

to throw the country into a state of wide-spread agitation on the all important subject of education, which should not be made a matter of party strife." We need not refer at large to the controversy which ensued. Perhaps the better course for us would have been to pass over in silence the vituperative remarks of a certain Editor, who had arrived at the singular conclusion that our "Academies and Colleges were a curse rather than a blessing," but remembering that according to the divine enjoinment it is requisite at times to answer a person "according to his folly lest he be wise in his own conceit"—we do not wish this to be construed literally—the passage is quoted for the sake of the principle enunciated—we replied to his animadversions. But, in all our answers to him and others, we impinged in no instance on the subject of party-politics; and, if he or others, will shut their eyes to the undeniable truth, the fault is his and theirs, and not ours. We feel perfectly clear in this matter. So much for the educational controversy.

What then about the "significant fact"? Our readers can bear us witness, that the announcement stood "alone in its glory," unaccompanied by a single comment, or word of complaint. Nor would we subsequently have said any thing on the subject, had not the censor-general brought us to task for presuming to state a naked "fact," so deeply affecting the position of our Body. If it has been made to assume a political bearing, the parties most concerned may thank the undue officiousness of some of their friends. We published the bare fact, that if attention were drawn to it, the "grievance," intentional or unintentional, might be removed. We have painfully witnessed in other places the effects of a similar *passing-by* of our Ministers, whilst others were favoured; and though uninterested parties may speak slightly of it, yet we know how a Minister must feel when every other denomination is Ministerially represented on the School Commission, except the one to which he belongs, as is now the case with the Wesleyans in Lunenburg. Having thus fully explained our position, we dismiss the subject, with the expression of our earnest hope, that, in the discharge of duty, we shall not be required to touch it again, as none but the wilfully blind can fail to perceive the precise position we occupy.

MEETING OF THE WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Anniversary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society was held on Monday, the 29th, April, at Exeter Hall, London—"Never had that Society," says the *Watchman*, "a more crowded meeting, though seldom has any public meeting a larger proportion of men.—The opening hymn," given out by Dr. Ailer, "had all the fervour of Methodist worship; the opening prayer all the solemnity of Dr. Newton's happiest frame. The clear, manly, Christian speech of the Right Honourable Chairman" (Mr. Fox Maule) "gave to the meeting a fine tone." The speeches delivered on the occasion are highly spoken of, and the collection "was very largely in advance of last year." "We may judge of the effect of this meeting on the Connexion generally," continues the *Watchman*, "by what we heard pass between gentlemen apparently from the provinces. We must raise the standard this year, A HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND FOR THE MISSIONS." The words have been said with purpose and received with approbation. Let them be taken up. Let our friends every where put forth the energies of their souls. The

world never was more needy, never so needy. The enemy would divert us from our work to strife. Let our answer to his temptations—let our only revenge upon those who unhappily set themselves to hinder us—be more love and more liberality in the cause of Missions. Exulting over no man, taunting no man—deeply pitying those who are deeply culpable, let us go, and in every corner of the land raise the standard this year of a hundred and fifty thousand for the Missions! Then, at last, we might open our ears to the cry of China, then we might take a position worthy of ourselves among the Missions to India; then we might combat the woes of Africa with a more appropriate force; and then, in conveying blessings to new multitudes, we should only remember with gratitude the effort made to paralyze us. We call then on all to take up the motto of our provincial friends: "A HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND THIS YEAR FOR THE MISSIONS!"

BRIDGETOWN.

Rev. A. McNUTT, of Bridgetown, under date of May 4th, writes, "I am happy to say that we have had some refreshing times in this Circuit during a few weeks past. The Church is much quickened, and a few conversions have taken place. I feel more than ever confident, that in order to the prosperity of the work, we as Methodists have but to work our own machinery, in reliance on the blessing of God, which has been so signally vouchsafed to us as a people."

EXPRESSION OF THANKS.

The Rev. WILLIAM WILSON, of Barrington, under date of April 17th, says—"I am requested by the Trustees of the Wesleyan Chapel at Barrington Head, through the medium of *The Wesleyan*, to express their grateful and unanimous thanks to PERCIVAL CORNIX, Esq., of Halifax, for his very handsome present of an eight-day Clock for the Chapel, which has been received and is now placed in the front of the Gallery, and also for ten dollars as a donation for himself and family towards the liquidation of the existing debt on the said Chapel."

