

hard earned substance, to send the Gospel to its perishing millions. But the Law aspect of this Commission deserves notice. In the direction of Solicitors and Law Clerks, there is spent a sum of £1,985, 18s. 2d., while the house of these Commissioners is set down at an annual cost of £509 8s. 11d. To this there are addenda of odds and ends of £713 3s. 2d. This is a matter of value as connected with the subject of Commissions generally, a thing for which modern statesmen have a particular partiality; but it will show the public that in creating a Commission they are opening up a large amount of convenient patronage to the Government of the day, and adding to a ravenous aristocracy.

Ecclesiastical.

Canadian Wesleyan Methodist N. Connexion Church. CAVAN CIRCUIT CHAPEL OPENING.

It is pleasing to find the Ministers of Christ diligently and successfully accomplishing their allotted work. The Conference is over; and to their several charges the Ministers have repaired. A guilty world, lying in the arms of the wicked One, afresh presents its claims to the sympathy of the Ambassadors of Christ; and, although deeply revolting, the aspect of that mass of corruption, they can neither gaze with indifference nor withhold the helping hand. They devote their energies, their lives, their all, to this work; and, while they go forth bearing precious seed, with tearful anxiety, the Lord pours out his Spirit upon the people, and revives the spirit of his Ministers, by sheaving them tokens of good.

The following brief extract from a letter written by the Rev. J. Bell, and dated Manvers, July 22nd, 1850, will we doubt not, be interesting to many of our readers.

"On yesterday we had a blessed time at the opening of our new Chapel, at Broad Road, in this Township.—Brother Reed, from the Newcastle Mission, preached an excellent Sermon in the morning; which was followed by a Love Feast, and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper; about ninety surrounded the table of the Lord. In the evening I preached, and the Sermon was followed by a Prayer Meeting. During the day and evening the Lord was present to heal and bless His waiting worshippers, and to send terror into the hearts of his enemies. The services of this occasion will not soon be forgotten.

"The Chapel is neatly and comfortably finished; and will, I have no doubt, be a great blessing to that part of Manvers; and its central position with regard to many of our classes, renders it of considerable importance to our cause in this place; as it will be very convenient for Quarterly Meetings, &c. Next Saturday and Sabbath we will have a Field Meeting in the North part of this Township."

LETTERS.—Revs. J. Bell, N. C. Gowan, W. Bothwell, J. Carry, T. Cosford, H. Fowler, Esqrs; Miss Appleton.

The Watchman.

Monday Evening, July 29, 1850.

The Time for Improvement

Respecting this subject, numerous and difficult are the enquiries, which arise in the contemplative mind. Accustomed from childhood to view the period allotted to the development of the mental powers, and the cultivation of the intellect and the heart, as bound up within very narrow limits, the mass of the human family are destitute of a stimulus to personal application, and brought under a weight of discouragement, which a more rational view of the subject would readily banish from the mind. Unquestionably it is well for the youth to attach the greatest importance to the proper employment of that golden period. Nor can it be deemed an extreme to impress upon his mind, the incalculable disadvantages to which the waste of the "Spring time" of his existence will subject him through the subsequent stages of his being. But the idea that when the few dreamy days of childhood have fled, and when the gray tinsel of youthful beauty has faded from the brow, the hours of improvement have vanished forever, is opposed to truth and calculated to discourage and restrict those discursive juvenile efforts which are so highly promotive of the improvement of the mind.

Rather let us contemplate human existence as made up of a series of stages, all capable of improvement and each essential to the attainment of the highest good in the subsequent stages. Embracing this view of the subject no quarter remains for indolence. For while the non-improvement of previous stages places one under disadvantages, it does not involve actual disability; and a farther continuance in a state of inactivity, will, of course, heighten the penalties attending past negligence. But the principal recommendation of this view of the subject is—that at all times and under all circumstances, it exhibits the present as emphatically the time for improvement—a view which if entertained and suffered to exert its legitimate influence on the minds of mankind, would translate millions of human beings from a state of obscurity and degradation to spheres of intelligence and usefulness.

Let this matter be once and forever settled in our minds, that the present is always a time for improvement; and that disability arising from past omissions cannot exonerate us from our responsibility to improve our talents.

