

When we appreciate the scriptural efforts of other branches of the true Church of Christ to save sinners, and offer prayer in sincerity to ALMIGHTY GOD for his blessing to attend those efforts, we show that we have imbibed no small measure of the spirit which actuated the Redeemer whilst on earth, and have reason to expect our own services, and our prayerful sympathy for others, will meet with divine acceptance.

The communication of the Rev. R. A. TEMPLE will also be read with interest. The increased Missionary spirit manifested on the RICHMOND CIRCUIT, of which our brother gives so pleasing an account, speaks well in favour of the Christian principle of our members and other friends in the localities mentioned. Our recent statement respecting the determination of our people generally, throughout the British North American Provinces, to exceed their former liberality in supporting the great Missionary cause, continues to receive practical exemplification. Liberal support of Christian Institutions in our own country, and those established for the evangelization of the heathen world, is a sure way of obtaining gracious returns in our own bosoms from Him, who is not unmindful of "a cup of water" given in his name. "The liberal devotional liberal things; and by liberal things shall he stand."

We take this opportunity of reminding our respected correspondents, that they have it in their power to add to the interest of our pages, by keeping us well supplied with original communications. If, at any time, we have not inserted every article forwarded, we beg leave to say, this has not arisen from any intentional disrespect to the writers. Indeed, considerable latitude must be good-naturedly allowed to the Editor of a paper in his official capacity, under whose eye so many articles of all grades of merit are continually passing. We do the best we can, and, it is said, *an angel can do no more.*

We acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the "Reports of the Board of Commissioners and of the Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum of New Brunswick for the year 1850." Printed by Henry Chubb & Co., St. John N. B. In our last number we copied the favourable and extensive notice of the Institution given by the St. John Courier, which renders further remark on our part unnecessary. Only we may say, that it would be advisable for persons, residents in this Province, to send their friends who may be afflicted with lunacy, to the Institution in the sister Province, which is under the able and judicious superintendence of Dr. John Waddell, in preference to sending them to the United States.

A Correspondent at Annapolis, under date of Feb'y. 13th, writes—Within the last six months, many of our fellow-creatures, on this and the adjoining circuits, have passed into the eternal world, and some at a very short warning, but lamentable to relate there are few that lay it to heart. The generality of the people are practically saying, "it is time enough yet." Also under date of March 1st, "Lately we have been holding a series of services on the *Bridgeport Circuit*, which have proved very interesting.—The members of Society have been greatly quickened, and a few young persons appear to be under very serious impressions."

Mr. Gisborne delivered an interesting lecture on the Magnetic Telegraph at Mechanics' Institute on Wednesday evening last. We were glad to see the room crowded. Mr. G. lectures on the same subject next Wednesday evening in the same place.

The Bible Society and the Popish Bishops of Lombardy.

At the beginning of the present year, in our review of general Christian intelligence, the labours of the BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY had our first as they will continue to receive our continued notice. Two advertisements have since appeared in our columns, from which the reader will have seen that this mighty evangelical agency—now called upon to contend with the events fast gathering around us, and "while extraordinary attempts are making to propagate here a system known to be hostile to the unrestricted use of the Inspired Records," in the midst of a crisis when all its energies are tasked and all its efforts should be multiplied—finds itself with an income inadequate even to the expenditure of last year. Hence their "Appeal," which has appeared in this and other journals. We now give, in another column, a translation of a document signed by the ARCH-

BISHOP and BISHOPS of Austrian Italy, which ought to be worth to the Society more than all its advertisements. It was not easy to add anything to the empty thunders and feeble fulminations of the Vatican, but these prelates of Lombardy do us the great service of renewing our recollections of those explosions of Papal rage and conflagration. Well might the two last Popes be disquieted in the presence of a BIBLE SOCIETY which poured the pages of the New Testament upon the dark current of the Italian mind, as thickly as the Arno carries down the strewn autumnal leaves; and shot into Rome itself the bright arrows of Gospel truth, multitudinous and fast-following as the beams of the Italian sunlight. The astonished ecclesiastics looked up from their moral twilight; and like creatures of the night, were dazzled, frightened, and disordered by the blazing day overhead. The unclouded Word of GOD is terrible to them; and the BIBLE SOCIETY points ever upwards to the SUN of Righteousness—to them an intolerable vision; but it shines still—

