

To the Editor of the Prov. Wesleyan.

My DEAR SIR,—Another long silence has been indulged in by your Ontario correspondent, for which we know not, whether you will praise or blame him; but if you will permit an explanation, we assure you, that we have often purposed writing you, but have waited until a more convenient season; which was slow in its approach.

My last was written, just as our local or Provincial Parliament had commenced its session. You will remember, that we ventured an opinion to the effect, that it seemed probable, that the then occupants of the Treasury benches, would be compelled to vacate their places for the less enviable side of the house. Scarcely had we communicated reached you, than the probability became a reality, so that while I now write, the Hon. E. Blake and his friends are on the sunny side of the Parliamentary buildings.

Your correspondent, with many others, deeply regrets, that the present ministry did not act a more honorable course towards their opponents. Scarcely had we communicated, without having recourse to what may be designated, questionable modes of procedure. The gentlemen now in office, as we believe, men of undoubted reputation, in respect to their private characters. None of them are suspected as being men of base morals, or given to much vice; at the same time we fear, that in order to hold office or reward their friends, they have not been innocent of some of the very practices, for which they treat their opponents with such unsparring flagellations. The course they have pursued relative to granting additional aid to railways has met with severe criticism, while their offering a reward for the apprehension of the murderer of Scott at Manitowish, is looked upon by the majority of the Orangemen, as being designed to catch the votes of that body. Their eagerness, to select such persons on certain committees, where their actions or those of some of their friends, would be likely to be the cause of censure, has caused many to think, that there has not been that purity of action, which should ever characterize public men. The Blake ministry, however, is very strong, and having by far the greatest amount of debating talent on their side of the House, they will no doubt command a good working majority, for a considerable time to come. At the next session of Parliament, the personnel of the Ministry, must undergo some change, as one of the acts which has already been passed, relates to Dual representation, and prohibits persons occupying seats in the House of Commons, while they are members of the Ontario Legislature, and vice versa. It is believed, that at least two of the members of the present Government, Hon. Messrs. Blake and McKenzie, will vacate their places, at the next election for the Dominion Legislature.

The members of Mr. Blake's Ministry, when in opposition, were loud in their denunciations against the Hon. W. S. McDonald, for extravagance in the use of public money. The said gentlemen, however, have been very parsimonious since they came into power, as they have augmented the salaries of some of their subordinates, and have created some offices, which necessarily have increased the estimates for the current year, and will do so to a still greater extent in subsequent years; so that the present popular administration, will not after all, be so economical, as it was fondly anticipated on all hands to be. The country, however, is abundantly prosperous. New schemes of trade and business are being brought into operation, especially in the matter of railways. Ontario will in a few years, become the Province of Railways. The two roads, which were built on the narrow gauge system, have so far done well and are being still further extended, so that in another year, the interior parts of the country, to the North and North-west of Toronto, will be brought within easy access to that great city. Already the poor have been greatly benefited, for by means of the immense quantities of cord wood that have been conveyed to the city, there has been a considerable reduction in the price; and should the Companies wisely increase their rolling stock, the merchants and others would be greatly benefited, inasmuch as goods and produce cannot now be sent away as rapidly as is desirable.

Your correspondent is sorry to observe indications of increasing difficulties between employers and their men. The agitation and combinations for increase of wages and diminution of the hours of labor, which have been so prevalent in the old country, have found their way to Ontario, and now there are loud cries being heard for nine hours labor to be regarded as the maximum of a day's work. Some shops have struck, which will no doubt tend to the injury of the men, and the great inconvenience of their employers. We have been pleased to see the frank manner in which at least the head of one large firm has treated the application for reduced hours. F. Cumberland, Esq., Managing Director of the Northern Railway, received a deputation of his employees, and in a very pleasant manner, and conversed with them on the subject, while they were somewhat disappointed, they nevertheless, expressed themselves as greatly pleased with the cordial reception they had met with.

