history of doctrines proves that error has ever been changeable in its method of warfare; and it also shows, that as error altered its mode of enticement, so did truth its mode of aggression, bringing all the equipments of the Divine armory into efficient activity. And as it has been, so must be now. Our age presents a fearful intensity of external life, an eager and restless solicitude for attaining great results in a moment, a vaulting ambition that overleaps itself, a cold utilitarianism that ignores the ideal and possible in man, every conceivable shade of infidelity, from the baldest skepticism to the most refined form of Pantheism, subtle and deceptive as the serpent, and above all, a growing spirit of rationalism in the interpretation of Scripture, and, as a consequence, preaching attractive to the ear, but powerless to the heart.

Against these, and every other tide of error, the faithful preacher of our day will be as the rock of the ocean. He will defend the volume of inspiration, the Christian's Magna Charta, even to the death. He will be a faithful expounder of the truth, and his pulpit a bulwark of Zion.

Truth, God's truth, will be enthroned by him in stern and immovable resistance to the currents of worldly opinion. With the achievements of the past to guide and encourage him, with marching orders from the Captain of his salvation, with the presence and aid of the Holy Spirit, in his life-long battle, his watch-word will be, "This is the victory which overcometh the world, even our faith." In the western portion of the neighboring Province, there is a chapel, above whose desk are inscribed these words, "Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee; be not dismayed at their faces, lest I confound thee before them." As if traced by some unknown hand, it looks down upon the preacher, and reminds him that such is his commission, and such his warning.

For the Christian Visitor.

## From Here and There.

The storm-cloud has burst over Europe, and the mutterings of its first thunders have reached our shores. Where, or when, or how, the storm will cease is known only to Him who sees the end from the beginning.

Of one thing, however, we may rest assured, viz.—that the Lord reigneth. While the potsberds of the earth are dashing against each other in eager and fierce combat—accutated, perhaps, by selfish and unworthy motives—God is working out by them, and through them, the great problems of his government, and rapidly consummating some of his eternal designs with reference to the inhabitants of earth.

If we rightly interpret the signs of the times, some of the most remarkable prophecies of the Old and New Testaments are about to be fulfilled. Certain it is, that the days of anti-christ are numbered, and its end near at hand.

It is a note-worthy fact that those who have made prophecy their special study—especially during the last two centuries—agree that the year 1866 or 1868 is to witness the downfall of the "man of sin." They do not in all cases pursue the same course of reasoning, but they reach the same conclusion with remarkable unanimity. May not the present European war be the beginning of the end? The Christian world cannot fail to be deeply interested in present events, nor to watch with intense anxiety the developments of the future.

It is very possible that the great powers of Europe which now maintain the attitude of neutrals, may soon become involved, and the conflict, instead of being confined to two or three nations, become general.

Certainly, the vast warlike preparations now going on, look very ominous. If it should come to this, we shall find that Rome and her enemies will be the two great parties in the strife.

While we do not pretend to justify Prussia in the course which she has taken, we must admit that our sympathies are with her, because she is nominally at least, a christian power. And we feel persuaded that if matters come to the worst, christian nations will be brought to her help by the attraction of affinities.

Instead of praying then—as was suggested in your columns one week since—that England might be kept out of the quarrel, we ought rather to pray that the downfall of the arch-deceiver may be speedily effected by whatever means and agencies God in his wisdom may think proper to adopt, and that England may prove true to these christian principles which have distinguished her in the past, and if necessary, bring forth her mighty power to crush the desperate rule of Rome, and deliver from her galling yoke, the millions who are chained to her chariot wheels.

We are not partial to war in any of its forms; but it is evidently one of the many agencies which God employs to prepare the world for the reign of Peace. We, therefore, express the hope, that—if in the progress of events it becomes plain to England it is her duty to unshackle the sword, and march her noble sons into the thickest of the fray, she may not hesitate a moment, nor consult with flesh and blood, but at once commence the march with her trust in Him who led the armies of Israel, and return not until victory shall perch on her battle-worn banners, and the saints rejoice over fallen Babylon.

We will not anticipate, but wait and see the action of the Lord.