We are always pleased to hear of such acts of Christian benevolence. The more a spirit of liberality in supporting the cause of God is indulged, the more it will increase. We are also gratified at being made the medium of conveying the above expression of thanks to our worthy townsman. No doubt he will duly appreciate it.

SHELBOURNE.

We regret that the communication, to which our respected Correspondent refers, has got mislaid among the multiplicity of letters and papers we are in the habit of receiving, which accounts for its non-appearance in our columns. We have searched repeatedly for it, but in vain. If our friend will give us the whole, or the substance of it, we shall be happy to give it insertion.

DISTRICT MEETING.

The time for the meeting of the Nova Scotia Brethren in District is rapidly approaching. We need scarcely remind them of the importance of bringing all official documents fully complete in order to expedite the transaction of the necessary business. It would be well for them to bear in mind the Resolution, passed at the last District Meeting, respecting the collections for the CONSTANT FUND, which are required to be made in all the Chapels and other preaching places. Let our beloved people be forward

in prayer to the Head of the Church for His blessing to be given in an abundant manner to his Ministers, when they shall be assembled together in consultation, and in devising measures for the consolidation and enlargement of His Cause in connection with our branch of the Church in this District. Our brethren of New Brunswick meet in St. John, N. B. on the last Thursday of this month; when we hope they will largely enjoy the presence of God in their midst and be favoured with Divine direction.

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem."
They shall prosper that love thee."

LADIES' TEMPERANCE & BENEFICENT SOCIETY.

"At the formation of this society, a few months since, a statement of the intentions and aims of those engaged in it, was laid before the readers of the *Olive Branch*. That its object was praiseworthy, none could dispute; yet by not a few, its members were ridiculed, and a short duration to their efforts foretold."

We quote the above from the *Olive Branch* of July 25, 1844, for the purpose of showing that the predictions of failure referred to have as yet, though nearly six years have since elapsed, been gratifyingly falsified. Although the Paper has ceased to exist, and its talented *Editor*, the late Miss Herbert, has passed away from the living on earth and has entered into "rest," the Society for which she laboured and whose interests she so ably advocated, still continues in unabated and increased efficiency, pursuing its noiseless, unassuming course of beneficial duty, alleviating the wants of the poor, and spreading abroad the benefits of temperance. This Society has a deservedly high reputation in the community, and a bright career of usefulness, we trust, awaits its future operations.

Transylvania and the Toronto Godless Universities.

There are some striking points of coincidence between the Transylvania University, Kentucky, and the Godless University, Toronto, which must have struck every one acquainted with the history of both.

When first established, Transylvania University had 9,000 acres of land granted to it by the State; and subsequently a further grant of 12,000 acres was made for the endowment of the institution. It was established for the purpose of imparting a sound education upon religious principles. For a few years this intention was fully carried out; but an influence was at work to defeat the continuance of the design. The infidel Jacobin clubs, fostered by apostate French Papists, succeeded in obtaining a modification of the charter, by which religion was virtually excluded from the halls of the University. Religious denominations withdrew their patronage from it and established Colleges upon a religious basis. Finding that the University could not work, if the religious part of the community established colleges for themselves, the anti-religionists of Transylvania University proposed a compromise—apparently fair—to the Presbyterians and others. Confiding in their sincerity, the Presbyterians consented to abandon their project of carrying on a denominational institution, and at once merged their institution and funds in those of the University. A few years, however, revealed the fallacy of the Presbyterians' expectations. The abettors of infidelity and the friends of religion could not harmonize. Every opportunity was laid hold upon by the advocates of a purely secular education to fill vacancies in the senate with men of their own principles, until it was too apparent any longer to attempt the concealment of their design. Two thirds of the Board were opposed to religious influence in the University; and they had all their own way. An infidel was soon found at the head of the institution. Religious men withdrew their countenance and support from it; and the President, frowned upon by the religionists of the State, was forced to resign. Confidence was gone in it, and it sunk into decay. Several attempts have been made to retrieve its fortunes; but they were all abortive. Even the most popular and eminent Clergymen that could be induced to accept the Presidency, under the hope of bringing about a better state of things, have been unsuccessful in inspiring the community with anything like confidence. It is

now without a President; and if not closed, will probably be abandoned in a short time. A gentleman writing from Kentucky says, "There it stands, a beautiful edifice, on a charming eminence, in one of the finest locations of all the West, a monument of the justice, folly, and irreligion which wrested it from the hands of its rightful guardians, and compelled them to establish a rival college at Danville. There it stands, forsaken and despoiled of every thing but its architectural beauty, in the midst of the garden, as it were of the Hesperides. There it stands, a majestic form of comely proportions, to which the soul, having been rudely driven out of its early youth, refuses to return. There it stands, smitten with premature decrepitude, while Centre College at Danville, is fast rising to a vigorous maturity, though treacherously despoiled of the funds which it brought to Lexington, when the two Seminaries were united; and while half a hundred other Colleges have sprung up in the West, long since it was established; and the most of which give high promise of permanently blessing the wide regions in the midst of which they are planted. Yes, there Transylvania University stands, a monument of God's displeasure against those who seek to poison the fountains of literature with the infusions of infidelity, in however plausible and subtle a form."

"It is the glory and safety of our American Colleges, (with the fewest exceptions,) that they are founded upon the basis of TRUE RELIGION, and that religious men are the guardians and teachers. Should they ever be given over into the infidel hands, THE GLORY WILL DEPART NOT ONLY FROM THEM, BUT FROM THE LAND WHICH NOURISHES THEM."

Let the supporters of our Godless University think upon the facts exhibited in the closing history of Transylvania University; and let them learn by the reverses of that and similar institutions, not to jeopardize the very existence of the Toronto University by pursuing the same suicidal policy. Unless a radical change take place in the institution, many years will not roll over ere the passers-by may say "there stands Toronto University, a monument of God's displeasure against those who seek to separate religion from secular instruction."—*Toronto Christian Guardian*.

Gorham Controversy.

The unfortunate Gorham controversy has been again furnishing food for tongue and pen. The Rev. W. Maskell, who was lately Chaplain to the Bishop of Exeter, has been wrestling with his spiritual superior, the Archbishop of Canterbury—on paper; and some stir has been caused by the Scriptural fencing of the opposing divines. But the higher dignity is an expert and a graceful controversialist, and shows his skill by cleverly parrying questions which are more readily asked than answered. The Bishop of Exeter, notwithstanding that he was driven out of the Court of Queen's Bench, took refuge on Thursday in the Common Pleas, where Sir Fitzroy Kelly moved the court for a rule to prohibit the Court of Arches, from proceeding further in the suit instituted by Mr. Gorham against the Bishop of Exeter. The speech of the advocate was very long and very learned; but it meant nothing beyond a desire on the part of the principal actors in the drama to beat a respectable retreat, under cover of as much dust as he could raise. Lord Chief Justice Wilde and his colleagues heard the appeal, and, to save the feelings of the bishop, declined to give an answer at the moment; but the game is up. The bishop is defeated and must submit.

Birth of a Prince.

The most important item of news by the *Hibernia*, is that of the birth of another Royal Prince, which took place at Buckingham Palace on the 1st May. The young stranger and Royal parent were, the official bulletin tells us, "progressing favourably." In compliment to the most illustrious warrior of the age, the third son of her Majesty is to be called *Arthur*.

BY THE R. M. STEAMER.

The R. M. Steamer *Hibernia* arrived at this port on Wednesday forenoon. We give items of news:—

GREAT BRITAIN.

Since our last accounts more steadiness has prevailed in the Produce markets. Holders have refrained from pressing sales, and buyers, from this circumstance, may have assumed more courage. No great extent of business had, however, been done, and prices of most articles remained much the same.

The *Grand Trunk* had a rather late experience

—and there had been more steadiness in the several markets throughout the United Kingdom. The value had advanced 6d. to 1s. per bush. The Stock on hand was small. There was a good demand for Indian Corn. Prime old yellow brought 2s. 8d. and new 2s. 6d. per 180 lbs. The weather had been altogether in favour of the farmer, and the reports speak well of the young Wheat crop.

