

ST. JOHN N. B. MAY 21, 1868.

Evidence ex parte—not on Oath.

Nothing evinces more strongly the need of the wisest counsel that can be procured in aid of a church proceeding in a case of peculiar and trying nature...

If the evidence has been examined in the presence of the accused, it may be generally proper to reduce it to writing, and to submit such writing to the party interested...

The routine observances generally noticed in treatises on discipline are of course worthy of attention.

This case, however, differs evidently from that of a council mutually called by a church, and a brother, under accusation it may be, but in his turn, accusing the church of injustice...

In a former article we showed that where prejudice and hate arise in a church, they ought to make such a reference, and to abide by the decision given; for it subverts the first principles of reason and right...

It may be well to observe here, by way of qualification of the remarks we make, in the course of these comments, on the liability of churches to err, a liability, sometimes, perhaps, even greater than might happen to other communities...

There is a question in relation to evidence on which we have not touched, which must, however, be regarded as possessing no small interest; it is the testimony of worldly persons to be taken against Christians as possessing equal weight?

An absolute negative on this point seems, however, to us to be hardly admissible. The character of many persons not professors of vital religion may nevertheless be that of honest men entitled to credit.

But while this concession is made to reason and public sentiment, we may err, perhaps, by the freedom with which such testimony is admitted, and by too great a disregard of the claims of Christian character...

This error is manifestly committed when a charge against a Christian, who has borne, as a minister or private brother, a high character, is made on statements that contain nothing conclusive, and which come from persons of whose character for veracity nothing is known or placed in evidence...

This error may be enhanced by the circumstance of the obscurity of the witnesses, or their connection with a grade of society in which a lofty regard for truth is too often disregarded.

These remarks receive great additional weight from the consideration, that, in church investigation, it is impossible to use the protection of an oath, though worldly witnesses may be examined—the witnesses cannot be sworn.

It is a fact that cannot be successfully controverted, that the Council was authorized to investigate and decide upon the whole case as between the church and Dr. Pryor.

dent motive that rules the witness; and how often is the oath a great aid to that power which, despite his purpose, worms from him the secret of his heart!

A late case to which we have been constrained on several points, in the course of these comments, to refer, was a distressing exemplification of the remarks we here make.

The Progress of Temperance in Yarmouth, N. B. In previous articles we have shown that vital Christianity in Yarmouth has done much towards promoting the material wealth and moral elevation of the community.

Our American exchanges continue to furnish fresh tidings of revival influence in many of the churches of our denomination.

The first Temperance Society ever formed in Nova Scotia, or perhaps in British America (for I have not heard of any anterior to it), was organized at Beaver River, in this County, in 1828.

In the year 1847 the organization of the Sons of Temperance began to attract attention, and thousands throughout the United States were enrolling themselves under its banner as champions of Temperance.

These four Divisions were all formed in 1847. As a matter of course, the first few years of their existence were marked by great additions to their numbers.

But in Yarmouth town we have the enemy to contend against, and as in every other place, he is found in the dram-shop. When the moderate drinkers shall see that without the first glass there would be no drunkards, and when our dram-shops shall be closed only when the influence of the Order of Temperance societies will have less up-hill work.

"Adjudication"—Reply to Mr. Eaton.

But if, according to Mr. E.'s view, an "enacting clause" were necessary, we could certainly produce one. The clause which he alleges as authorizing investigation, no less authorized adjudication.

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To intimate, or imply, that authority to do a thing cannot be given in other modes than by an enacting clause, and especially to state on the latter an essential, seems puerile and pedantic; it is not peddling. Mr. Eaton, may, if he please, assume himself; but he should not attempt to confuse plain readers with his irrelevant distinctions between "adjudication" and "final adjudication."

side by a competent tribunal; and that neither party to an adjudicated case, can itself become that tribunal, or rightfully act as such.

Mr. Eaton's position, that the Council did in some sense adjudicate—that is to say, they delivered what one of their number, in Mr. Armstrong's presence and in the presence of the other councillors, was pleased to term an "average finding."

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The Baptists Church in Rock Island, Illinois, report the pastoral care of Rev. Henry Davis, report the baptism of 25 candidates within a short period.

Home Bibles. No. III. ETERNAL PUNISHMENT OF SIN.

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The new Lampoon, Captain Cronk, arrived after an unusually long passage, on Tuesday morning. She was detained by adverse winds.

The Bazaar in Smith's building in support of the "Home for the Aged" is, so far, a grand success. The tables are richly supplied, and in the evening the rooms are crowded to excess.

his sin, it is necessary for him to settle his account in full, with Divine Justice. Must it not, then, be a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Retributive Justice, in its real nature, is only to be learned from the Bible.

DEAR EDITOR—It affords me much pleasure to inform you at this time, that God is remembering us in Shediac. I baptized three candidates two weeks ago yesterday.

DEAR EDITOR—After an enforced absence of some weeks' duration, I again take up my pen to give the friends on your side the Bay a resumé of matters and things in general.

Secular Department.

From our Halifax Correspondent.

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The issue of the PENNITT is quite equal to any of its predecessors. THE MORNING STAR, an excellent family paper, comes to us greatly enlarged and improved.

THE TEMPERANCE DOCTOR, by Miss Mary Dwyell Chellis, is a reliable story, graphically depicting the fearful ravages produced by the intoxicating cup, and unfolding what one earnest soul can do to push forward the great Reform.

THE OLD BROWN PITCHER is a choice book for boys and girls, containing original stories by gifted authors. Both these works should have a place in the family circle, and in the libraries of Sabbath schools.

