The Provincial Wesleyan.

[FOR THE PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN.]

Obituary Notices.

MRS. ALMIRA HIGGINS, OF LITTLE RIVER.

Sister HIGGINS, the subject of this brief sketch, was the daughter of Aden and Elizabeth Bebee, of Wallace River. Here our departed sister was born in the year 1820. From her earliest recollection, she was favored with the privileges of religion and the ministration of God's word; nor was it to her a matter of small moment that she was blessed with opportunities of sitting under an evangelical ministry. Whilst attending the Wesleyan sanctuary under the Rev. James Buckley, she was forcibly reminded of the depravity of her nature, the redemption of the world by Christ Jesus, her exposure to the wrath of God so long as she continued a stranger to vital godliness, and the absolute necessity of experiencing a death unto sin, and a new birth unto righteousness. The condition upon which salvation is suspended, and the imperative need of immediately closing in with the overtures of mercy, were vividly presented to her mind, and produced a salutary and sacred impression.

She was led onward in the way of salvation by the grace of God until she attained the remission of her sins, and an assurance of the same, by the direct testimony of the spirit; and soon after her conversion in 1837, she was baptised by the Rev. H. Pope, and was received into the Wesleyan Church by the Rev. J. V. Jost, to which Church she continued united, until she was called from the Church militant to the Church triumphant.

Sister H. was united in marriage to John Higgins, of Little River, in June, 1853: thus, after the short period of seventeen months, this union has been dissolved by death, and now the mourning and disconsolate widower, and a large circle of connexions and friends, have to lament her unexpected removal.

From the time she was united to the Church till her death she was a faithful and consistent member, walking in the fear of the Lord, in the comfort of the Holy Ghost. Her place in the house of God was regularly occupied; and the means of grace, connected with that branch of the Church of God with which she was identified were to her seasons of joy and spiritual edification. At class-meeting she not unfrequently expressed in the hearing of the writer of this notice, the peace and consolation which the religion of Jesus imparted to her mind, and the pleasing prospect of future happiness which through it she enjoyed.

After a life of 34 years, the greater part of which she had been blessed with good health, it pleased the Lord to call her by a lingering disease from this land of shadows to a region of momentous realities. But death did not find her unprepared. I conversed with her several times respecting her religious enjoyments, and her prospect of a future state of blessedness. During those conversations she expressed herself in a very satisfactory manner. Her confidence was in Christ, and her salvation she felt secured by a Scripture appropriation of the merits of Jesus through a living faith in Him—and finally, when the last moments of her earthly existence arrived, she gave her friends unmistakeable signs that she was passing from a world of temptations, sorrows, and sufferings, to be for ever with Christ.—She departed this life November 9, 1854, in sure and steadfast hope of eternal life.

The following Monday her mortal remains were conveyed to their silent resting place, there to remain until the resurrection of the just. A large concourse of people accompanied the mourning friends to the graveyard, and to the sanctuary of the Most High. There the occasion was improved by the Rev. Mr. McCarty, by a discourse from Amos v. 4, 12—"Prepare to meet thy God."

J. B.

Wallace River, February 3, 1855.

Provincial Wesleyan

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1855.

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The *Provincial Wesleyan* is the largest, and, for its size, the cheapest of the Religious papers of the Lower Provinces. Subscribers will confer a favour by recommending it to their neighbours.

ROME, appalled by the gigantic strides which the general intellect of mankind has taken into the regions of knowledge, and the grasp it has gained of the principles of human liberty, feeling that her power is departing from her—that less and less her denunciations are dreaded, and more and more her authority is defied—puts forth with the vigour of despair her energies to re-attain her ancient sphere of authority—to restore to earth the days of priestly influence and papal dominion. Indifferent how she shall regain her lost pre-eminence, with equal readiness she descends to schemes of artifice, resorts in a tone of injured and offended innocence to the language of remonstrance and supplication, or assumes the majestic attitude of might, and pursues her career of aggression with a boldness whose success too frequently proves her wisdom in employing it. Mark her invading England, and, unmindful of the opposition she had aroused, establishing her hierarchy in the midst of that Protestant kingdom—settling down to enjoy the fruits of her arrogance with a cool indifference which mocked the indignation and repugnance by which she was met. See her following the same course in Holland, where, in contemptuous disregard of the Constitution of that Lutheran land, she plants, as in England, a Roman Catholic Hierarchy with territorial titles. Look at her again in France, reducing the once independent Gallican Church to a state of entire submission to the will of the Pope. Behold her machinations in Ireland, her intrigues in America, and you shall learn something of the effrontery which she has exercised in recent years, and shall see that it has not been altogether in vain.

