Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTR. 18, 1861.

In consequence of the official relation which this paper sustains to the Conference of Eastern British America, we require that Obituary, Revival, and other notices addressed to us from any of the Circuits within the bounds of the Connexion, shall pass through the hands of the Superintendent Minister.

Communications designed for this paper must be accompanied by the name of the writer in confidence.

We do not undertake to return rejected articles.

We do not assume responsibility for the opinions of our correspondents.

Our National Judgments.

Few readers of history have not devoted a moment's contemplation to the recorded conversation between a French chevalier and an English veteran, when Lord Gray was marching out of Calais. "When do you English intend to visit France again?" said the representative of polite warriors. "When your national crimes exceed ours," was the admirable reply. The bloody field of Waterloo was the fulfillment of the soldier's prophecy. Britain has frequently been compelled to act as the minister of stern justice to other nations; and occasionally its own inheritance has in turn been devoted to destruction.—The momentous truth embraced in the comprehensive sentence which we have just quoted, as the reply to an enquiry which manifested either fear or scorn, has long been regarded with solemn awe by GreatBritain generally. Its plagues and miseries have been submissively endured, and devoutly deplored, as the righteous consequences of its own transgressions. We do not hesitate to say that the termination of this realization and acknowledgement will be accompanied by the extinction of its claims to national superiority; and the overthrow of that power by which it is now permitted to act as mediator or umpire. Stripes of Divine infliction it always will have in accordance with the extent of its national pride and its national shortcomings; but the purity of worship, the desire for universal evangelization, the humility and prompt abasement in suffering, which have hitherto signalized the conduct of a large majority of its people, will secure for it, if continued, a position in direct contrast with that of lands in which Infidelity, with its attendant horrors, is countenanced, if not ardently cherished. There are volumes of instruction in God's past dealings with us as a nation. Each visitation of his hand, whether in justice or mercy, has a voice loud as the thunders of heaven. And to the religious press, as one of the most potent agencies for good, we have been indebted in no slight degree for much of the submission and humiliation which have averted the burden of wrath, or transformed it into a direct blessing. Conscious of these truths, we have entered upon the duty of bringing before the minds of our readers a few of the features of national judgment which seriously demand our attention.

Our Naturalists are lost in, mystery while investigating, and endeavouring to account for, the origin, transformations, and ravages of "the army worm." Its future extension and consequent evils, are as much involved in uncertainty as its present metamorphoses and instincts.—Rapid in its movements, and most destructive in its assaults on the products of the season, we perceive in it chiefly a renewed evidence of the endless resources which the Deity can command for the accomplishment of His own high purposes in the punishment of man's transgression. That an object so trivial in appearance should prove the most annoying and calamitous of any general scourge, may surely be regarded as illustrative of the existence and power of an overruling Providence. To mortal vision, however acute, the blasted hopes and injured circumstances of the sufferers are alone discernable. This messenger of justice, like all its predecessors, being limited, no doubt, to the extent of penalty which an offended God may choose to attach to the violation of his own most sacred laws, cannot be classed among the ordinary species of creature-existence which present themselves in rotation before the searching eye of science and philosophy. Hence the remedies which are from time to time recommended prove, as might be expected, but mere palliatives in the treatment of what may be regarded as one feature of a direful malady. The cause lies deeply buried in man's constitution, and may be as certainly traced through well-nigh every social circle and every human institution. *It is sin.* Let the cause be removed, the curse will be removed also. How is this to be accomplished? Momentous question!

