FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1880.

THE TEMPERANCE QUESTION.

For the last fifty years the temperance question has been one of the live issues of the day. Great progress has been made during this period in the creation of public sentiment in the English-speaking communities of the world, in favor of total abstinence from intoxicating drinks. Legislative enactments in many places have been secured in the interest of the reform. About thirty years ago a Probibitory Law was passed in the State of Maine. Earnest efforts were made in other States of the Union immediately thereafter to secure the passage of a similar law. Those efforts were, in some instances. successful. In other cases they were, to a greater or lesser extent, hindered by the Civil war, and the various questions inevitably connected therewith. The Civil war, in the United States, involved a great deal more than the meeting of contending armies in the field of strife. Great principles were at stake. A large proportion of the press of that country, and the earnest efforts of large numbers of its best men, have been engaged for years in endeavouring to establish, throughout the nation, those principles of liberty and justice, which were made so prominent by reason of the war. This prolonged endeavour has not vet terminated. It is earnestly hoped that, with the settlement of the approaching Presidental contest. there may be a settlement of the principles for which so many battle fields were stained with blood.

Vast numbers of temperance men. recognizing one of the maxims of President Lincoln-that it is not well to "swap horses when crossing a stream," have, practically, allowed the claims of the temperance reform to remain in corporative abevance, until the claims of the more prominent political issues of the day should be settled. With the slavery question and its collateral issues virtually disposed of, we may expect a very general consideration of the claims of the temperance question by multitudes of the people of the Republic. They, of the Republic. and we, of the Dominion, will need to march to this grand conflict side by side, using every rightful moral and legal weapon, if we would carry the strongholds of the enemy.

We do not mean to say that nothing important has been done during the last score of years. A great deal has been able degree, during this period, within the Dominion. The signs of the times are encouraging. Much, however, remains to be done. Great results may be expected within the next decade.

THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.

The importance of the proper observance of the Christian Sabbath is likely to be one of the more prominent questions of the near future. It is not difficult to see that a very considerable change bas taken place, within a quarter of a century, in the principal cities of the United States, if not in Canada, in the manner of the observance of the Lord's day. The coming into this country of many tens of thousands of people, from the unevangelical portions of continental Europe, has been, doubtless, the chief cause of the change. They have brought with them their unevangelical ideas of Sabbath observance. And now comes the collision between the Continental Sunday, which is, to a great extent, a day of blended worship and secular pleasure; and the Puritan Sabbath, which is rather a day of sacred worship, and abstinence from secular pleasures.

trumpet voice.

Herein is it apparent how thoroughly the temperance question is really a religious question. The battle for the maintenance of the Christian Sabbath, in its integrity, will be a battle virtually against ner, by subjecting them to a very coarse the sale and use of intoxicating drinks on the Lord's Day. Let drunkenness be denounced as a crime, as it should be; let the traffic be outlawed by legal enactment, as theft is; let the sale of strong drinks be punishable with suitable penalties, as other crimes are; and, then, will the chief attractions of the continental Sunday be removed; and the strongest

temptations to violate the sanctity of the holy day, be taken out of the way.

This subject is worthy of the most earnest, thoughtful, and intelligent consideration of the several denominat ons of the Christian Church. And it were well, we think, if, in a General Convention, representing the evangelical churches of the day, this great question were thoroughly discussed, and a clear and consistent utterance given, to the claims of the Divine law upon individuals, and governments, and corporations, concerning the Sabbath day; and to the duty of the church, and of individuals, in reference thereto.

TRANSATLANTIC AFFAIRS.

The treasurers of the thanksgiving Fund of the British Conference, have paid over to the Treasurers of the several Connexional Funds the last instalment of the debts owing by those departments. The Connexion at home may be pronounced free from debt. In addition to this, §125, 000 have been paid to the Treasurer of the Birmingham Branch of the Theological

The London "Times" obituary of February 10 records the death of a Mrs. Pentecost, at the age of 113 years.

The continued serious illness of the Rev. Samuel Coley is reported. Rev. Mr. Geden, who has been seriously

Of 115,000 children in Australia, 31,000 are in Sabbath Schools.

The Greek Government has ordered that the Bible shall be read in the public schools, but has specified that ancient, and not modern. Greek shall be used.

