FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1880.

DANGERS IN RELIGIOUS TEACHING.

A sincere desire to do good is not the only qualification needed by him who would serve his Master in saving men. Instances are not rare, indeed, in which persons have gone forth with all the enthusiasm of a high and holy aim, to labor with such questionable results that wise watchers scarce knew whether the balance should be declared in favor of benefit or harm.

We have somewhere read of a man who, in his native village, performed some surgical operations of such rare character that a friend of science took him from his forge and sent him to a medical oollege. His stay there was but short. He had proceeded only a little way in his studies, when, startled at his past rashness, he returned to his former employment, and forever abandoned surgery. With a feeling somewhat like his many a Christian minister, after an experience of left him and his associates in February years, continues the duties of a post he dares not leave. His junior colleague, in the meantime, often pursues his work, undaunted by any of those considerations which cause his senior to move with warv tread.

ties assumed by him who undertakes to teach the eternal truth of God in pulpit, Sabbath-school, paper or home. Words are mighty, beyond our imagining. The utterance of a moment may lead to action that in its heavenward or hellward influence shall only cease when the angel shall have declared time to be no more.

In dealing with popular errors the religious teacher often makes a sad mistake. In some instances he even becomes an advertiser of Satan's wares. We have heard of a minister who made an onslaught on a certain book. the tendency of which he believed to be decidedly bad. During the next week, when visiting at the house of one of his deacons he found the obnoxious volume on the table. The reason given was a natural one: 'I heard you mention the book in your sermon they of being left behind." Forty-five and so I went and bought it.' More serious still was the error of another, who is said to have attacked certain heterodox teachers of the day in such Quixotic style that several of the youth of his congregation, who had not previously been familiar with the names of those teachers, soon became possessors of their works.

Even greater, perhaps, is the dan ger resulting from the quotation of the objections, or contemptuous remarks of the noted haters of Christianity. During our earlier ministry, a certain man was pointed out to us as a supposed infidel. One day, seated beside him in his carriage, we resolved to test his position, and so asked him a plain question. 'No,' he replied, 'I am not an infidel, but in reading in a certain paper '-then and now one of the best religious journals of New Brunswick—'I read infidel objections presented in such clear language and compact form, and answered in a so much weaker fashion, that I remembered the objections and forgot the answers, and was in danger of being an infidel.' But a short time since, when we were mentally trying to stamp out a hot coal which a preacher had brought to his congregation from the unhallowed fire of a popular blasphemer of our day, we thought of the conversation with that young man, and trembled for those around us. Benjamin Franklin himself tells us that he became an atheist in his youth through listening to a minister who was wont to present objections to religion in a forcible manner, and follow them with answers so puerile and weak. as to encourage his natural tendency to scepticism, and set him loose from faith in revelation.

That error must be refuted, we believe, but many a teacher is prepared to teach Jesus and the resnrrection, who has none of the peculiar mental powers and special training required for the difficult and dangerous act of grappling directly with evil. In the absence of these qualifications, he acts tinual flow

doubts he may be unable to dispel. At the same time he avoids becoming an advertising agent of what, when public attention is directed to it, may be productive of injury he may be unable to undo.

A BRAVE ACT.