The conflicts of earth convey to the meditative mind lessons of deep importance. Many are the voices of the recent struggle in the United States; numerous and weighty are the instructions which that event conveys to us. Several have already undertaken to interpret the voices, and enforce the instructions. But in our estimation, no one has succeeded better than Rev. G. B. Ide, D. D., of Springfield, in his work, entitled "BATTLE-SCENES," recently issued by the enterprising and well-known firm of Gould & Lincoln, Boston.

The author gives a clear and concise account of the rise, progress, and end of the conflict, together with its important results. He devotes one chapter to the discussion of the very difficult problem of reconstruction, in which he contends that the civil equality of all men must be its basis. And closes with an earnest and stirring lecture on "our day and its work." This is not simply a book for Americans, but for all. It contains a large amount of valuable information with which all reading men should become familiar. There may be in it some things which British subjects cannot appreciate, but nothing to offend the most delicate sensibilities of men who love truth for its own sake, whether palatable or otherwise. The reputation of Dr. Ide is a sufficient guarantee both for matter and manner.

The same firm has just issued a little volume from the pen of Alvah Hovey, D. D., of great value. It is entitled, "THE SCRIPTURAL LAW OF DIVORCE." It was called into existence by the following circumstance, which I transcribe from the preface. A member of the Baptist Church in New England Village, Grafton, Mass., had married a woman who had left her husband and obtained a bill of divorce from him, because of unkind treatment. Certain members of the church believed that such a divorce was null and void, and that the brother had sinned in marrying a person who was still, according to the teaching of Christ, the wife of another man. A Council was called, and desired to answer the question: Do the scriptures permit us to regard divorce for any cause as one, as effecting an entire dissolution of marriage, so that either of the parties may be united in wedlock to a second person? This question the Council was not prepared to answer, definitely, until a careful re-examination of the word of God; and a committee was requested to make a report on this point at an adjourned meeting. This volume embraces the report.

Dr. Hovey enters into all the merits of the question, and clearly analyses the whole matter. It is a work that will repay any man or woman for a careful perusal of it, whether there be the intention of applying for a divorce or not.

W. V. G.

## Rev. Dr. Brock, D. D., of London,

says the *Watchman and Reflector* of last week, preached last Sabbath morning at the Rowe Street church, in this city, a discourse which the large and intelligent congregation regarded as one of uncommon excellence. His text was from Heb. 1:2—

"God... hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son." His theme was not specifically announced, but, every hearer discovered his aim as he proceeded to speak of Christ as a qualified and authorized Revelator. The sermon was rich in evangelical truth, clearly and earnestly enunciated. His reasoning was compact and lucid, without any display of logic. His statements were positive, with no air of dogmatism. His appeals were to the judgment, with no attempt to beguile through the imagination. His manner was dignified and impressive. If that discourse was a fair specimen of his pulpit deliverances, we are not surprised that Bloomsbury Chapel is thronged with thinking men who prefer his ministrations to those of any other in London.

His remaining stay in the United States is to be short, as he will soon visit Canada and Nova Scotia, and leave Halifax for home about the first of August. He will be remembered in this country as the Christian gentleman, the eloquent preacher, and the intelligent sympathizer with our loyal population in their successful struggle with a pro-slavery rebellion.

## The Portland Calamity.

Among the sufferers by the late fire in Portland the Christian churches occupy a prominent place. Eight sanctuaries, where God was worshipped, were consumed by the devouring element. Among them the one in which the now glorified Payson was accustomed to proclaim with resistless power the messages of God's love. Rev. Dr. Shaller, Pastor of the first Baptist Church, also proprietor and editor of the *Zion's Advocate*, lost his house, church, and printing establishment. Most of his people have suffered severely. The editor of the *Watchman* publishes the following touching letter from Dr. Shaller:—

MY DEAR BROTHER, I thank you for your kind letter, so expressive of sympathy. I am indeed seriously affected in regard to matters of this kind, my church, my dwelling, my office are all gone, and I, a homeless man, dependent for shelter upon the hospitality of a friend. You can have no idea of the desolation which pervades a large portion of our city. About eighty families connected with my church and congregation are among the sufferers. Some of them lost every thing but life itself. It is sad to witness such scenes as are presented on all sides. But, my dear brother, God reigns, and my trust is in Him. I hope ere long to find a home in the "house not made with hands."