A correspondent of the "Church Timas" speaks of Lord Beaconsfield as a "Tory blood-hound" and "Bishop-maker," because it is rumoured that the vacant Deanery of York will be conferred upon some one who wili "Protestantize the

The London "Recorder" says :-The recent statement of figures respecting the prevalence of Romanism in the United States has elicited a letter from the Rev. J. P. Cook, of Levallois, in France, in which the substance will interest many of our readers as showing his estimate of this pretentious "invasion" of the States, to which the "Times" gave so much importance, magnifying it to the extent of "one-fourth of the population." Mr. Cook takes it upon him to question the exactness of such estimates. Writing, with a long letter from Dr. Abel Stevens, the historian of Methodism, before him, at present making collections in Geneva, for a biography of Calvin, he says. assertions of the 'Times' are simply ridiculous. The statistics of the Catholics comprise not only their communicants, but their entire population. If the Baptists were reck accomplished. Public sentiment, in the oned in the same manner, they alone would right direction, has grown in a remark- exceed the mark to which the Catholics pre-These, taken on their own reckoning, would be not a fourth, but an eighth only. Against this claim of six millions and a half, the Methodists alone can set three millions of communicants, with a multitude of non-communicants beyond any other denomination in America. Against the 5,589 Catholic churches, the Methodists can set 32,000 chapels, more than five times as many, and against their 5,735 priests, 28,562 "Add to these," says Dr. Steministers. vens, "the entire Protestantism of other denominations, and behold what a crushing majority in favour of the Gospel!" Catholicincreases, no doubt, but it is in a country where every thing increases. The Irish immigration, moreover, is but a transfer from one country to another, while, at the same time, it is "fatal rather than favourable," as the priests confess by their supplicating letters to Ireland that the unwelcome influx may be arrested! The Papistical journals in the States contess and deplore that in this way they have lost from three to four millions. Though Popery preceded Methodism in the States. Dr. Stevens reminds us, Methodism has far ontstripped it, even counting such States as Florida, Lousiana, and California. It needs watching, but calls for no fear. In short, it is proved, by fair comparision, that the conversions from Popery to Protestantism all the world over, are

REV. EDWARD COWLEY.

much more numerous than those from Pro-

testantism to Popery.

The Rev. Edward Cowley, Protestant Episcopal clergyman, who for a number The prevalence of the continental Sab- of years past, has kept an institution for bath idea is apparent, in many of the children, in New York, called the theplarger cities, in the abounding pleasure herd's Fold, has been convicted of cruelty, excursions, and numerous beer-garden in having nearly starved, and otherwise entertainments, and in various other injured, one Louis Victor, a boy who had ways. One of the indispensable requis- been under his care in the Fold. There ites of almost all of those Sunday pleasure was a strong popular feeling against him excursions, and garden entertainments previous to and during the trial. The is the presence, and use, of intoxicating manner of the prosecution is open to drinks, of either a stronger, or a milder some objection. The offence, of which form. It seems inevitable that, against Mr. Cowley has been convicted, is techthis growing evil, the moral and Chris- nically known in the Courts as a misdetian conscience of the whole land must, meanor. The crime is punishable with before long, begin to cry aloud with a fine and imprisonment. Cowley has been can render them no help. They, themsentenced to one year in the penitentary | selves, to the end of life will be what they and \$250 fine.

It is very apparent that Mr. Cowley has been given to treating the children under his care in a most cruel manand scanty fare, and by providing insufficient clothing. And yet it is worthy of notice that, during his superintendency of the Fold, there has been a very remarkably small per centage of deaths there, among the many hundreds of children who honeycombed by error that, like a weak-

provide for all sorts of little children, cient supposes to be inconsistency. The who are either fatherless, or motherless, former class of Methodists desires each dertake their care. The public does not communion to remain there, to hasten her stop to consider how difficult a work Mr. Cowley had on his hands, when he was endeavouring to provide for the heterogenius mass of children, who were placed in his told. Many a virtuous parent finds serions difficulties in the way of training even a small tamily of children. Among those whom Mr. Cowley had to manage were many who had come of vicious parentage, and, no doubt his position was frequently perplexing enough.

It is very fashionable now to throw stones at Mr. Cowley. But are there not many others whose treatment of children is very far from being what it ought to be? Are there not many families, even many of the "best" families in society, everywhere, whose treatment of children is very far from being what it ought to be? If the parents of those families that neglect their children, or are cruel in their management of them, were fined and imprisoned, as Mr, Cowley has been our exchequer would soon be largely augmented, and our jails would be overcrowded. How many children of rich parents, are taught mischievous lessons, and are confirmed in bad habits. How many are made to sleep in unhealthful indisposed, is better, and has resumed and ill-ventilated rooms, to eat improper food, to drink poisonous beverages, to indulge in mischievous practices, and are thereby diseased; and how many die because they are not properly cared for.

