

POETRY.

For the Wesleyan

A Cry to the Missionary.
Suggested by reading the Rev. Mr. Arthur's Speech,
delivered at the Leeds Missionary Meeting—

By the Ganges' sacred stream;
By the fiercely dark'ning gleam
That lights the Hindoo-mother's eye,
As she drowns her infant's cry;
By those Kyoung's towering heights;
By Gaudama's bloody rites;
By that gorgeous rolling car;
By that music heard afar;
Come to us, Come!

Where the Gueber bending low,
On hills of stainless snow;
As his fervent matin-prayer,
Fleeth sweetly on the air;
As he owns the mighty sway,
Of the glorious orb of day;
As in silent awe he bows,
Where that flame mysterious glows,
Come to us, Come!

Where the lofty palm doth wave,
By that warrior chieftain's grave;
By that marae's sacred shade,
Where it openeth through the glade;
By that stifled wailing cry,
Rising hourly to the sky,
Where lie beneath the purple sand,
The victims of a parent's hand;
Come to us, Come!

Where the deeply crimson wave,
Errongang's shore doth lave,—
By those dark doths of vice;
By the nameless, matchless price,
Of spirits—bawling on in crime;
By the priceless worth of time;
By that deep heart-rending call,
Borne upon the wave from all;
Come to us, Come!

Where the surging ocean wave,
Circleth round the martyr's grave;
By the deathless love they bore,
They—who lie on Feejee's shore;
By the shade of Hurr! we call,
Hear us! save us! ere we fall;
Ere expires that glimmering light,
And we sink in endless night;
Come to us, Come!

January 1, 1850.

M. E.

STANDING REGULATIONS.

Correspondents must send their communications written in a legible hand, and, unless they contain the names of new subscribers, or remittances, free of postage; and entrust us in confidence, with their proper names and address.

The Editor holds not himself responsible for the opinions of correspondents—claims the privilege of modifying or rejecting articles offered for publication—and cannot pledge himself to return those not inserted.

Communications on business, and those intended for publication, when contained in the same letter, should, if practicable, be written on different parts of the sheet, so that they may be separated when they reach us.

Communications and Exchanges should be addressed to the Editor, Halifax, N. S.

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THE WESLEYAN.

Halifax, Saturday Morning, January 26, 1850.

LIFE ASSURANCE.

DESERVEDLY has much attention been paid of late to the important subject of Life Assurance. But it is still questionable, notwithstanding all that has been stated, whether the subject is rightly understood by many who ought to be interested in it. Strange as it may appear to those thoroughly conversant with the subject, we have been repeatedly asked if Life Assurance Societies are designed to secure individuals from dying! We replied then, and say now,—of course not,—their design is to provide means for the support of survivors, in case a member, or the head, of a family, the party assuring, should be suddenly, or otherwise, called away by death.—It is generally supposed—and supposed with truth—that one great end which persons propose to themselves in engaging in, and prosecuting any

course of business, is, not only to procure a present honest livelihood for themselves and dependants, but to lay up something in store for the maintenance of their families after they themselves have departed from the present scene of activity. Thus the father toils in his vocation to acquire means so as not to leave his widow and children absolutely dependant on the charity of others after he is numbered with the dead. This doubtless is a mighty spring of action; nor, under certain restrictions, is such a course to be condemned. On the contrary it spontaneously obtains the approbation of every generous mind.

Could parents generally be assured that at death they would be able to leave their families two, three, four, or five hundred pounds, their utmost wishes would be attained. Now this object Life Assurance Societies propose to secure to them on the annual payment of a small sum during the life of the assured. Thus if a head of a family will pay—during his life—to a Life Assurance Society a yearly sum according to his age at the time of taking out the policy, and the amount to be secured, that Society pledges itself to pay, on his demise, whenever it may occur, the stipulated sum of money to his survivors. This briefly is the object of Life Assurance.

Now it does appear to us, that all heads of families, at least those of limited incomes, should avail themselves of such a favourable opportunity of leaving something to their families, first for their own peace of mind, and then for the benefit of those who naturally look up to them as their guardians and providers. By paying a comparatively small sum every year during life, they may, so far, lie down in peace, knowing if by Divine Providence they should be summoned away from this world, suddenly or otherwise, they have made some provision for their families, so as either to keep them from absolute want or to give them what is called a start in the world.

