

Our rule has been to make at the time the best elections we could from every source within our reach, with due regard to interest and variety. Nor do we think our friends need be afraid or backward to solicit the names of individuals of other denominations, as subscribers to our paper, as we have no doubt that the names of scores of our people in different places are enrolled on the subscription-lists of our religious contemporaries. Reciprocity therefore should be sought, and one advantage at least will be attained,—the more WESLEYANISM is known by our neighbours the better it will be liked, the more its mighty efforts to benefit the world will be appreciated, and in some instances a helping hand will be extended to further its christian and philanthropic aims.

We have brought this subject before our Agents and friends thus early in advance of the time at which the postal alterations will commence, not to prevent them from forwarding the names of new subscribers in the *mean time*, but to prepare them for a free and pretty general canvass among our own people, with suitable application to others if they think proper, so that we may commence our third volume in July next, with at least *One Thousand* reliable subscribers *additional* to those at present on our list. This at first sight may appear a large demand, but if the enterprise be attempted and prosecuted in earnest, in the true Wesleyan spirit, relying on the blessing of God which we are desirous of connecting with all efforts, the thing will be done. We distinctly remember the statement of the Rev. H. PICKARD, A. M., Principal of Sackville Academy, made in our first number, April 7th, 1849, which very plainly intimated that a Wesleyan Organ ought to command *Two Thousand Five Hundred* subscribers. We should like to go a little beyond that number if possible. *The Wesleyan* should be in the house of every Wesleyan family in this and the neighbouring Provinces that can possibly afford to take it. Then it would exert a mighty influence for good—our people would be kept well informed on matters of vast importance in the religious world—they would be better prepared to engage heartily in the work of God at home and abroad—their families would receive no small degree of benefit, and as a denomination our spirit of liberality and christian enlargement would be toned up to a high pitch of elevation. Let every subscriber who approves of the general management of *The Wesleyan* recommend it to his neighbours, and thus efficiently aid in increasing its circulation. Our friends may possibly think that we are really in earnest in making these appeals. We should be sorry to deceive them. To speak the truth then, we are *not* in earnest—more than we feel the importance of the case demands. Come brethren, friends, one and all, let us see what can be done. Send along the names as fast as you can—and bring with you at the next DISTRICT MEETINGS such an increased list of subscribers as will astonish—even ourselves!

EXCEPTIONS EX-ACTION EX-COGITATED BY "X."

If "X" in the *Sun* be a sincere "ENQUIRER AFTER TRUTH" he can have no reasonable objection to append his name to his article.—When he shall have given us that pledge of sincerity, we may deal with his questions. Meanwhile we remind him, that his version of "a dispute between a Preacher and an old Lady" on "immersion" versus "pouring," and the production by the venerable dame "of a picture of John Baptist" "pouring water on the head of the Baptized" from "a cow's horn" are simple fables, and that his own character for sobriety of thought would suffer no disadvantage were he to observe the Apostolic injunction and "refuse old wives' fables." We also hint for his benefit, that "Auricular Confession" is a delicate subject for him to introduce by way of illustration; we may hereafter let in a little light on the subject by way of revelation. As we shall certainly have the favour of an early introduction to "X," at present representing, after the fashion of an alge-bra-ical symbol, a power unknown, we beg most respectfully to request him, when he stands confessed before the world, 1st.—To point out "one solitary passage" of the New Testament "in which it is distinctly enjoined" to dip under water a person in order to baptise him. 2. To point out "one solitary passage" of the New Testament "in which it is distinctly" stated that one man did put another wholly under water when baptising him. 3. To point out "one solitary passage" of the New Testament, in which it is distinctly stated that any one person born of

Christian parents, was baptised when an adult on his own profession of faith. As he would not for the world believe aught respecting "Baptism without evidence" we hope he will not be very "tightly pressed" for an exhibition of unequivocal proof. Let him, however, be very cautious of tilting against the "cow's horn," lest he should unhappily find himself transfixed on the horns of a dilemma.