It is not our intention to enter upon an elaborate exegesis of man's duty to himself and to his God. Happily, our favoured age possesses such unnumbered and efficient methods for spiritual instruction, that this duty is seldom left to even those journals within the category of whose articles this might be justly numbered. Yet we may confidently give expression to such thoughts as each renewed occurrence of painful judgment may suggest or demand. Let us, however, be understood to base our views of the necessity for deep humiliation upon other evidences of the Divine indignation besides that to which we have made reference. We admit that the earth is never without some such tangible consequences of sin, nor can it be till harmony, righteousness and joy shall supersede the present confusion, transgression and woe. Yet there are seasons in which, according as man becomes more proud and self-confident, God adds to his inflictions and aggravates his pains. This, notwithstanding the bravado and patriotic enthusiasm which so frequently attempts to make war appear justifiable and meritorious—and not forgetting the sacred reverence with which each party occasionally recommends its cause and conquests to the God of battles—we cannot repel the honest and reasonable conviction that, even under the most favourable circumstances, national hostility is but another name for national judgment. That the present period affords conclusive evidence in its national calamities, of the increased heinousness of human transgression, and the consequent anger of a sin-detesting Jehovah, no reasonable Christian will deny. It is true, we as Colonists may not regard ourselves as being so abandoned to wickedness of certain kinds as other portions of the world.—The theatre, the gambling-table, and other resorts—falsely called amusements—are not so extensively patronized among us. Our aims and energies are devoted more to the social, intellectual and spiritual advancement of our fellow-men. And while lands more wealthy are steeped in iniquity and crime, our annals display but a comparatively limited number of flagrant culprits. But in the midst of such reasoning we may forget the disparity between our position and that of a people more numerous, more wealthy, and consequently more carefully disciplined in wickedness. *Our* fault consists not so much in doing evil, as in failing to do good. We ask candidly and seriously, Are our religious enterprizes as energetic and devoted as in past years? Is there the same fervent and determined spirit upon the part of our ministry and its supporters in the good cause, in exhibiting the whole truth, in grappling with men's consciences and confronting all manner of sin? Has the enthusiasm of political partizanship subdued the fire of religious devotion? We will not be regarded as cynical or captious if we say that these questions have forced themselves upon our attention, time after time, with solemn weight; and that in each instance, speaking of general society, we have seen cause to deplore our retrogradation. One fearful sin, especially, gains upon us rapidly as stewards of God's heritage—that is, covetousness. View it in any light that it may present itself; attach to it every possible plea that can hide any portion of its dark ingratitude, and it will yet appear sufficiently odious in the estimation of every right-thinking man to call down the vengeance of the Great Author of our mercies. A particle of the solemn truth may be gleaned from the fact that the tardy instances of liberality in our day are regarded as so remarkable, that they are not considered as being justly treated unless they find a conspicuous place in every journal of the land. We fear there are plausible pretexts advanced in excuse of this sin also, which cannot bear the light of investigation. A man wilfully involves his circumstances in order to advance his worldly possessions, and then soothes his conscience with the balm of inability to contribute to the support of God's cause.

We are visited with punishment, and we deserve it. The solemn convictions connected with the past and present of our rebellions assure us that, so far, we are treated with lenity: and the history of every nation and people as certainly teaches us that, except we repent, our afflictions will be increased and aggravated.—We will probably refer to this subject again at a future period.

The Religious World Abroad.

SCOTLAND.

The Cardross Case.—The decision of the court of sessions has been rendered, and is adverse to the position of the church.

The Judges concurred in opinion, that a Dissenting Church cannot be recognized by the law of the land as having any powers beyond what are acquired by contract with its members, or any jurisdiction at all in the proper sense of the word. Two of them at least, endeavoured to remove the apprehensions of the Free and non-established Churches, by affirming that, so long as they acted in accordance with their own constitution, their discipline would not be interfered with. But they claim for the civil courts the function of determining what that constitution really is, and whether their own rules of procedure have been observed. This the Free Church maintains to be inconsistent with the independent action of their Church Courts, inasmuch as if they are not allowed to interpret their own constitution and ecclesiastical order, there is practically no limit to the power of appeal to the civil court, nothing being easier than to allege informality and excess of jurisdiction.

A final appeal will now be taken to the House of Lords.

Open air revival meetings.—During the month of July, large open air religious meetings have been held in many parts of Scotland. The largest gatherings were at Huntly and Edinburgh. These meetings have now become as much an institution in Scotland as the annual fairs. The assembly in the Castle Park, Huntly, this year was estimated to number upwards of ten thousand souls, who came by rail, on foot, and by every description of vehicle, from all parts of the county, and from even beyond the county.

In Edinburgh the attendance was greatly beyond that of last year, partly owing to the more favourable weather. There were sometimes as many as 20,000 persons present. The services continued for two or three days, and were so much appreciated, that it was found very difficult to bring them to a close even at night-fall. There was generally a large attendance of inquirers, and a good deal of emotion in the churches opened for personal dealing with those who desired it. As at Huntly, there were reverend speakers of all evangelical denominations.

A public Meeting has been held in Edinburgh to express sympathy with the American missionaries in India and elsewhere, suffering from the present crisis in the United States. The Lord Provost presided, and Mr. Morrison, of the Lodiana Mission, gave a sad account of the effects of the American troubles on the missions in India. As a practical issue of the meeting a subscription was set on foot, to be divided between the station at Lodiana and Ahmednuggur.

IRELAND.

The Census Returns show that the Roman Catholic population is as 3½ to 1 of the Protestant. Ten years ago, it was 8 to 1. The Catholics have lost two millions; the Protestants, a quarter of a million. Cork has lost 6,800; Dublin 8,600; Protestant Belfast has gained 18,900.

The report on the state of religion, in the Irish Presbyterian Assembly, stated that all the reports which had been received bore testimony to the fact, that although the vehement excitement which marked the commencement of the late revival has passed away, its blessed influence remained, and that the year 1859 had not proved to be a delusion, but a year of grace. It was, indeed, gratifying and encouraging to find that, throughout a movement so novel and unexpected, and amidst so much evil surmising as to its nature and results, there had been so little to regret, and so much with which they had reason to magnify and bless the God of our salvation. The increase in contributions to missionary objects in this church was over twenty-six hundred dollars.

ITALY.

