THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 21, 1968.

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. than the serious consequences that may follow from any imprudent course of action. The utmost calmness and caution, the most solicitous regard to every claim of justice, charity, and mercy are called for in such a case, for instance, as that, of which the con sequences are now so distressingly agitating the Baptist community in Nova Scotia. With such counsel. so glaring a mistake as judging on evidence taken wholly ex parte must have been impossible.

If the evidence have 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, that he may make objections if necessary. It does not seem to us, however, that such writing ought to deprive him of the right, if he claim it, to have the witnesses orally examined before the body that are to pass judgment on their testimony. There are so many cases in regard of evidence in which it is of vital moment that the judges see the witnesses and mark their look and manner; that to act in any way that should make this impossible would be an infringement of the first claims of justice, and it seems to follow that if an oral examination is demanded, no written statement of that evidence previously made. ought to be received as evidence in its stead.

The routine observances generally noticed in treatises on discipline are of course worthy of attention. If a council be called to make examinations and give their opinion and advice, the evidence taken before them should be carefully reduced to writing, and a copy handed to the church with the report of the council on the matters submitted for such advice and

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, or some impropriety of conduct towards him. Under these circumstances, the point referred may be of such a nature as to impose on the council in effect the duty of trying the accused party, and of giving a final decision.

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, to claim that a prejudiced party shall be a judge.

In this case then, it may often be by no means necessary, or even proper, to return to the church a copy of the evidence. It might be most miwise to make such return. The question to be tried must often amount simply to this, what verdict does the council pass upon the evidence submitted. Do they, on this evidence, believe, or do they not believe, the accused person guilty. The decision on such a question is in its nature final. To return therefore a statement of the evidence to the church, would be inviting discussion when the church might be bound by the circumstances to raise no discussion, but to accept as final the verdict of the council, who would in this case, occupy very much the position of a jury or of arbitrators.

cation 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, that we by no means forget the special guidance of the Most High, to which all christians are entitled and required to trust. This guidance might no doubt be enjoyed as fully by a church as by any private follower of the Lamb, nay, possibly more fully. The danger to be apprehended is, however, that churches may, like individuals, forget to seek that aid, or do it faithlessly, or under delusion and prejudice, and so remain exposed to the evils that may assail and greatly injure them. We know, from the Divine Word, that their errors may become so great that " their candlestick shall be removed out of its place."

There is a question in relation to evidence on which we have not touched, which must, bowever, be regarded as possessing no small interest: is the testimony of worldly persons to be taken against progress. christians as possessing equal weight? We have formerly known this question to be commonly answered among Baptists in the negative.

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. They may be commonly relied on in the community where they live; and for christians wholly to repudiate their testimony would offend against reason, and needlessly outrage the principles which govern society, and thus tend to bring the churches into a collision with common sentiment injurious to the general interests of religion.

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 when placed in the balance with those who do not seknowledge the lofty principles of the gospel.

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; while, on the other hand the charge, is in the most solemn manner, denied by the christian brother, whose character and truthfulness have never previously been

impeached. 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. No doubt there are, in the humblest walks of life, those whose character is as pure and honest as the most elevated; but it is also well-known by persons at all extensively acquainted with human society, that there are condions is life, in which scandal, tale-telling, and suspicion are particularly common—are sometimes almost the normal state; and to balance therefore the representations, and suspicions, and tittle tattle, of police spies, domestics, keepers of boarding-houses and taverns, and ignorant and talkative women of inferior condition, whose testimony too, even if admitted, would amount to nothing positive in support of a charge of guilt, against the solemn adjuration of a christian brother of high reputation, would be a contempt of the value of christian character unreason able in itself, and highly injurious to the kingdom of