REV. W. J. ANCIENT AND THE "CHURCH GUARDIAN."

A letter from the Rev. W. J. Ancient, addressed to us, appears in the "Church Guardian" of last week. The tone of the article, as a whole, is courteous. A single remark, tied as boys are wont to tie a "snapper" to a lash to give it "crack," might have been spared. In High-Church circles it would have made some one sore; in Methodist latitudes it can have no point. Apostolic lips, too, have counselled us to speak the truth in love."

Any repetition of Mr. Ancient's reminiscences of childhood would have little interest for our readers. We dismiss them with the remark that those views of his early guides, of which he can now spe k with apparent lightness, are still maintained by thousands of intelligent men, who believe that with a large proportion of Episcopalians forms are more than faith, and moral acts, though as independent of the heart as the rosy and golden fruits are of the spruce bush to which we tie them at Christmas-tide, more than Scriptural conversion.

Mr. Ancient's two-fold attempt to make ourselves appear inconsistent, and to show the Methodist pastors and people of Halifax to be deserving of censure on the ground of proselytism results in a double

We did not endorse the conduct of those who have advised certain ministers to remain as they were. We spoke of it as sometimes unwise." Nor can we find, after enquiries made in the proper quarter, any reason for using, toward either Methodist mi isters or laymen, the language of reproof.

The cause of a seeming inconsistency in the action of Methodists towards Episcopalians may be briefly stated. For the divisions of the latter there are among the former great searchings of heart. At home they hear of strange doctrines from Episcopal pulpits: they see in the list of semi-Romish contraternities the names of ministers who preach to their neighbors and friends, and they observe men of evangelical tendencies, almost unconsciously, succumbing to the unhealthy influences which everywhere surround them. Abroad, they find tendencies of a more pronounced Romish character, and they leave those ca thedrals, which are models for the worship of the nation, sick at heart. Af they take up the journals of the day, they learn of new accessions to the already large multitude marching Romeward. This dark picture is but slightly relieved by a sight of that minority of devoted ministers and laymen, whose continued presence in the Episcopal Church is a matter of continual mystery. It is their quiet and devout lives. their devotion to the Master, calling torth deep respect, which draws many youth into the vortex of influences where they are to-day; but, in the meantime, toils are being thrown around their children which. when their own heads are in the grave, will render these children an easy prey.

Respecting the extent of the evil wrought in the Episcopal Church by the twin causes of Romanism and Ritualism, Methodists differ. Some regard her return to a pure Protestantism as possible. others believe her foundations to be so for several years have been under his care. ened building, she must fall, crushing The facts elicited in this investigation those who, in the effort to support her, show that it is easy to get up a popular stay too long within her walls. Hence

feeling against those who undertake to that difference in action which Mr. Anor whose parents do not or will not un- true Protestant already in the Episcopal return; the latter and larger number is disposed to welcome, rather than repel any who may leave her gates, and to regard them as so many saved from a terrible danger.

> We transfer to our columns, from the · Presbyterian Witness," an interesting letter written by the Rev. C. B. Pitblado, of Chalmer's Church, in this city, detailing, in racy st, le, the incidents and impressions connected with a recent visit to the Mount Allison Institutions. Letters received from Sackville speak in the highest terms of the lecture delivered before the Eurhetorian Society, by Mr. Pitblado. His graphic descriptions of Canadian scenery, his forceful presentation of the resources of the Dominion, his eloquent appeals for the cultivation of a healthy national sentiment, aroused the patriotic tervour of his audience to a pitch which found expression in repeated bursts of ap-

In Mr. Pitblado's letter, we notice one or two slight inaccuracies, arising, no doubt, from the shortness of his visit, and the circumstances referred to in his opening paragraph. The figures given in representing the numbers in attendance at the several Institutions were, probably, taken from the last annual calendars, and really represent the total numbers in attendance during the Academic year of 1878-79. A considerable per-centage should be deducted from some of these figures to represent exactly the numbers in attendance at the present time. In referring to the buildings, Mr. Pitblado seems to be under the impression that it is the present College building which was the gift of the revered founder of the Mount Allison Institutions. It is, of course, well known that the building erecied and donated to the Methodists of these Provinces as an educational institution, by the late C. F. Allison, Esq., and which was destroyed by fire in 1866, was a building vastly more commodious and costly than that which for the present has to serve for College work. In this connection we would like to repeat and emphasize Mr. Pitblado's words

"But some one is now needed who will give the Institution a sum of money large enough to build a good substabilal stone edifice for College use. Who will erect his monument on Mount Allison, by building a new College for the Wesleyans? Here is his opportunity.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY.