*Largus liquidus fons humilis, ætherei sol,
Infricat æquæ cælum candore recenti;
Subpediatque novo conestigia lumen!*

The Bishops of Lombardy assembled in special Conference at Milan, admonish the clergy of their dioceses of the danger. The Bibles of course, are called "corrupt Bibles;" their elegance in printing and binding, their lowness of price, and pervasive circulation, are seriously set down as the punishment of clerical backslidings; and their hearts are overwhelmed with sorrow by so calamitous a visitation. They are even so unwise as to say—

"It is unnecessary to remind you, how repeatedly the Church, by the mouth of Roman Pontiffs, has forbidden her children to read the Bible in any vulgar tongue whatsoever, and has not even sanctioned the versions of Catholic authors, though free from all suspicion, unless they had received the approbation of the apostolic see, and were furnished with annotations taken from the works of the holy fathers, or of learned and Catholic writers. His Holiness Pope Clement VIII. has moreover declared that no bishop whatever is at liberty to permit Bibles of the above description to be kept and read."

It is further well known to you, how rigorous have been the measures, at all times adopted by the Roman Pontiffs, to prevent Bibles of any kind, that may issue from the press of heretics, from falling into the hands of the faithful. These authentic admissions from Papal foes will add tenfold force to the Society's claims upon its own Protestant friends. There was need of such a stimulant, for while the Society's net receipts last year were £91,500, its expenditure was 97,250L., and ought this year to be considerably larger. An extraordinary effort has been commenced, headed by the noble PRESIDENT of the Bible Society with 1,000L., and we observe that by or through THOMAS FARMER, Esq., 250L. were added to a list which, besides numerous well-known names, comprises several not less illustrious anonymous contributors. The Society, within forty years, has circulated, in our language alone, fifteen millions of Bibles and Testaments; yet vast numbers of Englishmen are still destitute of the sacred volume. How inadequate then must be the other millions of copies in modern foreign tongues, which have been circulated abroad! We see, however, that the little heaven is doing its assimilating work. How many thousands of copies may be advantageously distributed to our visitors at the Great Exhibition of this year! Each one ought to take a complete copy of the Word of God in his own tongue, back with him to his foreign home, as the best memorial of his British sojourn. We have heard with exceeding satisfaction that the Committee has been exhorted to have courage enough to propose to the Christian public that, if they will give due tokens of their countenance and support, the Committee shall signalize the year 1851 in the annals of the Society, by providing for the largest circulation of the Scriptures that has ever been issued.—*London Watchman.*

Provincial Parliament.

(Chiefly from the City Papers.)

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THURSDAY, Feb. 26, 1851.

Hon. J. W. Johnston asked whether the members of Government had any objection to furnish the date of the appointment of Mr. Rudolf to be Post Master at Lunenburg, and whether any notice of the vacancy had been publicly made. He also asked for the correspondence alluded to in the despatch of Earl Grey of 23rd of August, 1849, which despatch was published in the Legislative Council Journals of 1850, appendix No. 51. Also, whether the despatches sent down to this house on the subject of the Legislative Council were the whole of those despatches or extracts. Hon. Attorney General.—The whole.

Mr. Fraser asked the members of Government to furnish a variety of information concerning Pictou Academy.

Mr. Marshall, chairman of the committee to whom was referred the petition of Thomas Dickson, Esq., praying to be relieved of the sum of over £700 due the Province, reported unanimously in favour of that application. The report was received. Mr. Marshall moved a resolution in accordance with the Report, that the Lt. Governor be respectfully requested to au-

thorise the hon. Attorney General to discharge the judgment against Mr. Dickson, which resolution was agreed to.

ELECTIVE COUNCILS.