The Marriage Bill.—A Necessary Caution.

A special Committee of the Lower House has been appointed to report a new Marriage Bill for the action of the House. We hope they will discharge the duty devolved upon them without fear or favour, cautiously abstaining from giving the Romish Church any exclusive privileges, and so definitely frame the law as to shut out the possibility of its provisions being evaded or defeated without subjecting Romish Priests as well as Protestant Ministers to the infliction of a stringent penalty. There is necessity for this timely hint, as the fact is indisputable, so we have been informed, that the law as formerly existing, which under penalty prohibited all Clergymen without exception, from celebrating marriages without having first published banns, or procured a license, has been disobeyed by Roman Catholic Priests who have performed the marriage ceremony, without a "license," or publication of banns, the latter having been superseded by a "dispensation" obtained for that purpose from the Romish Bishop, and thus the money which should have gone into the public treasury, has been diverted from its legal course, or put into the pocket of the Bishop. As a further proof of the necessity of strict watchfulness over Romish practice in this behalf, we may mention the known fact of a young protestant lady in this city not long since being induced to leave her father's house clandestinely, at eleven o'clock at night, when she was taken to the Bishop's house, where she was baptized, and married before two o'clock in the morning! Now we should like to know whether the Bishop or any one of his Priests had legal authority to commit such an outrage on the decencies of social life; and if not, whether such an act should be connived at, and legal facilities afforded to such unscrupulous agents to invade the peace and quiet of unsuspecting Protestant families without a moment's notice.

In the way above indicated, popery has made many of its "converts" from protestantism, which conversions have been trumpeted "before the world" as the "result" of popish championship! The invariable rule of the Romish Church, latterly observed, so it is said, is not to marry any who are not "in a state of grace,"—hence renunciation of protestantism and initiation into the Church of Rome by "baptism," are indispensably required, before the ceremony of marriage be performed—and thus many thoughtless Protestant females are prevailed upon to turn Catholics and jeopardise their souls' salvation! Had they been made fully aware at the first of the sacrifices of conscience and principle which they would have to make, we have reason to believe, in some instances at least, they would have revolted at the stern decree, and preferred remaining in "single blessedness" all their days to polluting conscience and running such imminent hazards. We notice these circumstances, in order that we may, as far as we can, put Protestant females on their guard against the wiles and devices of popery; and we would most earnestly urge them not to sacrifice principles of truth for the prospect of any temporal advantage, however flattering it may appear.

Death of the Rev. Edward S. Thompson.

The *Wesleyan Notices Newspaper*, for February, contains an account of the death of the Rev. EDWARD S. THOMPSON, Wesleyan Missionary, and Superintendent of the Duncan's Circuit, Jamaica District. This event took place on the 1st of December last. The Rev. Jonathan Edmondson says:—"Mr. Thompson was a young man of great promise. He possessed sound, evangelical piety, exercised a proper discretion in the performance of his pastoral duties, and was generally esteemed by the flock placed under his care. He was an earnest, industrious, and devoted Missionary."

A Protracted Meeting has been, or is about being, commenced at Oakland on the Newport Circuit. We hope it will be made a means of great and permanent good to our cause in that neighbourhood.

A respected Correspondent at Newport writes—"We have had many deaths among our Membership since last District Meeting, and some of them very sudden. But the good Shepherd was with them in the valley. The sheaves are being carried home fast to the garner—the sowers and reapers, who are now so busily employed, will soon have done their work."

The Brethren, in both Districts, who have kindly expressed feelings of sympathy and condolence toward us under our recent domestic bereavement, will please receive this general acknowledgement of their brotherly affection. We should have been glad to answer their esteemed letters privately at length, but want of time must plead our apology for not having done so.

We thank our correspondents at Newport, Hopewell, Milltown, and elsewhere, for the very favourable opinions they have expressed as to the character and increasing popularity of *The Wesleyan* in their respective localities. Such spontaneous expressions of approval serve to encourage us under our constant and arduous toil. We hope the paper will ever merit the approbation of the wise and good.