Although business generally in Halifax does not seem to be particularly lively just now, there is plenty of work for the Intercolonial Railway employees, at the Richmond freight depot of the Halifax station. Business at Richmond both by day and by night appears to be brisk

On Monday last twelve freight trains arrived at Richmond and twelve were sent out therefrom, carrying timber, deals and coal. On that day 65 cars, in addition, carrying English goods, ex Hiberman and Sardinian, were forwarded from Richmond. On the same day 386 head of cattle, 250 sheep, 400 tons of coals, and 60 tons of feed, were shipped on board the Brocklyn; and 600 cars were shifted in Richmond yard.

The Sardinian commenced, at Richmond, at 2 p. m., Monday, to unload 1.375 tons of English goods, and was discharged in 14 hours. The Hibernian discharged 1,040 tons. All these goods were forwarded without delay to their destination.

In order to accomplish this day's operations officials were at work from about one o'clock Monday night until one o'clock Tuesday morning, at which hour the last train carrying the English goods referred to left the yard, and the day's work of twenty-tourhours was done.

A tea meeting was held on Tuesday evening in the Sabbath school room at Dartmouth. After tea the chair was taken by Mr. James Angwin. The Rev. I M. Mellish, Superintendent of the circuit, on behalf of the congregation, presented the organist of the church, Miss Deuchman, with a well-filled purse, as a token of their appreciation of valuable services rendered by her. Mr. John Forbes responded for Miss Deuchman, in a neat speech. Mr. Herbert S. Temple and Mr. William K. Angwin, gave readings, which were well received. Mr F. Smallwood sang the Village Blacksmith in good voice. Mr. Ruggles favored the meeting with a military piece of music. Mr. Forbes and Miss Baeurs sang a duett in capital style. Rev. Mr. Angwin and the editor of the WESLEYAN each gave a speech. Miss Deuchman and Mrs. Smallwood presided at the organ. The meeting was a decided success.

Rev. Dr. Burns will Lecture in Brunswick Street Church, on Tuesday evening next on Abraham Lincoln." The "North End" should give the Dr. a good audience.

OUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

A subscriber asks whether it is "according to Methodism" for an official member of the church to rent a house "to parties for a dancing class of the lowest type." Our answer to this inquiry, as it comes to us in our correspondent's letter, would be in the negative. We can scarcely conceive it possible that any member of our church would rent a house for the special purpose indicated. namely: " for a dancing class of the lowest type." On the other hand, property owners might find difficulties in the way of so controlling tenants as to prevent them from have ing dancing on the premises. It were well if all our people would, in every possible way, in premises under their own control and elsewhere, prevent the existence of such dancing classes.

THE REV. JOSEPH HOGG, Presbyterian minister, of Moncton, and for three years intimately identified with us in the work of the churches of that town, has, we regret to say, recently lost two of his children by diphtheria. One, Harry E., was five years old. The other, G. Stuart, was two years and nine months old. We tender the bereaved parents our deepest sympathy. The only other child of the household, a little girl, is ill with the same withering disease, but at last accounts was improving.

We are in receipt of the first number for 1880 of "The Sunday at Home," published by the Religious Tract Society, 56 Paternoster Row, London, England, and by William Warwick and Son, Toronto. Price \$1.50 per annum. It is a small 16-page paper, well illustrated, and contains a piece of music. It is, as its name indicates, adapted for Sunday

The leading article in the North American Review for March is by ex-Judge Jere. S. Black, and is entitled "The Third Term." being a reply to ex-Senator Howes' paper on that subject in the Review for February. Mr. Black holds that to elect General Grant to a third term of office in the presidential chair would be a violation of a custom that is stronger than any laws or constitutions whatever: that it would in effect be the end of our republican institutions, and the e stadment of "empire." Hon. E. W. Stoughton follows Mr. Black, taking precisely the contrary view. that not only is a third term not a thing to be depreciated, but that it is eminently desirable, especially if, as in General Grant's case, an interval of time has elapsed between the second term and the third. A timely article by David A Wells aims to prove that a discriminating income tax is essentially Communism, and that this is specially true of such an income tax as was levied in the United States by Acts of Congress in 1863 and succeeding years. The fourth article is by Rev. Dr. Bellovs. and treats of Civil Service Reform. The author recounts what has been done in Britain to reform the civil service of that country, and shows how the experience of British statesman may be turned to advantoge by American lawmakers. Professor Simon Newcomb, in an article on Our Political Dangers," calls attention to the need of some non-political tribunal or the determination of contested tions. He looks on the presidental struggle of three years ago, and the recent excitement in Maine, as symptomatic of a diseased political condition which calls for remedies very different from those which have hitherto been employed. John Lancaster Spalding, Bishop of Peoria, makes a spirited reply to Fronde's recent article on " Romanism and the Irish Race in America" The notices of new books are by Mr. E. L. Dider.