To the principle we have laid down a fearful exception may be taken. There is a point in the ca-

reer of the "slothful servant" where the talents entrusted are withdrawn, and where the work of improvement is for ever suspended. Fearful issue! who can contemplate his own exposure to that penalty without shuddering with horror, from a calamity so appalling! The very fact that "such our fearful case may be," should deter every man from indulging a passing moment's ease, to the neglect of the duty of self-improvement.

Care should be taken in discussing this subject to distinguish between mental training and the acquisition of knowledge. Both are included in the term improvement; but the former should always take precedence of the latter. To reverse this order, is an outrage against nature and common sense, and an error which cannot fail seriously to affect the success of a man's application. The youth should not be in haste to glance at the surface of "all knowledge," before he has formed habits of thinking and observation. With reference to the mind, an experienced guide has properly observed, "cham down the rover;" and as well might the garrison defended by well-trained troops, as the youth to expect to accumulate knowledge without the fixed habit of thinking—a habit by no means easily acquired.

In conclusion, let the reader reflect on his responsibility, his privileges, and the rapidity with which he is passing through the several stages of his earthly existence; and if, in view of these things, he can procrastinate the work of improvement, we pity his condition. But if stimulated to work while it is called to-day, in order to accomplish the greatest possible improvement of his powers, though much of his life may have been spent to little account, he has everything to hope and nothing to dread. We would caution our readers against imagining personal improvement to be the end of their existence. Rather let it be considered the means to the attainment of the great end of our existence; and then we shall never lack a motive to exertion.

The "Canada Christian Advocate."

RETIREMENT OF THE REV. T. WEBSTER FROM THE EDITORIAL CHAIR.

At the late General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, the Rev. G. Shepard was appointed Editor of the C. C. Advocate in the room of the Rev. T. Webster, who for six years past has devoted his time and talents to the management of that Journal. With Mr. W.'s successor we have no personal acquaintance; nor can we judge as to the degree of efficiency with which his task will be performed. He has entered upon his work with evident indications of that animation with which a man usually enters upon the duties of a new station.

With regard to Mr. W. the case is widely different. Having for years fearlessly contended for what he considered right, and sustaining an honorable position among his contemporaries, he has emphatically "put off the harness."

His efforts to promote the practical and unqualified working of the Voluntary Principle in Canada, and to subvert the whole system of State endowments, will not soon perish from the memory of Voluntaries. Nor less assiduously did he devote himself to the interests of the Methodist Episcopal Church,—both with regard to its polity and practical working; maintaining meanwhile such a demeanor toward other Churches as was calculated to command their respect and conciliate their esteem.

In his connexion with the Press while fearless in the avowal of his own sentiments, his distinguished candor and liberality could not fail to impress favorably, even his opponents. On numerous occasions have the press noticed in the most flattering terms, the efforts of Mr. Webster in the cause of true liberty; and in his retirement from the onerous duties of his editorial career, we have no hesitation in stating he bears with him the respect and good wishes of the members of the press generally in Canada. His work was peculiar; especially since the Advocate became the recognized organ of the Methodist Episcopal Church:—(for we consider the Editor of a denominational Organ, occupies the most critical position in the corps editorial,) yet, even in this position, by prudent caution he has been enabled with credit to himself and advantage to the church, to accomplish his allotted task. We heartily wish his successor an equally successful career.

We have inadvertently omitted to acknowledge, at an earlier date, the receipt of the following publications, viz., "Correspondence on the subject of the School Law for Upper Canada, between Members of the Government and the Chief Superintendent of Schools for Canada West;" An "Essay on the Advantages of Canals to the Farmers of Canada, by J. GORDAN BROWN;" and "The Atonement of Christ, chiefly in relation to the Great Question, Was it for all mankind or for the elect only? &c., by ROBERT PEDEN." This last production is controversial, and travels over ground, which has long been recognized as the great field of conflict between Arminians (so called,) and Calvinists. The Rev. Mr. Peden, Minister of the Free Church,

having been censured by his Brethren in the ecclesiastical courts of his own denomination, appeals through the medium of this Pamphlet, to the public, "not so much," he tells us in his preface, "for his own vindication as in defence of what he firmly believes to be Christ's truth." On the whole we solicit a careful perusal of Mr. Peden's little work, satisfied, that to what extent severer the reader may concur with or differ from the author, the cause of truth will be subserved by devoting attention to the subjects discussed.

