FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 1881.

SPRINGTIME TEACHING.

Each season enforces peculiar moral dessons. None of these are more important than that of the spring, when ten thousand busy hands are scattering the seed over broad acres, or more care fully placing it in the smaller enclosure of garden or flower-plot. No grander example of faith can anywhere be found. If doubt at all agitate the mind of the busy worker, that doubt has reference to the soil or the seedsman; he never for a single moment calls in question the unvarying force of the law that "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.

What a different world would this be if men would carry the same confidence in this law into the realm of moral actions: where in fact it has its most solemn application. That so-called law of nature which to-day is calling forth the confident effort of half the inhabitants of earth is a law of God. If one were to stand beside a farmer in one of our country districts and, watching him sowing oats, should congratulate him on the crop of wheat to be reaped from that field, or standing beside the gardener, should speak of the rich flowers to be gathered from the spot where the seeds of the vegetable had been buried, he would pity the man's ignorance, and on a repetition of the idea would deem him a fit candidate for some lunatic asytum. Experience, he would hardly deign to remark, is in direct, unvarying opposition to any such result, forgetful. perhaps, that the certainty of the return of his labor is due to the fact so clearly stated by Paul, that "God giveth to every seed his own body." And yet it is often the case that men leave the field or the garden, where they have labored in most unbounded confidence in Heaven's law respecting the seed, to go out into the world and set at defiance that assurance of Heaven, tremendously true in relation to act, word and even thought, that "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.

History, both sacred and profane, is full of illustrations of the truth of this law. The Old Testament abounds with instances which prove its force. Later history is full of similar cases. Gibbon. in writing the history of the shortlived emperors of declining Rome, who waded through blood to the throne to be borne away bleeding from it in turn, laid down his pen, to take it up and admit inder though he was, that is taught the doctrine we have stated. And Robespierre, the last of the men who during the first French revolution poured out blood like water, heard on his way to death the remark: "Ah. Robespierre, there is a God." Not any less impressive are the proofs to be derived from a survey of the lives of those who in higher or lower degrees of service have given up all for Christ. They are to be found everywhere: from Abraham, who in giving up his only child gained a succession as numerous as the stars ; from Moses, who gave up the honors, pleasures and wealth of a palace at God's command, to become the lawgiver to the nations and to have his name bracketed with that of the Lamb in Heaven's song, down to the humble Christian comparatively "little and unknown."

We do not say that in all lives the connection between actions and their results may be clearly and immediately traced,-in view of the fact that God hath appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness this is not to be expected—we only venture to assert that Omnipotence sees fit to anticipate the rewards or punishments of eternity with sufficient frequency to remind men that "because sentence against an evil work is not speedily executed, the hearts of the sons of men are" not, therefore, to be "fully set in them to do evil." Never perhaps was the moral of the Almighty's treatment of men better expressed than in the remark attributed to Anne of Austria, and addressed to Cardinal Richelieu: "My Lord Cardinal, God may not pay each week, but He pays.'

No labor is more suggestive of thought than that of labor in the soil. Even the passer-by feels its thoughtcompelling influence. Jesus found a large part of his illustrations in such neighborhood. Should any reader carry into his daily toil this lesson of the season, let him not forget its sequelthat while nature is stern and unrelenting, knowing no forgiveness; and that while the transgressor of purely natural laws is sure to be followed by an unappeasable claim for the threatened penalty; the "grace of God, which bringeth salvation, hath appeared unto all men, with offers of forgiveness for the er point of view, was the Royal Military been.

heart as a preventive of future evil, and assurance of heaven hereafter as the vast reward for a struggle fought with Heaven's aid against all evil. With toilers who thus think as they labor, Jesus will walk and talk as in Judean valleys of old.

ENGLISH METHODISM

The tidings which reach us from British Methodism are at once pleasant and painful. It is evident that the tide has turned and that a current of spiritual prosperity is setting in. The District returns, as far as yet reported, show an increase of nearly four thousand members, with not less than twenty-five thousand on trial. Returns from the few remaining Districts will be watched with anxious interest.

Another sad bereavement has befallen the Church. William O. Simpson has passed away, having died of apoplexy on the 18th ult., while attending the District meeting at Huddersfield. He lived only two or three hours after the seizure. "Genial, warm-hearted, devoted and godly, his excellencies endeared him to multitudes. ' After a ten years' missionary service in India he returned to Britain where he pursued a zealous and successful career, and rendered no small service to the Church as a public representative man. During the year of Dr. Punshon's presidency he accompanied that minister as the deoutation through Scotland. He was Dr. Punshon's junior by about seven years. Only recently he was in Ireland as one of the missionary deputation from the English Conference, and on the 6th ult. he was an applauded speaker at the annual meeting of the London Missionary Society. Few men were able to exert so powerful an influence over an audience. But he, too, has left earth, and left it in the prime of life, and when his brethren seemed so greatly to need his presence. The Recorder says "Surely, as a Church, we have need to betake ourselves to prayer." The Methodist asks: "What lesson is the adorable Head of the Church teaching Wesleyan Methodists, this year?" Since 1832 their losses have never been so severe. Another recent loss, from the ranks of the laity, has been caused by the death of Mr. W. Sugden, B. A., for more than thirty years head-master of the Weslevan Training College, Westminster. He occupied a unique position, and proved himself in the discharge of his duties to be no ordinary man. He leaves behind him precious memories, to be shared in by pupils now at the ends of the earth Dr. Rigg, at his funeral, bore rare testimony to the character of this devoted Methodist minister, and brother of another, greatly beloved and esteemed. His death, too, was sudden.

The Methodist Lord Mayor, Wm. McArthur, is making such use of his year of office as leads one to hope that overwork in Christian service may not abridge his days. He occupied the chair at the annual meeting of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, one of the most interesting and successful meetings of the kind for many years—a happy rebuke, it would seem, for a littleness of faith which, looking at the great departed, was in danger of forgetting to take the Great Head of the Church into the estimate. For five hours-just think of it-the meeting was carried on with unflagging interest. Would such a meeting be lic, parliamentary life. This book will possible in the Colonial work? The Lord Mayor strengthened his words on that occasion by an offering of one thousand pounds sterling to aid the work of be helped heavenward by its unobtru-

A very interesting meeting must that have been when, by the Lord Mayor's invitation, the veteran missionary, Robert Moftat, was entertained in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion House. and the voices of the Archbishop of Canterbury, of the President of the Methodist Conference, of Henry Allon. of the Congregationalists, Joseph Angus-of the Baptists, and Donald Fraser-of the Presbyterians, blended in Christian harmony. As the Recorder remarks: "Only the addition of John Bright was wanted to make as fine a personification of the sixfold composition of the British clericy as could be

Of some other gatherings, space will permit us to say but little. On the platform of the City Temple, where, by the invitation of Dr. Joseph Parker, the meeting of the Wesleyan Methodist Metropolitan Chap- him to a would-be dominant Church in el Building Fund was held on the 14th | New Brunswick. We presume, thereult., was an unusual array of Christian talent. One dark shadow was thrown over the gathering by the absence of Dr. Gervase Smith-the General Secretary, whose work, it is feared, is almost done. Not less interesting, from anothpast, with prevision for renewal of the Bazaar, opened by the Duchess of Con-

naught, from which, after the payment of all expenses, £3000 will remain in the hands of the Committee, while a sufficient quantity of material has been left to make another sale in the antumn. The affair was a brilliant success.

That well-known Methodist layeran S. D. Waddy, Esq., is determined that Methodists shall be schooled in the exercise of their political rights. For this reason he invited a number of the leading Methodist ministers and laymen, from all parts of the country, to meet him at the Devonshire Club, a few days ago. Mr. Waddy was supported by the Prime Minister, Lord Spencer, Lord Northbrook, Sir Henry James and others of her Maiesty's ministers. The meeting was altogether a private one, so that we only learn that in addition to Mr. Waddy, the Prime Minister, Rev. E. E. Jenkins, Earl Spencer, and others delivered addresses. The evening was a most pleasant one.

