Obituary Notices.

Died, at Union Road, on the evening of March 21st, WILLIAM SELLER, Senr., aged 87 years. The subject of this notice was born in Malton, Yorkshire, England. In 1804 he professed a change of heart, and associated himself with the Wesleyan Society. For several years he was a devoted and useful class-leader, often walking four or five miles to discharge the duties connected with that office. In 1819 he emigrated to Prince Edward Island with his family; and during his earliest days on the Island, was remarkable for faithful and persevering attachment to the interests of religion. The closing years of his life were beclouded by occasional aberration—an affliction of mysterious but merciful intention, doubtless—which shut out his mind from the active duties of life, as well as from the external operations of religion. This visitation rendered the subject of it a source of more than ordinary trial to his family; yet never, we believe, was true filial affection more constantly exercised than during that painful dispensation. The last moments of Brother Seller's life were evidently brightened by a return of consciousness, and with it, of his wonted love of the Saviour. His last accents were those of supplication, and implicit confidence in the saving mercy of Christ. His body was conveyed to Little York cemetary and interred among his kindred, to be at length, we trust, numbered with "the resurrection of the just."

Died, at Shelburne on the 26th of March, very seriously regretted, in the 28th year of her age, Miss ELIZABETH TOTTIE, the *seventh* daughter of the late John Tottie, Esq. Her severe sufferings, though continued for a fortnight, were borne with unvarying composure, resignation, and submission to the Divine will, and without a murmur. She had been a consistent member of the communion of the Church of England for several years, which was exemplified in her walk and conversation. Her afflictions were fully sanctified to her; and she could with strong though humble confidence in her Redeemer, exclaim, on several occasions, "Whom have I in heaven but Thee;" and, though to her to live was Christ, yet to die was gain. She esteemed the untiring visits of her pastor very highly, and was beloved by her fellow-Christians of all denominations. Her end was eminently peaceful. She has left an aged and widowed mother, one brother, and four sisters to lament their bereavement.

Provincial Wesleyan.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 1862.

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

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

We do not undertake to return rejected articles.

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

Education in England and Wales.

While the minds of British legislators and people have during the past year been occupied with the absorbing topics of the civil war in America, the Trent outrage, Colonial defences, and the unsettled state of national affairs on the continent of Europe; and though from a concurrence of causes the commerce of the kingdom has suffered depression, the important subject of Education has engaged the public attention throughout the length and breadth of the empire.

Less than a year ago, the Royal Commissioners of Education published an elaborate report of their investigations in the sphere of the educational interests of the kingdom, which in addition to many important suggestions towards an improvement of the system, contained much valuable statistics. We glean from these (thro' an article in the London Review) the following particulars.—From the latest returns, it was ascertained that in England and Wales there were 24,563 *public* schools containing 1,675,158 pupils, and 34,412 *private* schools containing 860,304 pupils—an average of 58.2 pupils in the public, and 24.82 in the private schools. It was ascertained, (a proof of the conviction which is felt by the most ignorant classes of the nation of the necessity of education), that every man earning 12s. per week sent his child to school, and that nearly every child received education of some sort, though very much must of necessity be of the most indifferent character. To show the increased facilities of education since the beginning of the century, it is stated that in 1803, the proportion of scholars to the population was 1 in 17 1-2—in 1851 it was 1 in 8.36—in 1858, 1 in 7.7. Compared with other countries we find that in Russia it is 1 in 6.27; in Holland 1 in 8.11; and in France 1 in 9 *(about the same proportion as in Nova Scotia)*. It was further elicited that private schools in most cases are preferred to public schools, even among the poor; being thought more respectable, although the teachers may be inferior to those appointed by government.

It will be interesting to our readers if we note the important work which our Wesleyan body is prosecuting, in the nation's education, from the number of schools which are mainly supported by it. It is cause of gratulation that in addition to the ordinary connexional enterprises, the Wesleyans in England have, within but a few years, taken an Educational stand in the number of their schools second only to the Establishment; and second to none in their efficiency, attested to by the official approval of the government inspectors. In this respect they can challenge the Church of England itself, for whereas the Church of England have 1,092,822 pupils in 22,236 schools (an average of 49.01), the Wesleyans have 453,702 pupils in 4,311 schools (an average of 105.02).

Among other proposals for the improved management of the national schools, the Commissioners advocated the formation in each county of a committee of twelve; six to be elected by the Quarter Sessions; and six more by the Commissioners of the Poor—Ministers of the Gospel to form one-third of the whole. One half of the grant to each school is to be paid by the county, and the other half, in the shape of a capitation grant by the Privy Council. The examiners are required to examine each child entered on the schedule, and for every child thus examined the school is to receive 21s. to 22s. 6d. from the public money. The examiners are to be appointed by the local Boards, the government inspectors to be present.