The unfortunate man Travis, paid the penalty of his life yesterday at Toronto, for the murder of Johnson, at Cayuga, in November last. The poor culprit made a full confession of his awful crime. It was purely a case of malice, as Johnson, it is alleged, had spoken against Travis to a young woman with whom he was keeping company. Travis evidently plotted the deed for some time, and even went on the night preceding the murder, and stood all night at the house of his victim, and next morning they rode together in a sleigh, which at a convenient moment Travis shot his victim in cold blood, and then excited that he had got his revenge. What an awful warning should his sad end be, to those who may suppose that they have received real or imaginary injuries from the hands of others.

Our Province has lately been visited with some frightful fires. The Children's Home at Belleville has been destroyed; and a valuable block, called Iron Block, Front street, Toronto, has succumbed to the devouring element. The losses at the latter are estimated at not less than \$400,000. The splendid pile of buildings I all only just begun, and their destruction is greatly lamented.

For some time past, there has often been a desire expressed, that we should create a Canadian literature, and not be so much depending upon the literary talent of foreigners for our mental banquet. Some of our city publishers have so far endeavored to gratify the national taste, that they have held out very flattering inducements to native talent. We regret, how-

ever, that so far the publications have been almost universally of the sensational class, which clearly shows that the demand of the people is for light, frivolous literature, which in the main is injurious rather than otherwise. Two of our Publishing Houses have begun to issue Monthly Reviews, which bid fair to be of great service to those who patronize such productions.

The veteran of Education, Dr. Eyerson, has issued two books, which the Council of Public Instruction have recommended to be adopted in the School Series, one of which relates to Agriculture, and the other to Christian Morals. The venerable Chief Superintendent has given all the labor of these publications gratuitously, and yet, some of the journals (only a few, we are happy to say,) at the head of which is the *Globe*, have criticized these productions in the most unmerciful manner. We regret to say that the *Globe*, which obtains the largest circulation of all the Provincial papers, has opened its columns to the most scurrilous scribbling which we ever remember to have read. Anonymous slanders of the meanest type have been permitted to indulge themselves in the most vulgar vituperations against a man who is hoary with age, and who has labored all through life in the most disinterested manner for the good of his country. The proprietors of the *Globe* are men of great enterprise, to whom Canada is greatly indebted, but when once they register a name in their black books, it seems as though the unfortunate individual can never so far redeem himself as to be deserving of common civility at their hands.

You will be glad to know, that while we are not favored with general revivals in the Wesleyan Church, such as some of our fathers have often told us, we still have many evidences of abundant prosperity. Our beloved President, and some other ministers, may be said to be almost always on the road, journeying to, or from, some church dedication. A few weeks ago, one of the churches in Toronto was re-opened after being greatly enlarged, and to-morrow another church, costing some \$13,000, will be dedicated; still another, costing some \$10,000, is soon to be finished, and then will come the grand Metropolitan, which will throw everything else into the shade. The dedication of this Methodist Cathedral will be an epoch in the history of the Methodist Church.

The missionary work does not in the least decline. The last missionary notice, a copy of which, I presume, you have received, surpasses its predecessors. It is brimful of that kind information which our people love so well, letters from missionaries abroad, and to unite our prayers with those of this company of God's dear children.

Since writing the above Marchmont has been entirely destroyed by fire, the inmates escaping only with their lives. A new house, however, has been erected on the old one, and even better adapted to their wants; many friends have been raised up for them, and we trust that the affliction will be a help rather than a hindrance to their work.

IRENE.
Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 28th, 1872.

Circuit Intelligence.

SOUBIS, P. E. I., Feb. 27, 1872.—The church here being situated at such an inconvenient distance across the water from the people, the friends have hired a Hall close at hand, where we can hold week-end meetings.

This extra effort was kindly made, I think, without any special previous suggestion from me; which is at least some sign of their interest.

But it needed better lights than we possessed, and I am pleased to state that R. Heartz, Esq., of Charlottetown, has kindly presented us with necessary suspending lamps for which we feel very grateful.

result was that in some parts of the country, especially in the South, where the opposition between the two denominations is intense, a fear of renewed persecutions, such as we had under Louis XIV., became very general.