It is most satisfactory to know, and from outside sources too, that the succession of eminent platform men not likely to fail in Methodism. in spite of her late heavy losses. In writing to the Fountain, Dr. Parker. after having made highly eulogistic reference to the speech of Rev. E. E. Jenkins-the President, at the service held in the City Tabernacle, adds words of warm commendation respecting Mark Guy Pearse. "Everybody," says Dr. Parker." loves this rising minister, and expects great things from him. As a speaker he has many effective pointsbrightness, pith, sympathy, and downright healthiness of tone throughout. We pray for him long life and continually increasing joy in his noble service. The Nonconformist and Independent in commenting on the late meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society, says of the Rev. Sylvester Whitehead, a Weslevan Missionary from China, who held the meeting with remarkable sucess for half an hour, "His speech was vigorous and very eloquent exposition of the fine openings which China offers for Christian work, and particularly for the diffusion of the Scriptures. Very seldom have we listened to a more effective speech from a Missionary's lips. The same paper mentions another admirable address on the same occasionfrom the Bishop of Moosonee, a vast diocese in the North West, who told a "simple and very impressive story of thirty years good, true, devoted work in the far-away North.'

A VALUABLE MEMOIR.

A fortnight ago we had the pleasure of calling attention to the interesting man and to the value of his work. He memoir of one of our excellent laymen, was the son of a faithful, hard-working the late J. B. Morrow, Esq., from the pen of Rev. A. W. Nicolson. that date a second and revised edition of the "Biographical Sketch of the late Judge Wilmot," another most worthy name, has been laid on our table by the author-the Rev. J. Lathern.

We congratulate Mr. Lathern upon his success in the preparation of this volume. Its appearance recommends it. but its contents more. It was Washing ton Irving, we think, who remarked, when he had published a certain work. that he seemed but to have commenced it, so greatly had his stores of information grown, when too late for practical Mr. Lathern has added much interesting matter to his first edition. especially in regard to the Judge's publive, and living will be read by a large circle of readers, who may peruse it for its historical interest and will, we trust, the nineteenth, as to give laws and govsive yet clear moral and religious less- | civilized world.

Seldom has a Methodist biographer had happier subject for a sketch than the Christian gentleman who almost seems to speak from the portrait as he spoke to us a few Sabbaths before his depart-He was a Methodist. He could not well have been anything else. Though trained under Baptist aus-"overdoing" in his case proved "undoing," and the constant repetition of certain views, intended to lead him in a father's track, only served to impel him in a contrary direction, as has not seldom been the case. Nor could be have been thoroughly at home under certain other influences. That day when the lad's eves flashed as he saw his father denied his seat in the Legislature because he had dared to act as a lay-preacher, weakened those influences which might have allied fore, that when under the eloquent ministry of the Rev. Enoch Wood, he was led to Christ for salvation, the struggle which preceded Judge Wilmot's life-long connection with Methodism was less severe than it might have

And Mr. Lathern, who was intimately acquainted with him for a number of years, has well shown how under the most exciting circumstances—such as were connected with the long and heavy fight for responsible government in New Brunswick, as well as in the quieter struggle of life where many fail, the subject of his sketch moved steadily on. not content merely to leave Christian duty not undone, but on the contrary aiming at active, aggressive work for his Master.

PROTESTANTISM.

In an article entitled "Progress of Christianity," the Zion's Herald, of Boston, gives an outline of a lecture recently delivered by Daniel Dorchester, D. D., before the Methodist Preachers' meeting of that city. Some of the figures contained in it were given by Dr. Dorchester, in the course of Sabbath evening address in Brunswick Street church last summer, and were heard with deep interest. For the information of our readers we copy a part of the ticle, having reference to the growth Protestantism. The estimate of the number of Methodists, given from Whittier's English Almanac, we believe to be much below the correct figures :

Commencing with A. D. 1500, there was no Protestant Church except a few small, separated bodies. The Papal Church numbered 80,000,000, and the Greek Church 20,000,000. In the 330 years that followed, up to 1830, accordng to Malte Brun, the Roman Catholic Church had increased to 116,000,000 the Greek Church to 70,000,000; and Protestants to 42,000. Since that date down to 1878, Romanists have increased 80 per cent., having gained 93,000,000; the Greek Church 26 per cent., increasing 18,000,000; and Protestantism 170 per cent., having gained 71,700,000. The Protestant figures are greatly enhanced by the fact that its statistics are largely of communicants, while the others are simply adherents.