Ireland and America, it is true, have not of late rewarded the care of Rome by rich results. In the latter she has been unable to secure the ascendancy to which she aspired; in the former, she has lost immensely of the prestige she once possessed, and numbers have left, and numbers continue to leave her. The conversions which have happily taken place in Ireland itself are by no means few—whilst the emigration to which the children of that stricken land are impelled, by the misery which Popery always brings upon the countries where it prevails, has contributed to strip the Romish Church of its members in Ireland, without augmenting their number elsewhere. This gratifying fact "is seen when we follow the Irish emigrant to the United States, where the ever-flowing stream of Catholicism, yearly poured forth from Ireland, loses itself like an Australian river among the sands, without raising the level of the circumscribed pool already there."

But, as we have already intimated, it is not alone the overt acts of Rome we have to fear.—Those veiled and insidious efforts which she plies persistently and everywhere, are perhaps the most to be dreaded. By these she achieves wonders; and it is interesting, when we can catch a glimpse of her policy, to watch its windings.—A recent writer draws attention to some of her wiles: he says:—

"It is not only in the political or ecclesiastical council that her agents are busy; they are to be found even in the opposing ranks,—in the most worldly circles, or the most Protestant conclaves. They are in the Church of England, itself,—in the congregation, the pulpit, the missionary bands of that corporation. They are to be found in the drawing room, the Legislature, the newspaper-press. They make their approaches by every conceivable means. It is not only the Priest, or the reactionary, who is at work to bring back Rome into your house, in order to enlist your son for one of its orders, or as a lay-auxiliary, your daughter for its convent, your property for its endowments; but your taste must be led captive by the devices of the book binder, the printer, the cabinet-maker, the painter on glass 'Practical art,' and 'high art,' are equally employed to surround the sensitive and the impulsive with the furniture and ornament of a mediæval and Popish state of society. Experience has taught these shrewd aesthetical analists of the human mind, that ideas sometimes creep in with the grossest form of association. A jewelled symbol, 'which Jews might kiss, and infidels adore,' will suggest to the unstable mind a love of symbolic finery; and the dogma will be accepted either to sanction the indulgence, or to lend it brilliancy. The *studio* of the artist is at once a weak point for attack, and an outpost from which to assail the citadel. Characterized by ardent feeling, rather than by mental power or logical training, the artist is a missionary all the more effectual from being only half conscious. In his hand old ideas acquire new forms; the beauties of conventual retreat, the full sincerity of religious passion, the ineffable tenderness of divinely directed love, may be displayed in the work of his genius; and if these imposing influences are associated with the quaint devices of Rome in her prime, if the early crudities of art accompany the outward display of the emotion which the sensitive would wish to share,—then the mediæval cabinet in your friend's 'oratory,' the *pric-dieu* on which he seats you in this drawing-room, the singular picture which decorates his walls, recalls you to that world of sanctified imagination; you become familiarized with the arts and appliances of Rome; they surround you on every side, and mingle with your memories and affections. Thus you have to deal with a power which considers no influence too trivial, no weapon too insignificant for its purpose, and which labours as assiduously to pervert the taste, as it does afterwards to mislead the judgment, or destroy the will."

Here let us remark that though the pervasive influence and persevering energy of Rome are so sufficient to alarm, we have much to confirm our confidence in the ultimate defeat of all her skilfully laboured plans. Another passage from the author we have quoted and we leave our thoughts with the reader.

"Rome and her tyrannical accomplices are proceeding by virtue of a law; but there is a higher law at work against them. Rome can persist, but human persistence perishes. The law of development which is exhibited in the works of creation, and not least in the history of man himself, decrees, that mankind should outlive the tyranny of man. By virtue of their intelligence and ability, Chiefs and Nobles obeyed that law of development in obtaining power: they resist it when they attempt to retain a monopoly of power over their fellow-creatures who have worked up to their level of intelligence and ability; and the resistance cannot prevail. In some countries this becomes so evident, that the few who have retained privileges, voluntarily surrender them. Of this, Hungary, in her constitutional state, before the Austrian usurpation, was a shining modern example,—the nobles having voluntarily carried a series of measures, since 1825, abolishing their own privileges, and it is to be observed that where civil liberty is thoroughly appreciated by the people, and is realized in fact, there exists also that spiritual freedom, amidst which the doctrines of Rome droop and languish. The appreciation of civil freedom is reviving in Germany; and it is remarkable that, concurrently with that revival, the Church of Rome is subjected to a serious decline of her influence, and to the formidable secession of the Neo-Catholic Church. In Sardinia, under a constitutional government, arises a desire to wrest the conduct of affairs, public and private, out of the hands of the Priests; and that modest yet courageous state is carrying on a contest at the same time with Austria and with Rome. It is not an uninstructive fact, in the judgment of some persons, that in Ireland the concession of complete freedom, irrespectively of sect, has been followed by a decline of Romish power in that country, which will yet proceed in spite of recent indications to the contrary. Other and more patent courses we are aware co-operated towards that result; and we by no means overlook them; but the importance of securing to each man a sense of personal freedom can scarcely be over-rated, as to its tendency to render his will independent, and to make him stand before the Priest without shrinking."

