The Provincial Wesleyan.

[FOR THE PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN.]

Obituary Notices.

HENRY SLOCOMB, OF HANDLEY MOUNTAIN.

The subject of this communication was the sixth son of Mr. William Slocomb, of Hanley Mountain. His illness was short but severe. In three weeks from the day he left school, his teacher and companions were summoned to pay the last tribute of respect to their departed friend. Just as he was verging into manhood, and bidding fair to become a blessing and comfort to his parents, and a useful and talented member of society, he was taken by his heavenly Father from all the charms and allurements of this vain world, to a world of spirits. From a personal acquaintance with our dear young friend, we feel satisfied that he is now mingling with the saints in heaven. During his illness, he manifested the greatest patience, always desiring his sisters to attend to the wants of his brother, who was also ill. He seemed impressed with the certainty of his approaching dissolution. Being asked by a pious friend who visited him, if he wished to get well, he readily answered, not unless I can live the life of a christian. When he became so exhausted as not to be able to pray audibly, his lips moved, and he seemed engaged in deep devotion.

But nature could not long survive the ravages of disease; and on Tuesday morning, at eight o'clock, March 22d, he quietly fell asleep in the 16th year of his age. The occasion was improved by a sermon from the Rev. M. Pickles. We trust that the solemn event may prove a blessing to the parents, and brothers and sisters of the deceased—that they may obtain mercy of the Lord; may be owned as his children; enjoy his presence, and inherit his kingdom!

S. P.

Handley Mountain, March 30, 1853.

MARY STEELE, OF MANCHESTER.

Died at Manchester, on the 1st inst., Mary the third daughter of J. A. Steele, Esqr., aged thirteen years. During the extensive revival of religion with which this Circuit was favored last winter, our departed Sister was brought to a knowledge of her sinfulness and consequent exposure to the wrath of an offended God. In her distress she called upon the Lord, and He heard her [illegible] and delivered her out of all her troubles. Simple faith in Jesus, the World's Redeemer, put her in possession of the blessing of pardon, and caused her disburdened soul to rejoice in the assurance that she had become a child of God. The sincerity of her profession was evidenced in after days by the general consistency of her deportment; and although it cannot be said that she always retained a spiritually healthy state of mind, yet by those who were most intimate with her, it is believed that she never wholly departed from the Lord. The Sabbath School and Class meeting, as well as the more public services of the sanctuary were frequently her delight, and in those ordinances would she express the happiness she derived while *faithfully* walking in wisdom's ways.

In her late illness, when questioned as to her preparation for death, her language was,—"I feel happy, and believe that if I die, I shall go to heaven;" and as the subject of this consolatory trust, she patiently endured affliction and when released by death, her triumphant spirit sped away

"To the palace of Angels and God."

Last Sabbath afternoon, we buried her, and the attention of the large assembly present was directed to the [illegible] Rev. IV. 13.

May the family from whose circle, death has thus plucked another member, and who, doubtless, have now *two* representatives in Heaven, so "be followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises," that eternal life may be their *family* portion for "ever and ever.

April 6, 1853. A. McL. D.

MRS. ELLEN KNAPP, OF SACKVILLE, N. B.

Died, at Sackville, on the 30th of March, ELLEN, the beloved wife of Dr. Wm. Knapp, in the — year of her age. Mrs. Knapp was a native of Scotland, and came to Nova Scotia from Aberdeen, with her now sorrowing husband and little boy last spring. Although comparatively a stranger in a strange land, she was highly respected by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance. But what was better than all beside, she loved our Lord Jesus Christ. Previous to her leaving Scotland she was a most active as well as pious member of the Presbyterian church, under the care of the Rev. Dr. Hetherington. Although death came suddenly, she did not "make haste," the last enemy "could not make her soul afraid"—she felt that Jesus was precious, and she meekly resigned herself into the hands of a covenant keeping God. She has left a deeply afflicted husband, and two motherless children here, and a much loved mother in Scotland, to mourn her removal from earth. Her mortal remains were followed by a large concourse of people, notwithstanding the bad state of the roads, from her late residence to the Wesleyan church, where a sermon was delivered on the occasion by the Rev. J. G. Hennigar, resident minister; after which, they were committed to the silent grave, in the adjoining churchyard, there to "sleep in Jesus" until His coming again. May the "Lord the Spirit," abundantly comfort the afflicted, and sanctify this sudden dispensation of his inscrutable but all-wise Providence.

J. G. H.

Sackville, N. B., April 12, 1853.

Provincial Wesleyan

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1853.

Letter from Australia.

By the kindness of Capt. McCLEARN, of Liverpool, we are permitted to place before our readers, extracts from a letter lately received by him from Mr. JOSHUA NEWTON FREEMAN, dated *Melbourne, November* 29, 1852. Reliable information of those far off, golden regions, will be eagerly welcomed by our fellow Provincialists, and we need not say, that the statements of Mr. Freeman, may be assuredly depended upon, and will be found exceedingly interesting. Those of our friends who contemplate a "move" to "the diggins," will do well to ponder over the contents of Mr. Freeman's letter, ere they take the final step. The scene there has its dark as well as its bright side, and a judicious person will look at *both*, in considering whether it be better for him on the whole, to sever the ties of kindred and of home, and take passage for Australia, with the design of making that land the place of his future, permanent residence. But we shall not detain our readers longer from the extracts:—

I have been on shore a fortnight doing nothing but endeavouring to learn a little of the state of things here, which is a difficult matter, for Freemason's do not more tenaciously guard from vulgar gaze their peculiarities, than do business men here everything connected with trade;—indeed if they had the inclination they have but little time, for every person seems in a hurry, to give information. They look upon this as the harvest time, and not knowing how long it may last every one is eager to get his share. The merchants, shopkeepers, and owners of property, are making rapid fortunes.

Rents are enormous. A two story building with small sized shop, and little room off, on the first floor, with corresponding room above, in any locality in town, is worth from £500 to £600 per annum, and in the principal streets much more. Three small rooms in any decent situation brings £4 per week—and but few families have more. Shopkeeper's premises cannot be said to be scarce, they are not to be had at any price—many persons who came out in our ship with goods, cannot procure places to offer them for sale—Lodging or boarding houses are literally crammed. The table, used to eat off, in the day, is a bedstead for two at night; and when all are stowed away, there is not sufficient room to walk between the beds, and the first up has to dress in the yard. I know some, designated respectable to distinguish them from the common herd, where four small rooms are made to accommodate nine or ten boarders, in addition to a family of six or seven, some of them grown up females; in such places the charge is from 25s. to 40s. per week. So crowded has the town been that the Vestry and Class Rooms of the Chapel have been used as a temporary shelter for the houseless. Land is very high, £4 & £5, per foot frontal, as a yearly rental, being asked in the principal streets.

Various opinions prevail as to the duration of this state of things; some persons will not give leases under 3 or 5 years, while others will not do so for a longer term than one year, and some not beyond a week. Your property, if here, would be an everlasting fortune for you. Every thing depends upon the gold fields, if they continue productive, property and wages must continue high, otherwise the reverse will take place. All kinds of Merchandize and provisions are dear, although in many articles a decline has taken place—Flour, for instance, that brought on my arrival £45 per ton, is now selling for £30.—Potatoes too were then worth 30s. per 100 lbs., and now sell for 15s. Horses a month since worth £80, sell now for £40., and carriage to the Mines has fallen from £60 to £25 per ton.—At retail, Beef is 4d. a 6d., Mutton 6d., Butter 3s., Cheese 2s. 6d., Sugar 4d., Tea 2s., Bread 2s. the 4 lb. loaf, Wood 40s. the Cart Load, Water 4s. the Cask of about 80 Gals. Washing 8s. per dozen. Guns and Pistols have fallen 100 per cent, the call for them on our arrival was very great. I saw a revolving Pistol sell for £25—indeed many sold much higher Labour although still in good demand, is flatter. Mechanics of every kind, earn from 20s. a 25s. per day, and day labourers from 8s. a 10s. Situations of a mercantile character are overstocked, and barely supporting Salaries are eagerly taken. Money is plenty except with new comers—every one seems to have plenty—there is no driving bargains—if you make any objection to price, the answer is, "go elsewhere."Ately arrived emigrants are called "*new chums*," and are looked upon with contempt by the colonized, who will not deign an answer, to what they consider, a simple question.

Society is in a disorganized state, or rather there is no Society, arising out of the fact, that this country is like a place, where every preparation is being made for the erection of some great edifice, and in a hurried manner, the materials for a great Empire are being promiscuously, and carelessly, but too rapidly thrown together, consequently great confusion, and danger of suffering to many. The great mistake is, that too many are coming out here, before accomodation and provision can be made for them; and this is mainly attributable to the works, and newspaper reports of this country, by interested writers; for [illegible] have exhibited the fair side of the picture highly coloured, they have kept entirely out of view, the reverse side,—and the poor emigrant has been led to believe by hearing statements so often reiterated, he was coming to a second garden of paradise, where he would be exempt from all human ills, and many of the wants of nature, and the few remaining wants satisfied with trifling effort; but he is suddenly awakened from his delusive dream, when he is landed on the quay at Melbourne, his boxes thrown after him, unable to find a shelter for his family, in a filthy overcrowded town, and every second person complaining of diarrhea, or influenza.

It is really pitiable to see the privation of many mothers, and children, and were it not for the fineness of the climate, admitting living in tents, the suffering would in many cases be great. There are at this moment, several thousands of people in tents outside the town, on the government lands—they are quite villages. Many persons are returning, and more would if they had the means.