The most important line of figure presented by Dr. Dorchester were those relating to the comparative growth of the Protestant powers, and the wonder- called forth many touching references ful success of Christian, and especially Protestant, missions. One hundred and eighty years ago only 55,000,000 of the earth's population was under Christian governments. Asia, Africa, Polynesia, and Australia were pagan and Mohammedan. All the religious missions of the world, except a few among the Indians of North America, were Roman Catholics. Great Britain and her colonies numbered scarcely 10,000,000. College Board will be held at 3 p. m., Now she numbers of her subjects more than 300,000,000. Nearly one-half the population of the globe-685,000,000is under the government of Christian rulers. It is particularly encouraging Union; and at 7 p. m., the Baccalauto note the comparative growth of Pro testant governments. In A. D. 700. Roman Catholic powers ruled over 90. 000,000. In 1876 this population had only doubled to 180,000,000. Greek Church, at the former date, held under its temporal power 33,000,000. and in the latter date 96,000,000—near ly three times as many. A. D. 1700 found Protestant rulers with 32,000,-000 of subjects, but in 1876 this number had swelled to 408,000,000-an increase of more than twelve-fold. These figures give to Romanism the population of Italv. France and Mexico: but these nations are rapidly passing out from un-

der papal jurisdiction as a civil power. Nothing could more effectually show that the world's future is in the hands of Protestantism. The power and wealth of the world, which only a few years ago, comparatively, were in the ands of the Roman Catholic Church. are fast passing under the control of Protestant rulers. With the rising the demand for enfranchisement and religious liberty-of the masses throughout Christendom, Romanism loses both its temporal power and the allegiance of its long-oppressed peoples. The world's | held on the afternoon of the same day. civil freedom is forever safe against any combination of Roman Catholic States. The Reformation of the sixteenth century has been so far consummated in ernment, and a literature also to the

There is the same territorial preponderance to Protestantism. If the area of the earth is 52 millions of square miles, as has been estimated. Christian nations now cover 32 millions; pagan and Mohammedans 20-millions. these broad areas Protestant govern ments have 14 1-3 millions of subjects Romanists 9 1-3, and the Greek Church 81 millions. The increase of territory under English-speaking governments has been something amazing in the last century. The English language is fast becoming the prevailing tongue of the world. The German is spoken by 50 or 60 millions; the French and Spar ish by 40 millions; the Russian by 55 milions; and the English by 80 millions. Of an aggregate of 81 millions of English-speaking Christians, at the present time. Whittier's English Almanac for 1881 gives to the Roman Catholics 13. 500,000; of no particular Church membership, 8,500,090; of Protestants 59, Of the Protestants, he estimates the Episcopalians at 18,000,000; Methodists, 14,250,000; Presbyterians,

gregationalists, 6,000,000; Unitarians. .000,000; minor sects. 1.500.000. In 1830 there were probably not three millions of Bibles in the world. Since then there have been 160 millions of copies printed and circulated, in from 250 to 300 languages and dialects. The Protestant Sunday-school at the close of its first century numbers fully 14,000. 000 of pupils and teachers. Protestant missions are now established in every

10,250,000; Baptists, 8,000,000; Con-

thousands. The increase of membership in proportion to the laborers and moneys expended in heathen lands is far beyond that of the fairest portions of Christendom. The advance upon paganism and false faiths, in the last quarter of a century, is simply amazing. Evidently a divine Hand is leading, and a supernat ural power is giving efficiency to Christian agencies. It is an hour, not of des pondency, but of lively hope and anticipation. The divine promise only waits the activities of a Church, powerful in all material appliances, and lacking only the baptism from on high, which earnest prayer will secure, to give to her the heathen for an inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for a pos-