These remarks receive great additional weight from worldly witnesses may be examined—the witnesses cannot be sworn. To a pure and lofty mind, indeed, titudes of common and low minds it is far otherwise; such persons often have a superstitious dread of the tongues, when, otherwise, low cunning and spite may receive full vent in injurious misrepresentation. How often, in the class of persons to whom we now refer, is petty malice brought out on a skilful crossexamination, as the highly probable, if not the evident 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 witnesses were of course not on oath; they may, so far as self-contradictions did not impeach their character, have been ordinarily respectable in their line of life, but those who testified anything of moment belonged to the class of society of which we have spoken: nothing was given in evidence as to their character; and their statements should have been received with extreme caution: they reached no conclusive allegation; they were, in some respects, singularly self-contradictory, and they were met and answered with a weight of character. and a solemnity of denial not easily exceeded. How strangely blinded must have been the brethren who failed to weigh such circumstances in the balance of reason and common sense, to say nothing of christian charity and brotherly love. Sad is it indeed to see into what great and hurtful errors even christain churches may fall, if they forget that presiding and preserving grace in which it is our privilege and duty

The Progress of Temperance in Yarmouth, N. S. In previous articles we have shown that vital Chrisianity in Yarmouth has done much towards promoting the material wealth and moral elevation of the ommunity. This is to be seen most distinctly in the deep hold which the Temperance reform early took upon the hearts and lives of the people. Probably in no town on this continent has the good cause spread more effectually than in Yarmouth. So generally does the principle of Temperance obtain, that the magistrates of the County long since refused to grant licenses to sell intoxicating liquors except for medicinal purposes. One place only in town is appointed by law to sell; and that is placed in the hands of a perfectly reliable gentleman, who is careful to deal it out in strict accordance with the provisions of the law. Doubtless there are places where it is sold in violation of law; but then they are so low, that no person who values his own respectability would be seen in them. The result is that drunkenness, for the most part, is confined to the lowest grades of seciety, and even with this class it does not prevail to any large extent. A young friend bas kindly furnished us with the following brief sketch of the rise and progress of the Temperance cause in Yarmouth, which cannot fail to interest our Temperance readers.

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, and was the means of converting that entire settlement into a soer and industrious population, which it has remaind ever since. Following close upon the formation this society, kindred institutions sprang into existence in different portions of the county, and it was not long before the old-fashioned Total Abstinence ocieties were exerting an influence throughout Yarmouth. For the first fifteen years of their history, hese societies were remarkably successful, and the l'emperance reform, as connected with them, achieved wonderful progress in creating a healthy public seniment in favor of sober and temperate habits. So out for the past thirty years the English copulation Yarmouth County have distinguished themselves their general sobriety.

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. The influence of this new Order soon extended to Nova Scotia, and in Yarmouth the first Divisions in the Province were formed in 1847. Acadia Division, Vo. 1, Central, No. 2, and Mariner's, No. 3, in Truro; lilton, No. 4, in Milton. Of these Divisions, Marier's is the only one that is not in working order. became defunct because it was found that three divisions were enough for the population,

These four Divisions were all formed in 1847. As a matter of course, the first few years of their xistence were marked by great additions to their numbers of those who were attracted more by the ovelty of the Order and the benefit system that then elonged to it, than by real sound temperance moives. After these had lost their power to attract, our Divisions, in common with many others, suffered

great loss of apparent strength. But those who remained in the Order were truehearted temperance men, and under their guidance the Divisions prospered and exerted a noble influence for good in our town and County, so that at the present time there exists about fifteen Divisions in our County, all of them in healthy condition and active

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 to the degraded drunkard, then our Temperance societies will have less up-hill work. But we are thankful for our success in the past, for the influence we are still exerting, and hope that our future history may be yet more encouraging. Heaven has lessed the Temperance movement; and while its warm hearted and benevolent advocates shall still work in unison, and shall still pray to their Father in Heaven for strength and guidance, the time must come when the principles of sobriety shall be recognized in Yarmouth and everywhere as, next to reli gion, the sure basis of morality and progressive pros-

"Adjudication"-Reply to Mr. Eaton.