MUSICAL WORKS REVIEW.—Peter's Parlor Companion for the Flute, Violin, and Piano, is issued monthly, and each number contains about 16 pages choice music.

Peter's United States Musical Review is an excellent monthly. Each issue contains several pages of valuable musical reading, together with 12 to 14 pages of Piano Songs and Piano Pieces, by select authors. Price \$2 per annum.

Peter's Monthly Glee Hive contains 14 pages of music, is published monthly; it supplies sacred and secular glee, trios, quartets, opera choruses, &c. Price \$3 per year.

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SAD ACCIDENT.—On the 2d inst., Robert McLennan and William Hamilton of Newcastle, Grand Lake, were out on a shooting excursion. While traveling through the woods the former had his gun on his shoulder, muzzle forward, and his hand partially over it.

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HONORS FOR SIR R. NAPIER.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of Lieutenant-general Sir Robert Napier, K. C. B., G. C. S. I., commanding Her Majesty's forces in Abyssinia, to be an ordinary member of the military division of the first class.

LONDON, May 18.—In the House of Commons tonight the Scotch Reform Bill was under consideration. Mr. William E. Baxter moved to add to the number of Scotch members of the House by taking the franchise from some of the small English boroughs.

FRANCE.—The debate on commerce, which commenced with a speech from M. Thiers in favor of protection, was continued on the 14th by M. De Forcade La Roquette, Minister of Commerce, who made a reply to argument of M. Thiers.

TURKEY.—The Sultan opened the new Council yesterday in a speech remarkable for its liberality. He said the time had come when Turkish manners must yield to European civilization.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—Honorable advises give accounts of a terrible volcanic eruption by Mauna Loa, March 27th and 28th. 100 earthquake shocks were felt, and during the two weeks following two thousand earthquake shocks occurred at Waikiki.

IMPETUS DEFEATED.—A despatch from Washington, May 16th, says:—The impeachment of President Johnson came up at noon to-day in the Senate, when the question was taken in the 11th article. The vote stood 27 in favor of conviction to 19 acquittal.

NEW-YORK, May 19.—Gold steady at 139 1/4-139 3/4. DOMINION PARLIAMENT.—May 13.—In the Commons Sir John Lubbock introduced Involuntary Bill. This is extension of Canadian Act to the Dominion.

SELECT COMMITTEE appointed to enquire into administration of Justice in Ottawa district by Judge LaFontaine.

MAY 14.—In Senate, Benson moved amendment to Bill respecting Governor General's Salary, proposing a salary at ten thousand pounds sterling without other expenses, except residence. Question of order as to whether Senate can alter a Bill, embodying a money vote, is now being considered.

ON motion for third reading of a Bill respecting duties of Justices of Peace out of Session, a discussion arose as to jurisdiction of Parliament in the matter. Bill afterwards passed.

A Bill respecting Consolidated Revenue fund passed. Deferred items of Supply, expenses connected with Confederation and Salaries, and Contingencies of Customs passed the House in Committee.

MAY 16.—The Government brought down despatches from the Imperial Government in reply to an Address passed by the Senate of the Session respecting the North West Territory. Despatches contain correspondence between the Imperial Government and Hudson Bay Company, and states that by Imperial Legislation the claims of the Company will be transferred to the Home Government on settlement of the Company's claim.

Holton, Dorion and others represented the position of the Dominion Government as humiliating in not being trusted to arrange directly with the Company without Imperial interference.

The dispatch will be printed, and will elicit discussion which may prolong the session. Sir John stated intention to prorogue on Wednesday, business permitting.

MAY 16.—In Commons, Message from His Excellency was read, transmitting despatch from Secretary of State, in which letter is commended to express to the family of Mr. McGee, Her Majesty's deep sympathy with them in their loss sustained by the atrocious crime.

After transacting their business, House resumed adjourned debate on Cartier's motion to receive report of Committee on Millicia bill. Bowell moved to refer bill back to Committee with instructions to reduce salary of Adjutant General from \$3,600 to \$3,000, and deduct Deputies from \$1,800 to \$1,200, or 66 2/3 to 63.

In Committee, Cartier made strong appeal to French followers to vote down amendment on concurrences. Holton, Connell and others strongly deprecated appeal to national prejudices.

Report as amended was concurred in vote 64 to 63, but on account of Fisher and Hurden being too late for first vote, Cartier again moved House into Committee to fix salaries one dollar less than in original bill; motion lost 67 to 63. Yess—Boltan, Caldwell, Costigan, Gray, Tilly, Nays—Burpee, Connell, Cartier, Holton, Cartier, Holton, Cartier, Holton.

MAY 18.—In reply to Savory, Sir John stated that the Dominion Government would not appoint Justices of Peace, and would not this session introduce a Bill to transfer the power to Lieutenant Governors. In reply to Chabouvet he stated there was no intention of the Government to extend aid to the distressed Fishermen of Nova Scotia and Gaspe. It was a matter for Local Government.

Anglin and Conigan have left. Ferris, Burpee, Wadsworth and others will leave on Wednesday. MAY 19.—Independence of Parliament Bill passed. Amendment by Blake to render Registrars, Registrars, and Prothonotaries Ineligible was lost.

House in Committee passed a bill for the better securing the payment of the duty on tobacco manufactured in Canada. Motion for concurrence carried on division.

DEATH OF THE FISHERIES.—The Dominion Government has received no information respecting the intended dispatch of an American steamer to fish in the Canadian waters. It is reported that the proposed Canadian Marine Police for the protection of Fisheries will consist mainly of small cruisers, especially adapted as coast guards which will generally remain within a marine league from the shore and warn intruders away.