

## Selections for Newspapers.

Most persons think the selection of suitable matter for a newspaper the easiest part of the business. How great an error! It is by all means the most difficult. To look over and over hundreds of exchange papers every day, from which to select enough for one, especially when the question is not what shall, but what shall *not* be selected, is indeed "no easy task." If every person that reads a newspaper could have edited it, we should hear less complaints. Not unfrequently it is the case that an editor looks over all his exchanges for something interesting, and can absolutely find nothing. Every paper is driven then a contribution box; and yet something must be had—his paper must have *something* in it, and he does the best he can. To an editor who has the least care about what he selects, the writing is the easiest part of his labour. A paper when completed should be one the editor should be willing to read to his wife, his mother, or his daughter; and if he do that, if he gets such a paper, he will find his labour a most difficult one.

Every subscriber thinks the paper is printed for his especial benefit, and if there is nothing in it that suits him it must be stopped, it is good for nothing. Some people look over the deaths and marriages, and actually complain of the editors, if but few people in the vicinity have been so unfortunate as to die, or so fortunate as to get married the previous week. An editor should have things in his paper whether they occur or not. Just as many subscribers as an editor may have, just so many votes has he to consult. One wants stories and poetry; another abhors all this. The politician wants nothing but politics. One must have something sound. One likes anecdotes, fun and frolic, and a next door neighbour wonders that a man of sense will put such stuff in his paper. Something spicy comes out and the editor is a black-guard. Next comes something argumentative, and the editor is a dull fool. And so between them all, the poor fellow gets roughly handled. And yet, to ninety-nine out of a hundred, these things never occur. They never reflect that what does not please them, may please the next man, but they insist that if the paper does not suit them, it is good for nothing.

## Keep Your Back Warm.

About twenty or thirty years ago, I read a medical treatise which stated "that the back is the most valuable part of the human system, through which most of the cold enters."

Recollecting that when I took cold suddenly, I noticed that my back was generally cold, I had my waistcoat cushioned along the back, six or eight inches wide, since which time I have not taken cold one-quarter as often as before. Several who have tried the experiment at my suggestion, have informed me that in their opinion they have been materially benefited thereby.

The philosophy of it is, that by putting more clothing along the spine than elsewhere, other parts get chilly first, and warn us to guard against taking cold, while the increased clothing at the spine time prevents such a sudden change of temperature. Take care—coming from the back is generally too late, the cold has already become seated.

I hold that cold and damp feet cause many colds, because they induce to chill the back more than because they cool the extremities.

None of the lower animals the Lord has clothed has less clothing on the back than upon other parts of the body. It looks frightful to see so many delicate persons go with their backs and feet half clothed. But while hosts are cracking up for agricultural societies and bureaus to improve the breed of our domestic animals, the favoured of the people are worshipping the great Moloch of fashion, and sacrificing upon the shrine multitudes of the choicest portions of our race.

**CHARACTER.**—As they who, for every slight infirmity, take physic to repair their health, do rather impair it; so they who, for every trifle, are eager to vindicate their character, do rather weaken it.

## Study of the Beautiful.

There is a divine contagion in all beautiful things. We alternately colour objects with our fancies and affections, or receive from them a kindred hue.

"Like the sweet south,  
That breathes upon a bank of violets,  
Stealing and giving odour."

This principle pervades all nature, physical and moral. Let those who would trace an expression of serenity and tenderness on a human face watch a person of sensibility as he gazes upon a painting by Claude or Raffaele. In contemplating a fine picture, we drink in its spirit through our eyes. If a lovely woman would increase her charms, let her gaze long and ardently on all beautiful images. Let her not indulge those passions which deform the features, but cultivate, on the contrary, every soft affection. It will soon become an easy task, for one good feeling suggests and supports another. We involuntarily adopt our aspect to our emotions, and long habits of thought and feeling leave a permanent impression on the countenance. Every one believes thus far in physiognomy, and acts more or less decidedly upon his belief. But even the effect upon the features of a transient emotion is truly wonderful. A fierce man often looks beautifully tender and serene when either caressing or being caressed, and deceives us, like the ocean in a calm, which at times is "the gentlest of all things."

## Dame Nature's Spectacles.

Last week a somewhat aged country lady was accosted by a hawker of spectacles:—"Your sight is not good, ma'am; excellent preserves; carry any distance; magnify greatly; try this pair." The lady placed them properly. "Nay, na; I cannot see a w' that; my ain een's better yet." Pair after pair were tried, but none would do, and the lady was moving off, when an ingenious thought struck the spectacle rogue. "Just one pair more ma'am, before you go. It don't suit, give you a shilling." The lady reluctantly allowed them to be placed over her nose. "Ay, weel, there's no that ill; I see bet'er. What's the price o' them?" "Fourteen pence—dead cheap." The lady looked up and around, at sky and street, at hill and shop, and in short, at everything visible, and was so well pleased that she purchased the spectacles. On reaching home, she found to her surprise, that the spectacles had no glasses!

