

ments, its own food, and nothing higher, its own smatterings of knowledge, without the celestial life of knowledge. Power it gives, without guidance, without principles. It is just as if the art of shipbuilding should be conducted without helms, and all ships should be set afloat to be guided by the winds only. For such are the immortal ships on the sea of human life without the Bible; its knowledge, its principles, ought from the first to be as much a part of the educated intelligent constitution, as the keel or rudder is part and parcel of a well built ship."

Religious instruction, therefore, and the breath of the sacred Scriptures, ought to be breathed into the child's daily life of knowledge, not put off to the sabbath, when grown children only are addressed from the pulpit, or left to parents at home, who perhaps themselves in too many cases, never open the Bible. If in their daily schools children were educated for eternity as well as time, there would be more good citizens, a deeper piety in life, a more sacred order and heaven-like beauty among all classes, a better understanding of law, a more patient obedience to it, nay, a production of it, and a commendable organization to it, and an assimilation with its spirit beforehand.

It is by celestial observations alone, said Coleridge (and it was a great and profound remark) that terrestrial charts can be constructed. If our education would be one that individuals and states can live by and flourish, it must be ordered by the scriptures. What suicidal, heterogeneous, Roman madness, is the attempt to exclude the Bible from our public schools. Let there be no longer any truckling to Rome or any dubiety existing on the minds of our people in reference to our sentiments on this point. Let it be known from this time henceforward, that Protestants will not compromise their principles, either by excluding the Bible from the public schools, or by aiding Romanists to obtain grants of public money for the establishment of separate schools, where the Bible is ignored. Let every Protestant only be true to himself, and insist that Biblical instruction be as much an element of education, and as constantly and regularly taught, as secular; and we have no fears for the issue.

From our Correspondent in Canada.

SINCE I wrote you last, now some months ago, the Colonial Committee of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland has favoured us with some excellent appointments of Missionaries, numbering not less than seven. The Missionaries are proving themselves worthy of the confidence reposed in them by the Parent Church, and are labouring zealously within the bounds of the several Presbyteries to which they have been

commissioned. The Colonial Committee have thereby placed us under lasting obligations, and it is to be hoped that the gratitude due for their seasonable assistance will manifest itself in a tangible manner. Notwithstanding these valuable accessions, our roll of acting clergymen remains very much as before, in consequence of the death of some and the necessary retirement of others from the field of active labour. There are still many important vacancies and new openings to be supplied, especially in the Presbyteries of Toronto, Bathurst, Hamilton, and London. But we feel that the generous sympathies of the Church at Home are fairly enlisted in our behalf, and some pleasing symptoms of their salutary influence upon the Church here are beginning to manifest themselves; so that our prospects for the future are brightening. It is gratifying to observe indications of the same thing in your Province. The movement going forward in the County of Pictou for the establishment of Lay Associations is of the right sort, and I sincerely hope that all the good results at present anticipated will be more than fully realized. There is very good reason to think that the Pictonians are not of the number, who, when they put their hands to a work of this kind, become indifferent and fainthearted, as soon as the novelty and excitement of initiation are past. They propose to themselves a truly noble and christian enterprise; they are establishing a system of operations which is likely to be efficient because it is simple. Let them be courageous and faithful, and by the blessing of Him who is ready to prosper the works of his servants, they will succeed.

There is a good deal of writing at present in the public prints on the question of a union of all the Provinces of British North America under one form of general government. As time passes the subject will doubtless assume increasing interest and a more practical development. It is a question which no man, concerned in the ascendancy of British power and the preservation of British Institutions in this country, can dismiss from his thoughts. The necessity of greater facilities for intercommunication is at once apparent and must to some extent be removed in preparation for the coming issue. This preliminary, I observe, is engaging the attention of your legislators, and it only requires the statesmen of the different Provinces to co-operate prudently and zealously in order to attain a favorable result.

The question of a General Assembly of our Church is akin to this. Here also the chief difficulty lies in the existence of obstacles to cheap and speedy intercourse. These however seem to be sometimes magnified into undue proportions. Those who have travelled from Nova Scotia or New Brunswick to Canada, will, I doubt not, regard the expense rather than the

distance, as a thing not to be encountered every year by clergymen. It is in many respects at the proper season a pleasant journey, full of variety and enjoyment, and greatly conducive to health. Your congregations would study their own interests by giving their ministers every facility for making it an annual trip. Correspondence has been opened on the subject, between a Committee of our Synod and Committees of the Synods in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and I hope some favorable conclusions will be arrived at, in time to have them reported at the next annual meetings of these several courts.

Her Majesty the Queen has decided on the reference of the local Parliament, that the metropolis of Canada shall be located at Ottawa. The choice is probably the very best that could be made. Beautifully situated on the boundary line of the two Canadas, easily accessible by Railway and Steamer, in a position central to the whole Province, and on what will yet be the high road stretching through the immense territory which lies West and North West on to the shores of the Pacific, Her Majesty's taste and judgment are to be admired—all time-serving politicians, disappointed expectants, and selfish croakers, to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Excuse my non-appearance in your columns for some months back, and do not expect to hear from me every month to come.

Montreal, Feb. 22, 1858.

Rev. William Macrobie, of Tabusintac.

It must be highly gratifying to the members of the Colonial Committee in Scotland, as it is to the friends of the Church throughout these colonies, to hear of the exertions and success of their missionaries since their arrival amongst us. Almost all of them have met with much encouragement, from the congregations and mission stations where they have been appointed to labor, and some of them have been most cordially welcomed, and have manifested much zeal and energy during the brief period they have spent in the country.

Mr. Macrobie has been only eight or nine months in New Brunswick. He received an appointment to a congregation which had been vacant for a number of years, in a remote part of that Province, and commenced his labors with great earnestness and diligence. This congregation have soon appreciated his worth, and conveyed to him substantial tokens of their friendship and affection. In transmitting to our office a list of not fewer than thirty-six new subscribers to the Record, which he has lately obtained in his congregation, he communicates the following pleasing intelligence.

"I hope," says he, "very soon to have it in my power to supply you with the names of all the adherents of our Church in this parish, who