The house proceeded to the consideration of the order of the day. Hon. J. W. Johnston moved the following resolution:

"Resolved,—That the present mode of appointing members to the Legislative Council is unfavourable to the independence, usefulness, and respectability of that body, and the just and wholesome influence of public opinion upon its acts. And that in the opinion of this House the members of the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia ought to be elected by the people"; and moved that the House do resolve itself into committee of the whole House, for the purpose of considering the same.

Hon. Attorney General asked whether this resolution was the same as had been laid on the table as a notice. Hon. Mr. Johnston explained that he had left out the concluding words—"for a limited period, under a system of rotation." He did not intend to abandon this feature, but he did not think it expedient to embarrass the general question with details. The house resolved itself into committee on the general state of the province.

Hereupon there ensued a warm debate, extending over a period of several days, the extent of which utterly forbids even an attempt on our part to condense it, so as to bring it within our limits. We prefer passing it over altogether to presenting it in a mutilated state, in which justice could not be done to either of the antagonistic parties. During the discussion, quite a *recontre*, it is said, took place between the Hon. Mr. Johnston and the Hon. Speaker; but as the secular press gives a diverse and contradictory version, and as we were not present on the occasion, we cannot hazard even an opinion on the subject. Due allowance should be made for representations of party political papers. They have their bias, and paint with their own colours. We would rather ally than excite or increase party strife. Where the truth really lies on this subject we know not. It may be at the bottom of a well, but that well is too deep for our optics to see distinctly its precise shape and form.

The debate upon this topic closed on Wednesday evening. Several Members addressed the Chair, and when the division was taken, the several propositions were disposed of as follows:

Mr. Johnston's Resolution was negative 25 to 21.

Mr. Harrington's Amendment for abolishing the Council, was lost 42 to 4.

And the Hon. Attorney General's Resolution, as reported from Committee, sustained by a majority of 24 to 22.

"Resolved,—That although the Legislative Council as now constituted, enjoys the confidence of this house—the time has arrived when the elective principle ought in our opinion, to be extended to that body,—but as no information has been obtained as to the views of the home government on the qualification of members to be elected, and as the people have not been consulted on the increase of expense which would necessarily follow—this house is of opinion that it is wise to defer the consideration of so organic a change in the constitution until the General Election shall have been held during the present year."

FRIDAY, Feb. 21, 1851.

The House met at 11 o'clock, and were engaged for four hours on the Consolidated Laws. Mr. Freeman reported a bill for authorising the clearing out of rivers.

Hon. Mr. Johnston held in his hand several petitions, which he regretted had come to late for presentation. He would endeavour to bring them to the attention of the respective committees on the subjects to which they referred.

The Electric Telegraph Bill was fixed for the order of the day on Monday.

Summary of News.

FROM ENGLISH PAPERS.

M. Poirier Destontaines, a wealthy manufacturer of bronzes, Rue St. Honoré, has been brutally murdered by his servant, a young man named Vio. The murderer cut his victim's body in pieces, packed them in one or two trunks, and sent them out of Paris by railway. The object of the murderer appears to have been wealth, and he absconded after the murder, with a good deal of his master's property, but he has been taken into custody.

The Minister of Commerce in Prussia has issued instructions to the Post office relative to the observance of the Lord's day. A total suspension of Post-office labour on the Sunday being impossible, the posting and delivery of letters is to be suspended during the hours of divine service.

It is said that efforts are being made at Liverpool to establish a new company to run screw steamers from that port to Calcutta. The proposal is to build iron boats for the service of 2,500 or 3,000 tons with 500-horse power.

By a recent return from the various fire insurance companies of the amount of property in the metropolis insured by them, we find it exceeds

the enormous amount of one hundred and sixteen millions sterling.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.—From a return just issued by order of the House of Commons, of the net public income of the United Kingdom, in the year ended the 5th January last, it appears that the total revenue for the year was £52,810,880 11s. 8d., and the expenditure £50,231,874 1s. 5d.; being an excess of income over expenditure of £2,579,006 3s. 3d. The balance in the Exchequer on the 5th of January, 1850, was £9,748,539 12s. 4d., and on the 5th of January in the present year it was £9,345,876 1s. 2d.

