

Miss Judith S. Campbell, adopted daughter of the Hon. Wm. Campbell, Surveyor General.

Dr. and Mrs. Grant are we understand, about to sail from Boston to Constantinople, as missionaries, destined to the city of Oormiah, in Persia, where they expect to join the Rev. Mr. Perkins and his wife already in that country.

Their route from Constantinople will be first to Trebizon on the Black Sea, and then by land by Erzeroum and Tabrez to Oormiah.

This mission is to the Nestorians, a Christian sect that originated in the fifth century, somewhat numerous, and who have persevered in refusing to connect themselves with the Church of Rome.

THE COLONIAL CHURCHMAN.

LUNENBURG, THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1836.

TEMPERANCE.—The increase of Temperance must ever be interesting to the friends of morality and religion, who view the opposite vice of Intemperance as most destructive to the present and eternal welfare of mankind. And whatever means may be effectual for the promoting of the one and the diminution and eradication of the other, must commend itself to the support of the philanthropist and the christian. We have been accustomed to rank Temperance Societies among the most powerful of those earthly means, so long as they were constituted upon the original principle of total abstinence from the article, in the abuse of which the evil consists, and so long as they confined their exertions strictly within the objects indicated by their name. While they did so, astonishing success appears to have attended their endeavours; and we believe we only echoed the general voice of all good men in "wishing them good luck in the name of the Lord." Many perhaps doubted the correctness of their foundation, and the abiding character of their influence; but none could avoid rejoicing to see drunkards by thousands abandon their downward courses, and assume a respectable and useful stand among their fellow men, whereby a large amount of positive good was added to the stock of general happiness, and infinite evil escaped.—We regret to find however, these institutions assuming a new and different character, and departing so far from their original principles, as to divide the friends of the cause, and consequently to strengthen the hands of its foes. Many of them are going too fast for us to keep pace with them, and thus compel us to make a distinction which we had hoped would never have been necessary, between the cause of Temperance, and Temperance Societies.—We believe, as many of these societies are now going on, they will injure that cause most fatally, and eventually undo the good that has been done: and we cannot conceal the indignation and abhorrence with which we have read of the impious intermeddlings with the Divine Ordinances, to which these new extravagancies have given rise.—Nor could we have believed, that so early in the history of temperance in Nova-Scotia, any one would have publicly declared his opinion, 'that we may use any home-made wines in the celebration of the Holy Communion;' and that, as we have heard, another should have ventured to say, that he thought even spruce beer might so be used! With such advocates of temperance as these we can have no fellowship—and as they have abandoned their original principles, the sooner they abandon the original name also the better. That the old system has worked well, we have a comfortable evidence in this very township, where the Town and County Temperance Society has in less than three years, increased from about 20 members to 470, after allowing for all expulsions and removals. And we cannot doubt of its having been the instrument in the hands of God, of doing good, when we can reckon among its consistent members, very many who have before been victims of intemperance, or were advancing rapidly towards its ruinous depths. It is our belief that it will continue to be useful so long as it is governed by its present principles, and no longer; and we therefore earnestly hope it may be guarded from the extravagant additions lately made by the lovers of new things. In connexion with this subject, we extract the following

sensible reasons for refusing to sanction these novelties, (from the New-York Churchman) as given in a letter from the Rev. Dr. Miller.

I have uniformly declined to sign a written pledge of abstinence from wine, and still intend to decline; and have strongly advised that no such innovation on the old pledge, at least for the present, be introduced, for the following reasons, viz.

1. Because I am not yet convinced that drinking wine is, in all cases, and *per se*, criminal. That it is generally inexpedient and insalubrious; and that the great mass of mankind would be much better without it, (that is, that they would be likely to live the longer, and be more healthful, I firmly believe; and, therefore, adopt the personal habit and the mode of exhortation of which I have spoken. But, with the Bible in my hand, I cannot, dare not say, that drinking it is in all cases, sinful. If I adopted this opinion, I should feel bound to banish the use of wine from the Lord's table.

2. Because I am persuaded that adding to the temperance pledge as it originally stood, the *new pledge* of abstinence from wine, cider, beer, and every drink that is capable of intoxicating, is adapted to hinder the progress of the temperance cause; to confuse and divide its friends; to banish many of them from the temperance ranks altogether; to weaken the hands of the advocates of this good cause; and to excite fear in many sober and ingenuous minds, that in joining the temperance band, they will be in danger of being urged on to extravagant and untenable positions, not yet avowed or foreseen. I know this to have been the effect in regard to a large number of highly respectable and worthy persons, whose co-operation in this great cause I have regretted to lose.

3. Because yielding to the advocates of the *ultra* pledge their principles, I do not see but that, as before suggested, the exclusion of wine from the Lord's table is a natural and necessary consequence. Now, this appears to me an unscriptural and mischievous result. Both my judgment and my heart shrink from it with instinctive horror. And I must say, without entering into particulars, that the greater part of what I have read in the public journals, intended to show by biblical criticism and by ecclesiastical history, that fermented wine is to be considered as a divinely prohibited article,—that it was not originally used in the dispensation of the sacramental supper, and ought not now to be used in that ordinance, I have regarded with utter disapprobation and deep regret.—All those who take this ground, appear to me to expose themselves to the charge of 'teaching for doctrines the commandments of men,' and of being 'wise above what is written.'