But Providence has not permitted this, and once more "the wicked" hath worked a "deceitful work." It may be that, had France won, and had the Emperor remained on the throne, our fears would have been realized; but as it is, the Protestants have shown themselves in many circumstances the best and most intelligent patriots; the Republic has been proclaimed, and has thrown into the background the Legitimist or Catholic party—for it is all one here—and the consequence has been, notwithstanding a strong effort to connect hatred against the Prussians with hatred against Protestantism, that Protestantism has gained favor with the people, and has now a better position in France than it ever had. The noble conduct of Protestant Switzerland towards the *debris* of our army, when 90,000 of our soldiers were thrown back into that small republic, has not a little contributed to this unexpected result of a war ostensibly undertaken against us.

But can it really be proved that Protestantism is more favorably received now than it was under the empire? Certainly, we never had, for instance, so many Protestant members in a French National Assembly as at this time. There were sixteen some ten years ago in the House of Deputies. There are now more than seventy in the National Assembly, that is, five times as many as we were entitled to by our numbers in proportion to the population. Not less than 100,000 large number of those members are laymen, and a few are true, hearty, devoted Christians: Mr. Steinhilf, for example, who seized the opportunity some months ago to plead on behalf of the Bible as the best of civilizers, and Dr. De Pressense, the able divine, whose works are published by your Board, and who presented himself before the electors of Protestant Paris, and was elected as such with even a greater number of votes than Gambetta himself.

Then, again, we are listened to everywhere in the most wonderful manner. In villages, where we have preached for years to a mere handful of women and children, we can now have audiences of two or three hundred men whenever we announce a lecture without the least solicitation. The facts are received by all. Protestant pastors, who have visited Catholic populations, have held meetings and given Testaments or sold them without any opposition. Where formerly permission had to be sought for, and might have been refused, we now give public, hold meetings, answer objections, and the authorities placing any obstacles in our way.

You will naturally want to know whether Protestant Christians improve such golden opportunities and try to do good. I am glad I am able to answer in the affirmative, and to state a few facts concerning this Christian activity.

For some months after the war very little indeed was done. Christians appeared almost discouraged, and only the State, but the church seemed to be ruined. But some three months ago, in a conference of general convention of evangelical ministers and elders of the Reformed Church in the South, the question of evangelization was taken up, and after a serious discussion and much prayer it was resolved to found a Home Mission Society on a new principle, namely, that every Christian everywhere should begin to work for Jesus in his own neighborhood; that the Christians in the same locality should meet to put in common their experience, and speak of their trials or successes, and pray for one another; and that these local committees should communicate in cases of difficulty as well as of special encouragement with a central committee. Thus no special agents are sent, but every Christian does what he can at his own expense with the help of his neighbors. This principle has ever been carried out in theory at least by the Methodist Church, which requires of each of its members that they shall do something for Christ, and that every committee to be organized is very much like one of these.

But such a principle had never yet been so clearly put forward in the other churches, and the results are so far very satisfactory. The Methodists and the Independents have resolved to join their brethren of the Reformed Church in this home mission, and some thirty local committees have already been organized here, for instance, in Nimes, two committees have been formed for men and one for women. They consist of about one hundred and twenty members, who have already opened two mission Sunday-schools, begun five or six weekly cotyled meetings, organized a Tract-leading society and some evening schools for the working men, and hired a large room for the lowest part of the town to give lectures to the working men on social and political subjects. To one of the new Sunday-schools more than one hundred and twenty children have already been admitted. Four hundred men of the lowest class have attended the lectures.

I hear that a similar work is being carried on in Moutauban (by the theological student), in Clermont, Montpellier, and many other places. We expect a revival to ensue, in which many souls will be converted to God.

The biennial synod of the Free Churches (Independent), which was held at the same time as the convention mentioned above, also took action with reference to evangelization, and recommended a temporary mission, by ministers and laymen to districts where the gospel had not yet been regularly preached.

As to the Methodist Conference, which now only meets once in two years, it will not sit before next May, and I cannot say what action it will take. Its ministers and people are all at work already.

We are, therefore, as Christians, stirring ourselves, and preparing for a great battle against infidelity, indifference and immorality, and we have stronger hopes of success than we had some months ago. It may be interesting to know what share each denomination is like to take in this work in the position which it occupies, presently.

