Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 1861.

In consequence of the official relation which this paper sustains to the Conference of Eastern British America, we require that Obituary, Revival, and other notices addressed to us from any of the Circuits within the bounds of the Connexion, shall pass through the hands of the Superintendent Minister.

Communications designed for this paper must be accompanied by the name of the writer in confidence.

We do not undertake to return rejected articles.

We do not assume responsibility for the opinions of our correspondents.

Religious Domination.

Properly speaking, our designation for this article is a solecism. The sincere student of that inimitable volume which inculcates the principles of true religion, must discover on its every page the anomalous character of a form of expression which has found its way into common usage. It is no part of, nor has it any part *in*, religion—this inordinate love of power. Yet by some means it has entwined its fibres around the ancient trunk, assuming its color, and claiming to be a portion of its very being. It finds a place in the sacred volume, it is true, but only to assure us that despotism in any sense, in thought, word or deed, has been obnoxious to God under the Old Dispensation, and is at direct variance with the teachings, spirit and example of Him who ushered in the New. Yet the admirers and worshipers of Christ have not been exempt from the evil. The sons of Zebedee had scarcely descended from the Mount of Transfiguration, where they beheld the initiation of their Master into that period of his earthly sojourn which began with suffering and ended with death, when they prompted their mother to solicit for them the supreme authority in the Kingdom of which he spoke. A serious fault, it met with a serious rebuke, and one which, it might reasonably be supposed, would suffice for future ages. Yet the sinful desires of James and John are cherished, notwithstanding; and that by thousands who arrogate to themselves the exclusive privilege of being real disciples of Him who taught His followers to seek the lowest seat in the synagogue. We are perfectly conscious that, in citing the sense of the sacred page as condemnatory of the grasping spirit of Popery, we erect a tribunal before which its adherents refuse to bow or answer. This fact, however, does not render the crimes of that baneful system less odious in our estimation. In rejecting the direct statement of scripture, or only receiving them with the sometimes fatal glosses of the Fathers, they *think* they are right, while we know they are wrong. This constitutes the grand distinction. Hence, what they regard as laudable, righteous, meritorious, we must ever denounce as censurable, unchristian, and prejudicial. (We will be understood, of course, to mean in those matters of arrogancy and presumption which blend so largely with their sentiments and conduct in all ages.) Acts which have placed scores upon the canonical records of the Papacy, as saints and imitable characters, are sufficient in the estimation of all right-thinking Protestants to expose them to endless infamy.

It was this fatal substituting of uncompromising spiritual despotism for meek Christianity which led Philip of Spain to adhere so tenaciously to the murderous edicts and sanguinary suggestions of his twice infatuated father, Charles V. It was the same vile principle which concealed, by dissimulation and treachery, the true nature of their designs and dealings from general knowledge, for three enlightened centuries. It was the same blind devotion which prompted the consummate hypocrisy and revolting massacres which signalized the administration of Catherine de Medici in France, and of Mary in England. We cannot follow this chain of cruelty and oppression, every link of which is stained with innocent blood. The mind which can do so, from any other than the most painful duty, must be itself assimilated in some degree to the fearful picture.

But the question now is,—What are the present features of religious domination in our own midst, or vicinity; and how are we to profit by the lessons they teach? We turn from the significant signs of the times exhibited in the effrontery of Cardinal Wiseman, Maynooth and other objects of popish popularity in Britain, and from the clamours of the French representatives in the Legislature of Canada, to treat for a moment of what has passed rapidly before ourselves in review; as being numbered with the Colonies of Eastern British America. The ordeal has now been presented to each of these in turn, and they have endured the suffering—we will not say unscathed; but at least in a manner to elicit gratitude. The friends of Truth were deeply interested in, and sympathized with, the determined combination of Protestantism which confronted and effectually repelled the arrogancy of Popery in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. They have since had an additional cause for thanksgiving in the results attending the nobly contested warfare of Truth *versus* Error in Nova Scotia. Upon these triumphs it is not our province to dwell. The political has been so extensively blended with the religious, that we cannot trace the pathway of the one, without coming into direct collision with the other. It cannot be forgotten, however, that in every event there is a Providence; in every loss or triumph an additional feature of Divine operation. And in this light, certainly, the events—painful because un-British and unchristian—which have lately transpired in our sister-colony of Newfoundland are important and admonitory. We have anxiously followed the stream of priestly domination in that Island through its tortuous windings—at least where it was visible amid the clustering coppice of artifice—and we have not met in the range of history with a more complete exemplification of the Psalmists words, "He made a pit, and digged it, and is fallen into the ditch which he made." This is the latest, though not, probably, the last, eager gasp of spiritual domination in these Colonies. It is in the eagle's nature to soar while it can spread a wing to the breezes of heaven; it is as certainly in the nature of Roman Catholicism to design, dissemble and aspire, while its principles are embraced and sworn to by a single votary. Universal dominion is, and has ever been, the wild dream for the fulfillment of which integrity, truth, mercy, and life itself, are cheerfully laid upon the altar of ambition. Take away this undying desire and determination to rule, and you not only wrest from it its dangerous weapon, but also reduce it to a harmless imbecile. It will then be no longer the terror of nations, the scourge of the earth, but a mere empty aerostat, at the mercy of every wind which moves the heavens.