You must not think, because I have stated "*these facts*," that I dislike the country, on the contrary I think it a very fine one,—the climate is a peculiar one, and as far as I am competent of judging, very healthy. Although this is the last month in spring, I wear with comfort, the same clothes I wore at home in the month of May, and the nights are quite cool, so much so, that blankets are indispensable, and a little fire early in the morning is not uncomfortable. The greatest inconvenience is the dust—it resembles a smart snow-drift, and is prevalent more than half the time; it runs at times as high as the houses, and prevents the distinguishing any objects across the street.

There is no doubt that this is a first rate place to make money; and every person engaged in business, is doing so, but the difficulty is to *get in*;—which is next to impossible. The "diggings" are rather falling off in the yield, notwithstanding the increased numbers employed. It is a difficult matter to form a correct opinion of the individual chances of success;—the reports of those returning are so conflicting,—but I have come to the conclusion, that it is necessary to engage in it as a business, to make it at all profitable. Some work a few weeks without success, and leave in disgust. Some have dug sixteen weeks, without making expenses, and in the seventeenth have found sufficient to make up for the whole. Great finds, however, are of rare occurrence now, and sober, reasonable men from there, have told me, that any person who makes a business, and continues at it, is sure to make as much as he could otherwise, and has the chances of doing much more. New places, however, are daily turning up, and of course richer yields.

The Doanes are here—have sold the brig Sebim for £1200, surplus stores and other matters nearly £200 more—and brought freight from the Bay up, to the amount of £100—the wood-fittings for the passengers, bulk, heads, floor, &c., brought over £70; an extra cook-stove which cost them £6 10s. brought £10—all sterling money—it is the currency of this country. There are two Margeson's, blacksmiths, from Liverpool, at Williamstown, about 7 miles from here—doing first rate at their trade. Indeed Mechanic's cannot fail to do well. Common labourers too are wanted.

The Bay abounds in *Fish* of various kinds, and they bring a fearful price—and are caught in small boats. A fish about the size of a large Mackerel brings in town 3s—and so in proportion. Little things like flat-fish bring sixpence each. The Bay is very large—the entrance to it is perhaps two miles wide, or less; and in going up to Hobson's Bay, where the ships lie, about seven miles from Melbourne, you lose sight of land. The town of Geelong is in this Bay. Williamstown is opposite the shipping. From this up to Melbourne, the River (Yarra Yarra) is quite narrow, half the width of your Liverpool river, and shallow at the entrance;—nine feet being the utmost water, that can be carried over—which makes the lightering business a good one, so few vessels being shallow enough for that purpose. There are a great many vessels in the coasting trade between this, Sydney, and Van Dieman's Land, mostly American, bought in California, fast sailors. They come up to the wharves abreast of the town, and bring from the latter place Timber, Battens, Shingles, Boards, and Wooden Houses. The latter have been, and are now selling for from £44 to £55, with two rooms, doors, windows, shingles, boards, and all complete; the whole building 24 feet by 12, and 7 to 8 feet high.

With regard to our people coming out here, I would say mechanics of every description, and men of capital who are not doing well at home, and are willing to rough it and stay here, will certainly do well. Labouring men, either as farmers, or for any manual labour, will find this their place. Mercantile servants are at a discount.—An advertisement in yesterday's paper for a clerk, procured 150 applications. I think, too, there is a good chance for smart, energetic men, who can turn their hands to anything. For instance—A person could earn from 12s. to 15s. stuffing Mattrasses or making Stretchers, per day. Very many of our labourers would make, as tolerable Carpenters, 20s. a day. Much more has been made boating and trucking, but a great many are taking it up. Men with good, working wives, do best after once settled. In some cases they keep small shops, in others sew, or take boarders;—all of which is very profitable. But the stories about persons coming here and picking up a fortune in a few months, is all fudge.—It is a new growing country, and as long as the gold-fields last, will be a money-making one, but it requires *energy, labour, patience*, and *perseverance*.

Notwithstanding the many reports here about "*Robberies*," and "*Murders*," which probably you will also hear, I believe the former are committed by a few practised thieves from Van Dieman's Land, and the latter is confined to "*drunken squabbles*," although the diggers spend their money with great recklessness, and drunkenness is at a fearful height, the Taverns being often so full that they cannot contain more, yet the town is as orderly and quiet, and particularly so on the Sabbath, as towns in England, or even our own Capital. This is attributable to the severity of the law; for drunkenness and indecent behaviour are heavily *fined*.

A person arrived a month or two since, has just told me an amusing incident in Colonial life. He says, the first night on shore in seeking lodgings, he found a place for sleeping—early in the night he was aroused to pay 2s. for his accomodation, and on rising in the morning counted eighty-seven persons in the apartment, *rather* a good rent that.

Our Society, Methodists, have a fine Stone Chapel in the principal street, which will seat about 800 persons. A School House at back, and a two story brick Mission House beside it; they have four Regular, and twenty-four Local Preachers. The Chapel is crowded on Sabbath days, but there are only 160 in Society. They can get any amount of money—some of the members being rich. They have also two Regular, and several Local Preachers, at the diggings, and Class and Prayer Meetings regularly kept up.

The Bishop of Melbourne appears a fine man. He presided at a meeting of the Auxiliary British and Foreign Bible Society, with all the Dissenting Ministers around him. When our Superintendent entered, he arose, and extending his hand, received him very cordially indeed. He appeared to treat "*all* the *Ministers* as *equals*." In his opening Speech he said, "*He was happy to have this opportunity to meet his brethren of the different branches of Christ's Church, although differing on some points, all agreeing on the one point, that the Bible was the one only and, sufficient rule and guide, of faith and practice.*

Decr 2nd.—I saw a piece of land on one of the main thoroughfares, much smaller than the lot beside your residence, sell for £3,000, and near it, for another piece £100 per foot frontage is asked. I have just received two *Wesleyans*, July and August, and hope the intermediate numbers will come to hand. 'Tis a first rate paper; shall show it to Mr. Butters. The reports from the Sydney Mines are of late more favourable, shall probably take a run to them for a few weeks.

Lining Out Hymns.

MR. EDITOR,—The subject on which I address you, is one which is of some importance, although I am aware that it has not been so considered by most persons belonging to the Methodist Society throughout the Province. I allude to the practice of *lining* out the hymns in meeting; it is a practice which was, I believe, established by Mr. Wesley himself, in consequence of the scarcity of books at the time of his ministry. I do not see why it should be continued at this day, when a small sum is sufficient to purchase a Hymn Book, and it is a rare thing to meet with, in this Province, a person who cannot read. The practice, in these enlightened days, amounts to an insult to the congregations. It has been "done away with" in your city, in Fredericton, and, I think, in St. John, N. B., and is not only absurd, but where there is no organ to start the music, the singers find it difficult to sing the hymns, and it has a most horrifying effect on the nerves of persons who understand music. Good music will attract a congregation; and if the above practice was abandoned, I know of many persons, in this county and elsewhere, who would be regular attendants at the Methodist Chapels.

The first business of a preacher ought to be the formation of a good choir; as good music is as great an inducement to persons to attend a place of worship as good preaching, and where there are both good sermons and good singing, there will be, generally speaking, the largest congregations.

I hope that this subject will be considered by ministers throughout the country, and that they will not continue to adhere to the present custom merely because it is of old standing.

By giving the above a place in the columns of the "*Provincial Wesleyan*," you will oblige,

Your obedient servant,

Bridgetown, April 5, 1853. G.

We insert the above communication, not implying, however, our approval of its sentiments, but on the ground of our unwillingness to shut out discussion altogether, on points on which there is a diversity of opinion. We feel bound to say that, in our judgment, the practice of lining out hymns, is neither in reality nor in design, an "insult" to our congregations. The writer is misinformed in respect to the practice obtaining in this city.—In all our churches, except one, the old custom remains, and in that, the only diversity is, that a whole verse is read at a time, for the accomodation of the choir, the singing services of which are led by an organ. We know not the practice that now prevails at Fredericton and St. John.—ED.

The way to heaven is not the "primrose path of dalliance," which some do vainly tread; but the narrow way, rugged and thorny, of which Jesus spake, that enters through the strait gate into the city.

If our affections and feelings are moved in social exercises, and are cold and insensible when we are alone with God, we have great reason to suspect our state.

Religious Items.

ROBBERY OF A MISSIONARY IN HAYTI.—We learn from the captain of the schooner Agate, which arrived at Provincetown recently from Jeremie, that the Rev. Charles Bishop, missionary of the Wesleyan Society at Jeremie, while on his way from Aux Cayes—whither he had been on business connected with the mission—was attacked by robbers at a place called the Devil's Hole, and robbed of his portmanteau. He was struck a heavy blow on the back of his neck, and received two deep cuts with a hatchet on each side of his face. A boy, who was with him in charge of his baggage, both being on horseback, fled into the woods, and when he returned, found Mr. Bishop insensible. He succeeded at length in obtaining assistance, although it was a solitary spot, far from any habitations. Surgical assistance was sent from Jeremie, which was 30 miles distant; but fears were entertained that Mr. Bishop would not survive his injuries.—*Boston Traveller.*

THE JEWS.—A remarkable change is said to be in progress among the Jews in almost every country. Rabbinism, which has enslaved the minds of that people for so many ages, is rapidly losing its influence; and multitudes are throwing aside the Mishna and the Talmud, and betaking themselves to the study of Moses and the prophets. Among the Jews in London there is a great demand for copies of the Old Testament. The subject of their restoration to Palestine, and the nature of the promises on which the expectation is founded, are extensively engaging their attention.