(Concluded.) 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. Why did Mr. Eaton quote only a part of the clause? Was it feared that, if the whole were given, ordinary readers would perceive that the Council was by said clause as much authorized to adjudicate as to investigate? Here is the clause : "The church do invite a Council to investigate the subjects specified in clause two of the Basis hereinbefore mentioned, and to report to the church their opinion in what degree any and which of the charges alleged against Dr. Pryor have been established before them, and whether the action of the church relative thereto, and to Dr. P., was such as should have been taken under the circumstances; and if not, why not; and what course the church should have adopted." From this it is plain that the Council must determine what charges were established against Dr. P.; for otherwise they could not make the required report to the church. But in order to determine what charges were established, they must hear the testimony, judge of its credibility and force, and decide accord ingly whether the charges were sustained or not. All the adjudication the Council could effect in the matters referred to them was to determine and declare whether the charges against Dr. P. were sustained or not-which would, of course, be in effect to acquit condemn him; and also, in a similar manner, to termine whether in dealing with the charges against Dr. P. and in her treatment of him, the action of the church was right. I say this was all the adjudica-tion which a Council could effect. And all this Mr. tion which a Council could effect. And all this Mr. Eaton's "enacting clause" warrants; it, in fact, as much authorized the Council to adjudicate on the matters referred as it did to investigate them. But as authority to do both was given the Council by the 2nd clause of the Basis, and the enacting clause, however useful or allowable, was not necessary for that purpose, it is needless to dwell further upon it. 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. Denial or "wretched quibbling," come in what forms they may, cannot do away with this stubborn fact.

clause, and especially to insist on the latter as essential, seems puerile and pedantic, if not pettifogging. Mr. Eaten, may, if he pleases, amuse himself; but he should not attempt to confuse plain readers with his irrelevant distinctions between "adjudication" and "linal adjudication." It can avail, however, only with unthinking and prejudiced persons. Surely Mr. E. knows very well that all adjudication, whether looked upon as final or not final, is binding on both parties, and must remain so till, on appeal, it is set

aside by a competent tribunal; and that neither his sin, it is necessary for him to settle his account party to an adjudicated case, can itself become that in full, with Divine Justice. Must it not, then, be a ribunal, or rightfully act as such. Should Mr. E. fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. ever go to Ottawa in search of "final adjudication," he will find that, however much be dislikes the previous decision, he cannot, by his own will or act, or learned from the Bible. In that record of eternal that of his client, set aside such decision.

Mr. Eaton admits that "the Council did in ense 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.' Will Mr. A. tell us what claim to finality an 'average finding' can "One of their number!" "One" against Eleven! This is overwhelming—is it not? Now, since the Council was unanimous on every point on which decision was given, and every member had, without qualification or dissent, signed the decision, cannot perceive on what ground any councillor could designate it an "average finding." But what-ever was meant by it, it cannot surely for a moment be supposed that the brother intended to depreciate or destroy his own work and that of his brethren, or in any way detract from the respect due the decision of a large Council, selected as this was from three Provinces. And the eagerness with which Mr. Eaton clutches at the unauthorized expression of an individual member, and the use he makes of it to set aside and trample on the solemn and unanimous decision of the Council, shows that a determination existed to. f possible, defeat the decision if not deemed satisfactory. Hence the verbal, unauthorized, utterances of one or two members are seized upon and arbitrarily exalted to an equality with the decision itself; and as the two were deemed contradictory—the one of the other, -the decision was rejected ! That the verbal, explanatory remarks of one or two councillors should fectly united with them in the judgment given, and be made use of to destroy that decision, seems incredible. This, however, Mr. Eaton has done. Would Mr. E. take the same liberty with the decision of a own responsibility and with the best intentions may be, to say that it was an "average finding?" trow not. Had the decision of the Council been have heard no complaint; "average finding," and even "adjudication" full and final, would have been llowed to pass unchallenged, and without objection; nd church councils, instead of being referred to in ontempt, would have been treated with brotherly ontidence, commendation and love.

maying shown, as I think, that Mr. Eaton's objecions to my position are utterly futile, I leave him to defunct resolutions," "enacting clauses," nding," "adjudication," and "final adjudication." Yours respectfully,

GEORGE ARMSTRONG. Bridgetown, N. S., May 9, 1868.

Revival Intelligence. Our American exchanges continue to furnish fresh idings of revival influence in many of the churches prosperous; nineteen have been recently added. his Sabbath-school has grown from 150 to 600. Rev. C. A. Skinner, of Milbury, recently baptized 16 persons in the presence of 2000 spectators. In Waterville. Me., fifteen new-born souls recently put on Christ in baptism. The Berean Baptist Church, New-York, Dr. Dowling, pastor, is enjoying a refreshing time. Thirty-two have been baptized since the good work commenced. At Amsterdam, New-York State, more than fifty have been added to the church within a short time-forty by baptism. A publishes a long list of talented contributors, among revival is in progress in the Baptist Church, Patter- whom are ministers of the Gospel, Editors, Professors five have been baptized, and others are expected for- ing to the Herald's prospectus, "Its special field of ward. Rev. Mr. Earle assisted the pastors in revival meetings recently in the First and Tabernacle Churches, Philadelphia, and one hundred and twenty There will be commenced in the Herald of Health converts are reported as the result.

Rev. Sampson White, of Lynchburg, Virginia, reports the baptism of three hundred and sixteen converts, recently, in the James River, in the presence

of assembled thousands. The Baptist Church in Rock Island, Illinois, under the pastoral care of Rev. Henry Davis, report the bap. tism of 25 candidates within a short period. Last Sabbath, says the Rev. Jonas Wood, I was permitted to baptize twenty-one candidates. Eighteen missionaries in Iowa report the baptism of 187 converts by them during their last quarter.

Horæ Biblicæ.

NO. III. ETERNAL PUNISHMENT OF SIN.

The justice of God is the perfect rectitude of his

ature. God does what is right, and he does it be cause it is right. This attribute—so essential to his character, as Moral Governor, is, in reality, the necessary result of his boliness. And, here, it may be observed, that holiness is the very perfection of the Divine Nature itself. Justice is often divided into commutative and distributive—the former consists in an equal exchange of benefits: the latter in an equal distribution of rewards and punishments. Distributive; or, as some design it, retributive justice, has to do with a law with sanctions. This rule of actionfor such is the nature of a law-is the principle; in accordance with which, God deals with his intelligent creatures. In his so acting, it is implied, that he makes known to them, the nature of moral good and evil; and furnishes them with sufficient reasons for obeying the one and rejecting the other. This rule, thus armed, and notified, is the Moral Law. The notification constitutes the matter, and the reasons, the sanctions of that law, A penalty, in case. of violation, is essential to the idea of a law, The natural consequences of sin is not a penalty. The term implies an infliction from an external agent—one who is invested with legitimate authority to do soand one, too, who can regulate the suffering according to the nature and magnitude of the evil. A Moral Price \$3 per year. penalty. The mere natural consequences of moral Box 5429, New York. evil, may not appear in proportion to the crime-and in the estimation of the perpetrator, and others may have more the appearance of a misfortune, than what it is, in reality, the punishment of a fault. To meet the ends of justice, something more is necessary. A positive retribution is required. For the harmony of the Divine perfections, and the consistency of God's he is-a just God-that his intelligent creatures, throughout the whole of the universe, might become conscious of the perfect purity and absolute dignity of his moral nature. Without positive retributions, there could not be the perception of designing intelligence—the recognition of legislative authority—and the adjustment of the infliction to the strictest principles of equity. The effect, that naturally flows nission of moral evil, of itself, would fail to answer its end-both, in respect to the con-

Retributive justice, in its real nature, is only to be truth, it is stated, that the angels, who kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, God has reserved in everlasting chains, under darkness, unto the judgment of the great day. In the punishment of their sin, an estimate may be formed of the greatness of justice. These celestial spirits sinned once. Their doom did not wait for a repetition of their crime. The penalty was commensurate with eternity. From what is said respecting them in the Book

of God, there is no reason-no, not the least, to think

that they will ever be restored to the Divine favour.