Our fervency in defending the principles by which as Protestants we profess to be guided, and in reprobating those of insincerity, artifice, and dissimulation, by which we are endangered, may be considered superfluous by many who do not themselves subscribe to the creed of our opponents. But surely our zeal is neither less intense nor needful than that which incites mobs, engenders delusion by wilfully cultivating ignorance, and sacrifices cheerfully every principle of good, rather than abandon a design at once sanguinary and vindictive. It is in vain that men point to the advancement of light and knowledge in the earth as evidence of a modified spirit on the part of Popery. Each feature of its constitution, carefully weighed in the mind, and read in the renewed occurrences of every month, must convince us that it is incapable of advancing with the times. Its poison is too deep for any catholicon to reach; its principles too firm to be moved by anything human. Roman Catholicism is infallible. This should at once remind us that any of its past acts, instead of being deemed censurable by its subjects, must ever be considered worthy of admiration and example. We would rather attribute its present quiescence to impotency than benignity; to a dread of impending consequences than any love of the merciful. We are under the sheltering defences of a constitution as God-honored and substantial as ever threw its powerful arm around a nation's interests; which perceives the principles of right and mercy in the light of the Bible; and which has quelled the turbulence of fanaticism, political animosity and religious persecution as rapidly as the necessity has demanded interference. The astuteness of aspiring and conspiring ecclesiastics has long ago observed this—hence the present tranquility. And this protecting power with which Britain has been honored extends beyond its own boundaries. Other nations are indebted to its influences more than they can imagine, or we observe. A Mortara case thrilled not long ago the hearts of tens of thousands in the British dominions, and the murmuring response of indignation made the tyrant tremble. And thus it will ever be, while our Magna Charta is held inviolate, but especially while the blessing of Heaven continues to guide the counsels of our statesmen, to shelter our interests from the invader's approach, and crown our righteous conquests with complete triumph.—When that period shall have expired—if it ever does (which God forbid!)—we may be content to crouch to the burden of despotism. But until it does, we shall not fail, as an enlightened and free press and people, to warn and intreat, as danger or indifference may present themselves.

For the Provincial Wesleyan.

St. John's N.F. Wesleyan Academy.

The annual examination of the pupils of this Institution was held on Friday, June 14th. At an early hour the relatives and friends of several of the pupils, the Rev. C. Lockhart, of Harbor Grace, John S. Phinney, of Burin, Joseph Gaetz, of the Western Shore, James Dove, of Lower Island Cove, now in charge of the St. John's Circuit, the Board of Directors of the Academy, and many of the friends of Education, with which, happily, our Church in St. John's abounds, were in attendance, thus evidencing the deep interest with which they regarded the business of the day; and as the morning hours progressed, a large number of ladies and gentlemen continued to arrive, until the spacious Class Room was well nigh filled.

To a visitor, the first impression on ascending the slight eminence on which the Academy is erected, is *regret* that to such a building there is a disagreeable access. But arriving on the premises—enclosed as they are with a suitable board fence, the ground nicely cleared, and promising in the future the elements of comfort to the Principal of the Academy, in all the advantages of a spacious garden, in addition to what may be required as a play-ground for the pupils—regret gives way to gratitude. Ascending the steps leading to the front door of the Academy, a view of the Harbor of St. John's is presented, with its multitudes of shipping, of variety of rig and form and size; the "Narrows" are likewise visible, and the far-off sea, with fishing craft innumerable like specks in the distance. On the north side of the "Narrows" is seen the "Block House," or signal-station, from which vessels in the distance are descried and signalled. At the north end of the Academy is the residence of the Principal, distinct although attached—a magnificent dwelling, with all the requisites of a desirable boarding house for pupils; and, as the Directors have freely used the means placed at their disposal in making the premises throughout convenient and comfortable, it is satisfactory to know that their efforts have not been in vain. Immediately on the East is the Church of St. Andrew's; on the South side, and fronting the harbor, has recently been erected a staff, on which on this day was hoisted the St. George's Cross; and at a little distance to the S. E. are the Wesleyan Church, whose unpretending *outside* appearance is not an index of its interior comfort—though far too small to meet the demands of the congregation—the new Mission House, in course of completion, and the Church of England Cathedral, a building not yet finished, of stately proportions and Gothic architecture.