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Brantford (Ont.) papers announce the death, after an illness of only nine days, of W. A. Narraway, Esq., of Cainsville, Ont. -a brother of Rev. J. R. Narraway, of St. John, N. B., and H. R. Narraway, Esq., of Pictou, N. S. The deceased gentleman was a prominent official in the circuit in which he lived. and was one of the Lay representatives in our first General Conference. In reference to the deceased, a paper says :-"Humanly speaking, the churches comprising the Cainsville circuit could better have spared a score of their members than him whom they grievously mourn. Being a man of enlightened and cultured mind, of matured judgment, of strong religious conviction of duty, of an unimpeachable character for integrity and fair-dealing, Mr. Narraway stood forth head and shoulders above all his fellow-laymen as the fittest among them for the management of the financial and other affairs of the

Mr. Narraway had amassed considerable wealth, from which he " freely and generously" contributed to the support of the Church and to numerous charitable purposes. The memorial service. held on the Sabbath after his death, to the Christian worth and sterling character of a deceased friend. Seventy carriages followed his remains to the

The closing exercises of the Mount Allison Institutions are about to be commenced. The annual meeting of the Saturday, the 4th inst. On Sunday the Rev. H. McKeown will preach the annual sermon before the Theological reate Sermon will be preached by the Rev. E. Evans, of Fredericton. On Monday the anniversary exercises of the Male Academy will commence at 9.30 editor. The portrait seems to have been o'clock, a. m. At 7 p. m., the Annual taken in later years, when the pr. miture Lecture of the Theological Union will break-down of a powerful physique, the be delivered by the Rev. John Lathern, of Yarmouth ; subject, "Inspiration. The anniversary exercises of the Ladies Academy will begin at 9.30 a. m., on Tuesday; on the afternoon of that day the Alumni Society will hold its annual meeting, and the public anniversary meeting of the combined Societies will be held in the evening. The Rev. S. B. Dunn, of Halifax, is to be the Alumni orator ; his subject will be "Romantic Unrealities." Miss Annie Inch, of the Alumnæ Association, will read a paper,-" Journeyings in Switzerland." College Convocation will take place on Wednesday morning; and the annual meeting of Board of Governors will be

We are authorized to announce that free return tickets over the Intercolonial will be granted to visitors to the Mount Allison anniversaries.

We learn from the Toronto Christian Guardian that the report presented at the recent meeting of the Western Section of the Book Committee, by the Rev. W. Briggs, the Book Steward, was most gratifying in character. "Every periodical and every department reported a larger profit on the year's business than at any previous period in the history of the house. A considerable degree of this is, of course, due to the demand for the new hymn-book, of which over 50,000 copies have been sold. But the new hymn-book is only partially the cause of the prosperity, and it affected only one-half of the year. The total issues of the house have been over 100,000 bound volumes, besides over half a million issues, or over four millions printed pages of the Guardian, and eleven millions printed pages, of the Sunday-school periodicals and the Maqazine-over 50,000 pages for every working day in the year. The sales at the Book-Room have also been largely increased." The number of printed pages in the bound volumes is about fifty millions - far beyond, we believe the issues of any other house in the Dominion. Notwithstanding the fact that a America. We are indebted to Mr. D. large portion of the profits of the year McGregor, 143 Hollis St., for a late But above all he was a Christian. division of the earth, and are number- was absorbed in procuring new plant copy of the War Cry.

ing actual communicants by hundreds of and machinery for carrying on this increased business, the Book Committee were able to vote \$2,000 to the Superannuated Preachers' Fund. We congratulate our fellow-workers on their well-merit. ed and unprecedented success.

In view of the introduction of the

new hymn-book on Sunday next into all our city churches, a very interesting service of song was held in the Grafton St. church on Tuesday evening. Members of the several Methodist choirs in the city and Dartmouth, under the management of Professor Arnold Doane, and assisted by the organist sang a number of the new hymns, in several of the more familiar of which the congregation took part. R.v. 8. R Dunn, who presided, gave the name of the writer of each hymn sung, and also the composer of the tune used, with brief sketches of some of these. Dr. Allison told how the decisions of the Hymn-book Committee were reached Rev. R. Brecken gave some pleasing incidents connected with hymns and hymn writers, and Rev. S. F. Huestis explain. ed the reasons for the preparation of the new book, and told of its popularity and rapid sale. At the close a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Doane, the organist and the members of the several choirs. A good audience was present in spite of the threatening appearance

of the evening.

