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THE

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Will our agents please send early notice as to the subscribers on their lists? We wish to know definitely from all before this month expires.

THE MAYOR OF HALIFAX AND THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

It is refreshing to find the highest civic dignitary of the city turning his attention to questions of moral and spiritual interests. The thoughtful and calm judicial tone of Mr. Mayor Richey's words would always command attention in a conservative community such as Halifax; but at the present time, they have the prestige which belongs to distinguished position.

The subject on that day, Saturday 8th, was Prayer for all nations: for the maintainance of peace; for the cessation of tumults, wars and civil strife; and for the removal of intemperance, immorality and infidelity from the land.

We were met on the last day of the week of prayer, in which the united supplications of the Christian Church had been going up to God for specified objects; to petition Him at this time for all nations. What prayers should we offer in their behalf? He thought that everything required was in brief summed up in the words which the Saviour taught us to use. When we prayed we were taught to say "Thu kingdom come." When that kingdom came indeed with power; when He whose right it was should take to Himself the universal crown; and when the kingdoms of this world had become the kingdoms of our God and of His Christ; there would no further need to supplicate for nations distracted and riven by "tumults, wars and civil strife:" that these dire evils might be stayed. The angels song would then be realized in full fruition of delight: " Peace on earth and good will toward He who was the babe in Bethlehem, and afterward the man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, and who agonized and expired upon the cross, and then rose, because He could not be holden of the bars of death; and triumphantly ascended upon high, to be a priest as well as a king upon his throne, ever living to make intercession for men, should see the sons of earth, from every portion of our globe, uniting with the sons of God in heaven, to bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all."

For the advent of that day we should pray, and until it dawned, we were to offer our supplications, that, if in accordance with God's design, and His providental workings concerning our race, He would give peace in our time; that it might suffice wherever the sword had been red with the blood of peoples: and that everywhere, in all parts of the world, there might be the same unanimity from the woes of war, pestilence, and famine, which God had so graciously permitted this land to enjoy.

We were also asked to pray " for the removal of intemperance, immorality and infidelity from the land; and that the fruits of the earth might be brought forth in their season." In the productions of land and sea, in which we as a people were specially interested, we had been greatly favoured. God had been good to us. Guant famine was unknown in our midst. We were unable to realize the distress to which some other lands had been subjected; but if we were not called upon to suffer, we should sympathize and our sympathies would suggest suitable suppli-

"Intemperance, immorality, and infidelity." Alas! these were not unknown. Intemperance showed its shameless front. Its evils were everywhere visible, and they roused the benevolent heart to action-for the purpose of restraining its deadly and destructive course; but there was also immorality in other forms, cloaked with secrecy, and doing its desolating work with no less certainty and with no less heartrending results than intemperance it-

Infidelity never, since the tempter first assumed the serpents form, and breathed through the ear of Eve into the heart of humanity the lying hope, "Ye shall not surely die," presented itself in more insiduous shapes than The pride of intellect, now as ever-perhaps more than ever-erected itself against all that is called God and worshipped. Sad and sickening, -yes awful,-was the thought of poor perishing man abusing the intellect which God had given, harling its scorn and defiance at the author of its being; and how depressing and revolting was the fact that men of intellectual grasp and power, not content with giving a home in their own minds to doubt, regarding truths too deep for the line and plummet of their understanding to sound, should seek to bring misery upon others by undermining their simple faith. Yet even the highest secular literature of to-day—certainly much of the literature most affected by thoughtful minds was pervaded by a leaven of scep-

What then could the people of God do but pray? His name be praised. they could also trust.

Infidelity in its object and means of attack, whatever might be its animus. really presented nothing new-however it might vary the mode. It only returned with old weapons to a new position on fields from which it had already been driven with discomfiture. The lines of Cowper, written a century ago." were strikingly opposite:

The infidel has shot his bolts away. Till his exhausted quiver yielding now, He gleans the blunted shafts that had recoiled,

And aims them at the shield of Truth

That shield, thank God, was impene-

It was against the oppositions of science, falsely so-called, with which the Christian faith of to-day had chiefly to contend. The men of science were ever boasting themselves of their demonstrations—not one of which had ever yet demonstrated a contradiction between the word and the works of God; and he believed they never would.