This will be the subject of my next communication.

J. F. C.
South of France, Jan. 30, 1872.

Miscellaneous.

METHODIST MISSIONS IN ROME.

(From the Wesleyan Missionary Notices for February.)

It is with no ordinary feelings of satisfaction and thankfulness that we announce to our readers the purchase of suitable premises in Rome for the carrying on of the various branches of our mission work. After a lengthened and diligent service throughout the city, an eligible and obtainable property was found. As the proprietor was anxious to effect an immediate sale, the committee appointed a deputation to examine, and, if they deemed it desirable, buy the property. It is situated in Via della

Scrofa, in the midst of a thick population, and in the current of the most crowded thoroughfares. At the same time, it is a neighborhood in which many respectable families live, and in which a superior class of business is transacted.

The premises themselves, which are lofty, substantial and imposing, can be seen all along Via Ripetta from the Piazza (el Popolo); they consist of convenient and well-let shops on the ground-floor, of two flats of excellent and comfortable houses, and of spacious and comfortable attics. There is a quadrangular square in the centre, which affords light and ventilation to the whole building. The deputation report that by the appropriation of two of the smaller shops and a warehouse, a church may be constructed, having an entrance from the front and from the side, and furnishing accommodation for upwards of three hundred persons. The alterations and adaptations, which will not be expensive, will be made under the direction of a local architect, who has recently built a Presbyterian church; and the edifice, when finished, will be in perfect keeping with the unobtrusive simplicity and working power of old Methodism.

This property, although acquired at the large cost of £10,000, is considered by competent judges to be really cheap. Since Rome has become the capital of the United Kingdom of Italy, property has rapidly increased in value, and it is extremely difficult to obtain building sites within the walls of the city. Other competitors were in the market who would have paid a higher sum; but the proprietor having given a pledge to us, he would not withdraw his offer. At present a considerable sum is spent for the rent of the room now used for worship in Via Barbieri, and for the rent of Signor Sciarrelli's house, and there is no school room. The new premises will furnish all that is required for these various purposes, and still yield an annual revenue sufficient to cover the expense, or ground rent, and other incidental expenses, and leave a large margin towards the permanent support of the mission.

Our prospects in Rome are exceedingly hopeful. The congregation at Via Barbieri, which is composed exclusively of Italians, averages about a hundred; upwards of fifty members have been united in church fellowship; old presbytery and people are beginning to give way, and the people are beginning to "search the Scriptures." It is expected that the new church will be ready for occupation in the spring, and the Committee would earnestly request their friends to join in fervent supplication that the dedicatory services may be signalled by the special presence of God.

We began to call the attention of our readers to the spirited and generous efforts which have been made for the twofold object of providing churches in Rome and Naples, and for the extinction of the Society's debt. Towards £32,000, which is the sum required, nearly £25,000 has already been promised. The Committee are extremely anxious that this important movement should be promptly and vigorously aided by all the branches and auxiliaries. The gentlemen who so liberally commenced it deserve the thanks of the whole Connection. Nothing is wanted to secure complete and immediate success but systematic and pervasive action. "Let every one do according as he is disposed in his heart," and thousands in distant lands will be benefited by the deed.

The N. Y. Independent says: "Fiji has now become a Christian name. As the first Wesleyan missionaries landed on these Islands only thirty six years ago, the contrast between those times and the present day is, indeed, marvelous. Extremely fertile, and more densely populated than any other of the South-Sea groups, they presented a race of islanders almost black in color, with curly hair secured by tortoise-like bands, and features painted with singularly-colored figures, divided into innumerable tribes, in perpetual hostility, and, therefore, accustomed to man to man attack. Cannibalism, the lowest depth of human degradation was not only sanctioned, but required by religion and of continual occurrence. Captives of war were either at once sacrificed, and baked in ovens for the feasts of their victorious kings; or by a sort of infernal anticipation, reserved and attended for peaceable festivals. Infanticide was commonly practiced and widows were strangled on the death of husbands. Into a land of such gross darkness the missionaries entered in the name of Him who is the life and light of men, relying on the promise of his help and commenced to make known the living God and the Saviour of the world. For many years they toiled amid the greatest difficulties, in constant danger and with little success. More than one of their number, Rev. Mr. Baker, was killed in the centre of Viti Levu, by the cannibals of Navosa, in his attempt to traverse the interior of the opposite coast for the preaching of the Cross. But now their success by the blessing of God in the conversion of the islands to Christ is well nigh complete. At the present time there are 22,800 church members and 104,223 attendants on public worship in the group, many of whom were the cannibals of former times. The Sabbath is sacredly regarded, family worship regularly conducted, and schools are established in 922 Christian towns, in 47,240 scholars receive instruction."