They do not appear to entertain the least hope of it themselves. In the case, too, of Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them, retribution was fearfully dealt out. These cities of the plain, were turned into ashes: -and the citizens of them, on account of their sin, are set forth for an example-suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. But, it is in the atone ment-completed on the cross upwards of eighteen hundred years ago-that the justice of God is fully manifested. Not even in the eternal punishment of the sinner, in Tartarus, on account of his sin, is this attribute so clearly displayed. The man, who is redeemed by Christ, has in his surety, rendered a complete satisfaction to Divine Justice. The Redeemer, be taken and pressed in opposition to their written in his stead, has paid his debt in full. Not one mite decision and that of nine or ten other councillors per- is left unpaid. Even the justice of heaven can ask no more. Could his people have been restored to his favour without a complete satisfaction being made to his justice, God would have spared his own Son :-Court, because one of the judges happened, on his but, it was because nothing else would have done, to put the Moral Governor of the universe in a position, to save the objects of his choice, whom he loved with leemed satisfactory by Mr. E., we should, I believe, a sovereign, unchanging, everlasting love, in consistency with his own character, and perfections :- he was delivered up as a propitiatory sacrifice, to meet all the demands of the divine law and justice. Such, ertain quarters with disapprobation and, it may be, in reality, is the true nature of the justice of the God of the Bible, that no sin has ever been committed, or, indeed, ever will be committed, that is not either punished in Christ's death, or will be eternally punake all the support and comfort he can get from his ished, in the sinner. The dreadful nature of the "average justice of God, and the desert of man's sin, are seen only in the atonement. The exercise of this justice, on the part of God, is not, as some assert, an arbitrary, or optional effect of the Divine Will-an act of severity rather than of justice—a thing that God may remit-partly or wholly-at his mere pleasure. On the contrary—it is an essential and necessary perfection of Deity. Its rise and foundation is the whole our denomination. The church at Jamaica Plains nature of God, and its exercise is as necessary to his moral character, as compotence is to his exist-Rev. Henry A. Cooke, paster of the 2d Baptist ence. Should an interroption, at anytime, in the Church, of Lawrence, reports an increase in his necessary connexion between moral and physical church of 300 in three years, and in the same time evil, occur, such an interposition of sovereignty must have an adequate reason for its occurrence ;-and in such an event, due regard must be had to the rights of law, and justice. Such a provision is made, in the scheme of redemption. In it Jebovah is seen to be a

> him who believeth in Jesus. THE HERALD OF HEALTH is published by Miller. Wood & Co., 13 and 15 Laight street, New York. It effort is as a teacher of the laws of life and health, perfect physical development, and human happiness." for June, 1868, a series of valuable articles entitled "The Care, Education and Rearing of Children." The first paper will be by Mrs. Horace Mann, on "The Care of Young Children." The second paper will be by Grace Greenwood, entitled "The Physical Education of Girls." Miss Peabody, who has devoted so much of her life to the education of very young children, has prepared a paper on the Kindergarten Schools of Germany. To secure the full series, subscriptions should be sent in at once. Price \$2 a year; sample numbers, 20 cents. Address-Miller, Wood & Co., 15 Laight Street, New York.

> just God and a Saviour ;- just and the justifier of

The May issue of the PULPIT is quite equal to any

of its predecessors. THE MORNING STAR, an excellent family paper, comes to us greatly enlarged and improved. May its light shine with increasing brilliancy and power. HARPER'S BAZAAR and HARPER'S WEEKLY are both

New Publications by the National Temperance Society and Publication House, 172 William street,

THE TEMPERANCE DOCTOR, by Miss Mary Dwinell 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 RECEIVED .- Peters' Parlor Companion for the Flute, Violin and Piano, is issued monthly, and each number contains about 16 pages choice music. Price \$3 per year.

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

Peters' Monthly Glee Hive contains 14 pages of music, is published monthly; it supplies sacred and secular glees, trios, quartets, opera choruses, &c.

Governor, by positive enactment, alone can inflict a Address-J. L. Peters, Music Publisher, P. O.

The new Lampedo, 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 evenings the rooms crowded to excess. The receipts on Monday amounted to \$657, and on Tuesday to \$704. Donations are flowing into the Treasury. A leading mercantile firm of the city gives \$100, and another \$100 is received from England (as we are informed), upon condition that the institution be wholly free from the trammels of sectarianism. Success to the " Home for the Aged."

SAD ACCIDENT. -On the 2d inst., Robert McLennar and William Hamilton of Newcastle, Grand Lake, this arises from his essential moral perfection:—for the vindication of God's character, and administration, advance. McLennan's gun-lock caught a bush and as Moral Governor, it is on that account, necessary, discharged: one of McLennan's fingers was blown off that this aversion, on his part to Moral evil, should and the whole charge lodged in Hamilton's back. Only

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 G. C. S. I., commanding Her Majesty's forces in Abysvesterday, (which was my first) in the presence of a he way to Zion. Pray for us dear brother.