Rev. A. W. M'Dougall, of Florence, made deeply interesting statements on the condition of Italy, before the last assembly of the Irish Presbyterian church, from which, as reported in the *News of the Churches*, we gather the following:

"The Sardinian law of freedom has been carried over wide Italy, with the exception of the city of Rome and the territory of Venitia, both of which are longing for their birthright. The colporteur travels about with his passport and permit as the vender of religious books. The churchyards have been thrown open to Protestant and Catholic dead without distinction. The common schools have been inaugurated at Naples, by the King in person, on a new basis, their government having been taken out of the hands of the priests. Railways are being laid down at great expense in every direction, so as to bring the scattered races of the Peninsula into one happy family. The newspaper press has no restrictions, while liberty of discussion in religious matters has been declared to be no crime in the eye of the law. We have no fear as to the stability of this fabric. Every step of Cavour was constitutional. He boasted that Sardinia would become a little England, and both in the result and the manner of attaining it he has kept his promise. The Waldensian congregation in Florence is now very large. In reference to colportage, I am able to inform you, on the best authority, that between 40,000 and 50,000 Bibles have been circulated this last year in Italy, upwards of 10,000 having gone forth from the Florentine depot alone. Though box after box of Bibles and religious books was forwarded to Naples, the projected depot did not really exist for some months, for each box was emptied of its contents a day or two after its arrival, and earnest entreaties were sent for more. I am assured that a Bible-reading movement is going on in Rome to such an extent that, when liberty is there proclaimed, the movement in the North will be cast into the shade.

"The influence of Ricasoli will be of great value in this coming struggle, for he is a step or two in advance of his immortal predecessor. He has used the Protestant Bible at family worship, and attended the services of Protestant ministers. He will be guilty of no truckling for temporary applause or profit. He will neither barter away territory to the French Emperor, nor the principle of religious liberty to the Pope. He wrote but lately to the head of the Waldensian Church—'Count upon me; refer directly to me in every difficulty, for I am resolved to see religious freedom established in practice as well as theory.'"

Rev. E. Edwin Hall, missionary of the American and Foreign Christian Union, arrived in Florence June 14th, and writes home in a very encouraging manner. He has engaged two Bible readers, upon the recommendation of Professors Revel and Gemonat. The *Christian World* says:—

There seems to be no want in Mr. Hall's opinion and that of the Professors referred to, of good material for the great work to be done by the Society in Italy. The important question: "Can the means be found to support all the well-qualified persons who ought and might be employed?" A "Ladies' Christian Union Association" has been formed in Baltimore, on which we may count for $300 for the support of a missionary in Italy. They have forwarded to us nearly a third part of that sum already.

The Waldensians in the theatre at Leghorn.—The Waldensian church in Leghorn was opened for public service on the 19th June, and since then has been crowded with attentive and most respectable audiences, and no disturbance has been offered on the part of the population. The virulent declamations of the priests from the pulpit, and the opposition of the Governer have effected what the poor Vaudois themselves never could have achieved. Public attention has been called to their existence and there is not an individual in that city who does not know of their existence and their is not an individual in that city who does not know of their church. Finding how much the Waldenses were exciting attention in Leghorn, a company performing at one of the theatres in that city, resolved as a popular hit to to give a representation of a piece entitled I. Valdesi, written by Signor Felice Govean, editor of the *Gazzetta del Popolo*, at Turin, altogether favourable to the Waldenses. On Thursday night the theatre was crowded to overflowing, and the piece was rapturously applauded. It was announced again for Saturday night; but the priests applied to the Governor to forbid it, which, of course he did.

FRANCE.

The Wesleyan Conference which held its annual meeting in Paris recently, reports for the year twenty new chapels, and four new Sabbath schools. There have been revivals in several churches of the south. Four ministers received ordination during the sitting of the Conference. Authorization from the Government has been received to open public worship in three new places, one of which is Cervione, in Corsica, where for some years past an interesting work has been carried on among a most benighted population.

Paris. Under date of July 18th, the correspondent of the *News of the Churches* says:—

The work of God is progressing in Paris; we have now forty-five meetings for prayer weekly. Two general meetings have been held, one at the Evangelical Reformed Church in the Rue de Chabrol, and the other at the Wesleyan Chapel, both of which gave rejoicing proofs that the work commenced by means of the English evangelists has taken solid root among us.

GERMANY.

The attempt on the life of the King of Prussia by a student, which came so near being fatal, created a profound sensation in Germany. It is felt that this deed, as the King himself said, is the sign of a deep rooted universal demoralization and impiety towards all divine and human orders. When the news of what had happened reached Berlin, without further announcement on the part of the church authorities, a solemn service was held on the following day in several of the churches to offer up thanksgiving for the merciful preservation of the King.

A committee has been formed in Berlin, for the purpose of collecting contributions towards the erection of a chapel on the spot where the deed was performed.

TURKEY.