We have had of late, on the one hand, instances, showing the wisdom of such a course, and, on the other, instances of the injury which has accrued to surviving friends from the neglect of it. The families of those, who, in this sense, acted wisely, are now reaping the advantages of the prudent foresight of their departed relatives; whilst others are suffering from the ill-judged neglect or procrastination of theirs. As well-wishers of our fellows, we urge this subject on their present attention; and if we could influence them to what we consider a right decision, we would by all means recommend them at once, without delay, to get their lives assured in some safe Society. The sum required for this purpose is not large. They will find means to raise it. Such an act will lead to habits of economy. They will save the amount of premium from otherwise unnecessary expenditures, which, if not thus employed, may slip through their hands without leaving any positive benefit behind. This we consider one great advantage of getting one's life assured. Sums are annually expended, we are persuaded, on objects which could be well spared, which, if devoted to life-assurance, would, in case of death, provide handsomely for those who otherwise would be left comparatively without means of support. Ministers of the Gospel, with their small salaries, and in some instances, with large families, ought not to neglect the admonition we have given. The assurance that, after they have finished their earthly course and are reaping the rewards of faithful servants in heaven, their families will not be destitute would save them, we

know, from many an anxious fear and from many a restless night.

In connexion with the above remarks, we direct the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the "Star Life Assurance Society," which appears on another page.—We believe the "Star" to be among the safest of similar Societies, and as affording peculiar advantages to assuring parties.

NEW POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

We are heartily glad, and we congratulate the country, that there is at length a prospect of the speedy establishment of a low and uniform rate of postage throughout British North America. The hitherto excessive postal charges have been felt unnecessarily burdensome, preventing many persons, who could not afford to pay the charges themselves and were unwilling to tax others with them, from holding that correspondence with their friends by letter which was desirable, and which, in itself, is admitted to be conducive to the maintenance of the amenities of life. The disadvantages of these high rates of postage have fallen principally on the less affluent members of society; but even the wealthier classes have felt it a grievance to pay unreasonable imposts on the transmission and reception of letters. Merchants, and others in business, have also had great cause of complaint,—their postage bills being a very heavy tax on their profits. One very general consequence has been—and one which of necessity has proved detrimental to the postal service,—that all opportunities of transmitting letters by private conveyance have been eagerly sought and embraced. Were a cheap postage in operation, persons of all ranks would almost in every case avail themselves of the public mail accommodations in preference to those of a private character. The result would be a great increase of post office business, sufficient in a short time to make up for the loss which might otherwise be sustained, to say nothing of the social and moral advantages which would accrue to society generally.—We hope that nothing will prevent the anticipated measure from going into immediate operation; as, in this, as in other cases, "hope deferred maketh the heart sick."

Whilst on this subject, we would suggest the propriety of removing the present tax on Newspaper transmission,—a measure which would meet with universal approbation, and prove highly serviceable to all classes. These messengers are a kind of Schoolmaster, imparting at a small expense valuable information on a vast variety of subjects. If the Legislature contributes money out of the General Treasury of the Province for the purposes of education, we can see no valid reason why the present impost on Newspaper circulation through the Mails should not be withdrawn, connected as that circulation is with the instruction of persons, of all ages, but especially of the young and rising generation. The additional charge of two shillings and two pence yearly for postage prevents, we have no doubt, many a poor man from subscribing for a weekly paper, which, otherwise he would gladly take, to the great benefit of himself and his family. If then the control of the "Posts" in Nova Scotia is to be placed in the hands of the Provincial Legislature, we hope the men of the people will endeavour to relieve the entire population from the tax at present pressing on Newspapers, the great instructors of the people, and persons not making their circulation as free as the air we breathe.

EDUCATION.

Our attention is directed to the all important subject of Education. But at present we abstain from entering at length into its consideration, in hope that, before another week shall have passed away, the views of the Government, we suppose—as from His Excellency's Speech it appears—a measure is to be submitted for the consideration and action of the "House"—will be fully disclosed. Meantime, we reiterate a formerly expressed sentiment, that, in the distribution of monies for the purposes of education, the Legislature of Nova Scotia has not overlooked the claims of the Wesleyan Methodists of this Province, as the Grant to SACKVILLE ACADEMY certifies, as well as a grant to a Wesleyan day School established in this City. Nor do we feel apprehensive, that, if grants are continued to other denominational institutions, the Wesleyans will be denuded of their fair and legitimate share of Provincial support in carrying on their educational movements. We feel quite at ease on this score. But we fear lest, under the plea of expediency, or with the plausible yet fallacious pretext of putting down what is called *sectarianism*, an attempt will be made to thrust on the population at large a scheme of education on a purely secular basis, regardless of the conscientious scruples of thousands, and to withhold all Legislative aid from Schools and Academies in which the religious principle is recognized. The possibility of such a retrograde movement we cannot regard without strong emotion and painful solicitude. Such a measure, reduced to practice, will, we may safely predict, raise a storm throughout the length and breadth of the Province, which few men need choose causelessly to evoke, or to confront. There are principles here at stake, which are felt to be dearer than life, and stronger than any merely political ties. It is not the first time that *christian* men have battled and made sacrifices for the supremacy of God's Word and the rights of conscience; and we are unwilling to believe that the people of Nova Scotia, when the matter is truthfully placed before them, will quiescently sanction the exclusion of the Bible and the prohibition of prayer to Almighty God from the Schools and Academies of the land, by positive Legislative enactment; or that they will justify any Legislature in granting monies for educational purposes to Schools on the condition that the Word of God shall not be read in them nor prayers offered to the Divine Majesty; and in withholding grants from certain Schools and Academies solely on the ground that the Word of God is read in them and prayers are presented to Almighty God for his blessing. The questions involved are vital—the principles deep—they impinge on interests whose importance cannot be exaggerated—interests as undying as eternity. If ever, wisdom, prudence, caution and integrity are here requisite, and in no ordinary degree. We wait the promised denouement with some anxiety.