Even putting aside external evidences, sufficiently abundant to rest upon, we might exult in this certainty.

There was a demonstration of the Spirit: " not in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance," far superior, in the fulness and perfection of its assuring power, to the demonstrations of science -one that satisfied the soul that verily there is a God that ruleth in the earth, and that Christ did come that we might have life. This was a demonstration which the votaries of science might not acknowledge, but which they might have known; and which science would vet hail as her highest acquisition. With wearied brain, and wearied with the vain endeavour to furnish some excuse to the fool who said in his heart. there is no God, finding no rest for her feet, she should yet penitently exclaim: "Return unto thy rest, O, my soul."

Dr. Cumming's prophetic spirit has again been revived. The ensuing year is to be full of astonishing events. The millenium is just at our door-so he predicts-and the world is to witness marvellous things. There is some strange infatuation about the deciphering of Biblical mysteries, surely. We heard a sermon on the last Sabbath of 1866, delivered by an eloquent divine who had long adhered to the theory that that year would probably witness the bright dawning of millenial glorywould see-if not Christ's descent in person-at least great representative issues. How the brave man, yielding his favourite theory, yet clinging to the abiding faithfulness of Providence, sat down at the close, subdued and in part humiliated, we cannot soon forget! But experience seems powerless to teach A COMPLAINT FROM A WITNESS. The "Presbyterian Witness" makes this charge:-

We have a serious complaint to make against Methodism, or if not against Methodism, against a part of the Methodist "Five Points?" No-something Class Meetings? No, indeed Watch Nights or protracted meetings? By no means. It is this. We have had Messrs. Lathern and Read in Halifax for two or three years-perhaps in the case of Mr. Read a little more.—The longer they are among us the more difficult it is to let them go. They become part and parcel of the common Christian brotherhood. We know where to find them on every point of public importance. In short, they are just as good, and just as well liked, and just as hard to part with as if they were Presbyterians. But here comes the WESLEYAN announcing in the coolest manner possible,—" Rev. Mr. Lathern is to go to Charlottetown next summer.' Somebody whispers in our ear at the same time, "Mr. Read is going to Yarmouth." if this is not too much for our equanimity we do not know what would Shade of John Wesley, little didst thou know what the human heart is made of! It seems but yesterday when these brethren were planted amongst us, and here they are to be torn away at midsummer! If they were dull, unlikeable muffs, (if a Methodist muff is conceivable,) would say a loud Amen to their removal. But being who and what they are we object! Very likely the Conference will not regard our objection, and in this matter they are supreme, and we must submit with what grace we can command. Seriously, it is not easy to part with men like our estimable Methodist brethren. It is some consolation to know that their successors will be men like-

Aye! and there is the compensation of Methodism! Pray, is it not possible to make a counter-charge against Presbyterianism? Why does it presume to confine the brilliant talent to a few congregations -- and compel all others to-well we shall not suppose there are any "muffs" in the Presbyterian ministry either. But the sheen of moonlight follows the blazing sunlight in Nature; the warbling of larks and thrushes succeed the cooing of the dove on each summer morning; and it is difficult to show why God's people should not have an equal variety of voices and minds in the sanctuary. Our gardens thrive under alternations of storm and calm, sunshine and showers others may do so with an equable temperature and elements unvarying. But, whether by change or conserva tism, the churches do progress and God's glory is enhanced.