Since the publication of the Commissioners report, the Committee of the Privy Council have issued a *new Code*, which in the most essential features differs wholly from the scheme propounded by the Royal Commissioners; ignoring the most momentous principles, and retaining all that is objectionable in the Report. This Code, it is almost needless to state, although advocated by the *Times* and the ultra-voluntarists, has given general dissatisfaction to those engaged in the work of education. To quote the reviewer—"It is so shallow and empirical, that scientific educationists are amazed at such an instance of an administrative corps being in charge of a department the philosophy of which would seem to be quite beyond their grasp. At the same time, it is so contrary, in some of its more prominent provisions, to the most obvious lessons of experience, that it is exposed to the ridicule of all who have had any practical acquaintance with the work of educating the children of the poor. But withal, it is so reckless in its destructiveness, and so hardy in its disregard of government engagements, that it has aroused throughout the country the deepest indignation and the most determined opposition." Its prominent feature seems to be, the unqualified rejection of the moral element in education. It views the subject, only in its utilitarian aspect, considering the material interests of the nation only, wholly insensible to the bearing which the *morale* of education has upon the national weal.

The Vice President of the Committee of Council is a political appointment, which post is vacated on every change of the ministry. The proposed scheme is credited to the Secretary, Mr. Lingen, who has proved himself, in the opinion of many, incapacitated to deal with this complicated and momentous question. He seeks—by a method which is called "simplification"—to revolutionize the system which, though defective in many points, is infinitely preferable to his own. The New Code is likewise at utter variance with the proposals of the Commissioners, which fully recognize the moral element and the essential importance of Normal Colleges, with a due regard for the protection and encouragement of infant schools. As respects young children, the New Code proposes to group them in classes for examination according to age, and ignores altogether the importance of infant schools, as preparatory institutions. In its opposition to Normal Colleges "it seems to imagine (and indeed affirms) that they will get reading, writing, and arithmetic better taught by teachers of low attainments, than by highly cultivated teachers."

The majority of the Royal Commissioners have expressed their disapproval of the measures proposed by the New Code. Sir J. P. Kay Shuttleworth, a leading educationalist, has published a "Letter to Earl Granville," which is pronounced to be a masterly and unanswerable criticism, which must seal its fate." Sir J. Packington, Lord Lyttleton, and other friends of education throughout the country, agree with Sir James Shuttleworth in condemnation of the new regulations. The principals and secretaries of Normal Colleges, and the managers and teachers of inspected schools, "resent the injustice and audacity of the New Code, and anticipate nothing but wide-spread ruin to educational undertakings from its operation." The fact is, it is inspired by the narrow and inconsiderate principle of pecuniary economy, based upon the notion that a scheme of more widely diffused inferior education, at once accomplished, is preferable to a well-grounded system of gradual development and extension, having a just regard to the moral well-being of the scholar.

Amongst other remonstrants, the Wesleyan Committee of Education have addressed a "Letter to the Right Hon. the Earl Granville, on the Revised Educational Code," exposing its glaring defects and destructive principles. It will be known to our readers that our Wesleyan brethren in England have an efficient Normal College, situated in Westminster, London, where teachers are trained to supply their schools in almost every county of the Kingdom. This and kindred institutions the Code violently assails.

We will here briefly describe the educational system which these innovators seek to displace, and which has been the growth of the last twenty years. Mere intellectual results was the *secondary* aim of its promoters, being organized in view of the low moral condition of the masses. It required the daily reading of the Scriptures; and based all education on moral teaching. Its objects are thus defined: 1. Religious instruction. 2. General instruction. 3. Moral training. 4. Habits of industry. Lord John Russel, in a letter published at that time, contained the following: "It is her Majesty's wish that the youth of this Kingdom should be religiously brought up, and that the rights of conscience should be respected." These fundamental principles of religious and moral training, the New Code wholly ignores, and its manifest design is "to extricate the State from all moral responsibility in regard to the condition of the people, and thus abandons all the traditions of the great educational statesmen of the country, respecting the moral objects of education."

There is one important feature in the English educational system, which the educationists of these colonies might profitably study, viz: the employment of Government inspectors, whose duties, in addition to a rigid examination of the schools, are to fix the standard of attainment, and to grant certificates of merit. This we believe is already a part of the Canadian system, which ought to be considered a necessary provision for the successful operation of any system of public education. Imperfect as our provincial scheme is, (if we may be said to have any) we should regret the success of any efforts of our legislators to impair the efficiency of our Normal School. This institution is found to be in the highest degree beneficial in England, and we believe, if properly conducted, ours must have a corresponding elevating influence upon our common schools.

As Wesleyans we have reason, under present circumstances, to cherish unshaken confidence in denominational institutions, as best suited to the actual condition of the country, and enjoying the confidence of a majority of the people. Our own institutions, besides affording a superior education to the well-to-do classes, occupy a somewhat analagous position to Normal Colleges in the training fully qualified teachers. They commend themselves to our increased affection as instrumental in the education of our children; and we commend them to the generous support and confidence of all our people.