FIRE IN NEW-YORK.—We regret to state, that a conflagration to an extent unprecedented in the United States, (and it is believed not exceeded in the world since that of Moscow) visited the city of New-York on the 16th ult. by which 674 buildings, and property to the amount of Eighteen Millions of Dollars are said to have been destroyed. It is a happy but wonderful feature in this great calamity, that only two lives are reported to have been lost.—It is stated that the smoke had scarcely ceased ascending from the ruins, before arrangements were made by some for rebuilding upon the former site. We could not but remark in the newspaper accounts, how the corruption and wickedness of human nature were painfully manifest on this occasion, unrestrained by the distress and horror of the scene. In the midst of all, one man is said to have been discovered in the very act of setting fire to a house; and nearly three hundred thieves were apprehended who had been pilfering from the sufferers. On the other hand, we find the display of feelings far more honourable to humanity.—It is stated that the property of Arthur Tappan & Co. who have proved themselves ardent friends of negro slaves, 'was rescued mainly by the blacks, who rushed into the store after it was hot as an oven. By these means more than \$100,000 worth of goods were removed to a place of safety. It is said that it was with difficulty that the negroes were restrained from rushing in after the flames had communicated to the upper stories.' And it also gives us much pleasure to copy the following article

addressed to the editors of a New-York paper. The young gentleman whose heroic exertions it records, and who has thus laid up for himself the source of most delightful reflection to the end of his days, is the nephew of Judge Wilkins of Windsor in this province, and we believe his father once practised at the Nova-Scotia bar.

Gentlemen—I have just heard (through a friend) of a very gallant and heroic deed, performed by a young gentleman,* during the late awful conflagration, and think it but justice to him, and indeed to our frail human nature, that it should be made known.

Passing along one of the streets, then a prey to the devouring element, his ears were assailed with the agonizing cries of a female, to whom he immediately rushed, and on hearing from her that her only child, an infant was then in the upper part of a house already in flames, and would inevitably be burnt if some one did not instantly fly to its rescue, he forced his way upstairs, notwithstanding the repeated warnings of the firemen and other spectators, that he would inevitably perish in the attempt, and there found the innocent in bed, who, unconscious of its danger, was playing with its little hands, pleased no doubt at the brilliancy of the scene, (for the room itself was on fire!) He seized it, and happily succeeded in effecting his escape, restored it to the embraces of its almost distracted mother, who, with frantic joy, threw her arms round his neck, exclaiming, with a heart overflowing with gratitude—'My God! my God! thou hast not forsaken me!'

* Mr. Lewis Wilkins, [son of Martin S. Wilkins] a midshipman, returned a few months since from the Pacific.

Remarks on the Geology and Mineralogy of Nova-Scotia, by Abraham Gesner, Esq. Surgeon.—We have seen the Prospectus of a work bearing this title, dated Parrsborough, Sept. 20, 1835—"to be published at Halifax in a moderately sized octavo volume, as soon as sufficient encouragement is offered, to defray the expense of printing. Price to subscribers, half bound 7s6d—in boards 6s."

A short introduction to the study of Geology and Mineralogy is promised, with a classification of rocks and minerals, and some notice of the mineral springs in Nova-Scotia.

"The author has availed himself of the advantages to be derived at the British Museum, Mines of Cornwall, and other parts of Great Britain, during his professional studies in that country; and having had an opportunity of examining the rocks of tropical climates, as well as those of many localities in America, he hopes that after several years laborious study, with a good collection at hand, he may render the present volume useful and interesting, and now offers his labours with sincere diffidence."

We hope Dr. Gesner will meet sufficient support to induce him to publish his work, which we doubt not will prove interesting to the lovers of those branches of science, and creditable to the province of which he is a native.

John Creighton, Esq. is agent at Lunenburg.

Letters received since our last from—The Lord Bishop of Nova-Scotia; Rev John Black, Shediac; Rev J. M. Campbell, Granville; Rev William Cogswell, Halifax; Rev J. Shreve, Chester; Ven. Archdeacon Wix, St John's, Newfoundland; Rev. Richard Uniacke, Aylesford; William Mumford, Esq Newport; Rev J. Moody, Liverpool; Rev J. W. Weeks, New Dublin; Rev Dr. Twining, Halifax.

Several communications are postponed until our next.

MARRIED.

In this town, on the 2d instant, by Rev J. C. Cochran, Mr J. M. Chamberlain, merchant of Halifax, to Mary Irene, second daughter of John Heckman, Esq.

At Petite Riviere, 22d ultimo, by Rev J. W. Weeks, Mr John Bush, to Miss M. Deagley—31st, Mr Martin Vogler, to Miss A. Lohnis.

At New Dublin, by the same, Dec 29, Mr M. Richardt, to Mrs M. Getson.

At Koch's Mills, by Rev J. C. Cochran, on the 7th inst. Mr John Mason, to Miss Mary Koch.

At Liverpool, on the 29th ult. by the Rev Mr. Moody, Mr Jacob Whitman, to Miss Susan McGill; 30th, Mr Robert Lee, to Miss Turpin.

DIED.

At New Dublin, Dec. 31, Mrs Mary Anne Shaw, aged 25—Same day, Mrs Mary Anne Publicover, aged 21.