## Sabbath Schools.

## Halifax Sabbath School Report.

The Committee of the Sabbath School Society beg leave to present a statement of their proceedings for the past year, and in doing so, they feel called upon to acknowledge their obligations to the Giver of all grace and mercy, for the measure of success that has attended their labours thus far, and to the numerous friends of this Society, through whose instrumentality they have been enabled to continue their operations for another year.

The operations of the Committee have still been confined to the Schools in connexion with the two Congregations in the City, but they are now gratified in being able to state that a long-cherished object, viz., the establishment of a School in the southern end of the City, is in a fair way of being realized, and they trust ere another Anniversary, to be able to report having commenced operations in that quarter, and though it may be but a change of locality, the Committee indulge the hope that great benefit may result therefrom.

The amount received by the Treasurer from all sources during the past year, has been £29 12s. 6d., the balance in hand was at date of last Report £19 6s. 4d., the expenditure has been £12 11s. 7½d., and there is now due by the Committee for Books, &c., ordered for the use of the Schools about £20 which when paid, will leave a balance against the Committee of about £13, for the liquidation of which, also for the necessary funds to enable them to carry on their operations for the year coming, the Committee feel that they can trust to the sympathy and tried liberality of the friends of Sabbath Schools.

The following statement will shew the number of Teachers, Scholars, &c., attached to the Schools at present under charge of this Society:

## ARGYLE STREET SCHOOL.

- |     |                      |
|-----|----------------------|
| 1   | Superintendent,      |
| 1   | Secretary,           |
| 1   | Librarian,           |
| 1   | Assistant Librarian, |
| 7   | Male Teachers,       |
| 11  | Female Teachers,     |
| 41  | Male Scholars,       |
| 104 | Female Scholars,     |

## BRUNSWICK STREET SCHOOL.

- |     |                  |
|-----|------------------|
| 1   | Superintendent,  |
| 1   | Secretary,       |
| 2   | Librarians,      |
| 15  | Male Teachers,   |
| 19  | Female Teachers, |
| 100 | Male Scholars,   |
| 100 | Female Scholars, |

The above statement shows a small increase in the number of children, attending these Schools, making at present the large number of 405 children, in addition to an Adult Bible Class of about 10, receiving religious instruction through the medium of this Society.

In urging upon the liberality of its friends the claims of the Society, the Committee feel that it would be unnecessary to say anything in favour of the advantages resulting from Sabbath School instruction, their history furnishes the most indubitable evidence that they are an efficient instrument in the hands of Divine Providence, for the extension of the Kingdom of the Redeemer amongst men, and the Committee from time to time receive the most gratifying proofs that the labour bestowed upon these institutions in this place, are not unaccompanied with the Divine Blessing, and they feel encouraged to renewed exertions in a cause, which they believe to be identified with the best interests of mankind.

## RESOLUTIONS.

1. Moved by the Rev. G. O. Heustia, seconded by Mr. Archibald Morton:—

That the Report read be adopted and published under the direction of the Committee. And that this Meeting gratefully acknowledges the favour which God has graciously vouchsafed to the Society in its labours during the past year.

2. Moved by T. A. S. Dewolf, seconded by the Rev. Charles Churchill:—

That this Meeting, deeply impressed with the momentous interests involved in the sound Christian instruction of the young, and regarding Sabbath School organization as one of the most efficient means of its impartation, resolves, in dependence upon Divine assistance, to continue its cordial and prayerful efforts to give increased efficiency to the Society's operations.

3. Moved by the Rev. J. McMurray, seconded by Mr. S. L. Shannon:—

That the thanks of the Society are hereby given to the members of the General Committee, to the Officers and Teachers of the Schools, and to the contributors to the Society's fund, for their valuable services during the past year;—and that the following gentlemen be appointed as members of the general Committee for the year ensuing, viz.:

E. Jost, James Hill, Jos. Bell, S. F. Darg, J. S. Knowlton, M. G. Black, Wm. Paul, John Metzler, S. L. Shannon, Edw. Billing, George Ritchie, senior, John Hays, J. H. Anderson, Treasurer: Geo. H. Starr, Secretary.

4. Moved by Mr. James Morrow, seconded by Mr. Martin G. Black:—

That in accordance with the recommendation of the General Committee, the Annual Meeting of the Society shall henceforward be held in the month of September.

## Correspondence.

For the Wesleyan  
Woodstock, N. B. Circuit.