Knowing that the secularising principle has numerous advocates even in Nova Scotia, we earnestly hope that, as a Christian body, we shall never swerve from the principle which we have ever advocated, of making the religious element a *sine qua non* in the education of the people.—We consider the youth of our churches as candidates for an immortal existence, as well as for the mission of this life; and were we to argue upon the general subject of religious education by a Christian country, we should simply base our reasoning upon the fact, that *the Bible* is the charter of our freedom, and the bulwark of our constitution. As a religious body we can never be justified in yielding to any opposing influences, be they what they may, which may seek to undermine the principles or disturb the equilibrium of our Protestant faith.

Letter from England.

(From our own Correspondent.)

ENGLAND, March 21st, 1862.

The foreign intelligence of the last fortnight presents few features of special interest. The excitement in Paris has settled down for a time, and the Emperor pocketing his chagrin, has backed out of his difficulty with considerable grace. He yet makes no definite sign as to the removal of the French troops from Rome. He is not quite the master of circumstances in this case. Charity demands that some allowance should be made for him in his confessedly difficult position. France is yet a Papal country, and though the masses are practically infidel, Romanism is their professed religion. The priests have still a very extended power, and the soldiery are much under their influence. An open defiance of the Romish priesthood in France would imperil the Emperor's throne. Hence his vacillation. Reason and conscience and enlightened liberality of feeling prompt him to give up the Pope, but policy stands in the way.

Prussia is approximating to a crisis. The sudden and arbitrary dissolution of the Chamber of Deputies by the King savors too much of a bygone despotism to suit the advanced political freedom of the realm. The new ministry represents a retrograde school of politicians. It is generally believed that the King, following the traditions of his ancestors, will make no concessions but such as are wrung from him by a Reform Parliament. That the new Chamber will be even more liberal than the old one seems to be generally taken for granted, and the faith of the nation in the progressive movements of the future seems unshaken. King William is losing his chance of becoming the most popular sovereign on the Continent. At the head of a great onward movement in Germany he might win imperishable distinctions, and confer an everlasting boon on his fatherland. But how seldom are united the king with the sage!

From Russia we hear that Mr. Seward is busy in complimenting the autocratic government and making friends. In one of his despatches, he anticipates the complete and permanent restoration of the Union upon its ancient constitutional basis, suitably modified, and adds, that when such a consummation comes, "humanity will admire the fidelity, constancy and wisdom of the Emperor." Russian Emperors are not proverbial for being hood-winked. Alexander is not to be caught with chaff. A little compliment however will be somewhat cheering to him, after the terrible drubbing he has just received from Prince Dolgoroukow. The Prince some time since obtained leave to travel, and made such good use of his opportunities as to have his eyes thoroughly opened as to the terrible degradation of Russian society. He therefore published a book, a policy always questionable in a Russian, and the truth was spoken so clearly and boldly, that his Imperial master, anxious to have so illustrious an author near him, sent for the Prince, enjoining him to return to him. The Prince, however, knew better, and his estates were forfeited and his princely title abrogated by the decree of the Emperor. But the Prince seized the opportunity of sending a letter to his sovereign, reading him such a lesson as is seldom addressed to monarchs, and amongst other things protesting that the title of Prince was but an empty mockery in a land where no one can be free.

The revolution in Greece, if such it may be called, is nearly at an end. By the last advices we learn that Nauplia could not hold out much longer, and had asked for an amnesty. An armistice of twenty-four hours had been granted. The rebels had lost all their cannon. Athens was quiet. A corps of observation, consisting of 24,000 men, had been marched to the Greek frontier by the orders of the Sultan. Rather a large force for mere observation! An attack by the Turks on the Montenegrins was expected daily.

Garibaldi has issued a letter, dated Turin, in which he urges the Italians to raise subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers by the late inundations in Austria. This is a new phase of Garibaldian policy, and not altogether without significance. In the same letter he says that it is quite time that the fraticidal wars among nations should cease. The idea is beautiful enough, every one must admire the theory, but that Garibaldi, of all men in the world should propose it, is passing strange. The ex-King of Naples has been sending orders to the officers of the Franco-Roman garrison, for their services at Gaeta. The French Government, however, has politely sent them back again, doubtless to the no small chagrin of his ex-Majesty.

The news from China is ominous. The Red Sea telegram reports that when the steamer *Odin* left China, Shanghai was closely invested by the insurgents. Every arrangement had been made for a vigorous resistance, and it is probable that the next mail will bring intelligence of a sanguinary battle. We are likely to be involved in that most expensive and unprofitable of enterprises, a Chinese war. Lord Elgin has arrived in Calcutta. The Mexican expedition has advanced to the status of "negotiations." It is to be hoped that all differences will be adjusted, and that we may honourably back out of an alliance with Spain, which reflects little credit and promises little advantage.