DEATH OF WESLEYAN MINISTERS.—The *Watchman* reports the death of three Wesleyan ministers:—Rev. *Joshua Fielden*, of London, in the 76th year of his age and the fifty-fourth of his ministry, died on March 7th. On the 9th, the Rev. *James Baker*, who had been 39 years in the itinerancy. At Belize, Honduras, the Rev. *Harman Mason*, aged 27. His career as a missionary was short, but his labours were abundant, and were owned and blessed of God

ARRIVAL OF PORTUGUESE CHRISTIANS.—The brig Comet, which arrived at this port a few days since, brought as passengers fifty of the persecuted Portuguese, who fled to Trinidad from Madeira, about five years since. They are now on their way to join the settlement of their friends in the state of Illinois, and some of them we understand, are quite destitute, not having the necessary means to proceed further.—They are principally connected with the Presbyterian Church, a few only being Baptists.—*Baltimore Patriot.*

MURDER OF A MISSIONARY.—As Rev. Elisha S. Terry, a Baptist missionary at Pembina, Minnesota, was one day proceeding to the woods to cut a stick of timber, singing, as he passed along, a hymn in the Chippewa language, he was pierced through the body with arrows from the bows of a band of Sioux Indians, who were lying in ambush and afterwards scalped. So wrote Rev. T. R. Cressy, of St. Paula, in a recent letter to the Home Mission Record.

THE MADIAI.—The Paris correspondent of the [illegible] *News* says:—"The Madiai are shortly expected here from Marseilles, and I believe a deputation from the Bible Society of London will come to Paris, to receive them on their arrival, and to offer their assistance and encouragement in the name of British Protestantism. They have been visited at Marseilles by the British consul and almost all the English residents in that city.—Their hotel is constantly crowded with sympathetic, or curious visitors."

REMARKABLE PROPHECY.—The following is the prophecy of Huss, which he is said to have pronounced to the council of Constance, who by a decree in violation of a safe conduct from the Emperor Sigismond, passed A. D. 1815, ordered him to be burnt—"You are now going to roast a *Goose*:—Huss is German for goose—but in an hundred years a *Swan*—Luther in German is a swan—will come, whom you shall not be able to destroy."—*Ex. Paper.*

... A person of Catholic faith recently died in Sandwich, Mass., and by direction of his wife the corpse was interred in a Protestant Cemetery. The following night the parents and friends of the deceased, proceeded to the grave-yard, dug up the body, carried it to the depot, and were about to start with it for Boston, when the friends of the wife came to the rescue. The offenders have been held for trial at the April term of the Court of Common Pleas.—*Am. Exch.*

... Forty missionaries, male and female, have been sent to Ningpo since the ports of China were opened in 1843, by different American and English Societies. Of these only one male and one female missionary have been removed by death, and only two families compelled to retire by sickness.

... The Chairman of Kingston District writes, says the Toronto *Christian Guardian*, that revivals are in progress in Napanee, Wilton, Waterloo, and Newburg Circuits, and on the Hinchinbrook Mission.

... The congregation of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, living in Picton and vicinity, Canada West, intend building a new church in Picton. The *Gazette* says, that at a meeting held a few evenings since, seven persons present signed their names for twenty-five pounds each.

... The Rev. Mr. Baker, assistant pastor of St Paul's Episcopal Church, Baltimore, renounced the Episcopal faith a few days ago, and made a formal profession of the Roman Catholic faith. The renunciation has caused much surprise.

... Rome has a population of 175,000, and amongst them are twenty-six bishops, 1,280 priests, 2,092 monks and members of religious orders, 1,690 nuns, and 537 ecclesiastical pupils.

... The late *Samuel S. Howland*, of New York, who died in Italy a short time since, has bequeathed $20,000 to various religious and charitable institutions.

... The receipts of the American Baptist Missionary Union from the 1st of April, 1852, to the first of March, 1853, were $61,924 66.

Hanley Mountain.

MR. EDITOR,—As I often see accounts in the *Provincial Wesleyan* from various Circuits, there are some, perhaps, who will read with interest, a communication from Hanley Mountain. During the month of January last, our worthy Superintendent, with two of his local brethren, Messrs. Fowler and Ray, came from Bridgetown for the purpose of holding a series of meetings. They laboured earnestly, and a feeling of solemnity seemed to pervade the minds of the hearers; and those who had prayed so earnestly for the conversion of souls, had the pleasure of hearing several declare themselves for the Lord. Others, who had wandered far from the right path, expressed their sorrow for so doing, and have united once more with the Society. Many of the young appear thoughtful, and we doubt not but that the seed sown will spring up after many days.

There have been many deaths here within a few weeks. Mrs. John Slocomb, a member of the Baptist church, after a few weeks illness, died—leaving a young husband and one child. She lived a pious life, and died a happy death. Mr. Granville B. Reid's son, a lad of about twelve years of age, was taken from time into eternity, March 22nd. He was a pleasant and interesting boy, and was particularly endeared to his family. I might mention others who, within a short period, have gone to the bourn, whence no traveller returns, and of some who are prostrated upon a bed of sickness, but do not wish to draw too largely on your space at one time.

S. P.

Hanley Mountain, April, 1853.

[FOR THE PROVINCIAL WESLEYAN.]

The late Honble. William Crane.

How true it is, that no resistance can be successfully made to the fiat of Heaven—to the imperative and uncompromising demands of Him, whose decree is "to dust shalt thou return."—The prince and the peasant, the learned philosopher, and the uncultivated rustic, the rich man and the poor, are all alike unprotected from the fatal shafts of death If riches could bribe this enemy, and divert him from his purpose, then would multitudes, who are now inmates of the dark damp vault, be still occupying a conspicuous place on this stage of action.

Among the obituary notices over which our eye has lately passed, is that of the Honorable WILLIAM CRANE, a man whose name, has for many years, been closely identified with the commercial, agricultural, and political interests of the Province of New Brunswick; and who under the smiles of a beneficent Providence, was raised to the pinnacle of worldly prosperity. "One dieth," saith Job, "in his full strength, being wholly at ease and quiet; his breasts are full of milk, and his bones are moistened with marrow; and another dieth in the bitterness of his soul, and never eateth with pleasure; they shall lie down alike in the dust, and the worms shall cover them." How many, and how alarmingly loud, are the calls, which by the removal of others from this world, God is making on us, to be prepared for a similar event! And by the most irrefragable proof, are we reminded, "that riches profit not in the day of wrath" (death); that as "we brought nothing into this world, so it is certain that we can carry nothing out"; and that "having food and raiment, we should be therewith content."

Mr. Crane, though naturally possessed of a vigorous constitution, was for some years, the subject of severe rheumatic affection, which subjected him at times to much suffering and inconvenience, in attention to his multifarious business; and during the past year, various symptoms in his case, led his friends to the conclusion, that inflammatory action, in some vital part, was considerably increased. He was, however, at the time of his leaving home for Fredericton, where he was required at the opening of the House of Assembly to take his seat as first Commoner, apparently as well as he had been for some months previously; but He, who is the Sovereign arbiter of man's destiny, and in whose hands are the issues of life and death, saw fit, in His inscrutable wisdom, that the husband and the father, should have his connexion with all terrestrial objects, severed, not in the bosom of his family but among strangers. Mr. Crane departed this life at Fredericton on the first instant.

At the request of his sorrowing widow, and family, the remains of our late friend were removed to Sackville by the way of St. John, and on Friday last, deposited in the Graveyard of the Wesleyan Church. Some delay had been caused in St. John by the very tempestuous weather in the early part of the week; but on the Steamer getting to Dixon's landing on Thursday evening, the public became aware that the body had arrived. Two o'clock on Friday was the hour appointed for paying the last tribute of respect to the remains of Mr. Crane, and the large concourse of people assembled on the occasion, testified to the respect with which he was regarded, not only by his own particular friends, but by the community in general; probably, on no similar occasion, was there ever a greater number of people assembled in Sackville.

At the family mansion, our customary service of singing and prayer, was conducted by the CHAPLAIN of the Mount Allison Academy.—The body was then borne to the Wesleyan Church, where the religious service for the occasion was opened by the Revd. Mr. PICKARD, the Principal of the Academy. The Revd. Mr. HENNIGAR, the Superintendent of the Sackville Circuit, then delivered a very appropriate discourse, from the words, "Set thine house in order for thou shalt die and not live." 2 Kings xx. i, which was heard with apparently profound attention, and it is to be hoped with much profit.

In speaking of Mr. Crane, the Preacher dwelt in a manner, which could not fail to be responded to by all present, on his various traits of character, as a commercial man, a politician, and a legislator, and also as a friend and supporter of the Institutions of religion. The body was then borne thence, to the Sanctuary of the dead, to its last resting place; where after the reading of the Burial-Service by the Superintendent, it was, while surrounded by the weeping family, and a vast multitude of sympathising friends, forever veiled from mortal vision. A. D.

Sackville, N. B. April 11*th*, 1853.

Charlotte Town, P. E. I.

MAINE LIQUOR LAW AGITATION.

A Public meeting was held in the Temperance Hall, Charlottetown, on Good Friday, at half-past 2 o'clock, P. M., to discuss the propriety and practicability of abolishing by Law the manufacture and sale of Intoxicating Liquors upon this Island. The spacious Division Room was well filled. Rev. Dr. Evans, Wesleyan minister and Chairman of the District, occupied the Chair. The meeting was opened by singing and prayer. The Chairman briefly explained the object of the meeting. The Petition of upwards of three thousand Inhabitants of this Island, praying for the abolition of the Liquor Traffic, he observed, had been, in somewhat a summary manner, disposed of by the House of Assembly, upon the ground he presumed that the country was not prepared for the enactment of such a Law at present. The meeting now held was intended as the commencement of a series of meetings to be held throughout the Island, for the purpose of eliciting free discussion, that the people might be correctly informed upon the point, and their wishes distinctly known. He stated it as his opinion that such a Law was called for, and would ultimately be enacted and enforced. He felt assured that the discussion, on the present occasion, would be conducted with all proper calmness and candour, and that he would be supported in his intention of discharging in a proper manner, the duties of the position assigned him, as chairman of the meeting.

The following Resolutions were passed by a large majority.

Moved by Com. Orlebar, R. N., seconded by Rev. Mr. Rand—

Resolved, That experience has proved that the use of Intoxicating Liquors, as a beverage, is the cause of a very large proportion of the ills that affect communities, in producing crime, poverty, and demoralization.

Moved by John Arbuckle, Esq., seconded by Rev. Mr. Narraway—

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this meeting, it is expedient to prohibit by Law, all traffic in Spirituous or Intoxicating Liquors, or the manufacture or distillation thereof, for any other than medical or mechanical purposes

Moved by the Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. William C. Trowan—

That whereas much misunderstanding exists upon the subject of the Maine Law, and on the subject of Temperance in general, therefore—

Resolved, That a competent Lecturer, or Lecturers be obtained, to travel throughout the Island, to deliver lectures, distribute Tracts and other Temperance publications, organize Temperance Societies, &c., and in every proper way promote the great object.

Moved by Mr. James Moore, seconded by James B. Cooper, Esq.—

Resolved, That in order to accomplish the object contemplated in the last Resolution, a subscription list be now opened, and a Committee appointed to solicit subscriptions for meeting the expense.—*Prince E. I. Advertiser.*

The Priests Countermined in Piedmont.

Perhaps it is almost lowering the dignity of the great subject of Religious Liberty to present the ridiculous side of the efforts of its enemies against it, but we cannot help recording an instance of ludicrous failure in the proceedings of the priests within the last month or six weeks.

Signor Mazzinghi, a man of family at Florence, is prosecuted by the clerical party for distributing tracts at La Spezia. By vast efforts, a judgment is obtained against him; the next day the King grants him a free pardon. The governor of Chambery, at the solicitation of the Archbishop, forbids the circulation of the Bible in Savoy. The government instantly demands an explanation, and loses no time in reversing the ungodly *ordonnance*. The Minister of the Interior, Signor San Martino, at the instigation of his Confessor, sends a telegraphic message to the Swiss frontier, to forbid the return into the country of Dr. De Sanctis. The Waldensian "Table" appeals to the Sovereign. A Council of Ministers is held, and by a vote of all the other Ministers against one—that one being M. San Martino—the order is rescinded, and last Sunday Dr. De Sanctis was to preach at Turin.

The facts connected with the last circumstance are of a most interesting nature. Every one is aware who Dr. De Sanctis is. The Cure of the chief parish in the city of Rome, he left all for Christ. For two or three years he has been in Geneva, winning the regard of all who knew him, and doing some limited work among a few Italian exiles. Three or four months ago a call from the Vaudois Church decided him to go to Turin, and examine, on the spot, whether it were, or not, his duty to settle there as a minister of that ancient Church. The crowds who attended his preaching, and the effects of that preaching, have decided him. Three weeks ago he returned to Geneva, to bring away his wife and children, and to establish them and himself in Piedmont. He had sold his furniture. The interior of the diligence was taken. On the very eve of his departure, the news of the prohibition to return reached him. It seemed as if the cup was struck down at the moment of reaching his lips. He was not only penniless for the future, but actually houseless. Hear the result. The news spread through Geneva. In twenty-four hours his house was refurnished from garret to basement of sympathising friends. Gifts of various kinds flowed in from all quarters; and even persons whose sympathy had previously been less than that of others, came forward to cement in an hour of trial, a friendship which brighter days had not been able to produce. The result we have stated. Dr. De Sanctis is gone to Turin, followed by a cordial interests from the north of the Alps, and greeted by a generous, not to say curious, reception, south of the Alps. And this he mainly owes, under GOD, to the bigotry, the intrigues, and the imprudence of the priests.

The lesson of all these events is the absurdity of the present sacerdotal efforts to stem the rising tide of the Gospel. What have these men done is the above cited cases? They have strengthened our position in Italy. It is said that very often the best and strongest limb of a man has, is one which has been broken and mended. The most assured liberty is that which has been once under tribute, but reconquered. And in regard to England, they have verified all that Mr. Lucas has said of his Church. They have shown that he, and not Mr. Keogh, is its true expounder. It is essentially the enemy of all liberty. The tracts of Mazzinghi, the Bible of Savoy, the pulpit of De Sanctis, it equally hates and would oppress. It is the same in Piedmont as in Tuscany—in Ireland as in Piedmont. Romanism is the most abject of slaves, and the hardest and most remorseless of masters.—*Church Witness.*