REV. LEONARD GAETZ has written to the Halifax "Reporter"—as our readers will see in another column—a letter which tells its own story. We are glad to see that Montreal loses nothing by his addition to its ministerial staff. That city is a most important Dominion center-a key, in some respects, to the Province of Quebec-and needs all vigilance and Christian energy. Mr. Gaetz helps to support and build up the fabric of Liberty and Truth in Mon-

REV. G. M. Grant of Halifax has been replying to Prof. Hind-o- rather making the Prof. reply to himself. we fully anticipated, it appears that something lies behind the scenes which has not yet appeared in Prof. Hind's letters. Can it be a jealousy of Mr. Grant's extended reputation? One would think the Prof. had enjoyed sufficient popularity to share with a worthy brother traveller in the far North

THE BAPTIST YEAR BOOK.—We are indebted to the "Christian Messenger' office for a copy of this interesting and instructive manual. The information therein embodied of the various interests embraced by the Baptist Church, is very valuable. Our Baptist brethren are doing a good work and the Lord's blessing has not been denied

UTAH—the city of the false prophet -may yet become the dwelling-place of a true king. It is certain that its delusions are falling before the exposures of its fugitive sons and daughters, the legal investigations consequent upon suits brought by one of his wives against the prophet, but particularly through evangelistic agencies throwing light perpetually upon Mormon fallacies. Now there is to be a Methodist newspaper started in Utah! Smith fled so far with his people that he imagined they would escape all contact with outside influences; vet the gospel of the grace of God hath found them. May they be converted by its

July is the month for ministerial marriages-in the Weslevan fraternity at all events. An exception is reported this week. We welcome from the cold region of bachelorship a beloved and popular brother; and to the ministerial family a youthful daughter of St. John's best laymen of former days. May the union be one of most blessed relation!

In England it is nothing surprising to hear or read of altercations and lawsuits between Church ministers and Wardens respecting crosses and other adornments. Bermuda had such a case not very long ago. And now we have to record an instance in the quiet, exemplary town of Windsor. The Christmas and New Year's decorations in the lists, owing to the money pressure, to Episcopal place of worship became offensive to one worshipper, it would appear, owing to the conspicuous use of writes so strongly as to say "he would the cross, which the aggrieved party almost as soon lose a member of his proceeded to remove. At an official family as the WESLEYAN." Others meeting of the congregation, the act frequently send word of a similar kind. was condemned as illegal and unauthorised. Ordinarily such judgment working the paper. The day has at has been followed by legal action; but | length arrived when all encouragement we hope Windsor will be spared an ex- may be given in nourishing a journal hibition of this sort.

THE newly elected "Rt. Rev. Bishop Disney," editor of the "Christian Messenger," organ of the B. M. Ep. Church, (Coloured) calls upon his brethren to redeem a note of \$200 necessary to carry on the work of publishing the paper. He has advanced a portion of this amount himself. "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown." The difficulties of an editor were surely sufficient without adding to them those of a Rt. Rev. Bishop.

SERMONS, alternately by Revs. A. W Nicholson and J. Lathern, are being preached to young men in the Brunswick St. Church of this city, on Sunday evenings. The first of the course was delivered last Sunday evening on The relation of young men to society." At least three others will follow. upon "Temptations and the penalty of indulgence." "Causes which prevent young men from embracing religion,' and "Decision, with possibilities intellectual, moral and religious."

A new wheel skate has been introduced into England. It is said to work admirably on concrete floors, requiring but little more force than the ordinary skate on ice. Whether it will outlive the short day of velocipedes and other amusements remains to be seen, but just now it has attained to great popu-

PERE HYACINTHE has been hidden from American view for a short season. His life, nevertheless, has been one of diligent and eloquent influence among the masses of Europe. Having stepped out from Romanistic celibacy, and bidden defiance to the maledictions of the Pope, he now, it is said, takes rank with liberal minded Christians who believe in the right of congregations to choose their own pastors. A church in Boston is to be favoured with the pastorate of this brilliant orator.

REV. J. LATHERN delivered his Lecture as announced in Temperance Hall on Tues day evening last. We have sildom seen an expression of more general appreciation and even enthusiasm at any Lecture But most welcome of all was the genial graceful recognition expressed by the Chairman, J. S. McLean, Esq., of the feelings cherished towards Messrs. Lathern and Read by the Y. M. C. A. in view of their contemplated departure from the city. We will copy a notice of the Lecture next week.