The Queen has returned to Windsor, and is now within the walls which witnessed the decease of her Royal Consort. The Queenly dignity of her sorrow wins all hearts. Almost immediately on her arrival, she paid a visit to the Royal vault in St. George's Chapel, and on the white marble slab which covers over the temporary resting place of the Prince Consort she deposited a wreath of memorial flowers. On Saturday last, the eve of the anniversary of the death of the Duchess of Kent, her Majesty laid the foundation stone of the mausoleum which she is about to erect to the memory of her illustrious husband. It is intended that her own remains shall be deposited by the side of her husband in the day when England loses her noblest and best of Queens. The spot chosen for the projected mausoleum is in the gardens of Frogmore, the residence of the late Duchess of Kent. The ceremony was conducted of course with as much privacy as possible, the members of the Queen's family, and a few ladies and gentlemen of the Royal household being present. When the stone was laid, prayer was offered by the Dean of Windsor, and the mournful service was ended. The stone bears the following inscription: "The foundation stone of this building, erected by Queen Victoria, in pious remembrance of her great and good husband, was laid by her, the 15th day of March, A. D., 1862. 'Blessed are they that sleep in the Lord.'"

The memorial Fund is not increasing as might have been expected. The sum realized scarcely exceeds forty thousand pounds. The reason of the seeming sluggishness of the English people is this: nearly every town in the land is preparing to erect a local memorial of the lamented Prince. Statues, busts, columns, crosses, almshouses, asylums, hospitals are being voted on all sides, and the liberality of the people knows no bounds. But it is almost impossible to secure local memorials on a grand scale, without damaging the fund for the erection of the national memorial. The selection of a monolith is not universally popular. The ultilitarian feeling in England seems rather against the prodigious outlay which must be necessitated by the simple transit of so vast a mass of stone. But whatever the popular feeling, the thing must be done, and done splendidly too. Four times, perhaps six times the money already realized, must be raised to complete the work, and make it at all worthy of the memory of the illustrious dead.

It would be very pleasing to the nation at large if the International Exhibition were opened by the Prince of Wales. This is the general feeling, but it is feared that the Queen will not sanction the return of her son at so early a date. She is desirous of carrying out to the letter the wishes of the late Prince Consort. But had he known that his own place at the opening would be vacant, and that his royal wife would be a widow, weeping at home, he surely would have desired that the father should be represented by the son. A commission is to be issued to the Duke of Cambridge, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, with Lords Derby and Palmerston, authorising them to open the Exhibition, and invite foreign potentates to be present. Some have expressed a wish that the Emperor Napoleon should be requested to take Her Majesty's place. Surely we can raise a personage in England of sufficient weight, without falling back on Louis Napoleon!

The Prince of Wales is pursuing his tour, in excellent health. He maintains his incognito as well as the people will let him. The Arab guides are astonished at the homely style and appearance of the Royal traveller. Their astonishment was heightened when they saw him scale the great Pyramid without assistance.—The marriage of the Princess Alice is definitely fixed for the month of June. To insure that privacy which the recent bereavement demands, the solemnity will be performed at Osborne, and not at Windsor. Prince Alfred has grown much during his long absence from England, and bids fair to be most popular.

The Great Exhibition building, though a seeming chaos, will be quite ready by the first of May. It might have been twice as large, and then there would have been too little room.—The opening is to be very splendid. Anthems have been composed for the occasion by Rossini, Meyerbeer, Verdi, and Auber. Three hundred instrumentalists and one thousand vocalists are to perform, under the direction of Mr. Costa.—Coincidently with the world's Fair in London will be held the Handel Festival at the Crystal Palace, for which the tickets are being greedily bought up already. Provision has been made for holding special religious services for the benefit of foreigners during their visit to London.—There will be preaching in German and French, and other means will be adopted to meet the spiritual requirements of the visitors from abroad. Extensive arrangements are being made for special religious services in English, so as to make the period of the Exhibition of signal benefit to all who visit the metropolis.

The Houses of Parliament are dragging on in a singularly monotonous style. The absolute dreariness of the Lords has, however, been somewhat relieved by the belligerent propensities of the Lord Chancellor, who has on one or two occasions given great interest to the debate by a storm of cool personalities, quite refreshing to all parties. By some mistake in the Bankruptcy Bill of the last session, some clerks who were transfered from the Bankruptcy to the Insolvent Court have unfortunately lost their salaries,—they having been paid before in fees, whereas, under the new arrangement, they get no payment at all, stamps being the only income of the Court. This error has given rise to a series of the most amusing recriminations between the law lords, and others. The most distinguished combatants have been Lord Derby and the Lord Chancellor, who have bespattered one another with a vigor worthy of two old ladies from Billingsgate. The fun has been immense.

There is not much stirring in the religious world. Dr. Williams, of the Essays and Reviews, has resigned the Professorship of Hebrew and Theology in the Lampeter College.—The income is £500 a year, with house and grounds. Dr. Colenso, the Bishop of Natal, whose views on polygamy have long been notorious, and recently expressed with great vigor in his otherwise masterly work on the Romans, has solemnly called upon Convocation to give the subject a calm and careful deliberation. He wishes that the Church of England should formally declare that polygamy is not a *malum in se*, but a practice which, under particular circumstances, may be allowed to Christian men! The Church of England is founding a number of missionary bishoprics just now; why not transfer Dr. Colenso from Natal to the Great Salt Lake, where he would be the most popular bishop in the world.