The Bulgarian question: the bubble burst.—Our readers will remember that when disatisfaction arose among the Bulgarian Greeks, in regard to their relations with the authorities at Constantinople, the Pope, through his emissaries, expected to make a wholesale conversion of the tribe to Romanism. One of the Bulgarian priests was persuaded to come to Rome by a certain M. Bore, agent of the Pope, and everything seemed in a fair way for the accomplishment of the plot. Our last advices by the *News of the Churches*, are as follows:

"The regenade priest, who was taken to Rome by Mons. Bore, and there with so much parade consecrated by the Pope as Bishop and Apostolic Vicar and future Patriarch of the (to be) Bulgario-Romish Church, has quarreled with his patrons, has excommunicated Mons. Bore, and himself departed to parts unknown. The Bulgarian newspaper which so zealously advocated union with Rome, and published such shameless attacks upon Protestantism, has expired for want of support; and the few Bulgarians here who had been caught in the Romish net, have already broken its meshes and returned to their own Church and people. Thus ends Mons. Bore's second notable scheme for the wholesale conversion of the Bulgarian nation to Papacy.

The very scene of one of this gentleman's experiments, the vicinity of Salonica, has since been visited by a Protestant colporteur, who was eagerly welcomed by the people, and who sold more than a thousand dollars' worth of books, besides preaching the gospel.

An address has also been issued by leading native movers in the late measures for a union with the Latin church, from which we extract the following:—

From all these things we have become perfectly persuaded that the Papists desire to subject us to a slavery more galling than that under which the Fanariotes (Turks) had held us. * * *

Be not deceived, Bulgarian brethren. We know this whole thing, and have returned to the bosom of the Orthodox Church, because we desire to aid our people, and not destroy it. * * *

Divine Providence has been pleased to deliver us from a new bondage. It permitted some honest Bulgarians to accept the Union long enough to know it, so that they might the better put our people on their guard against the trap that is set for them. We are sincerely thankful, though unworthy, that Providence has given us a place among the number of those honest Bulgarians.

American Missions in Turkey.—The mission of the A. B. C. F. M. to western Turkey, held its annual meeting recently in Constantinople. In view of the failure of supplies from America, the attention of the Mission was directed with great interest and carefulness to plans for the increase of the amount and efficiency of native agencies, and at the same time to measures for developing in the native churches themselves the ability and the disposition to support these agencies.

Marsh.—Dr. Dwight gives the following view of the most interesting state of Marsh, which he has recently visited:

This place is indeed a missionary wonder! Twelve years ago there was not a Protestant here; and the people were proverbially ignorant, barbarous, and fanatical. Six years ago the evangelical Armenian church was organised, with *sixteen* members. The congregation at that time consisted of 120.

On the last Sabbath, I preached to a congregation of over a thousand; and in the afternoon, at the communion, I addressed nearly or quite fifteen hundred people, when forty new members were admitted to the church, making the whole present number 227! Nearly one hundred of these have been added since Mr. White came here, two years ago. Previous to the late communion, *one hundred and sixteen* persons were examined, but only *forty* were admitted to the church.

Proposed Week of Special Prayer in January, 1862.

The Committee of the Evangelical Alliance have issued a circular suggesting a week of prayer for 1862. The following are suggested as topics suited for a prominent place in the exhortations and prayers of the successive days:—Sunday, January 5th.—Sermons on the Holy Spirit: His divinity and personality—His offices and operations. Prayer for the Lord's blessing upon the services of the week. Monday, 6th.—Humiliation and Confession of Sin: as individuals—as families—as churches—and as a nation. Thanksgiving and praise for recent religious awakenings. Tuesday, 7th.—Home Objects for Prayer: The conversion of the ungodly—the cessation of intemperance and immorality—and the spread of vital religion in our families and households, among our rulers, the rich and poor, our soldiers and sailors, the authors of our literature, secular and religious. Wednesday, 8th.—Foreign Objects for Prayer. The revival of pure Christianity, and the extension of religious liberty in Europe and the lands of the East—the overthrow of every form of anti-Christian error—the conversion of the house of Israel—the prevalence of peace among all nations, especially in America—and a yet more abundant blessing upon our brethren and sisters engaged in the work of missions, Christian education, and literature in foreign lands. Thursday, 9th.—The Church of God and the Christian Ministry: The increased spirituality of the Church, and its more decided separation from from the world—brotherly love, sympathy, and union of labor among the Lord's people—a higher standard of piety and power among Christian ministers and all their fellow-laborers—the outpouring of the Spirit upon our Universities and Colleges, and on the rising ministry at large—the conversion of the young, and a large blessing upon Sunday and other schools. Friday, 10th.—The Word of God: That it may be received with increased faith, reverence, and love—that its assailants may be enlightened and brought into the way of truth—that the power of the Divine Spirit may attend its private study, and its circulation throughout the world. Saturday, 11th.—The Lord's Day: That its Divine institution may be recognized, and its desecration at home and abroad may cease. Sunday, 12th.—Sermons on the Signs, Dangers, and Duties of the Present Times: Motives to personal holiness and Christian activity.

Our Greatest National Vice.

