

THE PROTESTANT, AND EVANGELICAL WITNESS.

**THE
Protestant & Evangelical Witness.**

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1860.

The Church and Intemperance.

Is the Church doing her duty to diminish intemperance? We plainly and emphatically answer she is not. Where she may be asked rests the blame. With ministerial indifference and apathy. Intemperance—or to use a plainer term—and by side of spiritual delinquency which prevents men from calling them by their right names—*drunkenness* is a most unconcerning soul-destroying vice. Certainly then it is a fit subject for the pulpit. What saith the Lord?—"Son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word from my mouth, and warn them from me. When I say unto the wicked man that thou shalt surely die, if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked man from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at thine hand." It is all very well for ministers of the Gospel to preach what are all called doctrinal discourses, to expatiate on the sublime mysteries of our holy religion, to declare in general terms that all men are sinners, and that Christ has taken away sin in the sacrifice of himself, but this is not sufficient. In the texture both of the apostle's sermons and epistles, doctrine and duty were woven up together; from the dizzy heights of speculation, they frequently descended to the realities of life; and general remarks on human depravity, and the plan of redemption they alternated with descriptions of the heinous nature of particular offences, and the efficacy of the blood of Christ to cleanse from all sin. At one time lost in contemplating Him who is God and man in two distinct natures, they exclaim "great is the mystery of godliness"; at another lifting up a warning voice against the sins of ordinary life, we declare—"No drunkard shall enter the kingdom of heaven."

But how preach those who now stand on the watch-towers of Zion? A few, we rejoice to say, shun not to declare the whole counsel of God; some speak smooth things saying "Peace, peace, when there is no peace"; and many, far too many, preach such discourses as seem to please saints and sinners alike. The diction is faultless, but in so general language that each hearer fancies it is something far away—something not particularly important, the consideration of which may be safely deferred until old age, or a death-bed. These preachers never take up the long black catalogue of prevailing vices, and one by one, sin by sin, name them out as the fruits of the flesh all of which exclude from the possession of the heavenly inheritance, and unless repented of and forgiven, must drag their perpetrators down to the regions of eternal despair. Swearing, uncleanness, Sabbath-breaking, dishonesty, lying and drunkenness, sins fearfully prevalent they rarely ever make the subject of special rebuke.

But of all these sins of ordinary life probably intemperance receives in the pulpit the least notice and warning, plain denunciation and earnest pleading. And why? It cannot be because our country and religion are suffering from this vice. It is impoverishing thousands, and sending hundreds upon hundreds down to the chambers of death.

It has cost many a merchant his place, broken the fortunes of many a merchant, and sunk the highest rank into contempt. It has turned the noblest intellect into a debasing idiom, and petrified the tenderest heart. Not saved by the sanctity of the temple it has entered its sacred portals, excommunicated many who once witnessed a good confession, removed some from the priesthood, and deposed others from the office and honors of the holy ministry. Since then we are unable to account for the silence of many preachers of the Gospel respecting the vice of intemperance, neither by reason of its limited extent, nor trifling consequences, to what cause is it to be attributed? In a few cases—and we do not like to think gradually becoming fewer—the preacher himself indulges in an *occasional* glass; therefore he cannot consistently condone the practice in others. In other cases several of the so-called most respectable members and adherents of a town or country congregation are engaged in the liquor traffic, or frequently sip from the intoxicating bowl, and sometimes even to a helpless state of intoxication; but determined to suffer no rebuke on account of their darling vice, they let it be distinctly understood that they will not support a pastor who will preach on temperance as well as on righteousness. Judgment to come consequently fearful of losing his "hire" or his popularity, he disowns sabbath after sabbath on the platform of the Deity, the matchless love of Christ, the unchangeable nature of God's decrees, or on the good principles implanted in the human breast; and passes lightly over or never mentions the sin of intemperance.

