

THE COLONIAL CHURCHMAN.

LUNENBURG, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1837.

date against the poison of arsenic, both in France and Germany, that several of the governments of the latter country had ordered the apothecaries to keep it constantly on hand.

The Post of the following day, referring to this item says:—'Our attention has been this morning called to a case of poisoning by arsenic, successfully treated with the hydroxyd peroxid of iron, by Dr. R. Chilton, of this city, reported in the United States Medical and Surgical Journal of Sept. last. A young lady had taken about the fourth part of a teaspoonful of arsenic by mistake, supposing it to be calcined magnesia. The symptoms were alarming when the physician was called, but on administering a quantity of the antidote they soon subsided, and the patient in a day or two was entirely recovered.' The existence of a remedy for so deadly a poison ought to be generally known.—*Baltimore American.*

WICLIFF'S ASHES.

Hitherto (A. D. 1428) the corpse of John Wiclif had quietly slept in his grave about forty-one years after his death, till his body was reduced to bones, and his bones almost to dust. For though the earth in the chancel of Luttworth, in Leicestershire, where he was interred, had not so quick a digestion with the earth of Aceldama, to consume flesh in twenty-four hours, yet such the appetite thereof, and all other English graves, to leave small reverions of a body after so many years. But now such is the spleen of the Council of Constance, as they not only cursed his memory as dying an obstinate heretic, but ordered that his bones (with this charitable caution,—if it may be discerned from the bodies of other faithful people) be taken out of the ground, and thrown far off from any Christian burial. In obedience hereto, Richard Fleming, Bishop of Lincoln, Diocesan of Luttworth, sent his officers (vultures with a quick sight scent at a dead carcass) to ungrave him. Accordingly to Luttworth they come, Sumner, Commissary, Official, Chancellor, Proctors, Doctors, and their servants, (so that the remnant of the body would not hold out a lone amongst so many hands,) take what was left out of the grave, and burnt them to ashes, and cast them into Swif, a neighboring brook, running hard by. Thus this brook has conveyed his ashes into Avon, Avon into Severn, Severn into the narrow seas, then into the main ocean; and thus the ashes of Wiclif are the emblem of his doctrine, which now is dispersed all the world over.—*Fuller's Church History.*—'The concluding period of this most lively narrative,' says Charles Lamb, 'I will not call a conceit: it is one of the greatest conceptions I ever met with. One feels the ashes of Wiclif gliding away out of the reach of the Sumners, Commissaries, Officials, Proctors, Doctors, and all the puddering rout of executioners of the impotent rage of the baffled Council, from Swif into Avon, from Avon into Severn, from Severn into the narrow seas, from the narrow seas into the main ocean, where they become the emblem of his doctrine, 'dispersed all the world over.' Hamlet's tracing the body of Cæsar to the clay that stops a beer-barrel, is a no less curious pursuit of 'ruined mortality,' but it is in an inverse ratio to this: it degrades and saddens us, for one part of our nature at least, but this expands the while of our nature, and gives to the body a sort of ubiquity, a diffusion, as far as the actions of its partner can have reach or influence. I have seen this passage smiled at, and set down as a quaint conceit of old Fuller. But what is not a conceit to those who read it in a temper different from that in which the writer composed it? The most parts of Poetry told tempers seem and are nonsense, as divinity was to the Greeks, foolishness. When Richard II, meditating on his own utter annihilation as to royalty, cries out,

*O, that I were a mockery king of snow,  
To melt before the sun of Bolingbroke!*

If we have been going on pace for pace with the passion before, this sudden conversion of a strong felt metaphor into something to be actually realized in nature, like that of Jeremih, 'O! that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears,' is strictly and strikingly natural; but come unprepared upon it, and it is a conceit: and so is a 'head' turned into 'waters.'—*Miss.*

ENCOURAGING.—Under the difficulties and labours of the editorial office, it is cheering to receive such communications as the following from New Brunswick, from one who has been a warm friend to our undertaking from its commencement:—

'Allow me to congratulate you on the successful termination of the second volume of the Colonial Churchman. You cannot but have much satisfaction in reflecting upon labors undertaken and carried on with the sole view of promoting the prosperity of our beloved Church. And although I am sensible you must spend much time and labor, as well as anxiety and prayers, on the work, it will bring its own remuneration with it.

'You have already awakened a zeal and an interest for our much loved Zion, which I think have never before been felt in these Colonies.—Such at least is my impression, and I think I am not overrating the value of your exertions.'

From a later friend in another quarter we have had the pleasure to receive a letter, of which the following is an extract:—

'I now beg leave to state, that I have not any objection to become the Agent for that valuable periodical, "The Colonial Churchman," and I shall feel most happy in rendering every assistance in my power towards its circulation.