If we were called upon to name the evil next to that of civil war, with which this country is at present afflicted, we should probably astonish many a reader who has so long heard of the evils of intemperance that he has ceased to regard them with horror. But we have reason to believe that the use of intoxicating drinks by men in high station, and by the officers and soldiers of the army and the masses of the people, is now so common and excessive as to render it the most formidable foe with which we have to contend.

It would not be proper, and we do not intend, to put into print the reports that come to us respecting the habits of some on whom the eyes of the country are fixed with anxious apprehensions in this hour of our national trial. But we are frequently assured that men who have never been known to the country as addicted to the excessive use of stimulants, have found the excitements and responsibilities of the present crisis so great, that they resort to the wine cup for support, and perhaps unconsciously to themselves, but not to others, they indulge in drinking until they are not only unfitted to discharge their duties, but are in danger of doing those things to which, in their more sober moments, they would not for the world have consented.

If the *direct taxation* and the tariff had been so heavy on ardent spirits and wine as to render their use, except for medicinal purposes, an impracticability, the loss of the liquor, would be a gain, though no revenue was derived from the sacrifice. Already the use of it by the soldiers has led to the adoption of the most stringent measures to prevent the evil, and we could heartily wish that there were some moral or legal restraint imposed upon public men, out of the army, that they too might be compelled to be sober. Such a time as this requires every man in office to give his coolest and best judgment, and his clearest faculties to the service of his country. An officer on the field, or a Senator in Congress, or a minister in the Cabinet, who disturbs the serenest exercise of his intellectual powers, by the use of intoxicating drinks, is in danger of betraying his country. He may be patriotic, but he is not reliable. In the hour when the highest responsibilities are upon him, and the destiny of the nation may be hanging in the balance to be determined by his action, wine may have unfitted him for his duty, and made him capable of a policy that in sober moments he would have condemned.—*New York Observer.*

A Singular Narrative.

The Rev. Father Chiniquy, makes the following statement in a letter to the *Witness*, from St. Anne, Kankakee County, Illinois, under date August 28:—

"You know Father Brunet, one of the Priests of the Oblats of Mary Immaculate, of the city of Montreal, was sent here two years ago to destroy my character. But he failed. I brought him before the Courts of Justice of this country, and he was sentenced to pay me $2,500, and over $500 costs, for his slanders. He gave securities for that sum; but the securities, who were Roman Catholics, fearing lately to have to pay for the Rev. Father Brunet, delivered him to the Sheriff of this County, over two months since, who kept him in gaol for the payment of the debt. Well, last night, the Rev. Father having cut the iron bars of the gaol, went away, and the cage is without its bird this mornihg. The Sheriff is running after his prisoner, and he has telegraphed to many places to have his Rev. prisoner safe again under his guard, promising a liberal sum of money to those who will tell him where he is. You may rely upon these facts; and publish them, for they are of public notoriety."

From the Morning Chronicle.

Nova Scotia Gold Fields.

The following report on the Gold Mines of Nova Scotia, addressed to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor by the Hon. Provincial Secretary, has been printed and furnished to the members of the Legislature. We lay aside our usual editorial this morning, for the purpose of making room for it, knowing that nothing we can present to our readers, just now, will prove as interesting, and of so much importance to the people of this country:

Provincial Secretary's Office,
Halifax, N. S. Sept. 4th, 1861.

MY LORD,

The Gold discoveries in this Province, having not only furnished employment to hundreds of its inhabitants for some months past, but having now attracted the attention of capitalists in England, and of the laboring classes at home and abroad, it becomes desirable that the Government of Nova Scotia should furnish, in some official form, such information as shall guide those who may desire to invest either labor or capital in our mines. Your Excellency having assigned this task to me, I enter upon it with a design to state the facts, in the order in which they have accumulated, without color or exaggeration. There are too many profitable employments in this Province, to make it desirable to lure people to one that my be unprofitable, or even doubtful; and I am well assured that your Lordship has no desire to attract immigration to our shores by statements that are unfounded, or arts that have elsewhere produced much misery and disappointment.

The existence of auriferous deposits in Nova Scotia was unsuspected till 1860. It is strange that they should not have been turned up by the Agriculturist or the Roadmaker, still stranger that they escaped the vigilance of the early pioneers of Natural Science—Titus Smith, George Duncan, Dr. Gesner, Dr. Webster, Alger and Jackson, all of whom were laborious and painstaking investigators, and some of them elaborate writers on the Mineralogy of this country. Dr. Dawson, in 1855, suggested the possibility of finding gold in Nova Scotia, and indicated with some accuracy the region where it might be discovered. But the Dr. had found none, and no interest was taken in the subject, until gold was discovered, last summer, in the neighborhood of Tangier.

The discoveries made in 1860, your Excellency is aware, were unimportant. Some hundreds of persons, tempted by rumours of the existence of the precious metal, rushed into the woods near the head waters of the Tangier, ten miles from the sea coast, and proved the existence of gold, it is true, but in quantities so small, and such a distance from roads and navigation, as to promise no return to the most industrious miner. The facts having been investigated and made public, the excitement subsided, and the people returned to their ordinary pursuits.

