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NEW BRUNSWICK.

Rev. J. K. Smith, M.A.—A New Church.
—"Spiritualism."—Meeting of Y. M. C.
A.—New Buildings.

From our own Correspondent.

I referred in a former communication to the likelihood of an attempt being made to secure the services of some of the Ontario ministers that visited these seaboard Provinces in a permanent way by some of our congregations, if that were possible. I very prudently refrained from giving names, then, though I had almost as full information as to one case, as I have now. Since however formal steps have been taken, and news to that effect has appeared in a published report of a meeting of Presbytery, there can be no harm in divulging at this time. A call then is to be made out by Fort Massey congregation, Halifax, in favour of the Rev. J. K. Smith, of Galt. The congregation is a new one, not more than a year organised. For some time past the city of Halifax, has grown rapidly towards the South, until the finer residences for the most part are found in that section. Our churches were all in the North part of the city. When action was taken to erect one in the south it was contemplated, I believe to close either Chalmers or Poplar grove, but when the time came, it was found that the closing of either was not practicable. A new congregation was therefore formed. The building is the finest in the Synod taken all in all, and there have gone from the other congregations to form the new one some of the best known Church workers in the Provinces, men whose names, if they were given here, are known far and wide over the United States as well as at home. It is well known down here that Mr. Smith has in Galt a membership that surpasses any other congregation in the Dominion, while that of the charge which is about to call him (the call will be made out ere this in type) does not much exceed 100. In such circumstances, the attempt to get him might seem an Utopian one. But other circumstances might affect the decision. At all events, should Mr. Smith see his way to come to the seaboard, he will be welcomed heartily by the brethren here. And if the Canada Presbyterian Church feels aggrieved at the "hirceny," why she may retaliate on the principle known as *quid pro quo*. Such an interchange will prove our real unity quite as much as the negotiations for union that are being carried on.

Among the strolling players that pay us flying visits from time to time, and whose visits are all the more frequent the more easy travelling becomes between here and the United States, we are favored at present with the presence of a spiritualist editor and lecturer. With all the brazen-facedness that characterizes such men, when he arrived a few weeks ago, he issued a challenge through the press to any clergyman or representative man to meet with and discuss the merits or demerits of his speculations. I am glad to say that no one in the city was so fond of notoriety as to give him the opportunity of "spreading" himself in presence of a respectable audience. To be made a public spectacle is just what such men want; it is the food of their lives. To be let alone, to be ignored, is the greatest punishment that it is possible for them to bear. Lectures are announced to be delivered by him on Sabbath afternoons and evenings on mediums and the other departments of his art. I have not heard what the character of the audience is, or what the kind of the lectures. He expressed surprise that a city of the population of St. John should be so far behind the age as it was on these subjects, which was one of the highest compliments he could pay me, I think.

The Young Men's Christian Association Convention for the Maritime Provinces has just had its annual meeting in Halifax. I have not seen a report of its proceedings as yet, save the telegrams that appeared in the papers. There seems to have been a pretty fall attendance of delegates. The veteran Thane Miller was expected to be present, but seeing no report of his actual arrival anything that he did or said, I presume he was not. The movement has been greatly extended in this quarter within the last few years. The Association in this city has procured a site and commenced to erect a building for themselves. There was a difficulty for some time in getting a suitable and central site, but a large fire that broke out a

year ago, solved the difficulty for them. The building will be a very respectable one, costing some \$10,000 or \$15,000. In Charlottetown, also, a building is in process of erection, being in a more advanced state there than here. In Halifax, where the most vigorous and aggressive Association in the Provinces, perhaps is found, a building is not commenced yet, but one has been in contemplation for some time. The committee are accumulating funds for the purpose. Many of the Associations in the towns and even in the rural districts are growing and prospering. There is no doubt that in some of the proceedings of many of these organizations more zeal than discretion is shown, especially in the young men stepping out of their legitimate sphere, and in a forwardness which is very unbecoming, but it is no less doubtful, that a good work has been done and is being done by them? It seems to me, however, that there is too much of a tendency in the movement, as indeed the tendency is manifest in the present day in other directions as well, not so much in words, for they would repudiate such a thing, as in deeds, to go outside church organizations in doing the work of Christ. This tendency, however, it is to be hoped will right itself in the long run.

St. John, 11th Sept., 1872.

ISLE OF MAN.

From an Occasional Correspondent.