Wesleyan Academy—Mount Allison, Sackville.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW HALL.

This flourishing Institution is imparting instruction to about two hundred and fifty Students, brought together from all parts of the three Provinces—New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and also from other places. This single fact furnishes the best evidence that could be given of the confidence of the public generally in its objects and management. Indeed, the more it becomes known, the more does it secure the approval and admiration of all who are friendly to the noble object for which it was founded.

Another building has just been added to the already spacious accommodations of the Institution, designed for a Lecture Hall, Library, Museum, &c., which will greatly facilitate the operations of both Branches, without interfering with the entirely distinct and separate working of either. It was formally dedicated to the objects for which it was erected, on Tuesday last, by appropriate and most interesting services conducted in the following order:—

Devotional exercises—Singing, prayer, and reading select portions of the Sacred Scriptures—by the Reverend, the Governor and Chaplain. At the close of these solemn exercises, the Rev. Gentleman, said he had much pleasure—in which he was sure the audience would largely participate—in announcing that the excellent Founder of the Institution, Charles F. Allison, Esq., had kindly consented to take the Chair and preside over the business of the day.

The Reverend, the Principal, was then called upon to proceed with the Dedication, in doing which he addressed the meeting at some length and with very good effect. He took a rapid survey of the History of the Institution, over which he had presided during the twelve years of its existence, glancing briefly and delicately, as he proceeded, at the difficulties with which it had had to contend in the earlier periods of its operations. He could rejoice, however, that by "the good hand of God upon it" these difficulties had all been successively surmounted—the great principles of its foundation had been tested, and its grand design—the impartation of a sound Education on Christian principles—carried out with continued success. The long cherished purpose of erecting a Branch for Female Education had also been accomplished, and is now in most encouraging and efficient operation.

He then explained the necessity and importance of such a building, and adverted to the Providential circumstances which had led to its erection at the time when it was so much needed for the effective and comfortable working of the united Institution, already so crowded in all its departments. At the close of his address—the audience simultaneously rising—the Rev. Principal pronounced, in a solemn and impressive manner, the following form of Dedication:—

Praying for the hallowing sanction of THE MOST HIGH GOD—THE FATHER—THE SON and THE HOLY GHOST—We do now solemnly Dedicate this building to the cause of Education on Christian principles! And may it long stand favoured with the Divine Blessing—A Temple Sacred to Literature, Science and Religion combined!—Amen.

This solemn and impressive Dedication was concluded by the Choir, who sang the "Dedication Hymn"—an appropriate piece, the words and music, and performance of which were all in pleasing harmony with the object, and also with the preceding exercises.

The topics which had been prepared for the occasion were next presented, with suitable addresses on each—by the persons whose names are annexed, viz.:—

I. The human mind, evidently formed for improvement, therefore entitled to Educational Training and Discipline.—By Rev. Wm. Smith and Thos. Pickard, Esq.

II. Education to be right, must be conducted on Christian principles.—By Rev. W. Temple.

III. The Parental Relation—as imperatively demanding of all who sustain it, the securing for their children, the best Education possible.—By Rev. J. H. Starr and Mr. Isaac Smith.

IV. As the interests of Society will be largely promoted by placing the advantages of a sound Education, Academic as well as Elementary, within the reach of the youth of both sexes, every well directed effort to increase the Educational facilities of a Country should receive public encouragement and assistance.—By J. L. Moore, Esq., and Chas. Dixon, Esq.

V. The judicious expenditure of money for the advancement of the Educational Enterprise, is sanctioned by Philanthropy, Patriotism and Christianity.—By Rev. Dr. Evans.

VI. A recognition of the authority of the law of progress, is essential to the efficiency and usefulness of Educational Institutions.—By Rev. Humphrey Pickard, A. M.

These truly interesting services were closed by an appropriate anthem sung by the Choir—consisting of Students from the two Branches under the able direction of Miss Ellis tt, the accomplished Teacher of Vocal and Instrumental Music in the Female department—when the Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Wm. Smith, and the company dispersed for Tea which had been provided in the two Academies.

The Dedication services throughout, and the discussion of the topics presented, by the several speakers, were listened to by the audience with deepest attention, and by many with serious emotion. What parent, especially, could listen unmoved to themes in which the highest interests of his children were so deeply involved, and from a right or wrong application of which, the most momentous consequences for good or evil might result. The prevailing impression however must have been grateful and pleasing in the highest degree. If there were any thing to regret it was, that such inestimable privileges and advantages for the improvement of youth as were here presented, had come too late for some; and that many who would have been delighted to be present, were, from the unfavourable state of the roads, unable to attend. It was to be desired indeed that every individual who can wield any good measure of influence for the mental and moral elevation of the rising generation, and for the real advancement and true prosperity of these Provinces, could have been present.