In March, this year, a man, stooping to drink at a brook, found a piece of gold shining among the pebbles over which the stream flowed. He picked it up, and, searching, found more. This was about half a mile to the eastward of the debouchment of the Tangier River, a stream of no great magnitude, taking its rise not very far from the sources of the Musquodobit, flowing through a chain of lakes, which drain, for many miles on either side, a rugged and wilderness country, and falling into the Atlantic about 40 miles to the eastward of Halifax.

The locality was most favorable for mining operations, being within half a mile of navigation, and surrounded by a hardy population engaged in the Fisheries, whose small craft could readily transport everything that the miners might require.

Though gold was brought to the capital in small quantities in the spring, and some of it exhibited to the Legislature, nobody was sanguine enough to believe that it could be obtained in sufficient abundance to pay for the labour of industrious men, who could earn from four to six shillings sterling per day at almost any other employment. The feeling of the Legislature evidently was, that what might prove a delusion and a snare ought not to be overestimated; and that the Government should proceed with caution, that the people might not be misled.

It was necesary to make some arrangements, however, as persons were rushing in, and the proprietors of the land claimed protection from the Government. Their acquiescence in any policy that might be adopted, was easily obtained, and a Deputy Surveyor was sent down to Tangier, with instructions to lay off a few lots, 50 feet by 20—to charge a rent of forty dollars for them—to keep the peace, and to report from time to time to the Commissioner of Crown Lands, to whose custody, by the act of last session, the mines of the Province had been transferred.

Though the rent was high, and the areas small, some lots were taken up by the sanguine and adventurous, led by a few persons who had worked in California and Australia.—Though no very great discoveries were made, confidence in the deposits steadily increased, and the pioneers worked on with cheerfulness and industry.

Your Excellency visited the mines in May, and your attention was arrested by the fact, that two men, from one of the agricultural districts, had taken from a pit, dug four feet wide by five feet deep, seventy-five dollars' worth of gold, three days prior to your visit. As six dollars would have paid these men for their labour, it was apparent that they had made a profit of sixty-nine dollars in three days. This profit was not derived from the chance discovery of a nugget, but from crushing the quartz, veins of which, there was good reason to believe, ran for miles, along the sea coast, or from washing the crumbling rock and soil by which they were surrounded.

It was impossible to resist the conclusion that what these two men had done, hundreds might do on and around the same locality; and that if auriferous deposits of equal richness could be discovered in other sections of the country, profitable employment would be furnished for thousands of men, and our exports and revenue would be largely increased.

Though still reluctant to add to the excitement which this fact, and others of a similar character, occurring every few days, occasioned, it was the duty of the Government to give reasonable facilities, that the voluntary exertions of the people themselves should be materially aided, and that as little as possible of their labor should be lost.

The Surveyor was instructed to reduce the price of the lots from forty dollars to twenty, and to expend the money received in draining the mines, and in making a road to the shore. From this period confidence in the resources of Tangier has steadily increased. The numbers who have found employment there all the summer have ranged between four and eight hundred, and the number of small lots taken up is now about ninety-five, for which £475 currency has been paid. The quantity of gold taken out it is impossible to estimate, as no royalty is exacted, and no returns are made. Everybody digs out of his own claim what he can and carries it away; but from the quantities brought to this city, and sold, or exposed in other parts of the Province, it is apparent that a very large amount of gold has been brought into the market, while stores of uncrushed quartz have accumulated at the mines. Whatever has been obtained has been got by the most simple process, and without any of the aids which science in other countries lends to the miner. A rude sort of Crusher has been placed upon the ground within the last month, but it does its work imperfectly, and is unprovided with the apparatus by which the finer particles of gold are amalgamated and secured after the quartz is crushed.

In other countries the discovery of gold has attracted mixed multitudes to the mines, of which the reckless and dissolute often from a large proportion. Robbery, riot, and murder, have characterized these mixed communities, both in California and Australia. A strong police force is required to keep order, the treasure secured can only be transported over the roads, guarded by mounted escorts; and, in the gambling hells of the larger towns, the earnings of the successful are often dissipated in a night. In Nova Scotia, gold mining, like everything else, has developed itself in an orderly and law-abiding spirit. The improvised community at Tangier has been permitted to govern itself. There has been no resident magistrate or policemen, on the ground, during the five months that the mines have been worked. There has not been an act of violence, or a life lost, hardly a blow struck. Two men, detected stealing, were dummed out of the settlement, and larceny is unknown. Men sleep and work unarmed, leaving their property secure in their huts; and the roads are as safe in the neighborhood of Tangier as are the streets of Halifax.