Every Canadian School boy and School girl knows of the existence of an Island in the middle of the Irish sea, with the above peculiar name, whose pence are stamped with three legs, whose cats have no tails, but, as an actual visit to it has taught me there are many other peculiarities connected with it, not so well known, I have thought a talk about it might be interesting to some of your readers.

Its singular position has given it a singular history. Amid a chequered career its spirited inhabitants have ever preserved their independence, and still speak proudly of the "Kingdom of Man." For about a century they have had the same King or Queen as Britain, but they still retain their Parliament, or House of Kings, and frame and administer their own laws in every thing except excise. The central position of the Island and its independence, so favored the smuggling propensities of the hardy Manxmen, that in 1765, Great Britain was glad to undertake heavy payments to the Duke of Athol, then King of Man, for its sovereignty, but it was long ere the contraband trade was brought to an end. In 1792, the annual loss by it was estimated at £350,000, while the seizures made on the coast of Ireland alone amounted to £10,000. Now the 52,000 inhabitants gain a fair living from fishing, farming, mining and every entertaining the shoals of visitors, who summer flock to its shores. Its nearness to the great popular centres of manufacture and trade, the midland counties of England, is greatly in its favour, besides having claims of its own in the clearness of its bracing atmosphere, the excellence of its sea bathing, its picturesque scenery, its storied ruins, and above all its equable climate. Few places have so high an average temperature in winter 40.90° combined with such a low summer average—56.07°. During the past two months 70° has been rarely reached, and to a Canadian, it is amusing to find the people complaining of the heat at that moderate figure.

The original language of the Island, like the people, is Celtic, a sort of half brother to the Erse and Gaelic. Its literature is meagre, and as it is now but little spoken, it is of interest chiefly to the philologist. By Bishop Shirley, it is described as "an unmitigated portion of the curse of Babel," and quite in keeping seemed the specimens we got from the idle children, who, on every inland excursion, have followed our car up the hills, singing what they called *Mona sings* for halfpence.

DOUGLAS,

The chief town is situated in the Southern corner of a magnificent bay, about the middle of the Eastern coast. The heart of the town is old and crowded, with very narrow irregular streets, said to be planned by the smugglers for easy escape, and certainly better adapted for that purpose than for modern traffic. However, the newer parts, upon the higher ground around the bay are well built, and contain many fine Hotels and private residences. Leaving the motley throng on the Parade and

Piers, quite pleasant walks are to be found in the suburbs, all the more attractive from the passion for flowers which is characteristic of the Manx, even the poorest cottage being gay with a profusion of floral beauty, such as the climate favors. The common garden hedge is the graceful *Fuchsia*. But the great attraction is the bay. Here there are separate bathing grounds for ladies and gentlemen, with every requirement for comfort and decency, at small cost. After a plunge in the clear, strong brine, you can take a constitutional row, or a solitary stroll to explore the rocky recesses left bare by the tide, and rifle them of some of their treasures. In Canada you may know that,

"There is a pleasure in the pathless woods," but only in such a scene as this do you learn the poet's meaning when he tells you he finds,

"Society where non intrudes,
By the deep sea, and music in its roar,
I love not man the less, but nature more,
For our interviews, in which I steal,
From all I may be, or have been before,
To mingle with the universe, and feel
What I can ne'er express, yet cannot all conceal."

The population of Douglas is about 14,000 though the number crowded into it in summer must often be as many more. There are two or three boats daily from Liverpool, one from Barrow, and others occasionally from Dublin, Glasgow, &c. The migratory habits of the British are well known. As many as 2,800 visitors have arrived here on a Saturday evening from Liverpool alone. This year from the highness of wages and the general prosperity of the country the well-to-do working classes are very largely represented among those to whom an "outing" seems indispensable, though many of them would be much better at home as far as health, as well as pocket is concerned. Taverns, as usual abound here in town and country, and are fully patronized. On the drives to inland towns you meet with the usual, "Halfway House"—often, too, an "Old" and "New"—besides "Quarter Houses" in plenty. Castletown, to the south and Peel, to the west, are worth visiting for the old Castles to be found there. Castle Rushin, in the former, is a small compact fortress, in the centre of the town, with very thick walls. Though understood to be over 900 years of age, it is still in such good preservation as to be available as a prison. It was here that last month a poor man was hung for the murder of his father—the first case of capital punishment in the island for forty years. Perhaps the greatest curiosity of the Castle is its clock, a huge but simple piece of mechanism, presented to the King of Man (Earl of Derby), by Queen Elizabeth. It is still the town clock of the place.

The situation of Peel Castle is most romantic. It well preserved and extensive ruins occupy the coast of a rocky islet, only recently connected with the town by an embankment. Among its ruins are a small cathedral and several ecclesiastical buildings, one of which tradition links with the name and ministry of St. Patrick. Around the whole runs a wall, from the ramparts of which the inmates must view with alarm the passage of the Great Armada, till the rumour of wrecks at Spanish Head called them away to share the plunder. Now you see only the herring fleet of the Islanders, near a hundred strong on the Southern horizon, with the Irish coast dimly visible on the western. It is such a place as Sir Walter Scott delights to picture, as every reader of "Peveril of the Peak" well knows. Laxoy Village and Leadmires occupy a beautiful glen seven miles north of Douglas. As the miners just now are on strike, the interest of the visitors centres more than ever on the great wheel, of which the natives are exceedingly proud, being built by one of themselves to keep the mine clear of water. Its diameter is 72 feet 6 inches—said to be the largest in the world.

But the season wanes. Farewell to Mona! In the words of one of her own poets:—

"Bright gem of the waters!
Thy sons and fair daughters
Still cling to thy mountains and sea begirt
strand,
O! may soft dews distill,
Sun gild each vernal hill,
And health, peace and plenty still crown thy
fair land."

A CANADIAN ABROAD.

August 1872.

The voice of the majority is no proof of justice.—Schiller.

The true motives of our actions, like the reed pipes of an organ, are usually concealed; but the gilded and hollow pretext is pompously placed in front for show.—Colton.

UPPER OTTAWA.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE KNOX COLLEGE MISSIONARY SOCIETY.
—In my last letter I mentioned my visit to lake Talon on my way from lake Nipissing. The week following I reached Mattawa village, and remained there for a few days. It was now about the middle of July and the heat was sometimes intense. Whilst there I began to feel the effects of being exposed to all kinds of weather and repeated fatigues, caused by constant exertion, which now made me seek medical aid. To do so I had to descend the river to Pembroke, a distance of about 100 miles, which I accomplished in three days, rowing nearly one-half of the way. I was then prohibited from work altogether, and remained in Pembroke nearly a month, until the 10th of August. I then returned to Roche Capitaine to hold service amongst the men engaged in building a new steambot, and, after the afternoon service held at Rockhill, was so prostrated that I had one fit, and others were prevented only by the greatest care. Consequently, obtaining leave from our worthy President, I left for home, reaching it on the 24th of Aug., and, according to medical advice, with no prospect of being able to be with you this winter. I am afraid I must seek in a southern climate the health I have lost in the north. I leave the field with deep regret. The people are kind, liberal, and anxious for stated services.—No visible effects have followed my labors that I have witnessed, although there were many encouraging tokens for good, but it is the Master's method for one to sow and another to reap. May this be indeed the case, an abundant harvest with plenty of laborers to cheer the hearts and encourage the hands of the zealous and faithful. Adieu, my brethren, and may God be with you.

THOMAS T. JOHNSTON.

DOMESTIC HELP.

Editor BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN.

I suppose you don't meddle with such questions as those that concern the kitchen and the comfort of poor troubled mothers of families with no servant girl. You might though. I am one of the unfortunates, and upon my word, I don't believe that it pays. I don't want to shirk work, and I don't do it, but I believe when there is anything of a fair, moderate income at all, in spite of all the expense and annoyance of servant girls, it pays to keep them, ay, pays in hard cash and comfort as well. I have a good many children and a tolerably large house, and as servants are very scarce at present, and rather high minded, we thought that we could do without. But the truth will appear in a very short time. It is not profitable; sewing has to be given out, children have to be neglected, worry and weariness become the order of the day, and the positive outlay is greater without than with. No doubt servants are a great bother, but perhaps the fault is not always with them. "Like mistress, like maid," will often be found to be true. I know I am tired of being without "a girl," and out of pocket at the same time. I have no time to make dresses, for washing pots and pans, cooking, scrubbing, &c., take up my time. So don't let husbands that can afford it, at all, grudge their wives a servant. It pays, and I mean to go back to it again.

Yours,
B.

Volatility of words is carelessness in actions.—Luther.

How dangerous to defer those momentous reformations which the conscience is solemnly preaching to the heart! If they are neglected, the difficulty and indisposition are increasing every month. The mind is reeding, degree after degree, from the warm and hopeful zone, till at last it will enter the arctic circle, and become fixed in relentlessness and eternal ice.—John Foster.

There are in this world two kinds of natures—those that have wings, and those that have feet—the winged and the walking spirits. The walking are the logicians; the winged are the instinctive and poetic. Natures that must always walk find many a bog, many a thicket, many a tangled brake, which God's happy little winged birds flit over by one noiseless flight. Nay, when a man has toiled till his feet weigh too heavily with the mud of earth to enable him to walk another step, these little birds will often cleave the air in a right line toward the bosom of God, and show the way where he could never have found it.—Mrs. Stowe.

THE SIZE OF LONDON.

According to the last census, London has a population of 3,883,072. This is more than the combined population of New York, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Chicago, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Boston, New Orleans, San Francisco, Buffalo and Allegheny City, Pa. To lodge this vast multitude, 777,000 dwellings are required, and the people consume annually about 1,380,000 barrels of flour, 120,000 hhlcks, 2,075,000 sheep, 40,000 calves, 61,150 hogs, and one market alone supplies annually 7,848,750 head of game. This, together with 5,200,000 salmon, besides other fish and flesh, is washed down by 75,600,000 gallons of ale and porter, 3,509,000 gallons of spirits, and 113,750 pipes of wine; 22,750 cows are required to supply the daily consumption of milk. The streets of the metropolis are about 2,900 in number, and if put together would extend about 1,000 miles. They are lighted by 6,630,000 lamps, consuming every 24 hours 22,270,000 cubic feet of gas. The water system supplies 77,670,821 gallons daily, while the sewer system carries off 16,699,770 cubic feet of refuse matter. A fleet of 1800 sail is employed, irrespective of railroads, in bringing annually 5,260,000 tons of coal. Bituminous coal is exclusively used, and the smoke arising from this immense quantity is said to be so dense that it can be seen 35 miles from the city. To clothe the inhabitants requires 4,160 tailors, 50,400 boot and shoemakers, and nearly 70,000 dressmakers and milliners. Berlin, according to the recent census, has a population of 828,018; Paris, in 1867, the year of the Exposition Universelle, 1,880,462; and Constantinople in 1864, 1,075,000.

MARRIAGES PERFORMED THREE MILES FROM SHORE NOT LEGAL.—A California court has just decided that no marriage performed over three miles from shore is legal, and this decision is said to have "fallen like a bombshell" among scores of families in that State. People not living in California naturally ask why such a decision was made, and why it should fall like a bombshell among any families what ever. The reasons for the decision, and also for its startling effects, are to be found in the fact that eloping and romantic couples in California have been in the habit of going out to sea to be married. A domestic difficulty, involving questions of property, have arisen in the courts, the counsel for one of the parties raised the point of law that, as the jurisdiction of the State extends but three miles from the shore, the powers of clergymen and justices become vacated when they go beyond that line; and consequently, that all couples whose marriage ceremonies were performed beyond the jurisdictional line, are in fact not married at all. The court sustained this point, and hence the consternation is so many families. It is stated that there was a good deal of re-marrying as soon as this decision became known.—New York Ledger.

Seven years ago, Charles L. Brace was a delegate to a Prison Congress in England. He has been there again this summer on the same mission. Writing to the Times, New York, concerning the condition of things in England, especially among those whose welfare he has most at heart—the poor and the criminal—he says: "During these seven years, the Reformers of England have brought about what ought to have been accomplished a century since—the beginnings of a system of national education. Had England a hundred years ago given education instead of alms, she would have been a vastly happier and better nation now. So far as concerns the prevention of crime, the checking of the growth of the dangerous classes and the solution of social problems, I consider the movements of the National Education Reformers as vastly more important than all the charities or eleemosynary institutions. The free school, or better still, the enforced education of the poor, is the best prevention of crime and pauperism."

At the late International Prison Congress in London the remarkable decrease of crime in enlightened countries was a subject of much comment and congratulation. It was attributed mainly to the effect of industrial schools and reformatories, and to the diffusion of knowledge among the people, leading to juster moral views, to increased capacity on the part of the masses to earn their living by remunerative labor, and to expiation in order to escape the great cause of criminality—poverty.