IN POWER AND IN THE HOLY GHOST.

There is a general impression that the Church has lost something of its early power; that it is no longer the vital force that it was; that its apostolic days; that it is at least no longer achieving its ancient success. Churches have killed members; and their pulpits an eloquence that the oratorical prophets, and depend upon intellectual technicians to supply the spiritual warmth which alone can give life and comfort to the human heart. Art is invited to co-operate with rhetoric. Whatever money can do to provide elegant churches and exquisite music, is done in the hope to draw by the attractions of taste to the house of God. Men observant of the fact that the Roman Catholic Church never lacks a congregation, borrow her candles, her processions, her incense, her altars, all but her faith, and live by imitating a dying system to inaugurate a living one. "Society" is invited to become the handmaid of religion. The strait and narrow gate is made the entrance to the best society; and the effort, not always unsuccessful, is made to fill up the Church of God by making the pilgrim path lead to Vanity Fair. On the other hand it is remarked that our rented pews are locked against the stranger, a nd that only those who can afford to buy the golden key that unlocks them can gain admission. More, therefore, demand few pews, and are content that unbarred doors, will secure crowded churches.

It is not thus that the Church of God can recover the power which she possessed in apostolic days. Not by eloquence nor by music, nor by social attractions, nor by ritualistic pageants, can the Church of Christ put on its strength; but by a new incarnation of the Divine Spirit—a new indwelling of God in the hearts of the people. When the fire of an ardent piety has gone out and left nothing but the ashes of a cold ceremonialism or a spiritless orthodoxy on the altar, it is not a new altar, but new fire from on high, that is needed to kindle the sacrifice, roll back the tide of covetousness, which is idolatry, and re-establish in power the religion of the one true God. The Philistines believed if they could capture the ark of God Israel could no longer prevail against them; and they were right. Now, no less than of old, the power of Israel is in the ark of God; when this is taken away it is invincible no longer.

Faith in Christ constitutes the locks which are the glory and strength of the young Samson. When the treacherous Delilah has shorn the centre, which affords light and ventilation to the whole building, the deputation report that by the appropriation of two of the smaller shops and a warehouse, a church may be constructed, having an entrance from the front and from the side, and furnishing accommodation for upwards of three hundred persons. The alterations and adaptations, which will not be expensive, will be made under the direction of a local architect, who has recently built a Presbyterian church; and the edifice, when finished, will be in perfect keeping with the unobtrusive simplicity and working power of old Methodism.

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[From the Boston Journal.]

The Province of New Brunswick has been making a grand step forward—that is, it has established a system of free, non-sectarian schools. How greatly that boon was needed can only be known to those who have made a personal inspection of that Province, so rich in all natural resources. Even the city of St. John was wanting in free school facilities which blessed many a rural New England district a hundred years ago. The singular thing is, however, that now a good school act has been adopted and put into operation, a considerable section of the people (under the lead of the Catholic priests generally) are laboring for its repeal, calling it the "Godless Schools Bill." They don't want any free schools in New Brunswick, and they profess not to believe in them anywhere. It might be all well enough—at least so far as we on this side of the line are concerned—if in their efforts to discredit the public school system they did not catch up and spread abroad the most unfounded slanders against the schools of Boston, which have always had a representative as well as a local standing.

Not long since, Mr. John Boyd, well known as one of the most public-spirited and able citizens of New Brunswick, delivered a lecture, in which he paid a earnest tribute to the schools of Boston, where he said, "all classes are educated alike." