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who, after joining the "Order," experienced a favourable turn in his circumstances. This gentleman went to a merchant to whom he had been largely indebted before his bankruptcy, but to whom, after his union with the Sons, he had made a considerable payment, and, on this ground, urged his friend to join the Order, stating, that had it not been for the efforts of the Sons in his own case, he would never have been able to pay a cent towards the liquidation of his debt.—Such facts as these show the practical working of temperance principles and temperance efforts, and afford an argument, in favour of their continuance and for their zealous and persevering advocacy, which cannot be gainsayed. The cause of temperance, permeated with christian principle, must be onward: it will continue to gather into the ranks of its advocates the good and the great, who, with clear heads, stout hearts and strong hands, will turn the battle to the gate.

Mr. Kellogg, we understand, has proceeded to Pictou and Prince Edward Island, from which he is expected shortly to return to this City, and resume his lectures.

The Spirit of the Press.

The last *Guardian* has a leading article on the vile thing—AMERICAN SLAVERY. Referring to the Fugitive Slave Bill recently passed in Congress, he says:—

"The bill, we cannot but think, is a just one. If the Union recognizes slavery at all, the slaveholders have a right to be protected in their property."

In opposition to this view of the case, we may state that the *Zion's Herald* of the 6th inst., contains one of the most powerful arguments on the subject we have read, from the Rev. CHARLES ADAMS, Chairman of a Committee of M. E. Ministers of Boston and Charlestown Districts, proving said Bill to be "unconstitutional law," in direct and palpable contravention of the Constitution of the United States.

But our excellent cotemporary, first named, is no friend of slavery. He trusts that the working of this said Bill will prove in its "consequences very different from what the friends of slavery anticipate," and very justly calls on the Northern States, to whom "the work especially belongs," to seek the removal of slavery, "the great error" of the American system. Judging from the tone of the New England press especially, and from the mass meetings held, the strong resolutions passed, the determined spirit of resistance manifested, we are confident no justifiable means will be left unemployed to "rid the country of the stigma which now rests upon it."

In another article on the NOVA SCOTIA BIBLE SOCIETY, the *Guardian* uses the following language:—

"In a cause like this, there is no room for self-congratulation. Success should only stimulate to increased effort. So long as there is religious knowledge to be communicated, and souls to save, there is need for our labours, and with the Bible in our hand we must go forth in the name and cause of our Saviour."

To these truths every enlightened christian will cordially respond.

The *Christian Messenger* of the 8th, has a temperately written article on the "progress of Popery." Having given reasons in proof that the "principles of the Roman Hierarchy are the same now as they ever have been," he adds:—

"It is not with men but with principles that we wish to deal. We feel no hostility to any set of religionists as such. We all have the same origin and affections, and all, until changed by the grace of God, possess the same nature. It requires, however, no great stretch of observation to know that principles once fully recognized, must of necessity exert a mighty influence for good or evil over the feelings and conduct of men, according as these shall be correct and in conformity with God's word or otherwise. The great danger of the Roman Catholic creed grows out of the high assumptions of the Clergy, acknowledged and willingly submitted to by the people. It is a fact too capable of proof, and has been shown in thousands of cases, that Romanists of the kindest and most benevolent dispositions have been made the instruments of oppression and cruelty towards others, contrary to the better feelings of their nature.—However important may be the light in which we view this subject, we are farthest from desiring to foment any thing like bitterness or harshness against any class of our fellow men, however deeply we may believe them to be involved in error. A quiet and temperate appeal to the great standard of truth, the word of God; a watchful attention to the progress of events, and an earnest use of every lawful means of combating the evil wherever it may appear, with earnest prayer for the success of

every endeavour to preserve or reclaim from the threatened evil, are the true and only resources we can approve or recommend."

Lecture at the Mechanics' Institute.

On the Individual and Social Advantages of Knowledge.

BY THE REV. E. EVANS.

[The following abstract of the excellent Lecture delivered by the Rev. E. Evans before the M. Institute, as noticed in our last, is taken from the *Sun Newspaper*, with one or two slight alterations.]—*Ed. Wesleyan.*

The Annual Session of the Mechanics' Institute was opened on Wednesday with a lecture by the Rev. E. EVANS on "the individual and social advantages of knowledge." Our limits will not permit the insertion of a brief abstract of this very able paper. The reverend lecturer said,—"Knowledge is but the acquirement and retention of facts; the inferior animals are possessed of impulsive instinct only—being altogether unsuited to that progress made by man. This capability is one of those beneficent gifts conferred by the Creator upon him, and a knowledge of the fact should urge each one to use diligent and unceasing exertion, in order to develop his mental capabilities. The means which lead to the augmentation of the general fund of knowledge should be placed within the reach of all; for it will be found that the tendency of that knowledge is to expand, refine, and purify the mind, and render it capable of more exalted pleasure, than it could otherwise enjoy. In the acquirement of learning, due regard should be paid to the source from whence it springs; we should be careful to found our opinions upon a mature and analytical study of facts—and not to fix our minds upon interested or plausible theories; we should take little if anything upon simple trust; but dive to the bottom of our subject, and lay hold upon the hidden truth. The sources from whence our knowledge is derived are too numerous for detail;—I may mention a few—*compilations from ancient and modern history.* Few branches of knowledge are of more value than an extensive acquaintance with the acts of past times, and thus a well written history of any age or people is deservedly estimated as one of the greatest boons man can confer on his country. With these we may combine elementary and more elaborate works treating of Geography, Natural History, Agriculture, Chemistry, and the fine arts. Men of genius, prompted by a beneficent ardour, engage themselves in simplifying these elaborate works, in order to bring them within the reach of mankind in general; simplicity of style and clearness of expression, often render subjects previously vague and undefined, at once clear and attractive. The Press, despite the theory, that *demand produces an increase of price*, lowers its charges in proportion to the growing demand,—the Press of your own country, sir,* well understand this seeming paradox, and hence the issue of that vast host of publications which crowd your shelves—and from which, we may be pardoned for wishing, they may be soon set free. The acquirement of knowledge confers individual advantage on its possessor, by divesting him of errors and mistakes which he may have imbibed, and giving a right direction to his mental energies. It is to man what culture is to the plant, or to adopt the beautiful figure of one of our most judicious and elegant English writers, familiar to you all, it is to the mind what sculpture is to the block of marble. The mind of an ignorant man often lies in a state of vacant and inglorious stupidity, or is excited to action by the fitfulness of a heated and uncontrolled imagination.—Judgment is blinded by prejudice, and reason subjected to grovelling and gross animal appetites, and to the domination of vicious and hurtful affections.—On the other hand, by means of knowledge, the mind is elevated to still increasing activity—its possessor is rendered less dependent for happiness upon sensual indulgences, the grosser pleasures are more readily dispensed with and abandoned, and he is made to feel and exult in the superiority of his position as a spiritual and intellectual being. Knowledge constitutes the prime difference between a savage and civilized society. The improvement of the mind necessarily induces improvement in condition. The arts and sciences, industry, and commerce, everything which tends to make a people wealthy and flourishing, follows in the train of Education.—By the general diffusion of knowledge in this Province, our people may be indefinitely elevated; its resources are immense, but, to a great extent, lie buried and undeveloped. It has been said that a few philosophers suffice for any nation; whilst the groundwork—the elementary studies, should be understood by all. I mean not by philosophy, speculative or abstract science, but that useful knowledge which is the basis of practical effects; such benefit as a knowledge of Chemistry confers upon the Agriculturist, and the advantage which a just appreciation of the laws of Mechanics gives the operative. By the establishment and effective operation of such institutions, as that which has now convulsed us, is

* The reverend lecturer was under the impression that Mr. McLaughlin was President of the Institute.

a taste for these studies to be generally diffused. Better and more profitable for a country is it to possess a number of men of competent, than a few men of great knowledge.