Your friend and brother, W. H. SHALLER. P. S.—I have made no arrangements about getting out our paper beyond a mere slip for the present week. My family are all spared to me, and have passed through the trying scene with great calmness. Portland, July 9th, 1866.

The Institutions at Horton are being put in complete repair. The Governors of Acadia College at their recent meeting made a thorough inspection of the rooms of the College, the Academy and the Boarding House establishments, and after considering their several requirements, determined that several alterations should be made, and everything possible be done to improve the facilities for the students and officers to carry on their work. We have no doubt that these efforts will be duly appreciated, and that all concerned will be benefited. The institutions will doubtless feel the influence of these improvements. We congratulate our brethren on this step onward, and trust that the President, Professors, and Teachers will be encouraged in their work. These efforts of the Governors to serve their constituents will, we doubt not, be met by a ready and hearty response to their modest appeal.—C. Messenger.

For the Christian Visitor.

Mr. Estroff—Agreeably to a resolution of the German Street Baptist Church, I send you a copy of the following preamble and resolution for publication in the *Visitor*:—

Whereas Captain G. F. Masters, in the generosity of his heart, has furnished our new house of worship with a Bell of superior quality and of excellent tone, weighing 2,055 lbs., and at a cost to himself of \$700; Therefore Resolved, That this Church highly appreciate this noble offering by their esteemed brother, and do hereby extend to him our most cordial thanks for this distinguished expression of encouragement and good will, and devoutly do we pray that he may long be spared to share more largely than ever in the gracious smiles of a beneficent Providence, and to enjoy in yet more ample measure the blessedness of those who love the habitation of God's House, and the place where His Honor dwells.

Resolved, That the above preamble and resolution be placed upon the records of the Church, and that Messrs. Francis, Bernard, Fisher, and Gosselin be a Committee to wait upon brother Masters with a copy of the same, and that it be published also in the *Christian Visitor*.

Extract from the Minutes.

Geo. A. GARRISON, Church Clerk. On the reading of this address by the pastor, Rev. G. W. H. Corey, in the presence of Rev. Messrs. Bill

and Todd, Messrs. Garrison, Fisher, Francis, Bartheaux, and other friends, who had assembled at the parsonage to exchange kindly greetings—Captain Masters replied, saying, that some forty years ago, when an apprentice at an establishment near by, he was in the habit of attending a Sabbath-school in the German Street Church, and the impressions he then received were remembered by him with gratitude to the present hour. When the Church had resolved to erect a chaste and beautiful house to the worship of God, he felt disposed to give expression to the gratitude of his heart in the offering which he had presented. He did not for himself desire this public expression; but if the brethren desired it, he cheerfully acquiesced, and felt deeply grateful to them for their expressions of good will. Rev. Mr. Bill concluded the interesting ceremony with prayer.

## A Grand Suggestion.

From recent investigations it appears, that out of the 800,000 people, who inhabit Brooklyn, New York, not more than 50,000 habitually attend the public worship of God. The "Christian Union Association" alarmed by such fearful delinquency, proposes to erect one or more Tabernacles, to be occupied by the ministers of as many denominations each Sabbath. They suggest that hymns in large characters should be hung from the desk, so that all the people could see and unite in singing them; that posters placed in frequented localities should be put up every Saturday, announcing the names of officiating ministers for the following day, &c.,—the whole arrangement to be under the immediate direction of the Christian Union.

(From the Victoria Express.)

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT.—We have seldom seen the Court House so well filled as it was on the evenings of Tuesday and Thursday. The programmes announcing Prof. Bill's Concert were eagerly sought after up to the last moment, and it affords so much satisfaction to say that the public were well pleased. The attention paid to the several parts of the entertainment exhibited striking evidence of the influence of music and song. The delicacy and expressiveness of music are the developments of refined taste in the performer; and as a professional Mr. Bill ranks high. His engagements in the highest circles of talent and taste are sufficient evidence of his capabilities; and anything that a crowd of people would scarcely add another brilliant to his diadem.