In glancing back to the period when the first stone of this noble Institution was laid, and comparing it with the present, every devout heart must have been ready to exclaim—"What hath God wrought!" Like all instrumentalities originated and directed by His Almighty hand for the benefit of man, there was nothing in the commencement of the Wesleyan Academy at Mount Allison to attract public notice, or to excite public expectation.—"The Kingdom of God cometh not with observation." Little could even its excellent Founder have imagined of the good already achieved—and which gladdened the hearts of so many on this interesting occasion—when the first impression gave such a direction to the impulses of his benevolent heart, while as yet the lasting monument of gratitude he was about to rear, hung trembling on a dubious thought. As little might have seemed to Luther, while poring over a dusty copy of the Sacred Scriptures, the first throbbing of that Heavenly impulse—of so much consequence to us and to our race—which made the proudest and mightiest of Sovereign Pontiffs tremble on his throne, and shook the Vatican to its foundations. It is easier to devise schemes and carry out purposes for evil than for good, and they may, when set in motion, acquire in their progress accelerated power till they become as enduring as they are irresistable, because of the downward tendency of our fallen nature. But they bring not "Glory to God in the highest"—nor "peace," nor "good to man." The rock that is loosened from the mountain's summit by the hand of the thoughtless or the reckless, may increase in velocity and power till its progress cannot be arrested: but it will carry only devastation and ruin to the peaceful plain below. The haughty Tyrant, ambitious for immortality, but ignorant of its true character, may goad on the myriads of his enslaved subjects to pile up huge blocks of ponderous granite to the clouds,—but only to stand a naked and useless pyramid—an emblem of selfish and solitary greatness, overlooking, it may be for ages, the barren wastes which are doomed to lie in unbroken sterility at its base. But to undertake an enterprise so noble, fraught with consequences so immeasurable for good to successive generations, involving such sacrifices and such labours as have been combined to raise this Institution to its present elevation, is not the work of human ambition, nor could such results be attained by merely human power. It is of God! and to him alone should be the praise.

There is one peculiarity in the conducting of this Institution, corroborative of these remarks—and it seems to meet you like some faithful sentinel at every turn:—Every thing is done as if under the constant impression of the immense value of the talents and the time with which every human being is entrusted; and that the due improvement and right employment of these constitute the great business of life.

After Tea, a reunion of the delighted group took place in the Hall, which had been lighted up in the interim, and the remainder of the evening was occupied in conversations suited to the tastes and dispositions of the several parties, changed and diversified as circumstances controlled,—and in listening to exquisite strains of Vocal and Instrumental Music from the Orchestra. While all were thus mentally regaled, the young especially were delighted by emotions, not less *thrilling*, but partaking more of the physical, as the Electric apparatus was put in requisition to form an agreeable alternation to the enjoyments of the evening. And last, not least, in the way of substantials, were the Refreshment Tables, set out in the Library and Museum by the excellent Ladies who had kindly volunteered their indispensable services to complete the arrangements. These tables were laden with a profusion of eatables and delicacies which included every article that could be deemed excellent and appropriate, exhibited with a taste and skill that would require one of the fair bands employed, correctly to describe.

The whole proceedings, and evening's entertainment were conducted throughout in the most appropriate and becoming manner, and with the most perfect and unbroken harmony and satisfaction to all concerned. Almost every article provided for the Refreshment Tables was sold, realizing, with the sale of Tickets which amounted to a little more than half, over sixty-four pounds.—Something indeed in its way, towards meeting the heavy liabilities still remaining of the unavoidably large expenditure so recently incurred.

A word in conclusion descriptive of the building, may not be unacceptable to friends at a distance. The New Hall, though plain, is a rather elegant-looking structure—Ionic in its architectural character, about 70 feet by 50, and 30 feet in the height of the walls. A veranda extends along the principal front, (50 feet) with columns to support the Entablature and Pediment—the former being carried round the building and supported at the angles by Pilasters of the same character as the columns. A flight of steps to the veranda, extending along the front, and folding doors in the centre, mark the principal entrance. There is also a private entrance on the side next the Female Branch. The interior consists of a vestibule (necessarily small) with the Library on one side and Museum on the other, occupying the whole area at the front entrance, to the extent of nearly 20 feet. Over this portion is a Gallery that will seat from 250 to 300, to be used when occasions require. In the centre of the building is a place for the Students nearly as large as the gallery, the floor of which is an inclined plane, fitted up with open seats, and will hold about the same number. The platform is raised nearly three feet above the lowest of these seats, with an orchestra immediately behind the centre, still higher, on either side of which is a small room, circular in the front and so formed as to make the back of the orchestra circular also. There fill up the remaining portion of the area of the building. Over these small rooms are galleries, finished in front with pilasters and Entablature like the front of the large gallery. The interior presents altogether a very neat and unique appearance, and is most admirably arranged for convenience and comfort, and will contain, when the galleries are thrown open, about 700 people.