According to arrangement, the examination commenced at 9 a. m., and continued until 5 p. m. (with the exception of from 12 till 2). The ease, ability, and readiness with which the pupils replied to the *general* questions which were put to them—the despatch and correctness with which questions in Algebra and Arithmetic were disposed of—their thorough acquaintance with History, Grammar and Geography—their proficiency in the Rudiments of French, Latin, Spanish and Greek (such of course as are learning those languages)—the ease and self-possession, yet modesty, manifested by the young ladies who recited their own productions—the comicality and originality displayed by the young gentlemen who engaged in dialogues: in a word, the general character of the teaching, the ability displayed by the pupils, and happiness which pervaded, deserved and called forth one universal expression of gratification; and too much praise cannot be given to Mr. Reid for the untiring industry which has achieved such pleasing success. The following is a tabular view of the Classes which have been organized and instructed during the term beginning in January and closing in June, 1861:

Studies.	No. of Classes.	No. of Students.
Penmanship,	2	60
Reading and Spelling,	1	13
History,	2	29
Physiology,	1	21
Arithmetic,	3	57
Book-Keeping,	1	12
Mensuration,	1	6
English Grammar,	2	40
Geography,	2	40
French,	2	8
Spanish,	2	12
Latin,	3	34
Greek,	1	3

At the close of the examination the Rev. C. Lockhart, who very kindly officiated for the Rev. Mr. Botterell in his absence, gave a short address, in which he encouraged the pupils to increased exertion, and congratulated them on the advantages they possess. Justly complimenting the Wesleyans on having the services of a gentlemen of Mr. Reid's piety and talent, he concluded by requesting the Secretary of the Board of Directors to read the reply of his Excellency the Governor to the invitation of himself and Lady Bannerman, (declined on account of the pressing duties of His Excellency.) Mr. Bemester likewise paid a well merited tribute to the zeal and labor of Mr. Reid, and expressed the satisfaction which the Board have always received from him in every matter connected with the Institution. Mr. Rogerson followed in a similar style, and urged on the friends of Education to avail themselves of the advantages to be obtained so cheaply, in comparison with former days. The Rev. Mr. Knight, of London, England, (but a native of N. F.) gave a very pleasing address: spoke of ability manifested by the pupils, &c., and favourably compared them with those who, but a short time previous to his leaving England, he had seen in similar circumstances, at an examination at which Lord John Russell presided—he urged on them the necessity of devoting themselves, not merely to the acquisition in youth of *secular* knowledge, but of that wisdom which "passeth all human understanding," and alluded to the advantages now possessed by the youth of this country over those of his early days.

The Benediction being pronounced by Mr. Lockhart, visitors and scholars left—the former well pleased with the success which has resulted since the establishment of this Institution—the latter glad in their mid-summer holidays, which now commence, to throw aside book and slate, and seek amusement and recreation. The principal (accompanied by his esteemed lady) intend in a day or two to visit their friends in Conception Bay, and in the cool and cheering air of the out-ports obtain that invigoration which cannot be reasonably expected in the close and heated streets of a city.

The Rev. Mr. Boyce.

During the past week the Rev. Mr. Boyce, from England, the President of the Eastern British North American Wesleyan Conference, has occupied the pulpit of the Wesleyan church in this City. Two large congregations sat under his ministry on Sabbath, the 9th inst.—Text in the morning, 1 Cor. ii. 2, and in the evening Acts xxiv. 25. The Sermons were highly evangelical and profitable,—calculated to instruct and edify the Church of God, and to arouse the careless from the slumber of sin to the necessity of a present salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

On Tuesday evening, he preached to a numerous audience,—text, Heb. xi. 34,—an excellent Sermon, rich in Christian experience, and full of comfort to God's people. On Wednesday, he delivered a Lecture on his mission to Kaffraria. The Lecture occupied an hour and a half in the delivery, and was exceedingly interesting, showing the character of the Kaffir,—the difficulties in acquiring the language, and teaching them Christianity; also the blessed success of his ministry in winning many of these degraded people to the faith of Christ. The Sabbath school children nearly filled the galleries, and sang most sweetly the praises of God. The whole service greatly delighted the entire audience.

On Friday morning, the Rev. Gentleman and family left Charlottetown for St. John, N. B., by the Steamer *Westmorland*, via Shediac, taking with them the best wishes and prayers of all who were privileged with their society, and leaving behind them a most favorable impression of their many excellencies and their devotedness to the work of God.—*P. E. I. Monitor, June* 19.

The Awakening in the West Indies

The intelligence from Jamaica and other parts of the West Indies is, on the whole, of a most gratifying character. It has pleased God in a very remarkable manner to awaken deep religious concern in the minds of multitudes of persons who up to that time had been living in total indifference about their souls, and many of them in gross and open sin. The result has been an entire change in the character of whole villages and districts. Houses for the sale of intoxicating drinks have been closed. Open immorality has disappeared. Places of worship have been filled with devout and earnest attendants. The Ministers of religion had been too few and too feeble to meet the wants of the people. But great numbers of persons of both sexes have been received on trial, new and additional classes have been formed, and a special supply of class-tickets, notes on trial, and class-papers have had to be forwarded by steam-packet, in order to meet the demand. The Holy Scriptures, and other books of a religious character, have been purchased in great numbers by the newly-awakened.

It is a remarkable fact that this awakening in Jamaica has not commenced with the Methodists but with the Moravians, and has spread from them to the Church of England, the Baptists, and the Missions of the London Missionary Society. The bulk of the newly-awakened have come under the care of the Ministers of those bodies of Christians. Neither have the follies and extravagancies by which Satan has sought to bring discredit on the work of God shown themselves in the Methodist Societies, except in a very few cases. At Guy's-Hill and at Mount-Rosser there have been deplorable scenes of disorder. But there was a lull in the tempest at the date of our last advices, occasioned, no doubt, under the Divine blessing, by the judicious boldness of the Missionary in reproving the works of darkness, and cutting off the offenders from the communion of the church.—*Wes. Miss. Notices.*

Western Virginia.

The *Pittsburgh Christian Advocate*, circulating in Western Virginia, strongly recommends that part of the State, with all the loyal citizens elsewhere, to hold the Government against the rebels. It says:

The erection of the Western counties into a separate and sovereign State gives promise of a glorious future for Methodism. The past history of our church has been overshadowed by controversies between North and South. Had it not been for these quarrels, Western Virginia would have been a garden spot for Methodism. What it would have been, we have an earnest now that it will be. The change will require time; but it must inevitably happen. The day of strife is well nigh over. The hour of peace and prosperity is at hand. The laborer who has long toiled in hope is now nearing the reward of his toils. How inspiring the prospect to the moral heroes who have fought for seventeen years the battles of old Methodism on Western Virginian soil! Moral heroes they are, standing in the hottest of the fight, and with unblanched cheek pressing the battle to the very gates of the enemy. We are glad that this long and still dark controversy is now giving promise of a glorious morrow. The battle may now rage fiercer than at any period of the past; but it will soon end in complete victory. Let neither minister nor layman abandon his post. And the day of redemption from controversy will amply repay the perils and sorrows of the present hour.

Methodist ministers, we observe, are no longer silent. They are pleading the cause of the Union. They are, without exception, we believe, true to the Federal Government. Dr. Drummond, Rev. J. B. Blakeney, and Dr. Dorsey, all delivered addresses to the multitudes assembled in Morgantown when the intelligence reached that place of two thousand secession troops having congregated at Grafton. They encouraged the people to cling to their Union sentiments, and reminded them that the General Government is able to crush out the Southern rebellion. Western Virginia will be much indebted to Methodist ministers for her salvation from the horrors which a union with the Southern rebellion must have entailed. Her freedom is about achieved. Let her take measures to make it perpetual.

The North British Review, in an article entitled "American Secession," has the following:

We can not believe it possible that a people so astute and sagacious as the Americans, can pass through the vicissitudes which are before them without learning their deep meaning and practical lessons. We have strong faith in the recuperative powers of the people, and that out of the soil of political corruption and jugglery a race of purer, nobler men will rise, under whose sound statesmanship a reconstructed Union of free States will resolutely cleanse herself from her faults, and advance by a stable progress to a far nobler, mightier position than she lost in 1861.

It cannot be that the latest born of mighty Protestant nations, the most enlightened, the richest in the heritage of all priceless things, which sages, and martyrs, and patriots have bequeathed to the world, shall fail to fulfil her destiny. To believe in her national suicide would be to believe also that men live only for themselves, to satisfy their own cupidity, to revenge their own wrongs, and gratify their own ambition, rather than for their fellow-men and for posterity. There are moments of frenzied discontent, but there is also a sober after-thought; and we cannot suppose that under its influence the Americans of this generation will disinherit their children of the liberty and glory held only in trust for them, and deprive the world of some of the brightest hopes it has cherished since our race began its slow and painful, but wisely appointed progress.

There surely cannot be a permanent retrogression and decay in a nation planted in the noblest principles of right and liberty, and combining, in marvelously adjusted proportions, the vigorous and energetic elements of the world's master-races, in the midst of which the tone is given and the march is led by that one of them which has never faltered in its onward course, and which is possessed of such tenacity and versatility, that it is everywhere successful. The present calamity and confusion probably form the crucible fires in which the Union is to be "purified, made white and tried," in order that she may take her destined place in the van of the world's progress in Christianity and civilization, fulfilling, in the resistless march of her domitant Anglo-Saxon race across the American continent, one grand part of the Divine scheme for the spread of that Gospel which shall survive all changes, overthrow all evils, and achieve its mightiest triumphs in the later days of our world's history.

Australia.

MELBOURNE, February 22, 1861.