The Rev. George Brown, a Methodist missionary to New Britain, whose punishment of a group of treacherous natives, a year or two since, called forth conflicting opinions from the triends of missions, again appears before the public, as an actor in a transaction, concerning the merit of which there will not be two opinions. About a year since a party of visionary Frenchmen, discontented with France because of the republic and the growth of Protestantism, sailed from Holland to form a new colony in the Pacific, where they might be free from republican influences. and were none might weaken their attachment to the dogmas of Romanism. Ambition attended them into their distant retreat. They contemplated the occupation of the Solomon Islands, New Britain and that part of New Guinea to which the Dutch laid no claim. An American captain had charge of the colony. His vessel last without warning, and before provisions and medicines had been landed in proper quantity. Sickness broke out among them, and some of the party quietly stole away. It was fortunate for them that in their effort to get away from Protestantism they had been unable wholly to get beyond Serious, indeed, are the responsibili- its outposts. On the 30th of March three Germans reached Duke of York Island, and reported to Messrs. Brown and Danks, the Methodist Missionaries stationed there, that fifty French and German subjects were at Liki Liki Bay in great distress and suffering from fever and ague. while dysentery also had set in. On receiving the information the missionaries set off on a voyage of one hundred and sixty miles in a whaleboat to reach them. After having pulled forty miles they tell in with a steamer, which proceeded with them to Liki Liki. There they found the men in a deplorable condition; more than thirty of them were suffering from ulcers. The sufferers begged the missionaries to take them away where proper food and medicine might be supplied. When arrangements were made to take them to Port Hunter, the headquarters of Mr. Brown and of the English in those regions, "It was really piteous to see the eager way in which the poor fellows rushed to the boat, so fearful were were taken on board, one of whom died on the passage. At latest dates the missionaries were somewhat perplexed by the large number of strangers, whom the failure of this foolish undertaking has so suddenly left on their hands.

IS IT TRUE?

We borrow a statement from the editor of the Richmond Christian Advocate. We believe as he does, but lack his happy faculty of 'putting things.' As we think of the marvellous work to be done by a religious paper, and of the effects to be produced by its weekly visits to the homes of our people, we long for the physical and mental strength of a giant, and for a baptism of power which would make the very letters speak out as if filled with life. Another longing we have-for power to write as with a pen of iron on the solid rock of the hearts of any ministers and church officials, who may have not interest enough in the church, or in their people, to give their own church journal a hearty introduction to them, either from the desk, at their prayer-meetings, or in their houseto-house visits. Let our pastors watch closely during the next quarter the Christian experience, the financial liberality of their members, and tell us if there be no truth in the words which follow:

It is a very unwise pastor who does not make the religious press tributary to the success of his work. He cannot visit every week his whole flock, but he can command a 'helper' that enters every home to instruct, delight and bless it. What an ally to the ministry! The church journal diffuses cheering news. Its record of noble charity incites to liberality; its reports of revivals increase the prayers of its readers for like blessings in their mids; it strengthens the bond between the churches and makes Methodism one in sympathy and in works. It is the uniting force among our people. The unreading Methodist soon gets slack-twisted. The old classmeeting used to keep him in line and instruct him. Now, the religious paper must freshen him up, and brace him by its stirring pages. It will ground him in the faith. We never heard of a member regularly reading the 'Advocate' who went off to another church. Call to mind the people of our communion who have been proselyted. The story is short: Some one used to loan them a paper of another courch, and by degrees they were won over. If a sectarian journal can turn a Methodist to another creed, surely a Method-

ist paper can keep him at home. No one attempts to forward any party or oject without a printing press. The world is alive to the powers of this engine to influence men. It is repetition that drives the nail home. A speech may agitate the waters, but the press opens a channel for their con-

wisely who abstains from raising THE ENGLISH STATIONING COM-MITTEE.

> This description of the constitution and procedure of the Stationing Committee of the English Conference, from the pen of the English correspondent of the Western Christian Advocate, will interest some

An attempt was made some years ago to assimilate our procedure to that of the Methodist Episcopal Church, by the appointment of a committee of ex-presidents who should formulate the stations and present them for the confirmation of the Confer committee was speedily nicknamed "the Bench of Bishops;" the free element (or democratic, as some called it) in the body of reachers was aroused; the bishops' draft of the stations was roughly handled; the experiment was relinquished, and we fell back upon our old tracks. The stationing committee consists of the president and secretary of conference, and one representative from each district in the connection. The theological colleges have each one representative, and the foreign stations have a missionary secretary as their spokesman. The first draft, generally issued within three days of the meeting of the committee, is sent to every minister and circuit steward in the connection. A week or ten days is allowed for discussion over this very wide area; the reresentatives receive their instructions from their constituencies; the stationing committee meets again and prepares the second draft, which is discussed in full conference. A day or so is allowed to transpire in order to afford postal communication; the third draft is then brought in: only necessary alterations are considered; the "stations" are confirmed, and the itinerancy starts off on its annual round. About one-third of the ministers (500) change annually, so that the 'first draft" of the stations is anxiously looked for in many a Methodist manse.

Latest telegraphic advices inform us that the Burials Bill has passed the English House of Commons. Of the precise form in which it was sent back to the Lords we cannot yet speak, but doubtless in its passage through the Commons it has been lightened of a good deal of its bulk. Upon the Lords will now rest the responsibility of settling amicably a difficult matter, or of keeping open a vexed question which will give the friends of the Liberation Society additional strength and influence in their crusade against the Establishment. We are aware that such a measure cannot possibly be made thoroughly acceptable to an immense majority of English Episcopalians, but sincerely hope that there may be removed at once and forever a restriction that has made the towers of those venerable churches which stand in the midst of English burial-places seem to so many visitors like symbols of religious tyranny. As such they have frequently been looked upon by us. The removal of this long-continued restriction will strengthen the love of Nonconformists for their country, and render it no longer necessary to say with the strong emphasis of the past, " With all thy faults, I love and men like-minded, are prepared to recognize the Nonconformists of England as being the back-bone of English Pro-

EDITORIAL NOTES

The Methodists of Burlington purpose holding a Fancy Sale and Tea-meeting near their church on Thursday, September 23rd. Preparations are also being made for a similar gathering at Brooklyn about the 15th inst.

A lady connected with the Grakon St. Church in this city, and by no means wealthy, read Dr. Stewart's appeal in the WESLEYAN of the 20th ult, and took the first opportunity of placing two sovereigns in the hands of the Rev. S. B. Dunn, to aid in the purchase of a boat for the use of the minister stationed on the Labrador

We regret to observe that Sunday excursions on our harbor by steamer are receiving patronage from the public. Those who are selfish enough to rob the employees of the boats of their Sabbath rest will soon have to give up their own, in accordance with other demands. This is merely the human aspect of Sabbath breaking.

Several favors, which will keep, are being kept over, until we can find space for them. Our correspondents will bear in mind that brief articles will frequently find insertion when the appearance of longer articles must be delayed. Our inside columns are printed on Monday, consequently any matter belonging to that part of the paper should be sent in before

PERSONAL.

The Rev. Dr. Stewart, of Sackville, who has been in the city for a day or two, left by train yesterday morning.

The many friends of the Rev. G. B. Payson will be glad to know that he is recovering from his illness, though unable to

Rev. W. W. Colpitts, of Woodstock, in company with Rev. J. Read, of St. John, has been spending a week at Eel River

Rev. John Lathern, of Yarmouth, made a flying visit to Fredericton last week, and was cordially received by his numerous friends. Mr. George J. Steer, son of John Steer,

Esq., of St. John's, Nfld., left for that place with his bride by the "Hibernian" on Tuesday last. Mr. R. Luttrell, formerly of the Inter-

colonial, and late General Superintendent of the Grand Junction and Belleville and North Hastings railways, has been appointed general traffic agent of the Credit

Mr. C. H. St. John, a native of Harbor Grace, Nfld., and resident of Somerville. Mass,, is about to publish a new volume

Rev. F. Smallwood, of Charlottetown, paid us a brief but pleasant visit on the 26th ult. His general health is good, but his voice, once so powerful, will now only permit him to preach the Gospel at the bedside of the sick and in the homes of

Miss Lillie Starr, daughter of John Starr, Esq., and Mr. Robt. Ross of Montreal, were married yesterday morning at the Brunswick Street church. The Revs. Dr. Stewart and R. Brecken officiated. Miss Starr's removal will be regretted by none more than by the teachers and scholars of the Brunswick Street Snnday-school. choir formed from these, of which she had been the leader, furnished the music at the church. As a token of regard the scholars of her class presented her with a bracelet bearing their names, and the officers and teachers expressed their appreciation of her services as organist by asking her acceptance of a neat writing desk. Immediately after the wedding Mr. and Mrs. Ross left by train for Montreal.

A brief sketch of the golden wedding of the Hon. John Rorke and lady, of Carbonear, Nfld., appears in another column. The style of the communication reminds us of that of one of the three Methodist ministers who robbed Mr. Rorke's household of as many junior members, not, of course, without the parents' consent. A very short visit to the homestead and its neighborhood impressed us with the wisdom of those brethren. Two of them are still in Newfoundland; the third is a member of the Montreal Conference. Besides the address of the ministers and trustees, several original poems, above the average contributions on such occasions, were read. The heavy pressure on our columns has not permitted us to copy any of these. In passing we may remark that Bro. Pascoe, whose feelings found utterance in verse, quite excelled himself. Our brief call upon Mr. and Mrs. Rorke, several years since, may have been forgotten, but we take the liberty of congratulating them upon having reached a point in their pilgrimage which few are permitted to see, and of wishing them and their children, when one after another they shall have heard the Master's call, an unbroken gathering in glory.

EDUCATIONAL ITEMS.

Harvard University has 14,062 graduates, of which number 2,344 were ordained as pastors of churches.

A Japanese lady, Miss Yama Kawa, leads her class at Vassar College. She is very popular both among teachers and

The female students at Swiss Universities have this year carried off nearly all the honors, not only in philosophy but chemistry and medicine as well.

The study of the National and State Constitution, made obligatory in the public schools of Wisconsin, has been attended with excellent results. Mr. H. B. Pickard, A. B., of the Univer-

sity of N. B., has won the Gilchrist Scholthee still." And already Lord Shattesbury arship. The Governor General telegraphed his congratulations from Newcastle. Wm. L. Goodwin, a former Sackville

student, who successfully competed for the Gilchrist scholarship in 1877, has latey taken a prize of \$500 at Edinburgh University.

Three thousand boys have passed through the hands of Dr. Shera at Wesley College, Sheffield, into the world during his twenty-seven years head mastership. There are now two hundred and twenty-nine on the school-roll. A woman has just been placed in

an important educational position in France. It is Mlle. Juliette Dodu, who has been appointed, by M. Jules Ferry, Delegate-General for the inspection of the schools established for the reception of little children under six years of age.

The Board of Governors have appointed Dr. Schurman to the chair of Political Economy and English Literature in Acadia College. Dr. Schurman has spent two years in London, one in Edinburgh, and two in Germany. Throughout his entire education his prize money has supported him and given a surplus.

Three hundred and eighty-five girls applied for the Oxford Senior examination this season, and three hundred and fifty three for the junior examinations. In addition to the ordinary examination of boys and girls, another examination for young women over eighteen years old began at the same time, thirty-five offering themselves for the preliminary examina-

In the profoundest sense there can be no such thing as over-education. Our faculties are tramed for a continuous and eternal development, and our life hereatter is a perpetual unfolding of that which is always growing deeper, and yet never find-ing its depth. Education is not only the natural and healthy occupation of man's life, it is his reward for eternity. - Chris-

At the annual dinner of the "Associates of Kingswood and Woodhouse Grove School" on the 22nd of July, Dr. Moulton alluded to the recent success of the school in again obtaining the first place in the London Matriculation Examination. In the last four years three Kingswood boys had occupied that proud position. It will be remembered that this school has been carried on solely for the education of the sons of Methodist ministers.