General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland would confirm the decision of the commission which suspended Prof. W. Robertson Smith from the discharge of his duties as Professor of Hebrew in the Free Church College at Aberdeen. on account of certain opinions expressed by him in his article on the Bible in the Encyclopædia Britannica. In that article several books of the Old Testament were treated as "poetical inventions." The General Assembly however, at its meeting on the 23rd ult. adopted a resolution approving of his suspension, by a vote of 449 to 218, and at the same time declaring that they no longer considered it safe or advantageous for the Church that Prof. Smith should continue to teach in one of her colleges. It is probable that he will be tried upon other charges of heresy, developed in his previous writings.

Many persons doubted whether the

The May number of the Wesleyan Methodist Magazine has a portrait of the late Rev. W. Morley Punshon L. L D., and a brief notice of that lamented minister from the pen of the Rev. Benjamin Gregory, the able and successful secret of which, Mr. Gregory says, lay in 'three words : strain, sorrow, sensibility." had begun. Several most excellent papers on missionary and general Christian work appear in this number. Besides these are valuable biographical sketches, with a paper on William Law: one on the Salvation Army, from Rev. W. H. Booth; and another on the Ecumenical Conference, by Rev John Bond. Nor have we vet exhausted an excellent list of contents.

claims for the Methodist Book and Publishing House of that city the "distinguished honor" of having received the earliest consignments of the Revised New Testament which reached that city, or "probably the country." The glasses of our contemporary did not reach far enough. A consignment of the New Testament reached Toronto on Saturday evening, but a number of copies were unpacked on Saturday morning in our Book Room at Halifax, where there is good reason to believe the first copy purchased in the Canadian Dominion was passed over the counter. We congratulate our Western Concern on the enterprise displayed, and-our own Concern also

The Christian Guardian, of Toronto,

The forthcoming numbers of the Canadian Illustrated News will be of unusual interest, in connection with the fearful calamity which has fallen upon London, Ont. Immediately upon receipt of the news of the accident to the Victoria, a special artist was despatched to the ill-fated city, and the first instalments of a series of sketches from his pencil will appear in the forthcoming number (June 4th). Considerable energy and enterprise have been displayed in the effort to give true details to the public within so short a time after the fatal occurrence, but the journal will reap its reward in the increased interest with which its coming numbers will be read by all.

Major Moore succeeds Mr. Railton, as Salvation Army Commissioner to

Dr. Dewart, Gaardian, sailed Parisian for Euro fering for many prostration, induction the co cal Conference he return, prepared of such service as eral departments ist Church of Car departure, a depu with a purse cont ted by a few frien their esteem.

Rev. P. Prestw to say that, " all attending the commencing at 16th inst., who class fare over th polis Railway on be taken back for fare, on presenta tificates of attent agent at Annapol Secretary or Pre ence. These cert to the 27th inst.,

The Montreal the 25th ult. R chosen President Secretary.

CONFERENCE The Nova Sc

commence its E (D. V). in the G. dist Church on T 16th. at nine o'c The following meet at the above following hours 15th, viz. The Supernut

The Missionar The Board of tioners &c. at 10 And the Static

CONFEREN Wednesd 7.30 p. m. Grant Sponag Annap

Thursda

6.30 a.m. Granvi Mission

Friday 6.30 a.m. Granv

and 7.30 p. m. Annape Lane.

6.30 a. m., Gran 11 a. m.,

2.30 p. m. 7 p m,,

11 a. m., Lower 3 p m Wincheste 7 pm Parker's 11 a m, Annapol 7 p m, Clementspo

Upper Clem Hillsburgh, Bridgetown Mid&eton (Brunya

6.30 a m, Granv 2.30 p m,

6.30 a m, Granv 7.30 p m, Granv Work. Sr Tuttle, Jo 7.30 p m, Anna Speakers,

If any broth Conference doe sent at the sess Ferry, either of glad to be inform

May 12, 1881

Rev. J. S. Al Conference, is a

Rev. J. L. D. on Monday fro isters there are in good health.