'There are several gentlemen, members of our Church, whose names, I trust, I shall shortly be enabled to forward you, as subscribers for volume 3; and I have every reason to believe, that by a little exertion, "the Churchman," (for I love the name) will, ere long, have a wide circulation in this Colony.

'O! that our venerable Church had more strenuous supporters. Often have I had occasion to lament the lukewarmness of her members; did they but display a zeal for her welfare, and a more anxious concern for their own souls, we should not be so violently opposed by those who possess a spirit so much at variance with the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,—but while our church is built upon a Rock, we need not fear; for we may rest assured, that "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

'My attachment for the church has grown with my growth, and strengthened with my strength; and while I have breath and being, I shall ever cling around her altars. Often can I exclaim with the Royal Psalmist—"How amiable are thy dwellings, O Lord of Hosts!"'

We could add more of the like gratifying character from other letters, but content ourselves with expressing the hope, that our friends, old and new, will continue to aid by word and deed in sustaining the Colonial Churchman.—While on this subject, we take occasion to observe, that those persons to whom the first numbers of this volume have been sent, will be considered as subscribers for at least half a year, if the papers are not instantly returned by mail: and in all instances where subscribers are desirous of discontinuing their papers, and do not give notice accordingly, the receipt of one number after entering into another year, will subject them to the charge of half a year's paper and postage.

CANADA.—It is with most painful feelings that we record in our pages the awful crisis to which the reckless agitators of Canada have brought the affairs of that disturbed colony.—Blood has been shed, and that by fellow subjects of the mildest and most equitable Government on the face of the earth. Never was there a more causeless rebellion than that which has been stirred up in Canada; never a more wanton destruction of life and property and happiness, than that into which the restless ambition of Papineau and his associates is now plunging their deluded followers. That it will be an ineffectual attempt to shake off British dominion and British laws, there can be no doubt, which if possible, aggravates the feelings with which every right thinking mind will regard the unhappy contest that has now begun. It behoves every conductor of the Press to hold up

(to reprobation those who have thrown the torch of discord in the midst of a naturally quiet and peaceable population. It is the duty of all who profess loyalty to their earthly or their heavenly Sovereign, loudly and firmly to express their disapprobation of those revolutionary principles which have led to this result,—to call upon the people in the language of Scripture not to "meddle with those who are given to change," but to remember that "the powers that be are ordained of God, and whoever resisteth the power resisteth the ordinance of God."—The rebellious spirit which has burst forth in Canada, we believe, meets with little sympathy in the lower Provinces, which have ever been distinguished by their steadfast loyalty and attachment to the constitution. But it would be well if every conductor of the Press would be cautious against unsettling the minds of the people, or sowing, as some do, the seeds of dissatisfaction with those established Institutions under which the British Empire has so long enjoyed such peace and prosperity.—In this Province we are blessed beyond all other lands with whatever renders life desirable; and we hope that all will strive to shew their thankfulness for their happy lot, by their piety towards God, their loyalty to the Queen, and their brotherly love one towards another.

ANNUAL REPORT

*Of the Lunenburg Town and County Temperance Society's Executive Committee.*

The Executive Committee beg leave to lay before the Society, a short Report of the proceedings of the past year, and also a memorial of the present state of the Society.

The Society at the commencement of the past year, numbered 442 members,—since that period 13 have joined; but owing to removals, deaths and expulsions, the Society has not, during the past year, gained any increase of members over that mentioned in the Report of the former year.

There have removed during the last two years 4 members; during the same period four have died. There have been expelled for breach of the rules during the past year, 13; leaving the present number of members as follow:—

Males.....304  
Females.....123  
Total.....427

Shewing a decrease of fifteen since the commencement of the year.

The executive Committee have always carefully examined the list of members, and have regularly reported and caused to be expelled, all those members whom they actually ascertained to have transgressed the fundamental rules of the Society, and who shewed no signs of reformation, nor evinced desire to abstain from the degrading passion of occasional, or habitual intoxication;—they therefore confidently return the above members, as the present numerical strength of the Society.

Your Committee have also to express their regret that the periodical meetings of the Society have not been so numerously attended as they should have been, owing to which cause the meetings had for several months been postponed. Your Committee would therefore urge upon the several members of the Society, the importance of a punctual attendance at the regular meetings of the Society, which in their opinion, is second only in importance to the inviolability of the pledge.

Your Committee beg leave therefore especially to recommend to members, to be scrupulously punctual in their attendance; as the success and welfare of the cause, in a great measure, depends on the regularity of its meetings, and the punctuality in attending thereof of all those, who are its friends, and who feel interested in its prosperity.

Your Committee beg leave most respectfully to suggest it as their opinion,—that the irregularity of attendance, and consequent slackness of zeal, in many, who are otherwise good members of the Society, is in a great measure the cause that the increase of new members has not been greater; and that a greater interest has not been felt in the welfare and prosperity of the Society as formerly. Yet although your Committee cannot report so favourably as the