Now such shirking of duty on the part of those who minister in holy things is inexcusable. Let us either be faithful ambassadors of Christ, or retire from their responsible and calling. It is useless to plead that drunkenness is so much exposed by temperance lecturers, that it is needless to denounce it from the pulpit. It is vain to assert that temperance societies are the proper means for resisting its progress. These may, and have done good; but the grand and only sovereign remedy for intemperance, as well as for all the other evils of this world, is the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Human organizations exist only for a time, but the Church of the living God, which is built upon the Rock of Ages, will stand while sun and moon endure; and the rules laid down in the Scriptures to guide the conduct of those who are members of this holy society, are sufficiently strict and comprehensive, without any additional code. We, however, do not consider that the Christian community, by taking other pledges to perform what is possible to be done for God, provides in any way for this obligation, shown by his obligation to him whom he has chosen to be his Lord and master. He may thus, by his example, induce others to do no worse than to be under law to Christ, to take a pledge to pursue a certain line of conduct which may tend to their temporal advantage. Temperance societies are important auxiliaries to the Church; yet they ought not in any respect to be considered as taking her place, or diminishing her duty to witness against all sin. The temperance lecturer performs a good work; still he may labor merely as a philanthropist to lessen misery and suffering in this life; but the minister of the gospel labors to promote "godliness which is profitable to all things," having promise of the life that now is and also of that which is to come." Intemperance destroys myriads of souls, he should not then cease to wage war against it by all means in his power. To denounce it from the pulpit is one of these means, but only one, and only one of the duties of the church to diminish this wide-spread evil. Some of the other duties of the church with respect to intemperance, we will consider in a future number.

Free Presbytery of P. E. Island.

The Free Presbytery met in this City on Wednesday last. After the usual preliminaries, the Rev. Donald McNeill was chosen Moderator, and the Rev. Neil M'Clintock, for the current year. At the request of the West River congregation, the Moderator, the Rev. George Sutherland, and the Rev. Mr. Hugh McMillan, Student of Divinity, were heard and examined, and Mr. McMillan was in usual form honored to preach the overlasting gospel. Part of the discourse of Mr. Duncan McKinnon, Student of Divinity, were

likewise heard, and sustained. The Presbytery unanimously resolved to present an address to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on his arrival here. The Moderator, the Rev. George Sutherland, and the Rev. A. Munro were appointed a Committee to prepare said address. After some routine business, the Presbytery adjourned to meet here on the last Wednesday of August.

From the Ladies Gazette, June 15th, 1860.

A Proclamation.

For the encouragement of Piety and Virtue, and for the preventing and punishing of Vice, Profanity, and Immorality.

BY THE QUEEN.

Victor R.—We most seriously and religiously consider that it is our indispensable duty to be careful above all other things to preserve and advance the honor and service of Almighty God, and to discourage and suppress all vice, profanity, debauchery, and immorality, which are so highly displeasing to God and man; to the intent, therefore, that religion, piety and good manners may flourish and increase under our Administration and Government; we have therefore directed, by the advice of our Privy Council, to issue an Order in Council, commanding the Royal Proclamation, and to have it published in the Gazette, to have it declared our Royal purpose and resolution to disown and to discontinue all manner of vice, profanity, and immorality which are now prevalent among us; and to publish all manner of whatsoever degree or quality within this our realm; and we do hereby require and command that all persons, in every place, or in every assembly, or in place of authority, will give full and entire attention to this our Connexional funds are generally pretty well maintained.

A very encouraging report on Sabbath Schools was presented, showing the number of schools to be 205, teaching 1472, and scholars 10,000.

A committee of enquiry was appointed to investigate the general state of our Connexional property, &c. The Committee to report to the next Conference.

The Committee on Book Affairs reported our Book Room in a healthy state, and recommended some important changes in the management of the Provincial Wesleyan Society, and in the organization of the Connexional Society, presented their financial reports. It was pleasing to notice that our Connexional funds are generally pretty well sustained.

A resolution was passed, to increase the amount of money given to the poor.

On Wednesday the examination of the Provincial Wesleyan Society was completed, and several committees presented their financial reports. It was pleasing to notice that our Connexional funds are generally pretty well sustained.

A very encouraging report on Sabbath Schools was presented, showing the number of schools to be 205, teaching 1472, and scholars 10,000.

A committee of enquiry was appointed to investigate the general state of our Connexional property, &c. The Committee to report to the next Conference.

The Committee on Book Affairs reported our Book Room in a healthy state, and recommended some important changes in the management of the Provincial Wesleyan Society, and in the organization of the Connexional Society, presented their financial reports. It was pleasing to notice that our Connexional funds are generally pretty well sustained.

A resolution was passed, to increase the amount of money given to the poor.

On Wednesday the examination of the Provincial Wesleyan Society was completed, and several committees presented their financial reports. It was pleasing to notice that our Connexional funds are generally pretty well sustained.