On the day of Dedication it was tastefully dressed up, with evergreens in front of the gallery, and appropriate inscriptions in large and beautiful letters, over the platform. Above the rest, the words—SCIENCE, LITERATURE, RELIGION, appeared on a large triangle, with a Crown in bold relief, and the letters V. R. immediately under—and still lower—EDUCATION ON CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES—THE BEST INHERITANCE.

The services and exercises of the day were as instructive as they were interesting. To the Students they must have formed a pleasing variety, and no ungrateful relief to the severer demands of their daily studies.

ISAAC SMITH.

Mount Allison, Feb. 3rd, 1855.

To the Editor of the Provincial Wesleyan.

Letter from St. Stephen's N. B.

DEAR SIR,—It affords me pleasure to be able to inform you, that by the blessing of God, we have succeeded in effecting some important improvements on this Circuit; among which I may mention the following:

Our Church at St. Stephens has undergone a complete and thorough repair; and, for neatness and comfort, will now compare with any other Church in the Province. Our female friends, to accomplish this, have been indefatigable in their zeal and perseverance. In various ways, they have by their united efforts placed in the hands of the building committee, the noble sum of £235. The generous gift of £20 from Messrs. Chipman & Bolton, to procure a Furnace, induced the Trustees to undertake this important object—Orders were sent to a firm in Boston. It was soon forwarded and put up in time for the cold weather. The entire cost, putting up &c. was about £52.—It is found to work to our entire satisfaction.

The Methodist Church at Oak Hill, has been finished in a neat and beautiful manner, according to the usual custom, the pews were disposed of, the proceeds of which met all the demands against it.

A substantial fence, has been put up round the Church at the *Ledge*, by the efforts, of our good female friends in that part of the Circuit.

Our Church at *Oak Bay* under the direction and superintendance of brother Tweedy, aided by the liberality of our Friends; has been completely fitted up, and rendered comfortable for the worship of God. Our congregations are good, and attentive to the word preached. What we now need, is the outpouring of the *Holy Spirit*, to render his word effectual to the conversion of sinners, and the *salvation of immortal souls*.

This is the more needed, from the *fact*, that while we have been making the improvements above alluded to, the hand of death has been thinning our ranks, in a manner which tells most injuriously upon the spiritual interests and efficient working of the Circuit. Some of our most active members, and efficient office bearers, have been taken from the Church Militant to the Church triumphant. Among them I may briefly refer to the following:

Brother William Mitchell of the Old Ridge. Our departed Brother, was for many years a consistent Member, Leader & Trustee.

His death is severely felt, as we have no one to supply his place on that part of the Circuit.

Under the preaching of the late Rev. D. McCall, he was brought to a deep conviction of his depravity and guilt before God. The truth came with power to his mind, and feeling his need of an interest in the divine favour, he sought that blessing with all his heart, and through faith in in the atonement of Christ, he obtained a satisfactory evidence of the remission of sin. The change that had taken place in his judgment, and affections, produced its genuine fruits, in his general conduct, and having joined himself with the church, he became a pattern of diligence in attending the various means of grace; and laboured diligently to adorn the doctrine of God his Saviour in all things. He appeared to set the Lord always before him, and embraced every opportunity of doing good, by visiting the sick, giving them suitable advice, and praying with them.

In social prayer, his expressions of deep self abasement and penitence on the one hand, and greatful acceptance of the blessings of Redemption on the other, indicated, the scriptural propriety of the views he entertained, and the devotional feelings of his heart. He longed to see the work of God revive among those by whom he was surrounded, and particularly among such as were near unto him by the ties of nature, may his prayers be heard for all his children. Brother Mitchell, was not of a strong constitution, but on the contrary, weak and feeble, and some of his afflictions in the latter part of his life were extremely painful, but by the grace of God, they were endured at all times with christian fortitude and patience.

Last August he was attacked with typul fever. Fears, from the first were entertained by his *wife*, and the other members of his family, that he would not recover. He observed, "I am in the hands of God," and He will do that which is best. In looking back upon his life, he felt cause of deep humiliation before God. He observed "I know in whom I have believed." My feet are upon the *rock*—I have no fear of death.

"The pain of life will soon be o'er.
The anguish and distracting care."

O yes, I replied, and then you will rest in heaven.

"Where sighing grief shall weep no more,
And sin shall never enter there."

This was on Friday, August 19th, I was on my way to a distant part of the Circuit, and promised to call on my way back, as I had no expectation of his being still there, I said I hope if we meet not again on earth, we shall meet in heaven. To which he replied; Bless the Lord I hope we shall. He died the next day. His death was improved on Monday, August 22, in our church at the Old Ridge, to a large congregation from, Phil III, 20—21. Brother Mitchell was a good man and feared God above many.