Yours, in the Gospel, W. D. MANZER. Shediac, May 18, 1868.

Eurprise Visit.

The good people of Brussels street, old and young, cok their beloved pastor and his excellent wife quite y surprise on Tuesday evening last by uncerimoniously entering their residence in considerable force, with hands full of valuable artices intended for donestic use. They wished to give their new minister and his wife an expression of their affection and eseem: and now that they had commenced housekeepng, it seemed appropriate that they should do it in his style. After a round of hearty greetings, the Rev. I. E. Bill, in behalf of those assembled gave a to which the pastor appropriately replied, heartily thanking the people for the tangible expression, of their good will, and assuring them of his determina ion to devote himself unreservedly to their spiritual and eternal welfare.

We have no idea of the value of the articles hand d in, but they were numerous and varied, some costand all useful. Some time was joyously spent in pening the several parcels and in examining their an hour, and the company separated, all delighted yield to European civilization. with the evening's proceedings. May the young pastor and his loved wife long live to enjoy many sucl tokens of Christian affection, and to be a rich bless ing in the Master's name to many precious souls.

Baptist Colleges.

The Examiner & Chronicle, of last week, reporte ine Northern Universities and Colleges, chiefly or wholly under Baptist administration, as having 693 students; 429 of these are from Baptist families; 191 of these are students for the ministry, and 162 out of the 191 are aided in prosecuting their studies by Edu- destroyed. Great suffering and terror prevailed.

Most deeply do we sympathize with Mrs Charles Simonds in the overwhelming affliction through which she is called to pass, as detailed in another column. May heavenly consolation be imparted to her in this dark and trying hour.

Secular Department.

From our Halifax Correspondent.

MAY 15, 1868.

DEAR VISITOR-After an enforced silence of some eeks duration, I again take up my pen to give the nings in general. Winter has lingered in the lap of oring later this year than for many previous years. t is nearly the middle of May, and scarce a blade of division. The work is completed five hundred and reen grass to be seen; the trees have not yet burst neir bods, and vegetation has hardly commenced. We have had some fine days of course, but ever and anon just as one begins to feel their blood a little stirred, the wind changes and blows fiercely from the ice, proving that there is more truth than poetry in the reply of a military gentleman who, on being ques-tioned respecting our climate said, "Nova Scotia has nine months winter and three months changeable weather." All this has a very depressing effect; it furnishes an excellent excuse for grumbling—the Englishman's panacea for every ill; it retards all wears the color of the rose. But still we hope for a change for the better; things, when at the worst, must mend; already business has begun somewhat to revive; fishermen are coming in for their outfits, and the hopeful are looking forward to a speedy

change for the better. Of local news there is not much of interest to note. Nothing official has transpired with regard to the mission of the Repeal Delegates; though the general impression gathered from private letters and other sources is that the delegation has proved a failure, and that Nova Scotia will not change the settled policy of all parties in England, and that the delegates will be advised to return home, put their shoulders to the wheel, and assist in working out and giving Union a fair trial. So that the only benefit resulting from the delegation is that the gentlemen composing it have been enabled to enjoy a pleasure trip at the pub-

I regret to state that in some parts of Cape Breton and the back part of Nova Scotia, the distress among the people is as bad as ever. We hear heart-rending necounts of persons dying of starvation. In one case, after having consumed everything estable, the father left his home with a horse, his sole remaining animal, in order to sell it for food. After having in vain of-tered it any price, he returned home, and found that in his absence three of his family had died of absolute starvation, and he was obliged to kill and eat his horse himself in order to save his own life. The harbors are now opening, and supplies will be forwarded without delay. But it is terrible to know that in Nova Scotia any such cases of absolute want exist. It would be interesting to know what has ocrasioned such destitution in localities where failure of the fisheries will not account for it. I think that if it was properly traced out it would be found that the lection last summer and the excitement got up with regard to Confederation, causing the people to neglect their husbandry and other necessary work, had no little to do with it.

The new Provincial Building, just completed, was he other evening lighted up throughout with gas, nd thrown open to the citizens. The building both utside and inside will compare very favourably with ny other public building within the Dominion. The various rooms are fitted up with every convenience equired by the respective departments for whom they are designed, and the only pity is that our local overnment, having obtained possession, refuse to allow the building to be occupied until after August ext. The Post Office and other departments are uffering sadly for want of the accommodation.