Mr. Goodwin, of Mount Alison. who won the Gilchrist Scholarship in 1877, has, since he has been in England, gained the following distinctions :- London .- 1st B. Sc. First Division, with Honours in Chemistry, and Physics. Edinourg 1.-Medal and first-class Honours in Chemistry. Hope Scholarship (value £50), with which is associated the position of " Hope Assistant to the professor of Chemistry." Medal and first Prize in Physics. Neil Arnot Prize of the value of £50. He was the eighth in the Honour Division at his matriculation, being far in advance of all other colonial competitors.

POSTAL CARDS.

SHUBENACADIE, Feb. 23, 1880. MR. EDITOR,-Last week I ended series of special meetings at Upper Raw don with good success. The church has been quickened, and souls saved. Some have found peace. others are seeking. There will be a large increase in our

membership here. Yours truly. G. FRED DAY.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 24. Rev. W. C. Brown has been holding special services here for a number 6 weeks. His preaching is clear, strong sound, and faithful—that kind of preach ing that can not fail to do good; and good is being done The results are not, however, as encouraging as we desire. Some professors stand aloof, and fail to show any love for the souls of the per-

CHARLOTTETOWN, Feb. 23. DEAR BRO. CURRIE.—The good work is still going on with power in both of our churches in this city. During the past week, our Sabbath schools have shared largely in the blessed revival influences. About fifty of the young people of the two schools have professed faith in Christ, and over a hundred persons in all up to date have, we trust, experienced religi Bro, Campbell and myself, together with Bro. smallwood who has rendered most valuable assistance in the meetings, are greatly encouraged. To God he all the H. P. COWPERTHWAITE.

CORRE

CONCERNIN MR. EDITOR

Your issue of reached me this communications. A few words in these articles, as and a few more a which they presen 1-I disclaim

casting a doubt esteemed secretar the "Resolutions tions, as they are be recorded, duri ence, are often so interlinings &c. transcribing a ve 2.-When the

pear in the Mint ed in Conference the scope of the circuits having a exception." It include missions. was .- " most certo derstanding, the R Surely the brethre sent, will admit ti statement. 3-The use which

Minister." make of presents the appear words, or of a dispe hide ideas; and w the design of the of the subject see ted to divert at point at issue; and tainment of the ob Conference. If th protest against such solutions" were acc the Conterence, as time being; so that gained to "sound" matter. We did n appearance of wre right, which they u had given them; an the pressing of the until we should h Boards to advise us amongst the 'Ant doubted if this ques as one of "Const submitted to our Of point was cheerfully Resolutions were th brother, in appare simple, honest, desi as thus voiced, was Official Boards, whe to vest the entire ma of our ministers, in mittee, and the Con was understood, tha would not debar any coming before the Co "case"; but that it receiving of an "Invi ister, anterior to the from the sanction, o Will any brother der these statements? submit, that the trea to this question by " Minister," is obtrud which were not conte

thren, in the settleme

June; that it is, pra

of that agreement; at

ted, to prejudice the

plainly understood w

the Conference, as the

out. That these issu

included in the sett

be because they wer We, also, would like

thoughts, and thus

question; but, for one

myself "in honor bou

the merits of this que go to our Official B

the spirit of the Res 4-It seems to me t sumption, that the use vitations,"—in the par force of laws, that t ence alone can modify land Conference has whole system of Invit reference to their G Our own London Co the same tning, and w our supreme body. I that it is not a fair thi questions upon us at t er phrase leaps to my it. Surely every bro matter of common jus whole question besore ing to the wish of the pressed in the rec Then, if the result sha sary; and if any broth the matter, let him tak next General Conference 5-1 am not aware th ed by "Inquirer," in h have ever been quest

Sydney, Feby. 16, 1880

item 4. (concerning th

a two third vote, would

consult some elemental

tary Laws ?

CIRCUIT INV

MR. EDITOR-The solutions of the N.S. to Circuit Invitations fully understood, ever who assumed the resp mitting them to the Co

not surprised at this, for ly a very extraordinary declare it to be the rig to invite their minister ask the Circuits if the that right. Was there acted by any other asse divines, or by any other erative body? If we gist of these resolutions involved in them is in expenses. This is a ma ways been kept in view Committee in relation cuits. In some years