Brother Shepherd and others have our best thanks for their great activity in procuring new subscribers to *The Wesleyan*. We shall be always happy to hear from them.

It will materially improve the appearance of Newspapers and prepare them better for binding, if they are smoothed with a warm or hot iron before reading them. Try it.

BESSONETT & BROWN have a few copies of Vol. 1 & 2—"New England Farmer"—neatly bound—6s. 3d. each.

Mr. Knowles, late Commissary General at Montreal, committed suicide, in London, (England,) by swallowing prussic acid. His affairs were not embarrassed, but from the distress of mind, occasioned by some organic disease, he feared he should have to enter a mad house, to prevent which he perpetrated the rash act.

The *Toronto Globe* publishes a correspondence between Lord Elgin, Governor General, and Earl Grey, Colonial Secretary, in which the latter states the willingness of the Home Government to introduce into the Imperial Parliament a bill to empower the Canadian Legislature to make what alterations "they may think fit in the existing arrangements with regard to the Clergy Reserves, provided that existing interests are respected." Perhaps the resignation of the late Ministry may affect this decision.

The *Quebec Chronicle* gives rather a singular reason for Church Establishments, or the connection of Church and State. "Establishments make religion fashionable, and fashion is contagious." This he admits "is taking a very worldly point of view of the question of State support for the clergy, but being of the world and in the world he cannot afford to overlook worldly considerations."

The same paper complains of the Canadian Telegraph Lines, as at present managed, not affording any substantial benefit to the public by the transmission of important intelligence. "Nothing occurring in the Province," he says, "reaches us otherwise than by post. We heard nothing of the appointment of Mr. Morris to the Post Master Generalship, nor of the transfer of the Department in April next, until our exchanges came to hand. We do not even learn anything about public doings in Montreal. Private despatches anticipate the English news, the Provincial news, and indeed any news there is." A bad state of affairs.—Nova Scotia manages better than that—thanks, among others, to the enterprising proprietor of the *Halifax Sun*.

Mr. David Bissett, a young gentleman, of Quebec, was unfortunately drowned on the 13th ult., near Napoleon Wharf, by venturing, with others, on the newly formed ice, which suddenly broke up. Mr. B. remained above water for about four minutes and then sank in the presence of hundreds of people and never rose again. The *Quebec Chronicle* blames the criminal carelessness of some canoe-men, who were near the place in their canoe, for making no exertion whatever to save the unfortunate gentleman, and reflects on the Corporation for not providing apparatus to meet an emergency like the one above narrated.

The thermometer in Quebec, on the 13th and 14th of this month, stood at 32° below zero.

The wire of the Quebec and Halifax Telegraph has been crossed over from Quebec to Point Levi—a distance of 6,900 feet. No small span.

The Canadian Postal arrangements, among other things provide for the free transmission of Newspaper exchanges, and printed documents addressed to the Publishers of Newspapers. Newspapers addressed to subscribers in the United States will be free to the Province line. Regulations are to be made by the Governor in Council, for establishing the Rates of postage on Newspapers and printed Pamphlets, Magazines, and Books, and declaring in what cases or cases they may be free, and for establishing a system of money orders to be granted by one Postmaster on another, &c., &c.

We see it stated that the Wife of the Chief Engineer of the Atlantic has been lately removed to the lunatic asylum, having lost all reason in consequence of her belief that her husband was lost.

The second daughter of the Rev. W. Y. Porter was unfortunately drowned on the 7th inst., near the Bridge at Foxhead, Cape Breton.

The Hon. Provincial Secretary did not arrive in the R. M. Steamer *Canada*, as had been anticipated. We learn from the *Chronicle* that Mr. Howe will remain a short time longer by request of the English Government to visit different places in England and Scotland to deliver addresses on Emigration. It is also stated that the English Government will give the required guarantee, and that money can be had at three per cent. The Halifax and Quebec Line seems to have the preference over the British and North American Line. We state the matter as we find it in the papers.

No action having been taken on Mr. Fraser's Universal suffrage Bill, the House of Assembly has affirmed the principle of the Hon. Mr. Doyle's Bill—viz., A Franchise based on payment of rates.

Mr. Henry's Bill for setting aside the permanent grant to King's College, Windsor, has passed the Lower House.

A Bill for the establishment of a Normal School passed in Committee of the House on Saturday last; but has since been thrown out by the House.

The United States Government has declined the offer of Reciprocal Trade between the U. S. and British North American Provinces.

The Solree under the management of the ladies of St. Andrew's Church, which was held on the evening of the 20th at Masonic Hall, is said to have been a brilliant affair.

The Cadets of Temperance gave a very interesting entertainment at T. Hall on Monday evening last. Success to juvenile temperance men.

The Duke of Brunswick, accompanied by Mr. Charles Green, the celebrated aeronaut, set sail from Vauxhall, Surrey, near London, on the 4th inst., for the Continent in a "balloon." It was thought this attempt to navigate the aerial regions would be successful. "Castles in the air," it appears, are not such unreal things as the generality of folk have supposed.

The Wesleyan Committee of Privileges have petitioned the House of Commons on "The Ecclesiastical Titles Bill." Their language is firm, yet respectful.

Ronge, of the holy-conf-of-Treves celebrity is addressing German Assemblies in London.

Provincial Appointments.

HALIFAX, 15TH MARCH, 1851.—His Excellency the LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, in Council, has been pleased to appoint Lemuel Churchill, Ira Robbins, Thomas Allen, (of Milton,) Joseph Perry, and David Landers, (of Chabogue,) to be Commissioners of Sewers for that part of the Township of Yarmouth which lays eastward of Cape Forchu Harbor, and a line running north from the head of Cape Forchu to Yarmouth line.—*Royal Gazette*.

NOTICE.—The East end of the Wooden Building, occupied as a Store on Mitchell's (late Black's) Wharf, has been appointed to be a Colonial Warehouse for the reception of Dutiable Goods.—*Ibid.*

At a meeting of the Missionary General Committee, held at the Wesleyan Mission House, Bishopsgate-street-within, on February 14th, the PRESIDENT of the CONFERENCE in the Chair, it having been mentioned by the Secretary, that the Rev. Dr. ALDER's term of office, in connexion with the Secretariat of this Society, had expired, and that he had given notice of his intention to retire at the next Conference, it was moved and seconded, and unanimously resolved—That by the respectful and cordial invitation of the Committee, the Rev. GEORGE OSBORN be requested to allow himself to be proposed to the next Conference, as a suitable person to fill the office of Secretary, in connexion with this Society.—*Watchman*.

Summary of News.

BY THE R. M. STEAMER.

The R. M. Steamer *Canada* arrived at Cunard's Wharf at about a quarter to 12 o'clock on Wednesday evening, with 63 passengers, and left at one, for Boston.

The political affairs of England still remain in an unsettled state. The Ministry have again been defeated, on a question respecting the Woods and Forests revenues, moved by Lord Duncan, in the House of Commons.

The political state of the country has had some effect upon trade, which is reported dull and irregular. The Africa's news caused a decline in the Cotton market.

"Punch" has been convicted of libel and fined £10.

The U. S. frigate *St. Lawrence*, 50, had arrived at Southampton, 23 days from N. York; she had on board about 1000 tons of specimens for the World's Fair. After landing her freight, she is to proceed to France, and embark the remains of Paul Jones, for conveyance to the United States.

A vote of censure has been passed upon John O'Connell by his constituents who call upon him to resign. The cause is his refusal to vote against the Ministry.

Accounts from the Cape of Good Hope state that there is every reason to hope that Sir Harry Smith will be able to quell the rebellion in that Colony, or at least to hold the enemy in check till troops arrive.

The Prussian Ministerial Journals, of Prince Swartzenburg's Cabinet, state that a general amnesty had been granted by the Austrian Government to the refugees in Turkey. *Kassuth* was expected to return forthwith.—*Sun*.