Our Supreme Court has been sitting for some time, ad is now drawing to a close. On the civil side ome two hundred and fifty causes stood for trial; bout twenty-five have been disposed of after three veeks' work, so you may imagine the length of time hat will be required to clear the docket.

Downs, our enterprising naturalist, has recently ecured the appointment of Zoological keeper in the entral Park, New-York, and has advertised his birds

The railway between Annapolis and Windsor is ust approaching completion, and it is thought that it ill be ready for traffic, except the bridge across the tvon; by the time of the exhibition this autumn. Jeff Davis, and several other distinguished South-rners are looked for shortly in Halitax, to sojourn ith us for the summer at least. We have in our idst already a goodly number of Southern gentle-ien, many of whom are largely engaged in manufac-The Admiral's ship has just arrived from Bermuda, and our young ladies are preparing for a gay summer.

Foreign and Domestic News.

THE IRISH CHURCH. - In the House of Com the Irish Church.—In the nouse of Commons, on the 12th, the reply of the Queen to the petition of the louse of Commons, based on Mr. Gladston's third esolution was announced. The Queen says, that, elying on the wisdom of the House, she desires her interest in the temporalities of the Irish Church will not in any way hinder parliamentary legislation on the subject.

A despatch from London says that an ecclesiastical ody waited upon Her Majesty at Windsor Castle, on the 15th of May, and presented an address from the lierarchy of the Irish Church, giving their views in egard to the great changes contemplated in the establishment. The Queen replied in vague terms, not ominiting herself to the policy of either the Church Liberal party on the question.

digust, the result of a surprise sprung on the people, and of fraud practised upon Parliament. After the ading of the document, the evening of the 20th inst., was assigned for debate on the subject.

HONORS FOR SIR R. NAPIER. - The Queen has been orm you at this time, that God is remembering us in graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment yesterday, (which was my first) in the presence of a sinia, to be an ordinary member of the military di-

most honorable order of the Bath.

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. Mr. Bouverie moved that the rating clause in the bill be thrown out. The Government opposed the motions, and on a division of the House, were beaten in both cases. Mr. Disraeli, after the result of the last division was known, rose and said the ministry must now consider their position.

FRANCE Corps Legislatif.-The debate on commerce, which commenced with a speech from M. Thiers in favor of protection, was continued on the 14th by M. De Foreade La Roquetto, Minister of Commerce, who made a reply to argument of M. Theirs. He depreca-Rev. I. E. Bill, in behalf of those assembled, gave a ted the opening of a commercial question and the brief address expressive of the object of the meeting, creation of a crisis in trade, when the peace and industrial property were sure and undisturbed. He declared that France would not adopt a retrograde policy, either on the question of commerce or on any other public question.

The Paris newspapers of to-day say that the Emperor Napoleon has been ill, but his condition is much improved.

A despatch from Constantinople, of May 12th,

day in a speech remarkable for its liberality. He ontents; then came social chat and sweet music for said the time had come when Turkish manners must SANDWICH ISLANDS. Honoruru advices give accounts of a terrible volcanic eruption by Manna Loa, March 27th and 28th. 100 earthquake shocks were felt, and during the two weeks following two thousand earthquake shocks oc-

swys :- The Sultan opened the new Council yester-

curred at Walschina. A terrible shock prostrated churches and houses, and killed in all one hundred persons, besides a thousand horses and cattle, the craters vomited a river of red hot lava five or six miles long, which flowed to the sea at the rate of 10 miles per hour, destroying everything before it, and forming an island in the sea. A new crater two miles wide opened, and throws streams of fire a thou-sand feet high. The villages on the shore were ail

UNITED STATES.

