

A HOPEFUL SIGN.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Evangelical Churchman, remarks that "there is a problem which urgently demands solution," and asks if nothing can be done to heal the "innumerable divisions of the Christian Church" which "destroy its power and are a grief to earnest and thoughtful men."

Verily "truth shall spring out of the earth!" Let such truth but pervade the Episcopal Church and thoroughly leaven all other sections of the Church and the longings of the Evangelical Churchman and all others like-minded shall be satisfied. Christ, all and in all, must weld all hearts in one.

THE BIBLE IN SCHOOLS.

The subject of Bible reading in the public schools is now interesting the Protestants of Ontario. A few years ago they unwisely allowed a foolish cry to lead to its exclusion from the schools; they now seek to retrace their steps.

The object in view, as we gather from press reports, is the making the reading of portions of the Scriptures and the use of prescribed prayers obligatory in the public schools of Ontario, the selections from the Scriptures to be arranged by representatives of the churches concerned, associated with the Minister of Education.

Compliance with this wish would seem to be but a matter of simple justice. In Ontario, as most of our readers know, separate schools have been granted to Roman Catholics, and all other schools are supported almost wholly by Protestants.

No organized effort has yet been made to exclude the Bible from our own common schools, though in solitary cases a board of trustees or certain teachers may speak of private efforts to that end.

He cannot be suspected of speaking in the interest of any form of ecclesiasticism; and he points out very clearly, as many Americans have done before him, that the education which contents itself with merely developing the intellectual faculties will not save the nation from demoralization.

On the same subject the Canada Presbyterianist not long since said: A fierce light beats on the school question from the gloomy walls of the Kingston penitentiary.

had not yet had that teaching! That Church which brushes away the rubbish from the rock and exhibits the rock to the sinner—the rock is Christ, and 'other foundation can no man lay than that—that is the Church which will be uppermost in the day of the Lord.

Henry Ward Beecher is again before the public, and the public are making the most of the opportunity. The former publishers of his sermons have resumed their publication and Messrs Funk and Wagnalls have issued a ten-cent edition of his Statement before the Congregational Association of New York and Brooklyn, taken, if we are not misinformed, from advanced sheets of a sketch of Mr. Beecher's life and work soon to be published by Dr. Lyman Abbott.

Mark Osmond, Esq., of Toronto Harbor, very obligingly gave us a passage in his fine schooner, the Torpedo. It was a splendid chance and the only one that offered for some time. The annual picnic of our Sunday-schools was to be held the next day, and was the first after our coming to the circuit, yet as much as we would have liked to remain to share in the enjoyment of the happy occasion, no other course was open but to take what was clearly the path of Providence.

Thursday, Nov. 9th, has been appointed a day of general thanksgiving. That day should be generally and religiously observed. A contemporary justly remarks that "there is no reason why its observance should be confined almost exclusively to towns and cities.

We are glad to learn that Sheriff Temple on Saturday last declared the Scott Act sustained at the recent election at Fredericton. No scrutiny has been demanded. The vigorous action of the past—an example to other places where the act has been carried—is to be continued.

An item of provincial news has travelled South, to be received there and sent North again in the columns of the Nashville Advocate in this shape:—"Oscar Wilde was arrested at St. John's, N. B., at the instance of the Young Men's Christian Association, on the ground of breach of contract. Oscar settled the case by paying \$100."

Some one said in our office the other day, "If all our ministers were doing as much to increase the circulation of the Wesleyan as Bro. —, it would rapidly grow." Who was he? Is it you, brother? Please think.

The Committee of the Christian Mission to Seamen beg to solicit donations of back numbers of magazines and religious papers for distribution among seamen visiting the port of Halifax. Parcels of the above may be left at the Sailors' Home or Y. M. C. A. Rooms.

men! Yes, there they are, scores of them, about twenty years of age, many below that age. Did the State do its whole duty to these youths when it taught them the three R's in its schools but said nothing to them there or anywhere else about the consequences of wrong doing? Dare anyone say that if the schoolmaster enforced the truth, 'Be sure your sins will find you out,' as frequently and as fully as he explained problems in arithmetic and algebra, all these boys would be wearing a convict's garb? The law practically excludes from our schools the book which says, 'Thou shalt not kill,' and then hangs the man that kills!

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PLEASE MENTION

That all persons forwarding Two Dollars for the WESLEYAN will receive it from the date of order to Dec. 31, 1883. That is—they may have it for fourteen months for the price of a year's subscription. You may do your neighbor and his family good by making this fact known to him.

WHITE BAY, N. F.

The Chairman of the Bonavista District, Nfld., the Rev. J. Embree, has been visiting White Bay, a part of the French shore. Copies of the Twillingate Sun, containing notes of his journey, have been forwarded. From these we take the following extracts:— Our trip to White Bay afforded us much pleasure mingled with much sadness.

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little for themselves, yet clothing many in rich garments and giving them comfortable homes. How they ought to think about and love the fishermen, and help support missionaries and school teachers among them. No churches, no school houses, are seen in these harbors. A minister lives at the bay, but has so many places to attend he can only make a short visit once or twice a year, or that is all that has been done. There are no Sabbath schools; bright looking and beautiful children, in some cases, are growing up without education, or hearing of the love of Jesus. It is enough to make the heart sigh, and angels weep over such a state of things.

Monday, 11. Went up the Arm. A splendid stream swarming with trout, runs through a lovely valley capable of extensive cultivation, filled with large timber, spruce, fir and birch. The birds were singing and as far as the eye could reach the country looked beautiful. This arm runs up some distance from the coast and the water is always still.