WESTERN AFRICA.—Accounts from Western Africa state that thirty varieties of cotton have been found growing spontaneously in that country. A missionary says he has stood erect under the branches of a cotton tree, in a Goulch village, so heavily laden with balls that it was propped up with forked sticks to prevent it from breaking down under its own weight. The cotton was equal to that of any country. The natives manufacture cotton goods extensively. Western Africa also abounds in coffee. The whole land is said to be covered with it. In Erravala and Kaffa, two hundred pounds can be purchased for a dollar. A single tree in Monrovia yielded four and a half bushels in the hull at one time, which made thirty-one pounds when shelled and dried.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—A recent census of the Sandwich Islands, says the *Boston Journal*, exhibits some facts of startling interest, and which illustrate in the most unmistakable manner the vital law that the inferior race must give way to the stronger. The present population of the seven Islands forming the group is 80,641. The deaths during last year were 7943, while the births were only 1478—an average of six deaths to one birth. The foreigners numbers only 1787. This is an extraordinary state of things, and we doubt whether its parallel can be found in the history of the world. In the time of Cook, this people numbered 400,000; thus in seventy years they decreased 320,000. In 1836 they numbered 108,579—decrease in seventeen years nearly 28,000. Such a rapid decrease of native population is a deeply melancholy spectacle. At the present rate of decrease, another generation will hardly have passed away ere this people will be blotted from the face of the earth.

AUSTRALIA.—In the last accounts from Australia, it was mentioned that a system had become common of adulterating the gold dust with grains of false metal, sent out from Birmingham. This evil, which appears to have been carried on in a wholesale manner, will be likely to check the exportation of coin from this country for the purchase of gold, since no one will feel safe as to the character of the return he may get. Among the last arrivals, a considerable portion of the metal, instead of being found, as heretofore, to be worth £4 1s. per ounce, has yielded only about £3 14s. The discovery has attracted much attention.—The diggers will pay dearly for the consequences as the distrust will cause good and bad metal to be alike difficult of general sale among the dealers in the colonies.—*Corr. N. Y. Spectator.*

DESTRUCTIVE AVALANCHE IN THE PYRENEES.—An enormous avalanche of snow fell a few weeks ago from one of the high mountains at Reboul, department of the Ariege. It swept away crops, trees, and detached houses, and completely buried the hamlet with all its population. Four hundred men from the adjacent villages assembled, and after a great deal of labour succeeded in rescuing twelve persons; they were all sadly bruised, and partly frozen, but it is hoped they will recover. Nine dead bodies, three of them children, were dug out of the ruins; as were also a number of horses and oxen. The amount of loss was very great. A letter from Bareges, of the 10th, states that two avalanches had fallen from the mountains of Midau (Hautes-Pyrenees) in the preceding week, and crushed a number of houses. It is believed that twelve houses at least have been destroyed.

RESULT OF THE MILAN INSURRECTION.—We extract the following paragraphs from a private letter recently received from an American lady, sojourning in the vicinity of the districts, affected by the recent insurrection in Lombardy. * * * "Thousands of poor Swiss, whose sustenance depended on their daily labours, have been sent without even a day's warning into their native mountains, to traverse the snows in midwinter, with their wives and children, without food or covering—leaving all they had at the mercy of the barbarians. The city of Milan has been for weeks guarded as by seige; at every door armed soldiers, and the most horrible executions, and in fact murders, by the Austrian soldiers, are committed every hour—cruelties unheard of since the middle ages. But the last astounding act of despotism is the seizure by the Austrian Government of many of the richest palaces of the princes and nobles, which have been turned into barracks for the army; and finally, all the wealth of every Lombard who was in any way compromised in '48 has been sequestered, and the revenues appropriated to the support of the army. This includes hundreds who have since become citizens of this and other countries, who are thus changed in a day from princes to beggars. O! what we see of the effect here only, is too horrible! But certainly England, America and Piedmont cannot look on and do nothing, when their own citizens are thus atrociously robbed by Austria without law or reason."—*Newark Daily Advertiser.*

PEGU.—The province of Pegu, in the Empire of Burmah, which has been "annexed" by Great Britain to her East India possessions, is a territory of great value and importance. It was long an independent kingdom, but became a dependency of Burmah in 1757. Its most important products are teak timber, ivory, beeswax, saltpetre, iron, lead, tin, very fine rubies and diamonds. Its principal seaport is Rangoon.

NEW MATERIAL FOR PAPER.—Hett Von Parmewitz, the inventor of the process for making wool from pine trees, has recently presented to the King of Prussia specimens of paper made of the same material. Another ingenious individual, at Giersdorf, has also made paper from the red pine, which is so white and good as to be fit for writing or drawing, and needs no sizing because of its resinous quality.

General Intelligence.

Later from England.

THE R. M. STEAMER, AMERICA, arrived at this port on Wednesday evening 14th, inst.—She brought 120 passengers, 20 for Halifax.

Commercial prospects are cheering. The political news is of little importance.

Increased supervision is to be exercised by Government over Railways throughout the kingdom.

Four thousand of the leading commercial houses of England have refuted by a deputation to Paris the assertion that British interests are inimical to France. The Emperor has expressed great satisfaction in connection with this manifestation. Sir W. Molesworth has publicly avowed his opinion that the Colonies should have the fullest measure of self government.

The satisfactory issue of the negociation at Constantinople is fully confirmed. The French and English Ambassadors were daily expected at that port.

A conspiracy has been discovered at Berlin Twenty persons have been arrested, eighty houses searched, arms and ammunition have been found.—From what we hear we fear