French Canadian Missionary Society.

In its work of mercy this association is, with diligence and zeal, accompanied by some distinguished tokens for good, prosecuting a most onerous and arduous enterprise. Our readers are doubtless well aware that the object of this Society is to enlighten and save the French population of Lower Canada from the thralldom of Roman Catholicism and to bring them to the Saviour. For years this work has been slowly, yet certainly progressing, although assailed by the tongue of ineffectual and resisted by the almost unbounded influence of priestcraft. The July number of the *Missionary Record* has come to hand; and so important do we consider the object of the Society and so anxious are we that our readers should be interested in its progress that we have excluded other matter from our Press Department, in order to make pretty lengthy extracts from the *Record*.

The Address of the Rev. W. Bothwell is Bayham, P. O. Mr B. will find the *Minutes* and *Watchman* at the DERHAM P. O.

Review of News.

In Britain the public attention has been directed to the death of Sir Robert Peel, an event likely to effect seriously the position of the several political parties in Britain. The present ministry will probably lose some supporters who looked upon the deceased Baronet as a Leader and whose countenance of the Whigs depended principally on his course. Nevertheless, and amid the recent hostile acts of the Peets, it is supposed the ministry are likely to retain their position.

No arrangement had been made between the Americans and Portuguese Government; but it was supposed the decided stand taken by the American Minister, would bring the Queen's government to terms.

France has resumed a new aspect. The Assembly has come to a decision which disfranchises some millions who have been electors of that Body as at present constituted.

Reports of crops are generally favorable.

A good deal of interest has been excited in the governmental movements of the neighboring union. The assumption of the Presidential Chair by Vice President Fillmore, and the formation of a new Cabinet, are events which cannot fail to exert considerable influence on the welfare of the Republic. With Webster at the head of the Cabinet, it is, we imagine, difficult to predict the manner in which the Slavery question will be treated.

Our Canadian Legislature presents evident indications of the termination of the present Session. The new postal arrangements are to be introduced on the 6th of October. That day will be hailed with satisfaction, we imagine, by all. That the new measures is not what it ought to be, we are fully satisfied; yet it will be received as a step in the right direction. Our great objection is to the absence of a clause prohibiting Sabbath desecration in every part of the Post Office department.

During the past week the Sons of Temperance made a grand demonstration in this City. The procession and Festival and speechmaking were quite imposing. The Order is proceeding from conquest to conquest.

Additional names in Business Directory.

Patrick Freeland, *Barrister, Attorney at Law, &c., &c.* W. J. Taylor, *Fashionable Boot and Shoe Maker.* Jas. Manning, *Groceries, Provisions, &c., &c.* John Henderson, *Boot and Shoe Maker.* A. R. Leonard, *Painter, &c., &c.* John Hugginbotham, *Boot and Shoe Maker.*

New Advertisements.

J. S. Stacy, *Professor of Penmanship.* Wm. Hurdle, *Watch Maker, &c., &c.* H. Jones, & Co., *Forwarding,* 185d. J. Manning, and H. Scovell, *Berkshire Mutual Health Association.*—(notice next week.) J. Manning, and H. Scovell, *New York Protection Insurance Company.* Toronto Necropolis. Wm. Bailey, *Hair Cutter, &c., &c.*

Announcements.

Cavan Circuit.—Services will be held (D.V.) at the following places, at the dates specified below:—
9th Concession Cavan, Aug. 10th, & 11th, Qr. Meeting. Clark, near Mr. John Kerr's, 7th Con., Aug. 17th, and 18th, a Field Meeting.
Cartwright, Sept. 1st, a Field Meeting.
N. B.—Preachers on other Circuits who make arrangements so as to attend any of these services will confer a great favor by doing so.

J. BELL.

Manvers, July 22, 1850.

Arrival of the Atlantic.

The American steamer *Atlantic* arrived at New-York on Sunday morning at 4 o'clock. The best passage on record viz.—10 days and 4 hours from dock to dock. Cotton advanced 1s. 8d. Flour advanced 6d a Is.—Flour firm. Slight advances in American provisions.—Coffee 1s. dearer.