The Tangier Mines have been visited, during the summer, by your Excellency, by Rear Admiral Milne, by Prince Napoleon, and the Princess Clotilde. They were visited last week by the Hon. Mr. Tilley, Provincial Secretary of New Brunswick, who, at a public meeting subsequently held, thus describes what he saw:

"I was gratified yesterday by having made a visit to the gold diggings at Tangier, and I feel bound to state here that I was most agreeably surprised at the orderly conduct, steady habits, and gentlemanly deportment that was exhibited by the miners. I found them most sober and orderly; I saw them handing around to strangers their specimens of gold—thus exhibiting a perfect reliance in every person that came there. I found that specimens worth some three or four hundred dollars were merely locked in chests in their dwellings, whilst the owners were quietly engaged in mining. Was that not a pleasing exhibition of trust in each other? I felt it was a moral exhibition, on the part of your people, that should not be kept in the dark, but should be proclaimed on the house tops."

Until recently only two attempts have been made, at Tangier, to work any but single claims. A small company, headed by William Chambers, Esq., have combined four or five lots, and are running a tunnel through them; and Mr. Robt. Sibley, who acquired some experience, and made some money by mining in Australia, has leased from the Goverument three quarters of an acre, and is sinking a shaft to enable him to work his claim at all seasons of the year.

The lowest depth yet reached is 45 feet, and the largest nugget found is valued at $300. The gold is got in quartz veins, running through slate or earth resting upon granite: in the form of scales, jagged and torn bits, like shot or bullets fired against a wall. It is sometimes globular, but seldom completely round. The veins run east and west. It is found in the soil immediately around the veins, but placer washing has not been very profitable at Tangier, or perhaps has not been attempted on a scale sufficiently extensive to command a fair return. A new lead has just been discovered, and there is every reason to anticipate that, as capital and skill, aided by reliable machinery, accumulate at Tangier, the precious metal will be procured with less labor and yield a more abundant return.

In June gold was discovered in the County of Lunenburg, about 60 miles to the westward of Halifax. A peninsula, which forms the western side of Luenburg harbor, and which stretches from the Shire Town of that name for five miles into the Atlantic, terminates in a bluff promontory about forty feet high, with steep clifts on the eastern side, but on the western sloping down to a stretch of level land with another bay beyond. The average breadth of this peninsula is about half a mile. The bluff promontory occupies about half of this distance, and presents to the sea a frontage worn into caves, popularly called "The Ovens," and which resembles those, though not so extensive, around the Giant's Causeway in Ireland.

The quartz veins run in all directions through the promontory, and are visible to the naked eye without labor. These and the circumjacent soil, were discovered to be auriferous in June, and a great number of persons rushed in and began to stake off claims.—Though single lots were taken up by a good many, it was evident that the experience gathered at Tangier had taught the value of combination. Companies were formed, and larger areas applied for. Three or four, with adequate capital and a highly respectable Directory, have been organized, and are now preparing to test the resources of the peninsula by an adequate expenditure.

While attention was generally directed to the Upland, Mr. John Campbell, a gentleman of considerable science, with a natural turn for geological researches, rightly judging that as the cliffs, with the quartz veins running through them, had been, for ages, washed and crumbled by the sea, gold might be found among the sands which surrounded the sea shore, tried the experiment, was successful beyond his hopes, and immediately applied to the Deputy Surveyor, who had taken charge, for that portion of the shore which immediately adjoins "The Oveus."

As soon as the auriferous character of the sands upon the sea coast was known, there was much excitement. Every body rushed from their Upland claims, and began to scramble for the treasure over which, strange to say, the farmers in the neighborhood had gathered sea manure for more than a century; without dreaming of its existence.

With some difficulty the excitement was allayed, the rights of all parties, acquired by discovery or occupation, were respected; the report of the Deputy Surveyor being taken, in all cases, by the Government, as the bases for the adjustment of claims. Your Excellency visited Lunenburg, and a simple code of regulations was framed by the Council, with the aid of your observation and experience. All is now tranquil at the Ovens; companies are preparing for systematic operations, and individuals are working their separate claims with cheerfulness and order.

The shore washings have proved very rich. Mr. Campbell having associated himself with William Cunard, Esq., and Mr. R. G. Fraser, proceeded to work the four shore claims, which formed the frontage of some seventy upland lots taken by this company in the rear. Though no accurate return has been given by these gentlemen, there is every reason to believe that a very large sum has been taken from these shore claims within a month, and the rights of those three gentlemen have since been sold to a larger company for £1200, they retaining all that had been obtained up to the day of sale.

Others who obtained shore lots, have also been very successful, the richness of the sands diminishing as the shore recedes from the cliffs. The upland claims have yet only been worked in the rudest way. No shaft has been sunk to any depth, nor is there any quartz crusher on the ground.

The facilities for mining at the "Ovens" are very great. Every part of the Peninsula is accessible by water. Provisions and stores can be landed on either side of it, and Quartz can be shipped with equal ease.

A Deputy Surveyor is the only officer maintained by the Government at the "Ovens." There is no stipendiary magistrate, and no police. No arms are carried or required. Crime is unknown, and property is as safe on the roads or at "the diggings," as it is in the shire town.

