

comprehended the various Seats of War. One of his ways drawn so that each soldier had a mark for himself the charging position of the army, was in such demand that he had six presses running upon it, night and day, for several weeks, and sold hundreds of thousands of copies. In this way was accumulated the capital upon which Mr. Prang's present business of chromo lithography was founded. His first attempts were in Italy. A set of four Cuban scenes, the first of the Prang chromos, which were sold together in a paper portfolio, did not strike the public fancy. There was nothing to hang up in the parlor. Mr. Prang next tried a pair of landscapes, which also failed to lure five-dollar bills from the passers-by. His third attempt was that of a group of children, and this was an immediate, great, and permanent success. This encouraged him to persevere, until now his list of litho chromos embraces forty subjects, and he has been able to build the first factory that has ever been erected for a lithographic business in any part of the world. With twenty men and forty presses, he is only just able to supply the demand. It would now be hard to find a house or school-room in which there is not somewhere a bit of brilliant executed at this establishment.

### Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1869.

#### From our English Correspondent.

*Daily with respect to Edward Grammar Schools in Canada. Statistics of the National Conference of the Wesleyan Missionary Society.*

There are in this country there are some hundreds of endowed grammar schools, enjoying in the aggregate a very large annual income, but for want of proper supervision, sadly in fault in the fulfilment of the purposes for which they were established. Instead of distributing the benefits of education with impartiality, they have been limiting these benefits almost entirely to the members of the Established Church. The exclusiveness with which they were thus managed, or rather mismanaged, led some time ago to the appointment of a Royal Commission of Inquiry, and the report of this Commission has turned out to be a most interesting and valuable document for the purpose of doing away with existing abuses, and providing altogether more equitable and useful system of instruction. Besides other important charges contemplated in the Bill, such for instance as economizing the expenditure and improving the general character of the education imparted, the Commission has also recommended the abolition of the distinction between Churchmen and Dissenters to be benefitted altogether abolished; there is to be perfect religious equality; and mastership, trusteeship, scholarship, in a word, everything relating to the school, is to be absolutely, and in every respect open to Conformist and Nonconformist alike. This measure, if carried out, would be a most certainly only simple justice; it will accomplish many desirable objects, and help to break down that haughty and intolerant spirit which too many members of the Established Church, both lay and clerical, have so often exhibited towards all who did not happen to belong to their own communion.

Some startling revelations with respect to the spreading prevalence of crime have just been employed in collecting criminal statistics. Official returns to which access has been gained, exhibit upwards of 112,000 thieves; some undergoing various terms of imprisonment and others at the penitentiary. The view of the question may be stated that of each man who will in prison £30 per annum; police, coal expenses, etc., about £20 each in addition; and the value of the property which they steal is reckoned at an average of £270 per annum each criminal; the national loss arising from such a vast lack of honest industry is calculated at nearly £200 million annually for each; and the entire aggregate of loss by our criminal class is stated at upwards of £30,000,000 every year! A sum equal to nearly one-half of the national expenditure. It looks utterly incredible, and demands the most anxious attention. Penitentiaries, prisons, reformatories, penal establishments, are everywhere inefficient in repressing the monster evil. The fact is, the punishment now awarded to crime is not sufficiently severe; it is not dreaded; our laws are not in any adequate sense a terror to evil-doers. There must be an alteration in this respect, and this is a point which should be considered without delay.

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The trial in the remarkable Convent case, is still "dragging its slow length along." So prolonged a trial has never before, I believe, detained a jury within the venerable Court of Queen's Bench. Romish ecclesiastics, sisters of mercy, friends of the plaintiff, and little children belonging to the school of the Convent, have been summoned as witnesses on one side or the other. The extraordinary duration of the case is a serious interfering with public business; the examination of the witnesses is however, concluded, and the summing up of the Judge and the verdict of the jury cannot be far off. What decision the jury will come to, after such a labyrinth of almost interminable, and very contradictory evidence, pro and con, it would be pure guess to predict.