Death of the Right Rev. Bishop Coleridge.

It is our painful duty this week to record the death of the Right Rev. Bishop Coleridge. The venerated prelate returned to his seat, Sudston, Ottery, on Thursday last, for the purpose of spending, with his estimable family, the Christmas season. About three o'clock in the afternoon of Friday the Bishop was out looking at the ruins of Saint Saviour's Church, over the Otter, shortly afterwards he fell on his way home, and just as he had reached the farmhouse, his kind Mr. Horsford, who resides there, asked him how

he was. He replied "I feel very ill," and immediately fell. Horsford caught him, and prevented him from falling. The Bishop's sudden death is supposed to be the bursting of a blood vessel. In his demise the church has lost a most faithful prelate, the son and consistent Englishman, his good landlord, his large circle of domestic and friendly relations poor a kind adviser and a benevolent factor.—*Western Luminary.*

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.
(Selected chiefly from the City HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.)

FRIDAY.
The House met on Friday at 12 was not opened to strangers, until understood a motion by the leader of the opposition to abolish the franking privilege was being discussed, which, it was carried. Soon after the doct. the answer to the address was a first clause passed without opposition second being read, the Hon. Mr. and spoke at some length in the Government for having suspended Mr. Hay. Quite an animated discussion was finally passed by 15—the honorable member for Songster voting with the Opposition Committee on Expiring Laws.—Mr. Henry, McLeod.

Committee on Public Accounts, Mr. Mignowitz, Fulton, McDonald, FRANKING PRIVILEGE.—The solutions, passed the House.

Resolved, That in future the members shall not have the privilege of Letters during the session of the heretofore.

Resolved, That accounts be kept member for postage during this Deputy Post Master General.

The House adjourned.

SATURDAY.
The House met at 12 o'clock. It was ordered that no petition matters be received after Saturday.

Committees.
The following Committees were Agriculture—Messrs. Hall, Ho Creelman, Wier, Songster, Bent Smith.

Education—Messrs. Young, Joel Blackadar, Fulton, Creelman, Navigation Securities—Messrs. Keagney, Mott, McDonald, Ca Henry.

Post Office—Attorney General Fraser, Creelman, Young, and Fisheries—Hon. Attorney General Marshall, Campbell, Martell, McLeod, and Bonaventure.

Trade and Manufactures—Mr Taylor, Mott, Young, and Killam Mines and Minerals—Young, Hall, Dickie, Creelman, and Penitentiaries—Messrs. Creelman, McLeod, and Fulton.

Indian Affairs—Messrs. Hall, Blackadar, Joel, Killam, Ernest Printing—Messrs. Mignowitz, Fulton, Freeman, and Dimock.

Sick Emigrants—Messrs. G. I. for, Marshall, Brown, and Creelman.

Publishing Debate.
Mr. Fraser said he held in his hand Mr. Alpin Grant, a publish that he had not received any re-publishing the debates, which he to present.

The petition was referred to the Reporting.

Hon. G. R. Young introduced the inhabitants of Maxwellton to up House. Read a first time.

Mr. Young also asked leave to bring from the Board of Health of Pictou for compensation. For Referred to Committee on Sick E.

Mr. Creelman gave notice of a motion to sell the Horse Bell Farm The House then adjourned when they waited in a body on vernal with the Address.

ADDRESS:

May it please your Excellency
We, the Representatives of the people of Nova Scotia, in the year so deeply felt in the Empire the dominion of

Deceit.
We acknowledge with grateful hearts the many good things which have been done for the Province, for the people, and by which the