I have been culpably remiss in my correspondence with you for a considerable time. But really there is so little to interest strangers in the ordinary routine of religious work and church activity in this remote region, that nothing perhaps has been lost through my apparent negligence, and some excuse for my silence may be found in the neutral character of our recent history. The tidings of the wonders of mercy which a prayer-hearing God has been working in America, in Great Britain, in Ireland, have excited a deep and lively interest in the minds of all who trust in the covenants of promise, who love the Lord Jesus, and look for his appearing. For some years now has this spiritual refreshing continued in these favoured lands. The news of these movements, brought us by our monthly mails, encouraged God's people in this colony to unite in prayer meetings, for the purpose of edifying one another, and of procuring for this wilderness land a similar visitation of the Holy Ghost. These re-unions for prayer have been general throughout the colony: ministers of all denominations have taken part in them; and we cling to the hope that ere long our hearts will be cheered by some palpable evidence that, like Israel of old, we have had power both with God and man. In some places there have been signs of returning life, but we are as yet unable to speak of anything like a general revival either in our towns or in our bush districts. A few drops have fallen here and there, but as yet there has been no shower of blessings; the heavens are as brass over the length and breadth of a land that gives to Belial and to the mammon the worship and the strength that are due to God alone. But our God is faithful and can never deny himself. He waits to be gracious; and if it shall happen that Australia, like the fleece, shall remain dry, while all around is wet with the dew of heaven, the fault will be in us, and not in the hearer of prayer; our sins will have caused the barrenness, and not the unwillingness of God to give the spirit to them that ask him.

Amongst all the churches in Victoria, I award the palm to that of the Wesleyans for zeal, for energy, for adaptation to circumstances, for success in the work of evangelization. There is a pliability and fitness in the system of the Wesleyans which makes them to overtake fields of enterprise which would otherwise be utterly neglected; they manage their affairs with admirable sagacity. The maxim of John Wesley that *all* should work, and that they should *work always*, is the very spirit of Christianity condensed into a crystal. The prospects of the Wesleyan Church in this Austral hemisphere are very animating. She bids fair to outstrip her neighbours in the race of devotedness to the cause of salvation.

The most pushing of all the denominations at this time is, I dare say, that of the Baptists. Within the last three years this body has displayed great vigour, and has made, and is making, very rapid progress. But there is a peculiarity in the case of the Baptists. Their increase is not only by forming congregations of persons holding their distinctive principles, but also by converting to their Baptist opinions the members of other churches. The most successful man of this body is Mr. James Taylor, who is not only an exceedingly amiable person, but a most unwearied workman in the Lord's vineyard. He is an evangelist of the true gospel type; and in addition to others, labours sufficient to tax the powers of the strongest man, edits a monthly magazine, called the *Australian Evangelist*.

The movement among the aborigines in the Wimmera district, still continues, I believe, though the number of converts is small. There is no question more difficult, than how to improve, much more to Christianize, the poor natives of the soil. In a short time there will be none left. It is indeed a melancholy reflection.—*News of the Churches.*

READ THIS TWICE.—"An old Baptist" writes to the *Biblical Recorder* as follows:—"One of the first evidences of a decline in religion is an indifference to the religious paper. I have sat in churches where scores of members have been excluded. If the excluded were reading men, and took a religious paper, I have noticed that the first palpable backward step was a discontinuance of the paper. This is 'the result of thirty years observation.'"

From the Northwestern Christian Advocate.

Modern Infidelity.

HOW TO DEAL WITH IT.

There is much cause to fear that infidelity is rapidly on the increase in our land, and it is a question of some importance how the church shall most successfully oppose the skepticism of the age. Different answers have been given to this question.

One class would have us believe that a well-educated ministry is a sufficient remedy for this evil. They suppose that were the ministers of the gospel all learned and talented men, they might reason the skeptic out of his infidelity.—Learning is a valuable acquisition to the minister, but history proves that infidelity may grow and flourish under the ministrations of divines of great talent and learning, and that the pride of intellect that is apt to accompany unsanctified learning, when possessed by those who minister at the altars of the church, is far from forwarding the cause of God. It was when the ministers of the primitive church became ashamed of the simplicity of the gospel, and commenced to teach from the pulpit the philosophical systems of their age, that the church began to lose her real power to oppose error. There were not a few learned and eloquent divines in the Church of England when Wesley and his fellow-laborers commenced preaching the doctrine of justification by faith, yet infidelity prevailed to an alarming extent in Great Britain. In fact not a few of these divines helped to spread the infidelity which they were bound by their ordination vows to oppose. It was no extraordinary thing for one of them to join in that beautiful prayer of their liturgy: "Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Christ, our Lord," and then attempt to prove in their sermon that none but fanatics and enthusiasts ever dreamt of enjoying the influence of the Holy Spirit in their hearts. These instances prove, most clearly, that however useful a learned ministry may be in many respects, that it is not of itself a sufficient barrier against skepticism.

