

whole system of Methodism, using language to the following effect:—

"I do not think that Dr. Dixon intended to be understood as speaking against the system, or of wishing to have it altered; but rather, at a time when he was enjoying the pleasures of social intercourse among a people with whom, for three years, he had felt so happy, and contemplated his removal to another station under very different circumstances, he (not anticipating publication) gave free and unrestrained expression to his own personal, constitutional objection to moving at all. All who are acquainted with the worthy Doctor's habits and natural disposition will not be surprised, that, when in a place of peace and quietness—especially just now—he should indulge in such sentiments."

Of course if our cotemporary thought that the extract in question would afford peculiar edification to his readers, he was at liberty to please and profit them; but we think the re-publication of those articles only or principally, which are of a disparaging character, not at all calculated to promote brotherly union among Christian denominations, at the furtherance of which many, disposed to overlook minor differences in church polity and church doctrines, are aiming at the present day. Reprials might be taken very easily if we wished to publish all the little tattles we hear respecting other denominations. We might give the following quotation from ROBERT HALL, himself a Baptist Minister against the close communion Baptists:—

"The right of rejecting those whom Christ has received; of refusing the communion of eminently holy men, on account of unessential differences of opinion, is not the avowed tenet of any sect or community in Christendom, with the exception of the majority of the BAPTISTS, who while they are at variance with the whole world on a point of such magnitude, are loud in accusing their brethren of singularity. If we have presumed to resist the current of opinion, it is on a subject of no practical moment; it respects an obscure and neglected corner of theology; while their singularity is replete with most alarming consequences, destroys at once the unity of the church, and pronounces a sentence of excommunication on the whole christian world."

This statement by so celebrated a man as Robert Hall places our Baptist Brethren in a very odious light—but though the passage, with kindred ones, has been long in our possession, we have never re-published it till now—and only now to convince our cotemporary that those who live in glass houses should be careful how they cast stones at their neighbours. Of this we are confident, that Wesleyan Methodism, with all its alleged faults, cannot be charged by one of its own body, with "pronouncing a sentence of excommunication on the whole christian world."

The Itinerancy has doubtless its inconveniences, to which Wesleyan Ministers however distinguished by talent must submit as well as their less favoured brethren; but it has also its decided advantages, which in their practically beneficial effects, greatly overbalance the former.—The Stationary character of some Ministers opposed to a regularly itinerant system is not unfrequently only in appearance, for we find them acting on the same principle and moving from place to place, as their own convenience or the calls of churches may require. They endure the inconveniences, without enjoying the advantages, of a systematic itinerancy.

The Railway.

In common with our cotemporaries and our fellow citizens generally, we deeply regret the unfavourable answer which EARL GREY has given to the application to the Home Government for assistance in behalf of the European and North American Railway, or at least of that portion of it to pass through this Province. We refer our readers to our sixth page for a copy of the correspondence which has passed between Sir John Harvey and the Colonial Secretary on the subject. The reply of Earl Grey took many professedly by surprise. It was thought that prudential policy, if nothing more, would have led to encouragement and aid on the part of the Home Government. But it may be that a dread of "Annexation" may have been the cause of the refusal. The Colonial Secretary may have imagined that the construction of this contemplated Railway, connecting with all the force of iron rails, the principal Cities of the Lower Provinces with the United States, might ultimately lead to a closer union; and supposing that the links of this chain could not be supplied without the aid of British Capital, and that this would not be forthcoming without the guarantee of the British Government, he may have thought

the quietest way of preventing annexation would be to withhold that security. The effort can only be to retard the accomplishment of the scheme. We take it for granted it will not be abandoned. The Railway must be built—the railway will be built—whether by the aid of Great Britain or by that of the United States time will determine. On the best means now to be employed to bring the subject before the Imperial Parliament, or the Home Government, to induce a favourable issue, we offer at present no opinion. The matter deserves mature deliberation, and we would advise parties who may feel most concerned, not to act on hasty notions or immature plans. The country we think would be pleased with an early meeting of the Legislature.

"The Black Law."

Under this significant caption, the *Zion's Herald* of the 16th inst., has a strong article in condemnation of the Fugitive Slave Bill recently passed by the U. S. Congress. From it we learn that an intense and wide-spread excitement is displaying itself in New England on the subject of this infamous law. Meetings have been held in various places, presided over by distinguished men, condemnatory Resolutions have been passed, and the most telling speeches delivered, which have been received with enthusiastic applause. We give a sample of the spirit of the Resolutions proposed at New Bedford:

"Resolved, That any man among us who shall lend himself to the purposes of this law, shall henceforward be held to have forfeited all the confidence and fellowship of all good men, and that we will by every lawful means discountenance every such dereliction from the duty of a northern citizen, as conduct the most infamous and unworthy."