The indefatigable Dr. Cather is pushing his Systematic Beneficence scheme most vigorously. There is to be a grand demonstration on the question in London, during the month of May.

Letter from Australia.

WESLEYAN CONFERENCE,
Adelaide, South Australia, Jan. 25, 1862.

MY DEAR MR. CHURCHILL,—I write you a few lines only, as I wish to take advantage of the mail which is just making up for Europe. We began our Annual Conference in this city on Monday last. It should have commenced on the preceding Thursday, but owing to the lateness of the steam vessel from Melbourne the principal officers of the Connexion and the Representatives of distant Districts did not arrive in time. The Rev. Stephen Rabone, the Ex-President, introduced the Rev. James Watkin to the Conference as its President,—our nomination of him to that office having been confirmed by the British Conference. Mr. Watkin is a veteran minister, and is much beloved. He is the author of the appeal—"Pity poor Fiji" which produced such a deep sensation in the missionary heart of British and Irish Methodism about 20 years ago. He spent many years in Fiji, but has for some time past been connected with the New South Wales District. The Rev. Jabez B. Waterhouse, one of the sons of that eminent Missionary the late Rev. John Waterhouse, was elected Secretary of the Conference.

We have received eleven candidates on trial for the ministry. The increase of our Church membership in the Colonies is 1137 besides 1059 on trial; in the Mission Districts we have an increase of 5455, the largest increase being in Fiji and the smallest in New Zealand, where the relations of the Maorie and European populations are still in an unsettled state. No death has occurred this year in our ministerial ranks, and no minister retires as a Supernumerary. General peace and prosperity pervade our Connexion in the Southern Hemisphere. We greatly desire a Theological Institution, and are endeavouring to form plans with reference to its initiation. There are peculiar difficulties in the way of our success in periodical literature, yet the Wesleyan Chronicle has at length surmounted them, and is getting on with comparative prosperity. We cannot yet spare a minister to attend solely to our Book and Literary Departments, and the present Editor having been eight years connected with the Melbourne Circuits is likely to be removed in accordance with our itinerant usages, to another sphere. It is not yet known who shall succeed him.

The Conference is still proceeding. The President's official Sermon in Pirie Street Church was from John iii. 16, and was one of great earnestness and power. The ordination service will take place next week. Methodism in this city and throughout this Colony of South Australia is very influential. Our churches in the city are large and elegant, and they so dot the face of the country as to remind one of Cornwall and Yorkshire. Intending soon to write again. I am, my dear Brother,

Yours affectionately,
JAMES S. WAUGH.

Rev. C. CHURCHILL, A.M.

Letter from Petite Reviere.

MR. EDITOR,—I am happy in being able to forward for insertion in your columns, the following statements in reference to the extension of the work of God in our midst.

The deep interest exhibited in the ordinary regious services at Mount Pleasant, and the fact, that there were some cases of awakening in that locality; induced me to commence, in the early part of February, a series of special services, which were held there and in the adjoining settlement on the LaHave. This effort was continued, with some interruption from stormy weather, over a period of about seven weeks, and the results were most gratifying.

Every effort was made to produce an intelligent appreciation of the benefits of practical religion, and to induce a cordial and sincere recognition of the claims of God; and I rejoice to say that these efforts were succeeded by the Lord the Spirit. The progress of the work was slow, but the Divine Spirit, whose awakening power had been manifest in our ordinary services, continued to bless with influence, which seemed steadily to intensify through continued weeks, and under this influence one and another, from day to day, deliberately covenanted to be the Lord's. The majority of these were heads of families; and it was peculiarly affecting to see *aged* men and women bowed before God in deep penitence, pleading in earnest language for pardon. Never have I seen such poignant conviction of sin as was here felt, more general in cases of revival; strong men trembled violently with emotion, and others rose from their beds, to plead through the entire night for pardon.

At the result of this visitation of mercy, fifty-three persons have been received on probation for membership, making seventy-five who have been thus received during the quarter. A flourishing society, has now been established at Mount Pleasant, a class has been formed at La Have, and a very interesting one also at New Dublin Shore. In all these places we have hitherto had no society. Ministers, who have formerly occupied this field of labour, will be glad to know that the seed which they sowed in hope, is now bringing forth fruit. I rejoice to say, that in many hitherto prayerless homes, the domestic altar has been erected; and as a result of this work of God is still advancing in the awakening of others.

We are greatly indebted to the Rev. Mr. Stewart of Lunenburg, who, though incessantly engaged in his own exhausting field of labour, kindly gave us valuable assistance, as also to his colleague Bro. Bigney. Many of our faithful members also from Petite Reviere aided us largely in this work.