The little boy's "Father, dear Father," and his "Medley," were well received and affected many people with emotions of such admiration as we hope will create a desire to develop the talent which we know exists. Let us have a singing and music teacher by all means. We can certainly afford to keep one between us; and advances in this respect cannot be too soon made.

Father Chiquiqui, the convert from Popery, whose home is Kankakee, Illinois, preached in the Presbyterian Churches of the City on Sabbath last. He delivered an able lecture in the Institute on Monday evening in reference to the Pope's "Last Ecumenical against Liberty of Conscience."

The Minutes of the late Association will appear next week on the first page of the *Visitor*.

## Secular Department.

## COLONIAL.

Report says, that Hon. Messrs. Tilley, Wilmot, Fisher, Mitchell, and Johnson, of New Brunswick, and Hon. Dr. Tupper, and Hon. Messrs. Ritchie, McCully, and Archibald, with one other gentleman of Nova Scotia, are to compose the delegation from these two Provinces to England on the subject of Confederation. They will probably leave by the next boat via Halifax.

The Grand Division, Sons of Temperance, of New Brunswick, holds its next session at Moncton, on Wednesday, the 25th inst., at half-past seven o'clock. A full attendance of representatives is requested by the G. W. P.

MURDER AT ST. GEORGE.—It is seldom our duty as a journalist to record such a brutal murder as was perpetrated last week in the village of St. George. A man named Ryan, a millman, at that place, had a quarrel with a fellow-workman named McCarthy. On Friday morning they met each other, and some words passed between them, after which they separated. In the evening, however, Ryan came down again to the mill with an axe-handle in his hand, and told McCarthy that he wanted to see him. When they had gone a short distance, Ryan raised the axe-handle and struck McCarthy over the head, knocking him down. McCarthy then rose to his knees, but being struck again on the back part of the neck fell back dead; while the villainous wretch who had killed him, not content with what he had done, continued battering his head. Ryan then fled and remained at large until arrested by Coroner's warrant. He is now safe in goal.—St. Stephen Courier.

WHAT SHAPE WILL CONFEDERATION TAKE?

As neither Nova Scotia nor New Brunswick has, through its Legislature, agreed upon any practical plan of Confederation, the whole question is, so far as these Provinces are concerned, left in the discretion of the delegates, who are shortly to leave for England. Seldom has a graver responsibility than that which those delegates will assume, been imposed upon individuals. As they agree to fashion the plan of federation, in that shape it will come before the Imperial Parliament for final disposal. When the delegates are appointed delegates on this mission, was under discussion in the Legislature of New Brunswick, a member of the Government denied that he had ever promised, during the late elections, that the plan to be agreed upon should not go into effect till it had been confirmed either by the Legislature or at the polls. We take it for granted therefore that the intention is to give the Imperial Act of Union effect without requiring any confirmation from the Provinces.

What shape will the measure assume? If the Quebec scheme be adopted, there will be nothing in the measure which has not previously received the sanction of the Canadian Legislature. There may be some slight deviations from it, but there is every reason to believe that substantially this plan will be adopted. Mr. Smith, of New Brunswick, who is probably good enough authority on this point, said, in the recent debate: "He would tell the House they must, in view of the passage of the resolution, content themselves with the Quebec scheme; he himself had it from the lips of Mr. Cardwell, while recently in England, that no material alteration could be effected." The members of the Government, during the debate, did not pledge themselves not to accept that scheme, while some of their supporters stated distinctly that they would be content to see it adopted; and all the members of the Opposition took it for granted that this is what the delegates would agree to in England. Mr. Tilley, who has professed friends of union excepting opposition to the Quebec scheme, which he had never said, and he undertook the defence of the principal provisions of that scheme.

Everything points to the adoption by the delegates, and finally by the Imperial authorities, of a plan of union as nearly as possible resembling that agreed upon at Quebec. The question is much nearer being closed than appears, on the surface; and there can hardly be a doubt as to how it will all end, provided no unforeseen obstacle present, what is otherwise all but inevitable.—Toronto Globe.