Tuesday, 12. Called at Western Cove. No harbor but a shelter from a wind from N. E. to S. W. A church breaks the monotony, the only one in the bay; even here there is no school. It will never make much of a place as there is no room and no harbor. The day was stormy and Purbee Cove was chosen as a harbor for the night. One family lives there; we called and had prayers for which there seemed great gratitude. Wednesday, 13. Left early in the morning for the head of the bay. A fine breeze took us up in two hours. The bay runs up wedge like until the two sides meet, and one seems to have sailed into the heart of the country.

Nothing striking marks the head of White Bay from other parts. The land is high, well wooded to the water's edge. A fine stream runs down a narrow valley from a lake about seven miles inland. Fine farms could be made up this valley. The scenery is very beautiful. Four stately looking wild geese came alongside the craft as soon as anchored. The eggs were found in the spring, and the young brought out by a hen. Several cows were grazing on the shore, giving the appearance of luxury as contrasted with some other places. We enjoyed a cup of good tea and cream at one of the houses. When the railroad is extended to this point how much easier the journey and what a benefit to the country at large. It is said only a few miles from Hall's Bay and this large bay will reap some of the benefits of civilization. What a grand thing when we shall be able to travel comfortably and speedily and yet news quickly. It is fully time old things passed away, and all reaped the benefits of the blessings of advanced civilization. Preached in the evening and received many thanks for the service.

Prince Arthur's Landing, in Thunder Bay, is a very inferior looking village, but being the terminus of the C. P. R. is expected soon to be a very important place, and building lots there are held now at very high figures. In almost every shop here specimens of amethyst, agate and other precious stones are found in large quantities for sale to passengers who may wish to buy. The scenery about this bay is truly magnificent. Thunder Cape and Pic Island and a lot of other islands, rising abruptly from the placid lake and lifting their heads high above the boats make one feel very small indeed. The place is well named, for it looks as if thunder and lightning and earthquakes had combined to make it what it is.

Duluth is a very lively city of Minnesota, about ten years old, and has about seven thousand inhabitants. I was informed by the resident physician that about three thousand had been added to the population during the last year. A ride through Minnesota is pretty but monotonous—mostly all prairie. We spent four days in Crookston, in this State, being detained by the sickness of one of our party. It is a pretty little city, and has some excellent people, notably the gentlemanly host of the Commercial Hotel and his lady. Here we spent Sabbath, and attended a love feast and sacramental service, which was very enjoyable, and preached in the evening, which was less enjoyable, the mosquitoes being very numerous and well up in the free and easy manners of our American cousins.

There is not a place, however, so full of life and growth on the whole route, so far as we can judge, as Winnipeg. Even those who saw it a year ago would have but an imperfect idea of it now. From old Fort Garry to the railway station must be but little, if any, short of two miles, and the whole way is lined with fine buildings and largely devoted to various branches of business. This is only one street in a city which is really not more than six or seven years old. Will write again soon. J. F. BETTS.

Birtle, Man. Oct. 14, 1882.

FROM THE NORTH-WEST.

Mr. Editor,—I shall not attempt anything like a description of our journey from St. John to Birtle. The route we chose was too full of beauty and interest to be readily pictured for a newspaper article.

Twelve hours in Boston on a very hot day was not sufficient time to make acquaintance with many of the objects of interest there, but quite enough to make one long for the cooler atmosphere of the open country. We took our leave of the old Puritan city at the evening train for Albany, and saw but little of the country until the next morning, when we had changed cars and were rolling smoothly along the N. Y. Central & Albany Railroad in the Northern part of the State of New York. The country here is very fertile and everywhere presents a rich appearance. The large fields of wheat and peppermints are quite a novelty to one from the Maritime Provinces. Another object of interest was the all but ceaseless procession of boats on the Erie Canal, towed along by the patient mules, often looking as if they had gone astray and were wandering about in somebody's fields. A glance from the car windows, as we moved slowly over the Suspension Bridge, the wild seething waters far down beneath us in the rocky bed of the river, was all that was afforded us of that much coveted sight.

Two days in Toronto, the "Queen City of the West"—by the way, let me intimate that that proud title may some day in the future be transferred to Winnipeg, or Brandon, or more likely, to Birtle, situated as it is in what the Marquis of Lorne called the "Eden of the North-West,"—gave us opportunity among other objects of interest to see the Metropolitan Church, built during the presence of the late Dr. Punshon in that city, and of which he was a trustee. It was in the evening, and we met there a man whom we esteemed the more highly, just for the time at least, on account of his being a Nova Scotian. He kindly showed us through the church, first having lighted the gas, which is done by electricity. It was a pretty sight to see the long lines of gas jets blazing up in quick succession as if by magic, without any sexton with long flambeaux slamming pew doors and dashing around at breakneck speed. The apparatus is in a small closet in the wall in the vestry, and in less time than it takes me to tell it every jet in the whole building is lighted. The external appearance of the church is very fine, reminding one of the church in Charlottetown, but not to my mind at all surpassing it. The large grounds, beautifully laid off and neatly kept, add incalculably to the external appearance of the place.

The voyage from Sarnia to Duluth was delightful. Four days on Lakes Huron and Superior in fine August weather are not soon forgotten, especially with such agreeable company. The scenery in many places is charming, especially along Garden River, at the Sault Ste Marie, and about Thunder Bay. Our passage through the Sault Canal on the American side was very interesting to those of us who had never had a similar experience. We stopped here about one hour and had a fine opportunity of examining the locks, the masonry of which is very fine indeed. Some of our party also seized the opportunity of shooting the rapids, for which they paid fifty cents each and got a pretty good sprinkling.

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NEW

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