Yours faithfully,
J. HART.

Petite Reviere, March 29, 1862.

Report of the Portland Wesleyan Sabbath School Anniversary,

HELD MARCH 6TH, 1862.

(Abridged from the Religious Intelligencer.)

As we entered the Chapel the good old tune of "Oliphant," set to words suitable to the occasion, greeted us; and when its last strains had died away, Mr. Lovell from Portland, Me., addressed the Throne of Grace, in behalf of the meeting and the cause they were about to plead. When the audience had again resumed their seats the choir sang,—"Little travellers Zionward."

The Chairman, Rev. John Prince, expressed his deep interest in this cause, but would make no further remarks; and called on Mr. John Healy to read the Report. It was well written, pleasant, brief and encouraging. The school contains 99 male, and 123 female scholars; 22 teachers, and five officers. Although not in debt, funds were low; and both Bibles and Libraries required replenishing; hence the necessity of appealing to the parents and friends of the school, for the needed supply. The Report glanced at the proceedings of the past year, the attendance of the pupils and teachers, which last was remarkably good; also the number of verses recited by the scholars, which were an almost incredible amount. Some of these "little ones" must possess great memories, which we hope may prove of very great advantage to their own intellectual culture, and be also a benefit to others.

Mr. Geo. King moved the first Resolution. He referred to the cheapness of Sabbath-school institutions; comparing them with public schools, associations, missionary and Bible societies, &c.

Mr. Walter Wilson seconded this Resolution. He presented before his audience the pleasant appearance of a good-natured, smiling superintendent, contrasting him with his opposite, and said how much more likely such an one would be to teach children effectually the way to the Saviour. He illustrated this by the story of the two little boys, who did not want to go to heaven because grandfather would be there, saying as usual—"Get along boys, get along boys." He spoke of the necessity of simplicity of instruction for the little ones, that they might be able to comprehend the import of the truths imparted to their minds.

Mr. James Jordan moved the second Resolution. Mr. Jordan made some excellent remarks on reading.

The choir sang "Saviour breathe an evening blessing," to the tune of "Rest for the weary, and each verse ending with the chorus.

Corporal Hawker, belonging to the Hospital Corps of the 15th Regiment, followed Mr. Jordan. The Corporal had only that day before been invited to attend, so that he had enjoyed very little indulgence in the way of preparation. But the novelty of such a speaker, the sincerity of his manner, and the piety of his address, won for him the attention of all. He expressed his thankfulness for the kindness he had experienced here, and the Christian love and sympathy he had met with—rejoicing that the same spirit pervaded Christians in every land. He did not speak of a connection with Sabbath Schools, but said he had been engaged as a teacher in a Ragged School in London, and therefore he could speak from experience as to the importance of early instruction. A Ragged School teacher, with whom he was learning a trade, was his first instructor in spiritual things, and he afterwards became a teacher himself. He spoke with pleasure of so many of the soldiers having joined the Sons of Temperance in Portland; he thought it was an indication of good, as so much evil resulted to the soldier through drink. He was pleased to find that the "Band of Hope Review" was the periodical supported by the school; he thought it was an excellent paper, and recognized it as an old friend: he also thought that our books, of which he had seen a list, were excellent works.

The collection was now taken up, and the choir sang—

"Joyfully, joyfully, onward we move."

Delightfully the music sounded, assisted by so many sweet young voices, almost tempting us to forget the less musical sound of the collector's plate, as he gathered up the cents and dollars, which seemed to be cheerfully, and, considering the "poor times," liberally given.

Rev. John Lathern was called upon to move the next Resolution. He had but just arrived, and said that he had been suffering severe pain, and was suffering then, and therefore considered it almost impossible to make a speech. He succeeded, however, in giving a very interesting address. He spoke of his deep interest in Sunday Schools, considering them very important institutions for the young and the more advanced too. He spoke of the necessity of the teacher being well instructed in Bible history and geography, that they might be able to fortify the minds of their pupils against the assaults of infidelity, to which he believed reference was made in the resolution. An anecdote related on this point may not be inadmissable here. In a manufacturing district in England, a laboring man came one day to a minister of the Gospel, asking for a book to explain the Bible. "What kind of a book do you want?" inquired the minister, "a commentary, I suppose." "I don't know what, Sir, I only want a book which will explain the Bible," replied the man. "Why do you want the Bible explained?" asked the minister. "Why, Sir, there are a lot of those fellows down there at the mill who don't believe the Bible at all, and they are arguing about the history of the perishing of the swine in the Lake of Galilee, and saying how impossible it was that the swine could run a distance of twenty miles (as that was the distance between Girgasa and the lake; so I want a book which will explain it." "And what did you tell them yourself?" asked the pastor. The man looked confused and did not wish to reply, but the minister drew it from him. "I said, you all saw Betty Brown's fat pig when it escaped from the pen the other day, it ran down the hill and a great many people tried to catch it, but it put it nose down to the ground, and ran right thro' them a long distance. But if Betty Brown's fat pig in a natural state, could run so far and so fast, what could those have been capable of doing who were in a supernatural state?" Mr. Lathern remarked here, that the Sabbath School teacher need experience no such difficulty as did the poor labourer, for his Bible Dictionary would inform him that Gadara and Girgasa were two cities some miles apart, and gave their names to all the country lying between; so that any part of the country adjacent, was called by common consent, the country of either city; and therefore the swine might have been feeding but a short distance from the lake; and thus the remarkable correctness of scripture history be vindicated. He dwelt on other very interesting topics for a few minutes, and concluded by saying that he would move, second or support the resolution, he having no doubt it was a good one.