Of the twenty-five applicants for Grade B, at the recent examination of the Truro Normal School students, twenty-one obtained the license applied for. The candidates have been successful beyond all former precedent. Miss Emma Lewis, of Onslow, winner of the Governor General's silver medal, made the highest general average. The Directors of the Gen. eral Protestant Academy, St. John's, Nfld., have been fortunate enough to secure the services of Miss Lewis, who arrived there by the last steamer, to act as assistant to the Principal of the Academy. THE LATE JAMES OLIVE, ESQ.

Isaac Olive, Esq., died at his residence Carleton, N.B., yesterday. Mr. Olive had lived in Carleton 92 years. He was born here about five years after the landing of the Loyalists with whom his father, an Englishman, came to St. John from New York. Such a long life covers a very eventful period of the world's history, for the Bastile was destroyed after Mr. Olive was born; he was a young man before Disraeli's birth, and he was twenty-seven years old when the battle of Waterloo was fought, Mr. Olive died of old age, but he retained all of his faculties to the last, his memory and his sight being unimpaired. and his interest in the present being quite as active as his recollections of the past, which is a rare thing in age. He leaves a brother who is a few years younger than himself; and three sons, Issac J. Olive, who resides in Carleton; Capt. Jno. Olive. who lives in Liverpool, England; and Robert Olive, who lives in New South Wales; and one daughter, Mrs. George H. Lovitt, of Yarmouth, N. S. Another the wife of George Thomas, Esq., died a short time ago. Mr. Olive in connexion with his brother (the late William Olive) carried on for many years an extensive shipbuilding and shipping business, and when in active life, was one of the most prominent citizens. He took deep interest in the Weeleyan Church of which he was a member, and, indeed, was the founder of the Carleton congregation. Mr. Olive's funeral will take place to-morrow afternoon.-Globe 26th.

The funeral of Mr. Olive was largely attended. The interment took place in the old Methodist burying ground. Five ministers Messrs. R. W. Weddall, Henry Daniel, D. B. Parnther (Episcopal) D. D. Currie and H. McKeown, accompanied the remains to their last earthly resting

LITERARY NOTICES.

Blackwood's Magazine for August has the following contents: 'A Reindeer Ride Through Lapland; A Talk About Sonnets The Blackbird; Hans Preller; A Legend of the Rhine Falls: Bush Life in Queensland, part ix.; Central Asia; The Meeting Place of Empire; In the Deer Forest: A Day Bewitched; Dr. Wortle's School, part iv.; Irish Distress and its Origin Ministerial Progress.
Published by the Leonard Scott Publish

ing Co., 41 Barclay St., N. Y.

The Authorship of the Fourth Gospel: External Evidences. By Ezra Abbot, D.D. That John wrote the Gospel that bears his name has seldom been questioned. If doubts exist, they must be entertained in those Unitarian circles in which Dr. Abbot moves. The question of the authorship and authenticity of the Fourth Gospel, is, however, thoroughly discussed by the author, who gives his readers the results of much original research, and renders good service to the cause of truth. George H. Ellis, Boston, is publisher. Price 75 cts.

The numbers of The Living Age for the weeks ending August 21st and 28th repectively, contains the following articles Recent and Future Arctic Voyages, and Thomas Chatterton, Quarterly; On the Sources of German Discontent, Contemporary: A New Study of Tennyson, Cornhill; The Strange Story of Kitty Canham, Temple Bar; Climbing Plants, Popular Science Review; Country Life in Portugal, Blackwood; Street Nuisances, Saturday Review; About Cats, Queen; Nature's Hygiene, Nature; and for fiction, 'Harry Martin's Wife, and instalments of 'Bush Life in Queensland,' and Mrs. Parr's Adam and Eve: and the usual amount of poetry. Published by Littell & Co., 17 Broomfield St., Boston.