"Resolved, That as citizens of Massachusetts, as men, and as Christians, we protest with our whole hearts against the law; we protest against it for that it endangers the free as well as the bond, for that it brings all the worst horrors of an accursed system upon our free soil, for that it arrays in opposition to our own selves the two noblest principles of free government—the love of loyalty and the love of liberty, and for that it is opposed both to the law of God, and the rights of man."

The spacious City Hall of Worcester, Mass., says the *Christian Citizen*, was crowded on the evening of the 11th inst., almost to suffocation, by the largest and most earnest audience that we have ever seen congregated within its walls.—We clip the following Resolution among others that were passed:—

"Resolved, That inasmuch as the most desperate efforts are being made to reclaim fugitives from slavery, we feel called upon by every consideration of duty and philanthropy to retain them to freedom, and that as God is our helper, we will not suffer any person charged with being a fugitive from labour, to be taken from among us, and to this resolve we pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

From the above we may form an idea of the feelings with which this iniquitous measure is regarded in the Northern States; and although we have no direct interest in the matter, we deem it right to assure the friends of the slave and the enemies of oppression that they have our sympathy, and must have that of the good in all lands. Thus opposed, the obnoxious law sooner or later must be repealed. For this consummation they have our hearty wishes.

We are obliged to our attentive correspondent at Worcester, Mass., for the excellent speech on the "Fugitive Slave Bill" which he so kindly forwarded.

Micmac Mission.

The Annual Meeting of the Micmac Mission Society was held on Wednesday evening last at the Rev. P. G. McGregor's Church, Poplar Grove. A large and respectable audience was in attendance. The Rev. E. Evans was in the Chair, and presided ably over the business of the Meeting. After some excellent introductory remarks by the Chairman, the Rev. P. G. McGregor, Secretary, read an able and interesting Report, detailing the operations of the Society during the past year and stating its prospects for the future.—Several Resolutions were moved, seconded, and carried. Leonard Shannon Esq., the Revs. Messrs. Millar, Nichol, Rand, and Martin, addressed the Meeting eloquently and effectively. Two of the aborigines were also present on the occasion, with whom Mr. Rand occasionally conversed in the Micmac language, to the great pleasure of the audience. We are happy to learn that the Society's funds have been sufficient to meet the current expenses of the year. The

future prospects of this important Mission are encouraging; and we hope that the Meeting of Wednesday evening last will give a renewed impetus to the good cause.

NOTICE.

The Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of N. S., will commence its sittings in this City on Wednesday next. It is to be hoped that this gathering of our Temperance friends from various sections of the Province will not only be of advantage to the general interests of the cause, but also be a means of enkindling to increased ardour the zeal of the brotherhood of the Order in this City. It is contemplated to have a Procession and public Meeting at some time during the Session, of which due notice will be given.—Let the friends of the cause show themselves to be proud of the position which they are called to occupy. Advocates of Temperance! the times call for energy, decision, zeal, activity. Arise then, and act! The cause in which you are embarked is the cause of God and of humanity. Let it be seen that you are in earnest.—Communicated.

On motion of Alderman Noble, the City Council have resolved not to permit obstructions on the sidewalks of the City.

The Ida Foundry at Dartmouth is at present in full operation. Success to it.

The *Asia*, it is said, on her late passage to New York, only gained twenty minutes by not calling in at Halifax.

Mr. Harris, Gardener, has planted during the season nearly 2,000 trees in the Cemetery beyond the Common.

The *Chronicle* states that a Peach, grown in the open air on the premises of Wm. Murdoch Esq., near Fort Massey, and which was presented to him on Wednesday last, weighed a trifle over six ounces. Nobody need peach Nova Scotia after that.

The weather for the last few weeks has been remarkably fine.

Dr. Geener's Kerosene Gas has been introduced in Morton's block of buildings.

Mr. Kellogg, Temperance Lecturer, is expected to visit Halifax next month.

The Montreal *Pilot* states that the Post Office will not be transferred to the Colonial authorities until January next.

A squash is now growing in the Government House Garden, Fredericton, N. B., measuring only 6 feet 11 inches in circumference!

New Brunswick papers state that Messrs. Wilson, Brown and Wark are to be elevated to the Legislative Council.

As an instance of CHAP FAME we notice that one of the Steamers, plying on the St. John N. B. River, advertises to take passengers between St. John and Fredericton, a distance of 80 miles, for Two shillings and sixpence! That's the way to go a-head.

There has been quite an increase this year, in the Canadian imports at Oswego, over those of any previous season.

The famous Beapoor Gun, soon to be taken to England, is stated to be 14 feet long, nearly 6 feet in circumference, and to carry a ball of 2,000 pounds weight. Rather a formidable opponent, and calculated to make a great noise in the world.

The first hog-head of sugar from the new crop was received in New Orleans, on the 5th inst.

Sugar and Cotton in Texas are not more than half a crop this season.

The *Sarawak Republic* 7th, says the new Rice crop is well cut, and is abundant and superior in quality.—The crop was never harvested so late before.

Accounts from the interior of Cuba state that the cholera was still prevailing among the plantations.