Another class of persons appear to think that if the church possessed a certain amount of worldly respectability, she would then be fitted to battle successfully against error.—Could she build splendid temples, and throw around her worship the pomp and grandeur worldly wealth can purchase, the great ones of the earth might then be persuaded to smile upon Christianity, which they now despise, and that infideis would then respectfully listen to the preaching of that gospel which they now consider as foolishness? Very unfortunately for this theory, the experiment has been tried and has proved a sad failure. The periods of the church's greatest worldly prosperity have been the very periods when she has met with her most signal defeats in her contests with error. It was when the world's great ones frowned upon her, and the civil powers were arrayed against her, that the primitive church gained her greatest victories. The moment when she became the favorite of kings and princes, when her bishops became the inmates of emperors' palaces and the familiar counselors of Victoria's generals, she became ashamed of the simple truths of the gospel, and formed a league with error. Perhaps no church ever possessed more worldly wealth and respectability than belonged to that of France at the time when Voltaire and Rousseau were sowing the seeds of infidelity among all classes. If these facts prove anything, they prove that a church's ability to oppose skepticism is not always in proportion to the degree of wealth and worldly influence that she possesses.

What is most needed to fit the church for this work, is more of the spirit of Christ than now belongs to her. Christianity claims to be a practical matter, and the most efficient argument that can be produced to prove her divine origin is found in her power to purify the hearts and regulate the lives of her disciples. Her advocates may picture her as an angel of mercy, who, finding man the slave of vice and the embodiment of selfishness, breaks the chains of his slavery, and sends him forth as a good Samaritan, to engage in untiring efforts for the amelioration of human suffering; but all their eloquence will avail but little, unless they can point to those upon whom the preaching of the gospel has produced such effects. The parent, who, while he claims with his lips to have his affections set upon things above, shows, by his conduct, that he places more value upon his gold than he does upon the spiritual welfare of his fellow-men—has no cause for surprise when his children doubt the divinity of the religion which he has so foully disgraced. The religious society which has nothing of piety but the mere profession, has no reason to wonder that the neighborhood in which it is found should be filled with infidels. On the other hand, there is a *power* in the *life* of the consistent Christian which cannot be resisted; and this consistency can only belong to those who possess much of the spirit of Christ.

General Intelligence.

Colonial.

Domestic.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE, 15th June, 1861.—His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, by the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to nominate and appoint the gentlemen whose names are undermentioned, to be the Commissioners for the Province of Nova Scotia, for the International Exhibition of Works of Industry and Art, to be held in London in 1862:

The Honorable Joseph Howe, Chairman.
The Honorable A. G. Archibald, Atty. General.
The Honorable Benjamin Wier, M. P. P.
Charles Tupper, Esq., M. D.; M. P. P.
John Eason, Esq., M. P. P.
John Tobin, Esq., M. P. P.
His Worship the Mayor of Halifax.
Philip C. Hill, Esq.
John A. Bell, Esq.
William Cunard, Esq.
Robert Morrow, Esq.
Andrew M. Uniacke, Esq.
James Thompson, Esq.
Andrew McKinlay, Esq.

We understand that Admiral Sir A. Milne, K. C. B., the Naval Commander-in-Chief at this port, has highly complimented Captain Caldwell and the officers of the *Mersey*, in consequence of the good behaviour of the seamen and marines when on shore at this port.

This, coupled with the fact that there has not been a *single desertion* out of 600 men—all of whom have been on leave here—must reflect the highest credit on all belonging to the ship.

It is too often the case, we regret to say, that our municipal authorities have to forward complaints respecting the disorderly conduct of men-of-wars men on shore, and it is therefore very pleasing to hear that such occurrences form the exception, not the rule, in Her Majesty's service.

The *Mersey* left yesterday for Bermuda. We believe that she will return here in September. *Chronicle.*

LOSS OF THE CANADIAN.—American papers firnish some particulars of the loss of the *Canadian*. She struck on sunken ice, eight miles South of Bellisle, on the 4th of June, and sunk in about thirty-five minutes. The ice looked small, scarcely above the water, and the vessel was going slow at the time; the struck under the foremast, and water broke into three compartments immediately. Directly after the collision the Canadian's head was turned shorewards, with steam on. In 35 minutes, when all hopes of reaching the shore with the ship were lost, the boats were lowered and sent away full of people. Boat number eight upset and all in her perished. Five minutes after the lowering of the boats the ship went down bow first with a heavy plunge in forty fathoms water, and drew down all that were on board except six, who were picked up, one of whom died. At the time the ship went down there was a fearful explosion aft.—The Captain's boat was about 20 feet from the ship when it sunk, and it was nearly swamped.

Mr. Davis, second officer, went down with the ship; also, Mr. Panton, the mail officer, who was endeavoring to save the mails. Only seven mail bags were saved. The cabin passengers known to be lost are as follows:—Rev. Mr. Mount, lady, and two children; Mr. Mayhew, of Wisconsin, and Captain Wyckman. Not less than twenty of the steerage passengers, six of the cabin, and ten of the crew were lost. The passengers suffered considerably from sleeping in the hold of a salt laden French vessel. The Ship's papers were all lost. The Canadian was an iron vessel of about 2,000 tons burthen; and was built last year.

