

ADVICE ON THE "WEEKLY" QUESTION.

Our English namesake, of April 11, has the following paragraph in its notices of current periodicals:—"The *Canadian Independent* is conducted in a very spirited way. All its writing is sharp, and to the point. It is filled with intelligence, written and collated in a fresh and interesting manner. Some of our Canadian friends are beginning to talk of a newspaper. We shall be heartily glad if they are able to maintain a good journal, though we should, perhaps, lose some subscribers among them; only we entreat them not to let it be a weak, ill-supported paper, dragging out a doubtful existence. Let them measure their strength before they begin."

"FIRM AND UNCOMPROMISING."

The *Canadian Baptist* of the 8th ult. makes the following reply to some of its correspondents on the College State-aid question:

The three "Voluntaries" are in a dilemma for lack of an opponent, now that Bro. Fraser is about to leave for England. They can keep their great guns and small arms in reserve, and quiet themselves from the fear that any attempt will be made to place the "Institute" in a false relation to the government or to the Baptists of Canada. We are positive that so far as the President and Board of Trustees are concerned, that if a free offer were made by the government to-morrow whereby the Institute would be placed on the same footing with Victoria College or any other of the Denominational Colleges receiving government aid, that they would *unhesitatingly* decline it. So none of them can be expected to enter the lists, and further discussion of the matter would be simply fighting a man of straw.

We are very glad to find that Mr. Fraser's suggestions have met with such a response, which was no more than ought to have come from those who claim to be "Hebrews of the Hebrews" on the voluntary principle. We must confess, however, that we had some apprehensions that the brother from Kincardine was not quite alone in his willingness to accept a government subsidy. When, for example, the organ of the denomination gave such "an uncertain sound" as the following, was there not cause for suspicion?

"When so hearty a voluntary as our esteemed Brother Fraser goes in for subsidizing the Literary Department by a government grant, the subject will come up before the minds of the Baptists of Canada for careful consideration, and *may* receive earnest condemnation by some, as compromising a principle for which we have long and earnestly contended; yet, in considering it, we hope that a due degree of candour will be exercised. Let the *pro's* and *con's* be duly weighed, and *if it can* be shown that when we assume all the pecuniary responsibility of the Theological Department, we *may* receive a portion of the government grant for secular education without compromising our principles, *let us by all means be ready* to avail ourselves of it for the benefit of the Literary Department."

In such a state of openness to conviction, with a cherished denominational interest in pecuniary straits on the one hand, and leaders of political parties and religious sects only too glad to give a sop to an opponent on the other, we began to fear for our good neighbour's virtue. Hunger is not favourable to a judicial consideration of the rights of property. "A gift blindeth the wise." But we are glad to see that the pressure from without and reviving principle within have cleared up the question so effectually. The temporary