The demand of the American Government on Portugal, continues to excite attention. The Berlin papers are filled with accounts of the Danish treaty; no party in Germany seems satisfied with it.

In the London market on the 6th inst., there appeared to be no change in American exports. A man named Alfred Walker was arrested under suspicious circumstances in Paris, a loaded pistol was found on him, and he declared it was his intention to shoot the President. He is said to be insane. The *Asia* is at Halifax. On Friday, the *Elizabeth* was wrecked on Fire Island; she is a total loss; she is from the Mediterranean. Eight lives were lost, among them the Countess Osolli, and Margaret Fuller, late correspondent of the *Tribune*, in Italy.

Arrival of the "Asia."

New York, July 21—10 A. M.

The *Asia* arrived at Boston 6 15-60 o'clock P. M. Tuesday. Pate, the man who struck the Queen has been transported for 7 years.

Liverpool July 13.—Market for grain firm at previous rates, with moderate sales. American provisions dull, but on the whole the market rather firmer than last week—demand for shoulders slightly improved. Pork—No alteration save prices steady—market closed firm. No change in tallow—no quotations.

The Sons of Temperance.

A Public Demonstration of the Sons of Temperance, on occasion of the Quarterly session of the Grand Division of Canada West, took place in this city yesterday. The weather, which was wet in the morning, cleared up at mid-day, and became very pleasant. The procession formed at the Temperance Hall, about two o'clock P. M., and marched to the Parliament Buildings, and then through the principal streets to the Temperance Hall, where addresses were delivered by the Hon. P. S. White, of Massachusetts, P. M. W. P. and the Rev. Mr. Boyd. The procession numbered about 165 persons including about 80 Members of the Grand Division, and 120 of the Cadets of Temperance. In the procession we noticed Divisions of the Order from Hamilton, Cobourg, Whitby, Streetsville and several other places besides visitors from the United States. Several bands of music were in the procession.

In the evening there was a soiree at the Temperance Hall, which was densely crowded. After the party had taken tea, the meeting was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Boyd, the Hon. Mr. White, and the Rev. Mr. Stone; Their speeches were eloquent in the highest degree—occasionally exciting the tear of sympathy, and then convulsing the auditory with laughter. There were some happy allusions, particularly that made by Mr. White, with reference to the Duke of Wellington, when at Waterloo he pronounced the magic words—"Up, Guards, and at them!" and which was received with successive rounds of applause. Three volunteer bands were in attendance, and "discoursed the music of sweet sounds" after each address. About eleven o'clock, thanks having been voted to Mr. Boyle, the Chairman, the meeting separated, evidently much delighted with the proceedings of the evening.

The number of Members of the Order as stated by Mr. White, is 400,000, including 4200 Ministers of the Gospel.—*Patriot*.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

From the printed votes and proceedings.

SATURDAY, July 20.

Several Petitions were received and read; Mr. Burritt reported on the bill to extend the right of appeal in certain cases in Upper Canada; and the Bill and Report were committed for Monday next.

Hon Mr Badgley introduced a Bill to protect from injury, Electro-Magnetic Telegraphs in this Province; second reading Monday next.

The Bill to facilitate the swearing of *Experts* and Arbitrators appointed by the Courts of Justice in Lower Canada, and of Witnesses and others to be heard before them, was read the second time; and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time on Monday next.

The Bill to repeal certain provisions of the Quebec Trinity House Act, and to exempt Masters of Vessels belonging to the District of Quebec from taking Pilots in certain cases, was considered in Committee; and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time on Monday next.

The Bill to repeal two certain Acts therein mentioned, relating to Agriculture, and to provide for the remedy of abuses prejudicial to Agriculture, was read the second time, and committed for Monday next.

The Bill to authorize the exchange of certain Turnpike Road Debentures, held by the Montreal Savings Bank for others of the same total value, but being respectively for smaller sums, was read the second time; and amended in Committee; and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time on Monday next.

The Bill to amend and render permanent as amended, the Act to regulate the Inspection of Beef and Pork, was read the second time, and amended in Committee, to be reported on Monday next.

The Bill to incorporate the Kingston Fire and Marine Insurance Company, was considered in Committee; and ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time on Monday next.

The Bill to authorize the formation of Companies for the establishment and management of Cemeteries