We have cheering tidings of a revival of the work of God at Spalding, in Lincolnshire. Both the congregation in the chapel and the children in the Sunday-school came under the gracious influence. The account of this good work says, "The converts are children, or rather young middle life, and a few advanced in years. Three or four notorious sinners are included among them, but the bulk are young men and women."

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Different orders of temperance people have also introduced "the readings" into their temples, to very great advantage, and doubtless, by the time winter comes upon us again, we shall have a still greater number of public readings, which will tend greatly to enlighten the social gatherings of the long winter nights. We look with much interest upon this "new institution," and hope, that our young people, both in town and country, will labor to excel in the noble art of reading, for alas! it is lamentable, that there are few good readers. Here and there, one is found, who can enter into the spirit of the author, and can give the right intonation, and present the lesson before you as you never saw it before, but such a case of excellence is the exception rather than the rule, for even in the pulpit, we only sometimes hear the scriptures read distinctly, so that the people can understand the sense. Perhaps therefore, the public readings that are now becoming a standing institution, may tend to benefit the pulpit. We see to everything and anything that will make men wiser and holier and better.

Not the least interesting portion of the Provincial Wesleyan is the Temperance column, some of the facts and incidents therein recorded, have been very useful to your Ontario correspondent, in his Temperance addresses, and have even been introduced in the pulpit. Knowing the deep interest you take in the Temperance reform, I am constrained to give you a brief account of the Temperance Convention which was held for three days last week, in the city of Toronto. It was called by a joint circular, and signed by the leading persons in the organization of "Sons' Good Templars, &c." The objects particularly contemplated were, the better enforcement of those laws which already have respecting the traffic, and the ultimate end of

of special services was held. For six weeks hundreds of people assembled night after night, in the spacious chapel. There was a great thronging, and numbers were brought from the enjoyment of peace with God through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. Upwards of 160 persons have been added to the Church. O for a general revival! It is our urgent, pressing need.

We also had good news from some parts of the Mission field. At Belize, in the British Honduras, there has been a gracious outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and also at Corozal, in the same province.

In recent intelligence from Spain, an incident is mentioned, strikingly illustrative of the independence of spirit created by the newly acquired religious liberty in that most priest-ridden country. The master of the normal school at Navarra was accused of teaching his pupils lessons contrary to the doctrines and dogmas of the Catholic Church. Hereupon the Bishop principal places have for the time being been suspended. King frof, has held firm possession, so the poor employees of the Grand Trunk had trials of the most severe description to grapple with. Trains have been buried in snow. Two engines, would puff and blow, but the small train of cars would stand perfectly still. The snow plough would be called into requisition, and for a time, mountains of snow would disappear, but soon the road would be filled again, so that it seemed useless to contend with the elements, that seemed to be getting master of the situation. It is said that one storm cost the Grand Trunk, not less than \$10,000.

The weight of snow that has fallen, has made great havoc among the buildings. Montreal has been a great sufferer. It is believed that not less than eleven feet of snow has fallen in that city. The roofs of some fine houses, have succumbed beneath the pressure of their white burden. St. Patrick's Hall, the finest in the city, was the scene of a grand ball, about the hour of midnight, when the building was going as merry as a marriage bell, an architect who was present, said that the roof was giving way, and by his prudent management, he and the master of ceremonies succeeded in getting the ball cleared, before it was too late. A few minutes more, and some scores of persons would have been buried in the debris. How few of them would have escaped the narrow escape they have had from an untimely death.

But now the month of March has come, and we hope, that soon the white covering will disappear from the earth, and that the time of the singing of the birds will have come, and the voice of the turtle will be heard in the land. The farmers are in pretty good spirits. They are not without hope, that they will have a good harvest, for they say, had always yielded plentifully in summer that has been well covered with snow in winter; agricultural chemists account for this fact thus, snow contains a large quantity of ammonia, which is so essential for soil, that good crops invariably follow the deep snows of winter.

The health of the country has greatly improved during the past month. During January we had much sickness. Go where you would, almost every body was complaining about being unwell. Some very sudden deaths also occurred, so that many wished for some severe storm that the health of the community might be improved.

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