The next in order taken from us by the stroke of death was Mr. Hugh Yunden of the Ledge—he was one of our Trustees of the Church at that place. He departed this life in the latter part of October. For many years he had been a professed follower of the Lord Jesus Christ. His life had not been marked by that steadfastness, and fixedness, of purpose in matters of religion, which he knew the word of God required,—This during his last affliction he deeply regretted,—The gradual and wasting influence of consumption, afforded him time for reflection, which produced *deep humiliation*, and sincere contrition, for his deviations and short comings, and by the mercy of God, he found there was still sufficient efficacy in the blood of Christ, to cleanse the soul from every deadly stain, and to give him the victory over death. He left behind him a widow and a number of small children. May they realize the truth of the promise,—

"I will be a Father to the fatherless, and a husband to the widow."

The next was Mr. Thomas Hannah of the Ledge, Leader, Society Steward & Trustee.

Brother Hannah became decided for God, and the salvation of his own soul in the year 1833. For many years, he had seen and felt in some degree the necessity and importance of becoming decided on this most important subject. A protracted meeting being held at the Ledge, he felt the promptings of the spirit more forcibly upon his mind, to come out from the world, and seek with all his heart the blessings of salvation.

At the meeting, a candle was placed just before him which led him to conclude that the ministers present, and the congregation near him, must have become acquainted with his wretched and miserable condition, exhibited by his sorrowful and dejected countenance, he saw that it was useless to attempt to conceal his convictions any longer, and stood up begging an interest in the prayers of the people of God; and expressed his determination to be on the Lord's side. He saw, he felt himself a guilty, hell deserving, sinner, and that his soul was in danger of everlasting destruction.

He came to a decided stand, and consulted not the opinions and wishes of his old companions in sin, but withdrew from their company, and continued in earnest supplications at the throne of grace, till it pleased God to speak peace to his soul, by enabling him to believe with his heart unto righteousness, and with his mouth to make confession unto salvation.

Soon after his conversion, he was appointed to the important office of class Leader; the duties of which, he performed with fidelity, and faithfulness. Salvation by the exercise of simple faith, was his favourite subject, and both in his class, and in the public meetings for prayer, he repeatedly urged this important truth, that to believe now, was the privilege of every sincere penitent, and, that this was the only, but certain way of obtaining a present salvation.

Our departed brother was diligent in attending the means of grace, though he lived at some distance from the place of worship, he constantly attended not only at the public preaching of his word, but at every public prayer meeting. His example in this respect, is well worthy of imitation. He took a deep and lively interest in the Sabbath School, and his personal exertions for its success, were at all times cheerfully afforded.

Brother Hannah rejoiced in the success of every undertaking, that would promote the happiness and welfare of man.

He was delighted to hear of the advancement of the principles of temperance and was himself a pattern to all in this respect. The spread of the gospel of Christ in the world, was that in which he took special delight, and he cheerfully contributed of his substance, not only, to support the gospel at home, but also to send it to the perishing heathen. The annual Missionary meeting in the Ledge Church, was always welcomed by him, as a season of both *doing* and *getting good*.

Our departed friend was the subject of an internal complaint, for many years, which frequently rendered him the subject of severe suffering known only to himself.

In the month of August last, he was attacked with a fever, which at length appeared to yield to the influence of medicine, but settled on his internal complaint, and caused suppuration. After weeks of severe pain it broke, and discharged inwardly, and caused almost instant death. The sting of death had long ago been extracted, and he could say "Thanks be to God, which giveth me the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

At times, during the period of his confinement, his mind was deeply exercised respecting his family; some of whom were still unconverted. One of his daughters being at the time under serious impressions respecting her soul, he remarked with great feeling, I fear my poor child will lose her good impressions in the absence of class meetings while I am sick.

No one can tell the feelings of a Father, on the bed of death, while he looks for the last time upon his children, whom he is about to leave forever, knowing they are not in the way to heaven.

His prayers for some of them have been answered, and having given to each of them his parting address, in his dying moments, he received comfort, from the hope that God would bring them all to the knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. May his hope soon be realized. For several weeks he suffered acute pain, but he endured it with christian patience, supported by Him who had enabled him for many years to be active in his service.

He experienced all that kind attention which his dear wife, and affectionate children were able, and ever willing to bestow, and which long and severe affliction so imperitavely require.

On Saturday, Nov. 24th, his happy soul was released from its suffering abode, and on the following Tuesday his death was improved, before a large congregation in the Wesleyan Church at the Ledge, and his dear remains committed to the silent grave in sure and certain hope of a resurrection to eternal life.

He left a widow and seven children, some of whom are on their way to heaven, and others are the subjects of good desires.

The Lord is answering his servant's prayers in behalf of his family, and though the opportunity is no longer afforded them of his example, advice, and prayers; yet the recollection of his self denying life, his peaceful and happy death, is a subject of consolation, which it is to be hoped will annimate his sorrowing children and widow, so to run that they too, may obtain an inheritance among them who through faith and patience, are now inheriting the promises.

Yours affectionately.