(The reverend lecturer here read an opinion of Horace Mann's, illustrative of this idea.)

Before I take my seat, allow me to impress on the minds of all a yet higher species of knowledge, to which I would direct special attention; that which has been given us in the pages of *Divine Revelation*. This it is which will prepare us for a loftier and holier existence, where the vista of knowledge is widely extended, and man's capabilities indefinitely improved."

Peace Association.

As illustrative of the remarks we made last week on the subject of "Universal Brotherhood," we give the following item from the *Montreal Chronicle*. If Elihu Burritt succeed in the negotiations to which reference is made, he will add another green leaf to the chaplet of well-doing which already graces his brow. Our hope is that success will attend his labour of peace.

"We learn from the papers lately received that the Peace Association has at last succeeded in doing something. It has obtained a recognised position among the Governments of the Continent of Europe. This is much and interesting. The facts are, that Denmark has consented to negotiate, to the same extent as Schleswig Holstein; and that after the return of its deputation to Kiel the Schleswig authorities had appointed an arbitrator on their behalf, to meet another appointed by Denmark. Mr. Elihu Burritt remains in Hamburg, to watch and smooth the progress of the negotiations."

The London Spectator remarks upon this that it is "one of the most remarkable spectacles ever presented to Europe—a blacksmith from Republican America is sitting at Hamburg to watch over the mutual advances of the Teutonic Duchies and the Scandinavian Monarch."

Destructive Fire at Fredericton, N. B.

We regret to learn, by news which came over the telegraphic wires on Tuesday morning last, that a very destructive fire has occurred at Fredericton, New Brunswick. The fire, it is said, commenced in a stable near the Wesleyan Methodist Church, which, with the Mission House, and nearly three hundred other houses and buildings, in the business part of the City, have been reduced to ashes. The amount of insurance effected, on the whole or part of the property destroyed, we have not learned. The loss must be great, especially as the Merchants had just laid in their winter supplies of goods, which were consumed with the buildings. This is a sore calamity, and must be seriously felt more or less by the whole community, if it does not work the ruin of many deserving men and families. The sufferers have strong claims on the sympathy of their fellow colonists, which, we have no doubt, will, if necessary, be practically evinced in some tangible and effective shape.

Wesleyan Missionary Society.

In noticing the Nova Scotia District Missionary Report for 1849, the *Christian Messenger* in a truly fraternal spirit, says:—

"It is pleasing to observe that our Methodist brethren abate nothing in their wonted zeal and activity in conveying the blessings of the Gospel to the perishing millions of the earth, wherever the providential influence of God may seem to offer an opening for their efforts. May we and others be inspired to love and good works by their pious examples."

We are, as a cotemporary that his favourable remarks are duly appreciated, and his christian prayer heartily re-echoed, by us.

General Mining Association.

The Hon. S. CUNNINGHAM, Agent of the G. M. Association, in a communication addressed to the Editor of the *Sun*, in violation of the Association's rule, and correction of many errors which have been circulated, among other things, states:

"Since the Association commenced operations they have disbursed in the Province, upwards of *One Million Five Hundred Thousand pounds*; they have paid into the Provincial Revenue upwards of One Hundred Thousand pounds, for Rent and Royalty; they have loaded upwards of sixteen hundred vessels annually, for many years past—the disbursements on which, altogether with the Light Money, Postage, &c., must have amounted to a very large sum, besides furnishing employment for Ship Builders and others. These are some of the advantages derived by the Province from the operations of the Association."

Wreck of the Brig Reindeer.

The *Sun* received on Tuesday evening last, by Telegraph, information from New York, Nov. 12, of the loss of the Brig *Reindeer*, Capt. Bell, of this port, owned by W. B. HAMMOND Esq.—She was on her voyage from Malaga to Philadelphia, and was wrecked off the latter named place. Melancholy to relate, the Captain and Crew have all perished. This will be sad news for the families and friends thus unexpectedly bereaved. May they receive support and consolation in this season of deep trial from Him who is a refuge in time of trouble.

A reference to our Obituary Department will account for any imperfections in our present issue.

A meeting has been held at Windsor to get up a Telegraph line from Halifax to Windsor. £1200 are necessary to complete the work, the half of which has been already subscribed in Windsor and vicinity.

An interesting Bible Society Meeting has been recently held in Sydney, C. B.

We forgot to mention that on the evening of the 5th inst., G. A. Blanchard, Esq., delivered the second Monthly Lecture before the *Athenaeum*—Subject—"The influence of the study of Physical Laws and Agents in improving the condition and promoting the happiness of man." The lecture was highly spoken of.

On Tuesday next the Supreme Court will commence its sittings. The trial of the LASCAR for the murder of the mate of the *Rival*, the late Mr. Sinclair, will come on.

Since our last the weather has been somewhat chilly, but not so cold as might have been expected at this season of the year.

The year is wearing fast away. Soon Christmas will be here, and the year 1851 make its appearance.

On Saturday morning last, *George Shelmut*, Master of a coasting vessel, was found dead on one of the wharves.

A dwelling house at the North end of the City, owned by Mrs. Macara, was consumed on Sabbath morning last.

Henry B. Jamieson has been arraigned before the Court at Montreal for the destruction of the Parliament buildings.

The first snow in New Brunswick this year fell at Madawaska on the 21st ult.

Snow fell in the vicinity of Syracuse on the 7th inst.; also at Concord, N. H., on the 27th ult.

Fish of the first quality are said to be found in the Sacramento River.

Dr. Wiseman has recently had a Cardinal's Hat conferred upon him by the Pope, and has been appointed Archbishop of Westminster.—The English Press are out against the latter measure.

The *Freeman Paper* of St. John, N. B., has closed its career.

The St. John News says a squash grew in the garden of the Hon. L. A. Wilnot, Fredericton, that weighed 64 lbs! Also, that a cauliflower was grown by T. Allan, Esq., Portland, N. B., that weighed 4 lbs. and a half, and looked like a man's head silvered with the prints of old age!

The fourth annual Conference of the Evangelical Alliance has been held in Liverpool, England.

A handsome monument has been erected in the Churchyard of the Parish of Fordoun, Scotland, to the memory of George Wishart, a name dear to every Protestant, and one of Scotland's first and most illustrious martyrs.

Since the Post Office has been re-opened on the Sabbath, the Duke of Buccleuch will not allow his letter-bag to be sent to the Post Office on that day. A good example.

Measures are about being adopted to erect a monument to the memory of Colonel Gardner, who fell in the battle of Preston on Sept. 21st, 1745.

Madame de Staël, says Professor Tholuck, have been converted to Christianity during the last twenty-five years than during the seventeen centuries preceding.

Jenny Lind has £150,000 in the British Funds—the 3 per cents.—and pays to the British Government annually £4,500 income tax. She has given away about £24,000, in charity. The whole amount of her European wealth is estimated at *One million* dollars.

Dr. Wardlaw, and his son-in-law Mr. George Thompson, abolition celebrities, have arrived at New York.—The visit of the latter just at this crisis is considered as unfavourable for the anti-slavery movement.

The returns of the Methodist E. Church, U. S., for the last year, exhibit numbers as follows:—Travelling Preachers 4,129; Local Preachers 5,429; Members 689,682; showing an increase for the year of 118 travelling preachers, 234 local preachers, and 27,377 members.—The members in the M. E. South, and other off-shoots from the Parent Body, are not here included.

The Protestant Missionaries in China have nearly finished their revision of their translation of the New Testament into that difficult language.