

THE COLONIAL EMPIRE, is the title of a new Paper published by Mr. Thomas McHenry, St. John, N. B. It is devoted to Politics, Literature, and general News; its motto is, "onward and upward." It is neatly printed and ably edited, and its pages are well filled with instructive matter. We hail this paper, in the Colonial field, as an important auxiliary. It is published at the low price of \$1½ per annum.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR, comes in a new dress, and much improved in size, matter, and appearance. It is now entitled the *New Brunswick Baptist and Christian Visitor*.

THE TEMPERANCE TELEGRAPH, has also undergone change, both in appearance and name; it is now called the *Temperance Reformer and Telegraph*.

These papers are all the property of Mr. McHenry.

MESARS. EDITORS:—I wish to call the attention of your numerous readers, especially inventors, their agents or attorney's and writers generally, to the fact that a distinction between the script letters, I and J, is as essentially necessary as the distinction between 6 and 9. It is a mark of great carelessness or slovenliness in writing, to substitute, from mere caprice or habit, the one for the other, rising, as it invariably does, suspicion as to the culture or scholarship of such writer. This lazy substitution of letters often leads to misunderstandings and delays in specifications, deeds, wills, and other papers in script, as it often does not correspond with the more carefully printed letters in the drawings. It often causes delay, and sometimes bitter disputes, when, in the address to individuals, I is made to stand for Isaac, and also for James, Ira or John. Writing Ian for January, Iune for June, Ino. for John, &c., is not often misapprehended; but sometimes, when the context is obscure, the proper writing of this letter would determine the sense, and not leave us to speculate whether I stands for June, Judge, John, Isaac, Indigo or Iron.

Where initials are used for abbreviation, writers have no right to sacrifice the correct execution of a letter to the whim of what is vulgarly deemed taste or flourish, by not allowing the letter J to drop properly below the line of writing, its distinguishing feature, and which is the unalterable form in standard script letter,

The fault here cited, has in part, obtained from the old but false and whimsical mode practiced by not the best publishers and printers, of omitting, in our spelling books, the letter I or J, thereby leading children to think that the two letters are synonymous, than which a more un scholarly superstition never haunted the English alphabet.

It is a principle in abbreviations that the mode adopted be in all cases unmistakable; but when it happens, as it frequently does, that ignorance tramples upon this principle, and slipshod caprice adds to this abbreviation a leading letter that is undeniably wrong, the communication of ideas is utterly impossible.