Mr. Lowell was next called for. He had been twenty-six years teacher and superintendent of S. schools. Although a stranger here he felt very much at home; he thought that those around him looked very much like his brethren and sisters at home, and he could claim relationship with his military friend too, for they were both soldiers of the cross. He had a remark to make from the report, and another suggested by the Corporal's speech. He remarked on the large number of verses which had been committed to memory by the boys and girls during twelve weeks, being in all about 22,000 verses and answers of questions. He quoted David's words "Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against Thee," and said that the children would remember these, and they would be often-times a protection from sin. When the Saviour was tempted by Satan, the Saviour always replied to every suggestion of His enemy. "It is written," &c., and at last Satan departed; and he supposed that if Satan had continued his assaults, the Saviour could have replied again and again in the words of Scripture, which he might be said to have hid in his heart. He applied this to his young friends, saying that if Satan temped them to do wrong—to steal for instance, they could reply. It is written "Thou shalt not steal." It is written "Thou shalt not lie." No power on earth could take from them that which they had hid in their hearts. He addressed himself to the children particularly, and showed a great power of gaining their attention. He said his friend the soldier had referred to his connection with the Ragged School, and it was very likely the same school in which the incident occurred, which he was about to relate. A gentleman interested in the poor, and endeavouring to relieve their wants, found his way at one time into an old dilapidated house. From the cellar to the garret he groped his way up in the dark; at last he found a door, which he opened. After his eyes had become accustomed to the dim light of the room, he discovered in one corner crouched down under the sloping roof, and behind a pile of wood and chips, a little boy, "What are you doing their?" asked the gentleman. "I am hiding," replied the little fellow. "Where is your mother?" "Ah, sir, I have no mother she is dead." "And where is your father?" "I dont know." What are you hiding for?" "I am hiding from father, for I am afraid he will beat me." "What would be beat you for?" "Because I don't steal." "And did you ever steal, for your father?" "Yes I used to, but I went to the Ragged School, and my teacher taught me it was wrong, and I won't steal again if he kills me for it." He showed the gentleman where his arms and body were bruised and sore with beating. The gentleman longed to take the little fellow home with him, and have him comfortably provided for; but as this was impracticable, he took from his pocket an English shilling, and giving it to the boy said. "You can buy what you want with this, and I will come and see you to-morrow." The little fellow appeared struck with surprise, and the gentleman was as much astonished himself, when the little fellow said: "May I sing you one of my hymns, sir?" The gentleman thought that one so ragged and ill-used could hardly have heart to sing. He of course said yes, and the boy sang—"Gentle Jesus meek and mild." He sung two verses, and then the gentleman bade him good night, and hastened away. The next day he again sought the old house, and crept cautiously up the dark stairs; he opened the door, and there on the floor lay the shilling he had given the boy the evening before, and in the corner on a little bed, lay the dear little fellow quite dead! Deeply was the gentleman affected by the sight. His father had not come home, and he had died in the nignt alone; and yet not alone, for Jesus was there, and had permitted the little sufferer to come unto him. Mr. Lovell related many other pleasing anecdotes, and sang that sweet little hymn, such a favorite with children,

"I think when I read that sweet story of old,"

with which all were highly pleased.

Mr. Thomas Cassidy next addressed the meeting.

Mr. Andrew Anderson followed Mr. C.

Mr. Gilbert Jordan, the superintendent, made a few closing remarks. He made mention of the long time he had been connected with Sabbath schools, and of his unfailing interest in them. He regretted that parents did not take more interest in the school, as he thought it would be for their own benefit, and their children's too. He considered this institution of very great importance to the young, as a means of conveying truths to the mind, which would be of lasting benefit.