About the same time that public attention was attracted to the auriferous deposits at Lunenburg, gold was discovered in several other places, at Dartmouth, at Sheet Harbour, and at Lawrencetown. Quartz rock was found all along the southern coast, and running for miles back into the interior. From what was known of the geological structure of the country the presumption was reasonable, that quartz would, and that gold might, be found in at least ten of the eighteen counties into which Nova Scotia is divided.

Lawrencetown is a scattered settlement, named after Governor Lawrence, on a small stream that rises in the granite region behind, and falling through a chain of lakes, finds its outlet to the sea, between salt-marshes, protected by an aboiteau. It is about ten miles east of Halifax, with boat navigation to the shore; but the harbour is a poor one, with only shelter for small vessels.

Gold having been discovered near this stream in June last, quartz digging and placer washing were commenced in a rude way, and any body who choose, or who could get permission from the proprietors, dug and washed, and prospected. Quartz was found upon the surface and in veins beneath the soil, but although at one time expectations were highly raised, the interest in Lawrencetown gradually diminished, until, when I visited the place about a month ago, there were only four or five men at work, and the prospects did not warrant the employment of an officer or any interference of the Government.

On the 28th August, Thomas Belt, Esq., a Mining Engineer of some eminence, sent to this country by the promoters of a Company in London, who have organized under the name of the "Nova Scotia Gold Mining Company," informed me officially that he had purchased for that Company a Farm at Lawrencetown, and requested permission to work the whole or any parts of it that he might select, for a term of years. Having ascertained that this Company were represented by three gentlemen of large capital, and of the highest respectability, your Excellency was advised to sign a Lease: Mr. Belt binding the Company to buy up pre-existing claims—to employ at least fifty men upon the works—to place upon them adequate plant and machinery, and to pay such royalty, not to exceed five per cent. as shall be imposed by the Legislature.

This arrangement was scarcelycompleted, when gold was discovered on a wooded hill in the rear of Mr. Charles P. Allen's farm at Waverly, on Lake Thomas, about 10 miles north from the harbour of Halifax. I visited the place on Saturday last, and found that some hundreds of dollars' worth of gold had been taken out of loose quartz boulders, lying about the surface of a hill, some fifty acres in extent, rising rather abruptly from a small lake and marsh on its western side, and sloping away towards Lake Thomas, one of the Shubenacadie chain, which half surrounded it on the east and north. I brought to town, and Your Excellency has seen, the specimens, collected by a farmer named Taylor, which are quite as rich as any that have been found at Lunenburg or Tangier. They were obtained with but little labor. Gold, in all the eccentric forms which it assumes, is to be seen with the naked eye in every fragment of the quartz. Taylor has refused $80 for these specimens. They are probably worth $100.

The accounts of this discovery created much excitement, hundreds rushed to the ground, and an ardour for speculation seemed to suddently take possession of the whole community of Halifax. A Company was immediately formed to purchase the whole hill, and in the course of two days fifty applications for claims were lodged with the Commissioner of Crown Lands.

As it is apparent that individuals, working small claims, without shafts, tunnels or mechinery, will be compelled to suspend operations on the approach of winter, Your Excellency is aware that, for some time past, it has been the policy of the Government to favor the formation of Companies or Associations, who can afford to but over their works in winter, and who have capital sufficient to employ the working miner all the year round. Though a very common opinion prevailed in the spring that every body applying should have a bit of land, and a chance to get rich, the experience of one season has taught our people that, though a few fortunate persons may dig wealth out of a single claim, gold mining, like all other mining, to be profitable must be systematic, and that associated labour, skilful arrangement, and efficient plant, assuming the ground to be well chosen, will in most cases command success.

With a view to turn the resources of Mr. Allan's farm to the best account, a Surveyor has been sent to make a road from the main road to the base of the hill, where the gold has been discovered, and to plot the frontage of the farm, that the actual area may be ascertained. When this is done, the land will be alloted to companies or individuals, as may seem the most judicious. In the mean time the owner of the soil, and a small party who are combined with him, have been authorized to open the hill side, that the direction of the leads, and their extent, may be ascertained.

Though rumours have reached me of gold discoveries in many parts of the province, and though the presence of gold in other localities has been ascestained beyond a doubt, I do not think it prudent to include in this report any reference to discoveries, which have not been thought of sufficient importance to demand the verification and direct action of the Government. At Tangier, Lunenburg, Lawrencetown, and Lake Thomas, the facts collected are indisputable; and the interest taken in those mines by capitalists at home and abroad, and by a very large number of the industrious classes, warrant your Excellency in assuming, and so reporting to the Secretary of State, that Gold Mining in those localities, whatever may occur elsewhere, will be permanently established as a new branch of industry, tempting to the capitalist, and attractive to the Immigrant.

In view of the influx of population, and of the commercial activity which these gold discoveries are likely to create, I am well assured that your Excellency is keenly alive to the responsibility which devolves upon the Government to meet this new condition of things with foresight and discretion. We may share the prosperity of California and Australia. We should avoid, if possible, the mistakes made in and with respect to those countries. We want population; and a steady stream of