A resolution was passed, to increase the amount of money given to the poor.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.

Last evening the Conference Missionary Meeting was held, and was quite up to the mark.

On Friday the Revd. H. Price, Dr. J. L. Spragg, Rev. Wm. Smith, W. T. Cardy, H. Daniel, J. Addy, T. Angwin, and W. S. Spragg. The Rev Wm. Temple occupied the Chair.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.

Last evening the Conference Missionary Meeting was held, and was quite up to the mark.

On Friday the Revd. H. Price, Dr. J. L. Spragg, Rev. Wm. Smith, W. T. Cardy, H. Daniel, J. Addy, T. Angwin, and W. S. Spragg. The Rev Wm. Temple occupied the Chair.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.

Last evening the Conference Missionary Meeting was held, and was quite up to the mark.

On Friday the Revd. H. Price, Dr. J. L. Spragg, Rev. Wm. Smith, W. T. Cardy, H. Daniel, J. Addy, T. Angwin, and W. S. Spragg. The Rev Wm. Temple occupied the Chair.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.

Last evening the Conference Missionary Meeting was held, and was quite up to the mark.

On Friday the Revd. H. Price, Dr. J. L. Spragg, Rev. Wm. Smith, W. T. Cardy, H. Daniel, J. Addy, T. Angwin, and W. S. Spragg. The Rev Wm. Temple occupied the Chair.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.

Last evening the Conference Missionary Meeting was held, and was quite up to the mark.

On Friday the Revd. H. Price, Dr. J. L. Spragg, Rev. Wm. Smith, W. T. Cardy, H. Daniel, J. Addy, T. Angwin, and W. S. Spragg. The Rev Wm. Temple occupied the Chair.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.

Last evening the Conference Missionary Meeting was held, and was quite up to the mark.

On Friday the Revd. H. Price, Dr. J. L. Spragg, Rev. Wm. Smith, W. T. Cardy, H. Daniel, J. Addy, T. Angwin, and W. S. Spragg. The Rev Wm. Temple occupied the Chair.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.

Last evening the Conference Missionary Meeting was held, and was quite up to the mark.

On Friday the Revd. H. Price, Dr. J. L. Spragg, Rev. Wm. Smith, W. T. Cardy, H. Daniel, J. Addy, T. Angwin, and W. S. Spragg. The Rev Wm. Temple occupied the Chair.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.

Last evening the Conference Missionary Meeting was held, and was quite up to the mark.

On Friday the Revd. H. Price, Dr. J. L. Spragg, Rev. Wm. Smith, W. T. Cardy, H. Daniel, J. Addy, T. Angwin, and W. S. Spragg. The Rev Wm. Temple occupied the Chair.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.

Last evening the Conference Missionary Meeting was held, and was quite up to the mark.

On Friday the Revd. H. Price, Dr. J. L. Spragg, Rev. Wm. Smith, W. T. Cardy, H. Daniel, J. Addy, T. Angwin, and W. S. Spragg. The Rev Wm. Temple occupied the Chair.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.

Last evening the Conference Missionary Meeting was held, and was quite up to the mark.

On Friday the Revd. H. Price, Dr. J. L. Spragg, Rev. Wm. Smith, W. T. Cardy, H. Daniel, J. Addy, T. Angwin, and W. S. Spragg. The Rev Wm. Temple occupied the Chair.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.

Last evening the Conference Missionary Meeting was held, and was quite up to the mark.

On Friday the Revd. H. Price, Dr. J. L. Spragg, Rev. Wm. Smith, W. T. Cardy, H. Daniel, J. Addy, T. Angwin, and W. S. Spragg. The Rev Wm. Temple occupied the Chair.

On Thursday Bro. Narraway gave a highly interesting account of the talents and abilities of the students at the Royal University, and paid a well deserved tribute to the efficiency of the institution, and to the ability and fidelity of the officers of instruction. He was requested to prepare a report for publication in the *Provincial Wesleyan Society*.

The Committee on the Theological Professorship reported that the efforts to obtain a theological professor, though in some places were very successful, and recommended the appointment of Brother Avery as agent for the institution, and also that negotiations be entered into during the year with a view to obtain the services of a competent Professor of Theology, and that in the meantime the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit be retained to be in a highly prosperous state.