THE TANGIER GOLD DIGGINGS.—We have information from parties direct from Tangier and who have been for some weeks at the Diggings, which leave no room to doubt that the mining prospects in that neighbourhood have improved since we last referred to the subject. There are now from 350 to 400 men at work there. Of these about 50, working upon some 12, or 14, claims, are believed to be doing well. The proportion which the number of the fortunate bears to the unfortunate, is perhaps not larger than it was three or four weeks ago; but the field unquestionably improves in appearance as the miners progress in their work. It is confidently stated that all of the paying claims improve as the gold-bearing quartz veins are excavated to a greater depth; and many of those which yielded none of the precious dust for a long time, have commenced to *pay*. Pieces of gold—*nuggets*, we suppose they may be called—of the value of $20 and upwards, have been taken out; and one claim yielded, not long since, gold which was valued at $100 for one day's work. Some of the miners are merely excavating the quartz and piling it up until a quartz-crusher is procured; for, as yet, there is no such article upon the ground. Some few disputes have occurred between the miners and the Government Agent, showing the necessity for some fixed code of regulations and for more system in the Government management of affairs. The disputes had, in some cases, been settled by a formal trial before a jury of miners; and peace and quietness prevailed.—*Acadian Recorder.*

THE WRECK OF THE "UNITED STATES."—We learn from a company of divers who arrived here on Saturday last after visiting the wreck of this Steamer at the Bird Rocks, Magdalen Islands, that her destruction is complete; nothing but a portion of her spars is to be seen above water, and the bottom for nearly an acre in the neighborhood of the wreck is strewed with a confused mass of rigging, portions of the cargo, hull, and machinery, so tangled and fouled as to render it almost impossible to recover anything of value. The divers who first visited the spot were tolerably successful, but since that nothing has been done.—*Pictou Chronicle.*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—A young man named Benjamin Moses, son of Mr. Benj. B. Moses, of Richmond, was unfortunately drowned on Saturday morning, near the entrance of this harbor, by the sinking of a boat in which he and another young man were conveying a load of green fish from the schr. Al to Stanwood's Beach. The master (Benj. Goudey) had noticed that the boat was overloaded, and directed a portion of the fish to be put back; but the order was only partially complied with, and the boat sunk when but a few oars' length from the vessel. A boat put off from the shore to the rescue of the drowning persons; but reached the spot only in time to save the younger of the two. The deceased was 18 years of age. His body was recovered a few hours after the accident.—*Yarmouth Tribune.*

FIRE AT DARTMOUTH.—The premises known as Jameison's, or "Rockland," Mills, at Dartmouth, owned by Mr. Thomas Mott, were entirely destroyed by fire yesterday morning about 2 o'clock. Partially insured. The alarm bells in the city were rang, but the steamboat not coming across from Dartmouth, no assistance was rendered from Halifax.

The Government schooner *Daring*, with His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor on board, sailed on Tuesday morning last on a cruise to the Eastward. The Countess of Mulgrave left in the afternoon for Charlottetown, P. E. I., on a visit to Governor Dundas and lady. She is accompanied by Lady Laura Phipps.

Tenders for the loan of £56,000 to the city of Halifax, for the purchase of the Water Works, were opened on Thursday, when it was ascertained that but £8000 were offered.

The Receiving Ship *Pyramus* has been brought up the harbor again, and is now anchored off the Queen's Wharf.

New Brunswick.

RAILWAY SURVEY.—From the *St. Croix Herald* of yesterday, we learn that Mr. Buck and the gentlemen associated with him are at present making a thorough survey of the branch route between various points on the railway and this town. It is now being surveyed with a view to its ultimately being adopted as a part of the European and North American Railway from St. John to this place. Our contemporary hopes that the Government will take immediate steps to commence the surveys near St. John, and says that they have authority already to go on with preliminary operations, and any other work in connection therewith that they may undertake, will, we have no doubt, be fully ratified by the legislature, at its next session.—*Courier.*

THE SEASON.—During the past week the weather has been extremely changeable. On Sturday night last there was a heavy frost and we have been informed by parties from the country that it has affected the potatoe vines in several localities. On Sunday, Monday and Tuesday we had a change in the opposite direction, the heat being almost insufferable, equal in fact to the warmest day in dog days. On Thursday and Friday we experienced yet another change, the weather being cold and blustry. The flies and grubs we understand have done considerable damage to the growing crop in the country, and the gardens about town.—*Miramichi Gleaner.*

The elections in the following Counties have taken place during the past week. Below we give the result:

Westmorland—*Smith*, 1704; *Steadman*, 1417; *Landry*, 1268; *Gilbert* 1022; Palmer, 906; Munroe, 581; Como, 276; Atkinson, 152; Hamilton, 68; Black, 1.