An auctioneer in selling a polyglot Bible announced it as Polly Giot's Bible, valued especially for the sake of the publisher, who was the widow of a celebrated German book-seller, and had been left with a large family of children to support. Rather a copious mistake.

The Roman Catholic Bishops in Canada East have issued a pastoral letter, forbidding the people of their charges to read any Bibles, or tracts, or even newspapers.

A correspondent of the Louisville Christian Advocate states that Judge McGee, of Woodville, Miss., has given to the several Methodist churches, in and around New Orleans, not less than one hundred thousand dollars.

The Bible and Education.

When men speak of discarding the Bible from Education, it is enough to set the world on fire. Where, in the wide earth, is there a book like it? In what library will you find such narratives, such wisdom, such pictures of domestic life,

such panoramic exhibitions of natural history, such glowing poetical visions, such inimitable simplicity and powers of diction? There is not a book in the world to be compared with it, even although it were not the book of God; and admitting it to be His, kings may well place their crowns beneath it, and philosophers sit with it on their knees, and merchants carry it with them in their travels, and sailors and soldiers deposit it in the safest corner of their chests, and missionaries go forth with it as beyond price, to give it to the heathen. Take it away, and it would be as if you were to quench the sun, so that the gloom and confusion of a second chaos would fall upon the condition and prospects of mankind.

Sometimes it would appear as if it were supposed that, in contending for this fundamental use of the Bible in the work of education, we meant that the Bible should supplant everything else. But there can be no greater mistake than this. Take the Bible, we say, for what it is,—a book of religion and morality. In connection with these, it contains some history, poetry, and prophecy; but its proper character is, that it is a popular book, that is, a book designed for the mass of mankind on these subjects. If you can educate the young without religion and morality then you may educate without the Bible; but if you cannot, then the Bible you must have, because it is, in all respects, incomparably the best, and, in many most important respects, the only book on these subjects.

Let parents and teachers consider their responsibility, as superintending the formation of character in the young. They have a profoundly important trust in hand; and all their schemes and labours distinctly manifest that they are alive to this fact. Let the young themselves awake to the obligation of rightly improving the precious season allotted for education, and now fleeting so rapidly away; and, above all, let them be careful to listen to the voice of God, proclaiming in his Word, that "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." How can they learn with so much ease and proficiency as this; and their study should be, to learn the Scriptures, and to learn them with diligence and care. Let Christians every where awake to the commanding claims of the religious education of the young. Other means of doing good are not to be neglected; but this should occupy a very high and prominent place. "Educate, educate!" is a voice that comes from every corner of the land on the ear of patriotism; and that education may accomplish its lofty end, in forming the character, and preparing for a holy and spiritual life, the Bible must be its basis, and eternity the sole boundary of its aims.—*Scottish Christian Herald*.

Summary of News.

FROM ENGLISH PAPERS.

It is understood that Sir Denis Le Marchant will succeed to the late Mr. Ley, as Clerk of the House of Commons, on a reduced salary of £2,000 per annum. Mr. Booth, the Examiner of Recognizances and Counsel to the Speaker, is likely to succeed Sir Denis Le Marchant as Legal Secretary of the Board of Trade. Mr. Booth's office will be abolished.

A letter from Athens announces the sudden death of Lord Wm. Clinton, the fourth son of the Duke of Newcastle. The deceased nobleman, who was attached to the British mission, was in his 56th year. It appears that he had rather imprudently started on a tour into the interior, during the great heats, was taken dangerously ill, and in forty-eight hours after his return to Athens, was a corpse.

Baron Brunow, (the Russian Minister,) has returned to London from St. Petersburg. His Excellency had only reached the Russian capital a few days, before he received the distressing news of the demise of Mlle. Olga de Lechnow, his step-daughter.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint, by letters patent, Edward Adolphus Seymour, Esq., (commonly called Lord Seymour,) Charles Alexander Gore, Esq., and the Right Hon. Thomas Francis Kennedy, to be Commissioners of Woods, and Land Revenues, &c., &c.

PORT NATAL.—We understand that the *Lidgett's ship, the Herald*, arrived out, at Port Natal, in 69 days. All the passengers were landed in good health, and were about to proceed, at once, to their land, by the river Umgeni.—Mr. Methley having secured 12,000 acres, in a fertile and well-watered country. Mr. Land, connected with the parties who proceeded by the *Hauler*, expresses himself highly satisfied with the soil, climate, &c., and the emigrants were pleased with the prospects.

A paragraph having appeared in the *Scottish press* to the effect that Mr. Stuart Wortley will not reintroduce into the Lower House the Bill to legalise marriage with the sister of a deceased wife, we are glad to hear, for the sake of the many thousands interested in the subject, that that gentleman has arranged with Lord St. Germans for its early introduction into the House of Lords. As the Lord Advocate of Scotland has expressed his opinion that these marriages are already legal there, we understand the bill of 1851 will not extend to that country.—*Sun*.