We have but time and space to say that Rev. J. W. Hunter and his zealous congregation at Ottawa, have seen their church project in part accomplished. The basement of the Daminion Church was opened for divine worship a short time ago-preaching by Revds. Jas. Elliott and J. W. Hunter. Collections to the amount of \$1,000 were taken on the occasion. May the temple gated some two hundred souls. The be greatly owned of God!

J. T. Mellish, M.A., Principal of Albro Street School, was presented at Christmas with a handsome piece of silver plate and an address. In replying Mr. Mellish stated that it was the ninth time he had been honored publicly by an address and tivals even held by this school. - Wood-

PREACHER'S PLAN, HALIFAX. SUNDAY, JANUARY 16th

Rev. Wm. Purvis. Charles St. Rev. John Lathern BEECH ST., 31 p.m. Rev. R. Brechen, A.M. 11 a.m. Cobourg St. Rev. J. Read. Rev. W. Purvis. 11 a.m. Dartmouth. Rev. I. E. Thurlow Rev. I. E. Thurlow.

OUR OLD SUBSCRIBERS, considering the times, hold on well. New ones have also come in liberally. It has been specially cheering to us amidst much anticipation of shrinkage in our receive encouraging expressions from almost every quarter. One subscriber

We now have the prospect of help in which has been on the whole, generous. ly sustained. We can promise it will be better than ever.

We cannot avoid the conviction, however, that much wight be done for the paper where nothing is done at all. Till ministers and people see the denominational value of a weekly organ. they will not study their best interests.

We have frequent allusions to one class of supporters of this paper-especially to an individual of that class who places the WESLEYAN in the hands of not less than three hundred readers. who otherwise would probably never read a religious paper. We have an impression that very few kinds of charity to the same value would extend so widely and do as much good as this.

JOURNALS AND LEAVES are sent from the Book Room only to those ordering. Periodicals are continued only when requested. This saves all complaint and confusion. We have still Journals and Leaves on hand.

Account of the opening of the new church at Salisbury, N. B., too late; will appear next week.

FANCY SALE AT CANNING.

The Methodists of Canning held their annual sale on Friday evening, Decr. 24th. It was well attended and more successful than the most sanguine could have expected. The Xmas tree was neatly decorated, the Fancy Table well arranged with tasty and useful articles, toys, dolls, &c., were in abundance and in demand. A table in charge of a well-known M. D., looked very inviting, with its oranges, apples, confectionary. By the way some put these things out of sight, it were well if the Dr. were not called from his peaceful slumbers to minister to them in some other way. The inevitable refreshment table was there too, and well worthy of its name, meeting the wants of many who did not teel disposed to patronise the hot supper. Another M. D. was kept very busy in dissecting fowls of different kinds for the hungry ones. If he understands the human system as well he is proficient. A better supper we never had on a like occasion.

We were told that this sale was chiefly prepared by, and we know carried out by the younger portion of the congregation and they deserve every commendation for their skill and zeal. If perfection comes by experience we have no conception of the marvellous powers to be developed.

FESTIVAL NIGHT.

Thursday evening of last week might certainly be so designated, as upon that evening no less than three Festivals were held in Woodstock. They were the Annual Festivals of the Sabbath schools connected with the Methodist, Baptist, and F. C. Baptist Churches. We are glad to know that these gatherings, one and all, were exceedingly pleasant and profitable occasions. We attended the one held in the Methodist church, and must confess to having passed a most agreeable evening. The large room in the basement of the church, very neatly decorated with evergreens, mottoes and flags, was comfortably filled with scholars, their parents and friends. Over eighty children were present, and the whole company aggraexercises consisted of singing, recitations, declamation, brief and happy addresses by the Rev. Messrs. Marshall, Kirby and Taylor, and then the hearty enjoyment of the bounteous supply of viands freely dealt out to all present. It was one of the most interesting Fes-

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