Gloucester—*Young*, 764; *Meehan*, 764: End, 584; Beales, 54.

Victoria.—*Raymond*, 601; *Costigan*, 447; Beardsley, 267; 138; Gagnon, 269.

Kings—*Ryan*, 1324; *Vail*, 1251; *Scovil*, 1,191; Earle, 1137; Nase, 905; McMonagle, 859. Greenwich, Kars, and Havelock have not been heard from.

FIRE.—Yesterday, Friday morning at about 3 o'clock, fire broke out in a small building in Queen street, occupied by Mr. W. C. Nicholson as a shoemaker's shop, and before the progress of the flames could be stayed four buildings were destroyed.—*Carleton Sentinel.*

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.—During the week we have had some excessively warm weather of the real melting midsummer kind, and the effect upon vegetation has been marked. The grass is promising an unusual crop, while the cereals are coming up healthy and strong. The prospect is that at the coming harvest our country will give a good account of her productiveness.—*Ib.*

RAILWAY BRANCH.—We are much pleased to learn that the New Brunswick and Canada Railway and Land Company have commenced the survey of a branch to St. Stephen, which can be made to form at least ten miles of the European and North American Railway, should the Government conclude to extend that line to the American frontier. The survey is being made by Charles Haslett, Esq., C. E., and is progressing favourably.—*St. John Newbrunswicker.*

A telegram to the St. John News Room states that a serious fire occured at Campbelltown, on the 11th inst., by which twenty buildings were destroyed.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—A young man named Wm. Bannister, an employe on the Railroad was killed yesterday while attempting to jump on the train after it had started from the Salisbury Station. His body was brought to the city.—*Col. Empire.*

The St. John, N. B., *Freeman* says:—We are informed that the *New York*, a splendid steamer of 1000 tons register, formerly employed on the Canadian Lakes, has been purchased by a St. John Company, and will in a few days be placed on the route from St John to Boston. On the route downward she ran 180 miles in 9 hours. She is said to be in every respect a magnificent vessel.

The body of a young man M'Naughton or M'Norton, who was reported last Tuesday as missing, has since been found in the river. Suspicion was prevalent at the time that he had met with foul play from the Indians at the French village, with whom he and a party of lumbermen had been wrestling and boxing, and the marks of violence discovered on the head, after the corpse had been dragged from the river, seem to warrant that suspicion.—An inquest was held over the body by Judah Hammond, Esq., Coroner for the Parish of Kingsclear, when a verdict was brought in "found drowned." Dr. Brown, of Keswick, who was called in to examine the body, gave evidence to the effect that the injuries on the head were not sufficient to cause death.—*Head Quarters.*

The Methodist Conference of Eastern British America holds is Annual Session in this City, commencing on Wednesday next. The occasion will be one of more than ordinary interest to the Methodist Church in St. John, as about eighty Ministers—a larger number than usual—will be attendance. The President the Rev. Wm. B. Boyce has arrived; a gentleman of large experience and undoubted ability,—he having held a prominent position in connection with African Missions for a lengthened period, and having also been for some years President of the Australasian Conference.—*Newbrunswicker.*

P. E. Island.

The Surveying party, under Captain Orlebar, in the Steamer *M. Stevenson*, left our Harbour the week before last for Pictou; after coaling there we understand the Steamer proceeding to Sable Island and the Coast of Nova Scotia on a sounding cruize, and returned on Tuesday, the 6th June, to River Inhabitants, Cape Breton.

Near this latter place a coal mine has been opened and about 100 tons of coal have been stored at Mr. Oliver's Wharf, about two miles from the entrance of the river. At present the price of the coal is somewhat high, but if the coal is good, and if facilitities are afforded for its delivery, it will soon become a favorite port for shipment, being two days sail nearer the market than either Sydney or Pictou.

The Surveying Schooner *Gulnare*, under Commander Hancock, which left out port on Thursday, the 24th ultimo, for Shediac, has paid this harbour another short visit for the purpose of remedying some defect in the position of the buoys in Hillsborough Bay. We understand the *Gulnare*, during this season, will be principally employed surveying the South coast of Newfoundland.—*Islander.*

Canada.

H. R. H. PRINCE ALFRED IN CANADA.—QUEBEC, June 14th, 1861.—On Wednesday, at 5 p. m., the *Victoria*, with H. R. H. Prince Alfred, arrived at Quebec. Enthusiastic and numerous cheers announced the fact, and continued till the Prince took his seat in Sir Edmund's carriage. Previous to the *Victoria's* arrival, some of the Ministry, Gen. Williams and staff, and several military gentlemen went to the wharf. About 4 o'clock His Worship the Mayor, accompanied by his officials, and a number of the Councillors in full evening dress, also went down in carriages. At this stage of the proceedings the excitement increased rapidly. The various markets adjacent, and in fact every available place where a glimpse of the Prince could be had, were crowded and covered with eager expectants. The City Police