J. SUTCLIFFE.

[FOR THE PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN.]

East Branch, River Philip.

CHAPEL OPENING SERVICES.

MR. EDITOR.—It affords me much satisfaction to communicate the gratifying intelligence that a Wesleyan Chapel, lately erected at East Branch, was duly dedicated to the worship of God on Sunday the 28th ult.

East Branch, formerly part of the Wallace Circuit, has been regularly visited by Wesleyan ministers for many years, and hopes had been entertained, at different times, of the erection of a Chapel. All efforts to accomplish so desirable an object seemed powerless, until about eighteen months ago, when, with the valuable assistance of Robt. Darkin, Esq., definite arrangements were made for the entire completion of a house for the worship of God.

The building, in size, has naught of which to boast; but for beauty of style and neatness of finish, can hardly be surpassed, and certainly reflects great credit upon the architect, Mr. Thomas Johnson. The Roman style of architecture prevails throughout, the door and window, and cornice finish in admirable proportion, and all exactly in place. The dimensions are thirty-six feet by thirty, and the house contains twenty-nine pews upon the ground floor, and will seat two hundred persons.

Dr. Evans, of Sackville, kindly occupied the pulpit morning and evening, and his sermons afforded a rich treat. For grasp of thought, clear logical deduction, and interesting detail they could not be excelled; and every true worshipper of the Saviour must have realized the anointing power of the Holy Ghost, from the commencement to the close;—and although the sermon of the evening, on "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian," wanted but a few moments of two hours in length, it was listened to throughout with earnest attention.

The sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper were administered in connection with the morning services, and while about thirty individuals commemorated the dying of the Lord Jesus, every heart felt that "it was good to be there."

The sale of preference of pews took place on Monday, and I am happy in reporting a most satisfactory result. The close of the sale exhibited a total of three hundred and eighteen pounds, and while the Church cost two hundred and thirty-five, there is left a surplus of eighty-three pounds—a great desideratum for various improvements in connection with the chapel.

J. HERBERT STARR.

River Philip, Feb. 6, 1855.

TEA MEETING AT EAST BRANCH.

MR. EDITOR,—Permit me, through the columns of the *Provincial Wesleyan*, to pen a few thoughts in reference to a Tea Meeting held at East Branch on Thursday evening the 18th inst.

A Chapel lately erected at the East Branch of the River Philip being minus a Stove and Pipe, and no easier way of providing the needful for its purchase presenting itself than the holding of a Tea Meeting, the Ladies of the Branch and the River nobly gave their hearts and their hands to the enterprise, and I have much pleasure in recording the result.

As the hour approached for partaking of the beverage which exhilirates but not destroys, sleighs crowded with numerous happy candidates for the socialities of the evening were seen pouring in from all directions, until nearly a hundred thronged the scene of gathering. The tables were filled and filled again with scores upon scores, who did ample justice to the luxurious viands which kindness and generosity had provided, until—and the end at last did come—all were satisfied.

The tables being cleared away, Joseph Oxley, Esq., was called to the chair; and at the sound of *Order* an almost universal silence was secured, and parties listened with apparent deep attention to the numerous interesting addresses of the evening.—I have attended Tea Meetings where all was uproar and confusion; and I hardly know what in this instance made the exception—perhaps respect for the silvered locks of the honoured chairman, or it may be deep reverence for the sanctuary of the Most High, or both combined—or the stillness that prevailed may have been the unanimous expression of the true common sense and good taste of the assembled crowd. Be this, however, as it may, with the exception of an occasional expression of genuine good humour at the Tea-table, all was order and decorum to the close.

An attempt to describe the addresses would be a mere waste of words; suffice it to say that every variety of talent was displayed on the occasion. And I must also record our obligation to the Rev. John E. Cogswell, Baptist minister, who kindly favored us with his presence and assistance.

I am happy to say that the amount realized exceeded the handsome sum of Fourteen Pounds.

J. HERBERT STARR.

River Philip, Jan. 25, 1855.

[FOR THE PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN.]

Correspondence.