IMPEACHMENT DEFEATED-A despatch from Washington, of 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 35 for conviction to 19 for acquittal. The required two-thirds not being affirmative the President stands acquitted on the 11th article. Immediately after voting the Senate adjourned to May 26th. A further despatch, of the 18th, says, that the acquittal of the President on the eleventh article of impeachment caused considerable excitement among the Republicans and rejoicing among the Democrats. Salutes were fired by the latter in various part of the country. It is thought the remaining articles of impeachment will not be voted upor.

gorously pushed forward. Ten thousand men are now working on the line—one half of the number on the end, and the other half on the Western and Calfornia seventy miles west of Omaha, thus giving rail communication from Chicago west one thousand and six-

PACIFIC RAILWAY. - This great work is being vi-

New-York, May 19 .- Gold stendy at 1894@1894.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT. May 18 .- In the Commons Sir John introduced Inolvency Bill. This is extension of Canadian Act to the Dominion.

Select Committee appointed to enquire into administration of Justice in Ottawa district by Judge Lafontine.

Bill respecting Governor General's Salary, proposin s lary at ten thousand pounds sterling wi 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

Deferred items of Supply, expenses connected with Confederation and Salaries, and Contingencies of Customs passed the House in Committee. Passed tonnage dues resolutions, which were afterwards con

May 15 .- The Government brought down des May 15.—The Government brought down despatches from the Imperial Government in reply to an Address passed during the first of the Session respecting the North West Territory. Despatch contains correspondence between the Imperial Government and Hudson Bay Company, and states that by Imperial Legislation the claims of the Company will be tran ferred to the Home Government on settle ment of the Company's claim.

Hol on, Dorion and others represented the position of the Dominion Government as humiliating in not being trusted to arrange directly with the Company without Imperial intervention as their address asked The dispatch will be printed, and will elicit discus sion which may prolong the session.

Sir John stated intention to prorogue on Wednes

day, business permitting.
May 16.—In Commons, Message from His Excellency was read, transmitting despatch from Secretary of State, in which latter is commanded to express to the family of Mr. McGee, Her Majesty's deep sympa thy with them in their loss sustained by the atrociou

After transacting further business, House resum o rned debate on Cartier's motion to receive report of Committee on Militia bill. Bowell moved to refer bill back to Committee with instructions to reduce salary of Adjutant General from \$8,600 to \$3. 000, and deduct Deputies from \$1,800 to \$1,200, carried-64 to 63.

In Committee, Cartier made strong appeal to French followers to vote down amendment on con-

Holten, 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! Yeas-Bolton Caldwell, Costigan, Gray, Tilley. Nays—Burpee, Connell, Ferris, Wallace. Excitement!

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 Chauveau he stated there was no intention of the Government to extend aid to the distressed Fishermen of Nova Scotia and Gaspe. It was

tressed Fishermen of Nova Scotia and Gaspe. It was a matter for Local Government.

Anglin and Costigan have left. Ferris, Burpee, Wallace and some others will leave on Weanesday. May 19.—Independence of Parliament Bill passed. Amendment by Blake to render Sheriffs, Registrars, and Prothonataries inelligible 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.

ernment have received no information respecting the intended dispatch of an American fleet to the Canadian fishing 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 generall remain within a marine league from the shore an

ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

*McGee Murder Uase. — A despatch from Ottawa, says that O'Neill has secured a witness who testifies that the McGee murder was plotted in Montreal at a saloon kept by one Donovan now arrested, and there was a committee of twenty-four Fenians, half of whom were Canadians, and the rest Americans who selected. Whalen to do the deed. Witness was brought from Moutreal to Ottawa, and identified Whalen Slatters and Moutable as three of the party. The Nova Scotia Question.—In the House of ommons, on the 15th, John Bright presented a petition from Nova Scotia, praying that Parliament would opeal the act by which that Province was united to be Dominion of Canada. The petitioners denounce a Canadian Union Act as an evil uncalled for and just, the result of a surprise sprung on the people, and of fraud practised upon Parliament. After the ading of the document, the evening of the 20th ast, was assigned for debate on the subject.

A further despatch from Montreal, of May 14th, saysk A man named Duggan, a saloon keeper, and two accomplices, were arrested this morning, charged with being implicated in the plot for the assassination of McGee. The prisoners were examined before Judge Coursoul with the doors of the Court closed. A witness testified to being present in Duggan's house in December, when the conspiracy was hatched. Twelve American and twelve Canadian Fenians were also present. One man cailed Smith, was selected to do a certain job, but witness could not say