Oliver Ditson & Co., Boston, have just published Song Belts, by L. O. Emerson,
—a music book for common schools and juvenile classes. A book endorsed by Mr. Emerson will be received with confidence by teachers. The first part of Song Bells contains the usual 'elements.' The rest of the book is devoted entirely to songs and tunes, of which there are about 125. A few very popular songs that are universal favorites are introduced, and a few sacred tunes for opening and closing: but most of the compositions are quite new, and all are likely to please young singers. Messrs. J. & F. W. Harris, 143 Barrington St., have this pretty music book

The September number of the North American Review, D. Appleton & Co., New York, contains seven articles. The first is the initial paper by M. Charnay on The Ruins of Central America.' It is illustrated from photographs, which aid materially in the study of the text. An expedition under the auspices of the American and French governments, of which M. Charnay is in charge, is now in Central America, and the explorations promise a new chapter in American history that shall establish the origin of the re-markable race of which nothing but splendid ruins were left when Columbus discovered the new world. Following this article is one on 'The Perpetuity of Chinese Institutions,' from the pen of S. Wells Williams. The writer has been a resident in China for many years, and is thoroughly conversant with the language, institutions and social conditions which he discusses. The surviving member of Mrs. Surratt's counsel, writes upon 'The Trial ot Mrs. Surratt' He believes her innocent of the crime for which she suffered death. 'The Personality of God' is treated by W. T. Harris. R. R. Forbes gives some valuable suggestions in reference to Steamboat Disasters.' The Rev. Edward Everett Hale follows with a paper upon Insincerity in the Pulpit,' that may draw some protests from his brother clergymen. The number closes with a review of several recent works on the Brain and Nerves by Dr. George M. Beard.

The Maritime Board of Foreign Missions of the Canada Presbyterian Church edvertise for a fourth missionary to go to

ANNAPOLIS DIST At the recent Financia purpose of mutual help ligious experience and sist of both Ministers and ing to be held for two de in Bridgetown. The draw out a programme lowing order of exercise time is too short for o member will enter at on of the Topic assigned to FIRST DAY, Tuesday, S
QUALIFICATION FO
a.m. till 12. Ferson
The meaning of con The Manner of cons Consecration as taught 2 p.m. till 5.30. Old Testament and Ne Modern Examples Our Duty and Privilege 7.30 p.m. Sermon by th SECOND DAY, Wednesd a.m. Subject: ME The Pulpit - -The Prayer-meeting ar Work. The Sunday School 2 p.m.

Communion with God Consistency of Life A Sense of Responsibil Address by Rev Open E N.B.—The opening ad be limited to twenty mi ten miuutes each.
It is hoped that Layme

will attend and take part will be provided for all A. W. N W. H. I MISSIONARY

ST. STEPHEN Circuits. Date St. Stephen ... Local arr Milltown Do. St. Andrew's Dec. 9th St. David Oct. 11, 1 St. James Sept. 20,

Deer Island .. Oct, 21 C. W. Du MIRAMICHI Chatham To be arra

Newcastle Richibucto Derby Campbellton . Tabusintac ST. JOHN

St. John Local arra Sussex Oct. 3, 4, Upham Oct. 4, 5. St. Martin's .. Oct. 10,

Grand Lake... Oct. 15, 1 Jerusalem.... October Welsford October Kingston September R. W. WED

EDUCATIONAL

ST. STEPHEN St. Stephen .. January St. Andrew's St. David St. James Local arr's Bocabec Do. Do.

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Chatham To be arran Newcastle Richibucto ... Richibucto Bathurst Derby Baie du Vin

ST. JOHN D St. John Sussex March Upham April St. Martin's .. February

Grand Lake ... Jerusalem Welsford Kingston R. W. WEDI

ACKNOWLEDGMENT For the General Conference Richibucto, \$3.24; Millton

Sept. 1st, 1880.

14-STOP ORGANS.—In and issue will be found the new a Daniel F. Beatty's new sty which he is offering to the I livered on board cars at V only \$65. It is by far the be Mayor Beatty. Read the ad