The plans of the proposed sub-marine telegraph between England and France have, it is said, been lodged with the French government; and the company for carrying out the undertaking is in course of definite formation. It is mentioned also that a telegraphic communication from Calais to Trieste will be completed by the 1st of March next, when the whole of the French Lines will be open to the public.

The value of cotton exported from the United States has in less than thirty years been nearly quadrupled. This vast increase has been mainly attributable to the rapid growth and prosperity of the cotton manufactures in Great Britain, which consumes a very large proportion of the whole quantity exported, the value of which is equal to about fifteen millions sterling. Now, should flax be substituted for only one-half the cotton at present consumed, it is not too much to estimate that at least one-third, or five millions sterling, can be added to the agricultural resources of Great Britain, and that without disturbance to the manufacturing interests.

On February 11th, her Majesty was pleased to receive, in the closet at Windsor Castle, a Deputation from the Three Denominations of Dissenting Ministers residing in and about the cities of London and Westminster, when they presented an address expressive of their conviction that we are indebted, under God, for our national prosperity and greatness, to those principles of the Protestant reformation which placed the house of Brunswick on the throne. The address expressed the deep regret with which they viewed the recent Russian aggression, and the causes which have conducted to it. To this address, with her usual dignity and condescension, her Majesty returned the following reply:—

"I receive with much satisfaction your renewed assurances of loyalty and attachment to my person and Government. I fully appreciate the importance of a firm adherence to the principles of the Protestant reformation, and you may rely on my earnest desire, in asserting the just prerogative of my Crown and the constitutional rights of my people, to maintain unimpaired the blessings of civil and religious liberty which are so justly dear to this country."

Chevalier Clausen intends to read a paper before the council of the Royal Agricultural Society on the importance of extending the growth of flax in the United Kingdom, and giving some account of the progress by which he prepares and adapts the flax fibre to the existing cotton and woollen machinery.

At the Criminal Court, a man named Wishart, was found guilty of a felony, and a former conviction was proved against him. The novelty of the case was his plea in mitigation of punishment. He intimated the Court to "deal leniently with him, and give him a short imprisonment, as he was particularly anxious to see the Great Exhibition!"—and, if the Court did that, he would strive to become a better member of society. The appeal had no effect on the Recorder, who thought him "a dangerous man," and sentenced him to seven years' transportation.

A design is said to be in embryo to consolidate the business in the offices of the Irish law courts, with a view, in the end, to have only one court instead of three; and one of the preliminary steps is to have a single Master, instead of an officer acting in the Queen's Bench and others in the Common Pleas and Exchequer, as at present.

It is currently reported in Vienna that the Emperor intends to visit England in the month of June, for the purpose of inspecting the Grand Exhibition.

Her Majesty has nominated his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Knight Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George, to be Grand Master of that distinguished order, in the room of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge.

The works at Windsor Castle have been recently considerably expedited in order that they may be fully complete before the opening of the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park. The state apartments, to which the public have been again admitted, are now rendered in every respect perfect, both with reference to ornamental embellishment and the comfort of the royal inmates.

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS.—David Robert Ross, Esq., (formerly M. P. for Belfast,) is appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Tobago, in the room of Major Lawrence Greene, deceased. Samuel Allan Wilmut, Esq., Attorney-General of New Brunswick, is appointed Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court in that colony, in place of W. Carter, Esq., appointed Chief Justice. Aston Davoren, Esq., is appointed Chief Justice at St. Christopher's. Captain Charles Sturt is appointed Colonial Secretary of South Australia. Bayle Francis Finnis, Esq., is appointed Colonial Treasurer of South Australia. George Frederick Dashwood, Esq., is appointed Commissioner of Police for South Australia. Richard F. Newland, Esq., is appointed Stipendiary Magistrate for the Port of Adelaide, South Australia.

The Board of Admiralty have most liberally given orders for her Majesty's steam-vessels, *Sampson* and *Bloodhound*, to convey a quantity of rice and biscuit to the sufferers at San Nicolas, Cape de Verde.