The Boston *Post* deeply regrets the loss of the Reciprocity Treaty with these Provinces. He says they are "a highly important portion of this continent, both geographically and commercially, and that they will in good time become not less so politically. Our trade with them even now is surpassed in value only by that with the mother country herself. Of the sum total of the foreign trade of this country, the provinces furnish for us very nearly one-eighth; and the actual figures standing thus: our entire external trade being \$674,308,897, and that with the provinces \$89,160,608. We likewise deal with them to almost one-third of the amount of our whole commerce with Britain. Our tonnage employed in this commerce with the provinces, including that which both enters

in the trade with any other country on the globe; it amounts to the surprising total of 6,714,845 tons.

"No question of greater interest presses on the attention of Congress at this time. We trust that body will not consent to adjourn until all proper steps are taken preliminary to the renewal of a reciprocity treaty with the British provinces. If the public interest is to be transacted at all, this is a piece of it which cannot much longer be neglected without seriously impeding extended commercial interests at this time, and disregarding political advantages for the future."

## GREAT FIRES

have become the order of the day. About one fourth of Charlottetown P. E. I. has been laid waste by the devouring element. The fire broke out on Sunday morning about half-past three, in an old house, known as Bagnall's Buildings, near the Head of Pownall Street Wharf, and before the ravages of the fury element were spent, four blocks were laid in ashes. Our readers may form an idea of the extent of the fire, when we state that all is burned from the East side of Pownall Street, from Murray, the Baker's, to Bagnall's opposite Lord's Corner, up to the West side of Green George Street, the street on which the Catholic Chapel stands, save and except the Brick Building erected on the site of the old Victoria Hotel, the Brick Bonded Warehouse, "Osborne House," Mr. Corrie's, and a few small Buildings on the Corner opposite the front of the Catholic Chapel. At one time it was feared nothing could save the Catholic Chapel, but fortunately it escaped.

It was currently reported in the city on Tuesday that Canning, N. S., a beautiful village, was destroyed by fire on Saturday night last. Particulars not given.

We trust as in the case of Portland there will be some tangible expression of sympathy in St. John in relation to the sufferers of our sister city.

PROGRESS AT ST. STEPHEN.—It is perfectly surprising to notice the progress which St. Stephen has made within the last three years. The stores have increased about three hundred per cent. within that time; they are all replete with goods, and the number of new erections has been very large, there is a great want of both houses and stores. Rents are going up very fast, and the trade area of the district is being daily extended. The importations at St. Stephen would do credit to respectable St. John firms, not of course, of the largest class, but firms which do a profitable business. The St. Stephen firms send their goods to the upper St. John, and to many parts of Maine, (China and Delph ware and dry goods) as well as throughout Charlotte and other adjacent counties. The retail business with Calais is injured in consequence of the strictness of the surveillance of the Calais Custom officials, but the wholesale business across the border is far in excess of former times. Several first class Calais firms have come over to St. Stephen to enjoy it. There is a concentration of business at Calais and St. Stephen, the firms formerly doing business in Milltown (on both sides of the St. Croix) finding it to their advantage to establish one exclusively in the largest commercial centre. The increase of population is visible in the several places of worship, which are much better filled than formerly, and in which (as in the streets), many strange faces are seen. The Baptists, who have a few families in the place, are about to erect a church, and have, we were told, already secured a very eligible site. St. John, as well as Calais, has laid itself out contribution in making up the number of the new firms. "Young St. John" is full of heart and hope, and likely to do credit to the commercial metropolis. Indeed, he should not like to undertake that "young St. John," as now taking root at St. Stephen, would not ere long displace some of the older firms of the parent city in enterprise and progress.—Morning Journal.

Mr. Connell's acceptance of the office of Surveyor General of the Province has been announced. A new election will, therefore, be held in October. The writs have already been issued. The 24th inst. has been set apart for nomination; the 28th for polling; and the 31st for declaration. Mr. Connell will doubtless, be returned without opposition.

## At a Recent Exhibition

of summer fruits, in Wolfville, N. S., the *Acadian* says:—"There were some magnificent strawberries which both in quality and quantity, appeared to be the leading articles of the day, there were currants gooseberries, cherries, some half dozen sorts, some truly mammoth rubarb from Dr. McLatchy's garden, some rye 5 1/2 feet high, lucerne, broom corn, and several dishes of last year's apples, the latter looking as fresh and bright and sound as they did six months ago."

The revenue collected at Halifax for the half year ending 30th June, was \$811,500.60, an increase of \$130,485.39 as compared with the half year preceding.

(From the Halifax Express.)

## THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF CANADA.

It is of the greatest importance to the people of the Lower Provinces that they should understand clearly the financial condition of the Province with which, in all likelihood, they will at no distant period be confederated. We have all heard enough, and more than enough, of the debts of Canada, of her financial difficulties, her pauperism, her bankruptcy, her ruin, echoed and re-echoed in every possible form by the opponents of Confederation. It may be well, therefore, to come down to ascertained facts, and, making use of the financial statistics of the year which has lately closed, to endeavor to come to a precise understanding of the prospects and the capabilities of the great colony of Canada. It must be kept in mind that during the year two exceptional difficulties had to be encountered, the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, and the Fenian invasion. At present, however, we will briefly review the commercial statistics, as presented the other day to the House of Assembly by the Finance Minister, Mr. Galt. A country's prosperity is measured by its trade, its manufactures and agriculture. In 1865 the imports of Canada amounted in round numbers to \$44,620,000. This year they reach \$58,000,000, showing an excess of \$9,000,000, which is nearly equal to the imports of Nova Scotia altogether. During the same period the exports rose from \$42,000,000 to \$50,000,000, while the corresponding increase of revenue exhibits a total of \$1,800,000. This remarkable expansion—most remarkable—when we consider the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, and that it is not confined to particular departments of trade, but affects nearly all alike. The only article which shows a decrease, and that a small one, in imports, is iron, while the increase in free goods is more than ten-fold, rising from \$1,300,000 to \$13,000,000. In exports there is a small decrease in manufactures and in vessels; but in everything else the increase is as extraordinary as it is gratifying.

In order to show the bound which has taken place in the finances of Canada, it will only be necessary to state that between last year and 1864 there was a deficiency of not less than \$1,000,000. Of course this caused some uneasiness, and which was made most by the defamers of that fine Province. What we have to look to now, however, is what is actually before us. The income of Canada during the fiscal year just ended was \$13,436,000, while the expenditure was \$11,838,000 showing a surplus of \$800,000. And it is to be remembered that out of this income was paid \$1,150,000 on account of the Fenian invasion. So that notwithstanding this severe and unexpected draft upon her resources, Canada shows a fair balance in her own favour after clearing all liabilities. That so great a measure of prosperity was not calculated upon, is proved by the fact that the actual exceeds the estimated revenue by \$1,800,000.

CHARLOTTETOWN, July 17. A fearful fire broke on Sunday. One hundred and fifty buildings destroyed. Estimated loss over \$200,000. Hundreds of persons left homeless. Insurance over \$60,000. Reading Room burnt. Another despatch puts down the loss of the Queen Company at \$2,000; of the Liverpool and Lancashire at \$6,000; and of the local Companies at \$7,000;—but whether dollars or pounds is not stated.

EMIGRATION.—Returns of the number of passengers arrived at the port of Quebec from the opening of navigation to the 8th June, 1866:—From England, 2,349; Ireland, 745; Scotland, 949; Germany (in all ships), 3,061; Norway (in 23 ships), 5,730; total, 11,843, and corresponding period 1865, 8,806. In

## ENGLISH AND FOREIGN.

THE NEW ENGLISH MINISTRY.

Lord Derby Premier and leader in the House of Lords; Disraeli, Chancellor of the Exchequer and leader in the House of Commons; Stanley, Foreign Secretary; Walpole, Home Secretary; Gen. Peel, War Secretary; Pakenham, Admiralty; Northcote, Board of Trade; Duke of Buckingham, President of Council.

## THE CONTINENTAL WAR

is assuming a different shape from what was anticipated. Austria, severely whipped by the Prussians, is early suing for peace, and gives up Venice to Napoleon as a reward for his mediation. The Emperor demands an armistice for the purpose of arranging the terms of reconciliation between the belligerent parties; but Prussia hesitates, feeling probably that the success of her armies has placed her in a position in which she can dictate terms to Austria.

The war thus far has produced an immense amount of suffering, and has been terribly destructive of human life. The Austrians alone have lost from 30,000 to 40,000 men. Where are the redeeming elements?