DEAR BROTHER.—We have just concluded our Missionary Meetings, an account of which will be forwarded to the *Wesleyan* by the Missionary Secretary, who was also the deputation to this Circuit, the Rev. R. Cooney, A. M. The more immediate object of my writing, is to inform you of the progress of the cause in this interesting Circuit; and I am happy to be able to tell you, that the Lord puts the seal of His approbation upon His own work, in making it instrumental in the conversion of souls.

In a fertile part of this country about 35 miles from Woodstock, a thriving settlement has within the last few years, sprung into existence; and like numerous other new settlements on the upper part of the St. John River, was for some time destitute of the means of grace; latterly however, the word of life has been dispensed to the inhabitants of this locality in a humble log

school-house, by the Wesleyan Ministers stationed on this Circuit. The labours of my devoted and zealous colleague, Mr. J. S. Phinney, has by the grace of God been very generally blessed to this community, and a considerable revival of religion has taken place, a revival comprehending in its benefits old and young, professors and workings. Availing myself of Br. Cooney's ministrations in my pulpit, and in accordance with a previous arrangement, I spent a Sabbath in this interesting place. I had heard of the general desire of the people to hear the word of life, and also the cheering intelligence of conversions had reached me; but I confess I was unprepared for the scenes which on the Sabbath I was permitted to witness.

Two services were held on Saturday the 11th inst., in the School-house above referred to, and it was announced that the services on the Sabbath would be conducted in a larger edifice near the post road, which runs parallel with the river, and in many places immediately on the brink of the river. Early on the morning of the Lord's day (and a bright and beautiful morning it was) waggons filled with worshippers, were seen from every direction, repairing to the appointed scene of devotion. Canoes, tow boats, horses also brought their loads to this centre of religious attraction. When we reached the spot, it was evident that the place designed would scarcely hold a tithe of the people; we consequently selected a position on the brink of this beautiful river, and summoning the attention of upwards of a thousand souls, with a large rock for a pulpit. The blue heavens above us, and screened from the morning's sun by venerable trees, we opened a most impressive and heaven-attested service, by singing the beautiful hymn on the 262nd page of our H.—comparable compilation of church psalmody.—The sound of so many voices in the open air—the serious earnestness of so great a multitude of people—the entire absence of artistic and architectural elements of religious impressiveness—the presence of so many of God's remembrances the grandeur and sublimity of his own works around and above us, made us feel that Jehovah Himself was proximate, yea, that he was there. The stream at our feet flowing rapidly and uninterruptedly on to the sea,—the blanched and withering leaves falling thickly from their sapless stems around us,—the brown fields in our rear from which the harvest had lately been gathered in; seemed to convey most impressively the ideas of transition, mortality, death.

The congregation, many of whom were un-saved, and many, yea all as they stood upon the brink of that river—themselves on the brink of eternity, elicited an appeal from that forcibly pathetic acclamation of the son of Hilkiah to the Children of Israel, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Stout-hearted sinners were seen weeping, deep concern was manifested in many a countenance, while not a few were rejoicing in the fervour of their first love.

When this service was concluded, the ordinance of baptism was administered to six adults, five of whom "went down into the water," and received this expressive rite, in a most expressive form, viz., by pouring; and what was best of all, the sign was evidently accompanied by the thing signified, for the "Holy Spirit was poured out upon them," causing them to rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory. One was immersed. There was one feature in this peculiarly affecting scene, and one accounting most sweetly with the dictates of a sanctified nature, with reason, and with the blessed word of God, which we must not omit. Among the number of those baptized, was a youthful mother.

The lovely infant, an emblem of innocence, in the arms of a weeping and deeply affected father, witnessed the baptism of the mother. The mother anxious to dedicate her child to God, and believing that the promise was to her child, as well as herself, sealed her own baptismal vows, by presenting this child, a votive offering in this beautiful rite, to Him who said when on earth, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not." The sweet child was there in the temple which God Himself had made, and from a font of the solid lime which His own hands had formed, and with an element which His own power and goodness immediately supplied, was baptized, by aspersion in the name of "the Father, the Son, the Holy Ghost." Thus ended these hallowed services upon which memory loves to dwell, yea, and upon which I will dwell with pleasure, when time will be no more. Twelve probationers for unending bliss, were that day, and on that spot, received into the fellowship of the saints on earth, and he who gave them the hand of welcome, and the brother, the immediate instrument in the hand of God of their conversion, who stood by their side, hopes to meet them by and by in the world of light, when shadows all are passed away. Then the miser will curse his gold; the worldling damn the toils which kept him out of heaven; the poor infatuated sons and daughters of folly wail over a loss forever irreparable; the self-righteous storm with self-accusing rage, because their haughty natures spurned instruction from humble lips. But they that have been wise will shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that have turned many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.

JOHN ALLISON.

Woodstock, N. B., October 21, 1851.