The moral powers of the Ministry (says the *European Times*) seems every day to be waning. On Thursday night Sir F. Thesiger left them in a minority of nineteen, arising out of his notice relative to the duty on attorney's certificates. *Per se*, the affair is small; but it shows that the Government wants vitality, and that all the symptoms that precede the dissolution of Cabinets and of parties, are in active operation at the present moment at St. Stephens.

A debate in the Commons on the subject of public works, has brought Sir Robert Peel out as a champion of the Government. The Government is in favour of the future management of Savings Banks, the subject of general eulogy. The objection is made at is security to the depositors, and the confidence in these institutions, which has been recently shaken by the robberies at Glasgow and elsewhere.

IRELAND.

A photograph in the *Cork Constitution* shows that the Liberator and Democratic Clubs have been posted in that city.

The Belfast papers state "on the highest authority," that the university arrangements, embracing the facilities of three colleges, are now on the eve of being completed, and will in a very short time, be publicly announced.

Reductions of rent are still announced occasionally; and there seems to be a more general disposition to enter into equitable arrangements between landlords and tenants. In some cases solvent and industrious tenants have abandoned the intention to emigrate in consequence of reductions of rent conceded by their landlords.

Delinquencies in the Castle of Dublin are talked of. It is said that one of the clerks in a public department in the Castle has fled, and the police are still looking after him. The amount of the delinquencies in this instance is said to be £3000, but I think this must be an exaggeration. It is stated that another person, connected with a different department, is under suspension, pending an investigation of accounts.

The most cheering reports are received from all parts of the country as to the appearance of the crops, and the potatoes, of which such an immense breadth has been planted, are "shooting up" in all directions. There are most vigorous exertions to sow turnips and other green crops.

FOREIGN.

The news from France is exciting. Eugene Sue has defeated Le Clerc, by a majority of about ten or twelve thousand votes. The Socialists of Paris are completely triumphant. Even the Army and the pensioners are on the Socialist side. At least 15,000 voters have pronounced in favour of the Republic.

Little or no progress has been made in the settlement of the Greek dispute. A number of conferences have been held between Baron Gros and Mr. Wyse, but an adjustment of the demands made seems to be as remote as ever. It is said that Don Pacifico has refused the amount of indemnity offered to him. A great many reports are in circulation touching the Greek question; it is probable the blockade will be continued; and it is just possible that great events will grow out of this vexed question.

The Administration Council in Erfurt has notified to the Parliament that the Russian and Austrian armies have retired, and certain regiments of German troops had taken off the cockade with marks of great satisfaction. It is supposed that Prussia is about to come to some understanding with Russia and Austria.

The deputations from the Duchies were at Copenhagen, but the result of their mission had not transpired. The Danish minister had, however, intimated that the basis of the convention of 10th July 1849, by which the armistice was agreed upon, would be adhered to. The members of the deputation were not received officially, but as private individuals.

There has been another flare-up at Madrid. The King, taking umbrage at Narvaez, and determined to remove him, threatened to leave the city at the approaching accouchement of the Queen of Spain. He also threatened to publish certain facts impeaching the legitimacy of the Queen's issue; and his menaces went to such an extent, that Narvaez sent a body of soldiers and made him a prisoner in the Palace, until he could be brought to reason. He was thus compelled to capitulate, a reconciliation took place, and the whole matter was hushed up. The King afterwards appeared in public with the Queen, and once more Narvaez is reinstated in undisputed authority. There is nothing new from Portugal.

A letter from Constantinople of the 10th ult. states that Fued Effendi was expected on the 12th from his extraordinary mission to the Court of St. Petersburg, on the subject of the Polish rebellion. His arrival will cause a change in the Ottoman Cabinet. The President of the Council of Justice, Arif Pasha, will be dismissed, and Ali Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, appointed in his place. Fued Effendi will be raised to the rank of Pasha, and will be Minister of Foreign Affairs in place of Ali Pasha.

It is said that M. Lamartine and his wife will set out in a few weeks for the East, and his expressed determination never again to return to his native country, unless summoned to do so.