The Choir sang the Doxology, joined by the congregation, Mr. Lathern pronounced the Benediction; and thus ended one of the most interesting meetings of the kind we have ever attended. If such meetings were more frequent they could not fail of creating a deeper interest in the subject of Sabbath school instruction; and be a great means of cheering those who are engaged in this "work of faith and labour of love." The singing was excellent, and the house quite full, in the galleries uncomfortably so. A good number of the military were present, scattered here and there through the house. Dr. Richey and Rev. R. Wilson were expected to be present, but neither were there. The Doctor was ill and unable to attend; and Mr. Wilson was sent for that day go to the country, on account of a sudden death of a Local Preacher on his circuit, viz, Mr. Carter. As we did not take any notes at the meeting, and some days have elapsed before we commenced writing, many deeply interesting things have been passed over. Mr. Prince was delighted with the meeting, his countenance expressed his feelings without words; he has taken a great interest in the school, and beside the class on Sunday, alluded to by one of the speakers, he also holds a Bible class on Thursday evenings for the teachers and adult scholars; a very pleasing and instructive class. The collection on this occasion amounted to about $18. A gentleman present made it $4 more, and a lady's gold ring valued at $12—in all nearly $24.

Parliamentary.

House of Assembly.

TUESDAY, April 1.

House met at 11 o'clock.

Several bills were read a second and third time.

The House went into Committee on Bills and passed the Licence Bill. A clause was added to this bill by Mr. Ross to prevent the sale of liquors to Indians by licensed dealers, under a penalty of $20, and forfeiture of license.

Conversation arose on a petition presented by Mr. S. Campbell from residents at St. Mary's, praying for the prohibition of the sale of liquor at the mines.

We are pleased to find that several petitions to this effect, from the various gold districts have been before the House this session. We trust that the prayer of each may be granted, as it will undoubtedly be one of the best means of preserving order at the mines.

The bill to authorize a Provincial Loan, and the Bill to provide for the civil expenses of the province, were passed through Committee.

The Speaker called the Committee Roll. Several of the Chairmen reported the business in a forward condition.

The House adjourned until 3 o'clock.

The House resolved itself into a Committee on Bills, and passed several.

On the reading of the bill to increase the salary of the City Recorder, Hon. Mr. Wier objected to it. He was opposed to the increase of city expenditures. The hon. gentleman read a long statement of city expenditures, during the last few years. The whole system wanted uprooting.

Hon. Mr. Johnston thought the hon. member should propose a scheme to uproot that and the government too.

Mr. Tobin was opposed to the bill,—he was informed that it was to effect a saving. Heretofore fees for defending civic suits amounted to more than the proposed increase. He thought if the bill did pass, there would still be legal costs outside the Recorder.

Hon. Prov. Sec. remarked that it might be worthy of consideration whether this House ought not to curtail the city expenditure, as well as narrow the franchise,—he had always voted for the city bills, except the Water Bill, which he considered a job. In the present case he was opposed to the bill, as the Recorder was as well paid as any of our public officers. He held the office of Judge of Probate, also, and attended to his private practice.

Hon. Mr. Wier moved that the bill be deferred.

Hon. Messrs. Johnston, Shannon, Pryor and Henry supported it. These gentlemen explained its economic tendency.

The motion to defer the bill was carried by a large majority.

[A message from the Legislative Council informed the House that the Council had agreed to the bill authorising the sale of Common lands, Lunenburg, without amendment; also, the Statute Labor Bill, with an amendment.]

Some little discussion arose on the bill in reference to the erection of wooden buildings in Halifax, which was opposed by Hon. Mr. Wier. The bill passed.

The bill in reference to the City Medical Officer was taken up.

Hon. Mr. Wier opposed the clause which gave the Medical Officer full power to enter forcibly if required places where infection existed.

Dr. Tupper explained. Although he now filled that office, it would be no interest to him, beyond the public safety, to have the power spoken of, as it would increase his duties. Last year the Medical Faculty had passed a resolution, fixing the price of a certificate at $5,—which he considered an unwise act. The Council now thought to guard against what they considered unfair. He referred to the danger which might arise if such power was not given.

Mr. Tobin opposed the clause. The removal, and dread of removal, caused much danger in infectious cases. Care should be taken about the bestowment of such arbitrary power.

An amendment moved by the Atty. Gen. that the name of the Chairman of the Board of Health be required with that of the Medical Officer on removal certificates, was incorporated in the clause. The Bill passed.

The bill in reference to the streets in the City of Halifax passed after a slight amendment had been made, providing that the bricks for the sidewalks be hard bricks, and of the best quality.

A bill to amend the Railway Construction Act, so as to remove certain obligations from counties, was read.

Mr. Killam opposed, and moved its deferment. The motion was lost.

The Committee adjourned and the House resumed.

On the Chairman reporting Mr. Pryor moved that portion of the report referring to the Recorder's Salary be not received. Motion lost, 9 to 26.

Mr. Brown asked leave to introduce a bill to Incorporate the Acadian Marine Insurance Company. Read a first time.

House adjourned until 3 o'clock next day.

WEDNESDAY, 2nd April.

The house met at three o'clock.

Several bills, including the Licence Bill, were read the third time, and sent to the Council.

In answer to Mr. Cochran, Hon. Provincial Secretary stated that the Commissioners recently appointed to represent the Province at the industrial Exhibition, were to go at their own expense.

Hon Prov. Sec. laid on the table copy of Instrustions to the Governor General of Canada.

Hon. Mr. Johnston introduced a bill