MR. EDITOR,—The writer was not a little surprised in reading an Article in the "Sun," of the 25th ult., communicated by the proprietor of the Two Story house near the Furlong bridge; charging the "Methodist Sons of Temperance," with an act of robbery. It would be difficult to ascertain how any man could have the effrontery in the face of a candid public to publish such a statement, so foreign from the least shadow of truth. But when a man can deliberately make up his mind to engage in such a God dishonouring, man destroying, hope blighting traffic, as the vending of "Distilled Poison" to his fellowmen, to satisfy a sordid avaricious thirst for gain dead to every feeling of humanity, lost to all shame, conscience seared, a heart fully set to work deeds of darkness; such a man is fully qualified without any feeling of remorse to publish statements the most distant from truth. The reader will perceive this in his article, "the family had retired to rest;" no doubt to sleep as well as rest; sleep is an unconscious state of existence, but this man strives to leave the impression that he knows all that is passing; strange he did not detect them! again he says, "they escaped being discovered," yet he knows they were Methodist S. of Temperance. It reminds the writer of a falsehood fabricated with the most bitter feelings against an innocent party more than eighteen hundred years ago: it reads thus "say ye his disciples came by night and stole him away while we slept." The writer may say without fear that the so-called M. S. of T. were at that time in the balmy arms of sweet invigorating sleep, without the widow's groans or the orphan's cries disturbing their repose. It is true that the most respectable, and influential of Maccan, together with many other persons from other settlements, belong either to the Division, or Total Abstinence Society, organized for the purpose of suppressing the use of Intoxicating Liquors, and saving their families, friends, and neighbours from the dire scourge of Black Intemperance; without the least intention of injuring the person & property of the proprietor of the premises near the F. Bridge; and if we judge from the past, their efforts will be directed to save men from the fatal snares laid for the unwary, and unsuspecting, and not without hopes of saving the poor infatuated counseller from a drunkard's grave, and worse than a drunkard's doom. It will be perceived from facts that the M. S. of T. are clear of the charge.

West Brook, Feb. 5th, 1855.

Austria and the Treaty.

If Austria has signed this treaty with the hope that it will check and prevent a general war in Europe, she is much mistaken, no power on earth can frustrate it, the hour of national regeneration is at hand, for the old world; but the people must know how to conquer their independence, and maintain hereafter their liberty without falling into anarchy, or into the hands of some Jesuitical power.

Italy, which was the first to strike, has lain down in a halo of glory, that will not pass away. Eternal in her beauty and her destinies, she sank but for a brief time; she will soon be able to repel foreign brigands and holy apostolic French Austrian cutthroats. Italy's safety and freedom depending merely upon the combination of her people, they well understand each other, and leaving aside party strifes will combat from the Alps to the Etna, for the UNION and INDEPENDENCE of that garden of God.

Hungary has fallen; but her blow was terrible, and her son of liberty lived a glorious day, and set without a stain. The blood of the Magyars has not sunk into the earth in vain. Even now her power has appeared and a new organization, of surer omen is springing among the hallowed scenes of her stupendous efforts, and the resting place of her heroes. That land of noble martyrdom cannot die.

The night that has set upon Poland, is the darkest of all. From a height of glory, scarcely ever reached by any people, her fall has been terrible. But she has left one lesson to man. With only provincial resources, and an undisciplined army, she almost overthrew the sceptre of the Russian monarchy. She perished only when abandoned by all the world, betrayed by France, who promised to assist her, and down trodden by the Cossacks, whose legions alone numbered twice her own. Even now, Poland, is not dead; she pauses but to take her breath.

Italy, Hungary, and Poland, united, combined, conspiring and preparing themselves for the same cause, must battle together, and swear by the earth and the heavens, by their brother's blood and father's sufferings, by the long painful wrongs inflicted on their country, that they will not lay down their arms while there is an Italian, a Hungarian, a Pole to fight. What government, what despotic power can stand against such a gigantic and resolute alliance.—*Crusader.*

Parliamentary Intelligence.

[Compiled from the Morning Papers.]

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MONDAY, Feb. 5

A large number of private petitions were presented.

CHANCERY; MINES AND MINERALS.

Hon. Mr. Howe would call the attention of Government to the Chancery Question. If that court were to be abolished no delay should take place in having the question submitted to the House.

The subject of Mines and Minerals also demanded attention; it had been the fashion to moot it within a day or two of the close of the Session when it was impossible to afford it due consideration; the attention of the Government having now been called to it the responsibility of bringing it forward now rests with them.

Hon Attorney Gen. explained—The Chancery Commission were now actively engaged and would probably report this week. A further despatch touching the mines and minerals had recently been received, which, together with other papers, would be submitted to the House at an early day, and its opinion would then be tested on that question.

TUESDAY, Feb. 6.

A number of petitions were presented.

INLAND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

Mr. Eson introduced a Bill to amend the act for incorporating the Inland Navigation Company, to enable them to hold lands.

RAILWAY REPORT.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command, laid on the table of the House, the Report of the Railway Commissioners for the past year.

ROAD MONEY NOT PAID.

Hon. Mr. Howe.—Mr. Speaker, a petition has been intrusted to me by a large number of persons not one of whom I know. It is signed by Donald McLeod and 150 persons in Mira, in the County of Cape Breton—that they emigrated from the poorest part of Scotland: and have been cultivating that section of the country. They state that they were called upon by Road Commissioners to do the work on the Roads, and that they went, in good faith, and did the work amounting to £1200 or £1400, and that they have never been paid. They pray that if the House will but grant that large sum under the circumstances, that they may have the benefit of an expenditure equal to that amount; for even earning the money twice over would be relief. If, as it would appear the neglect to pay them of the Commissioners in charge of these Roads in that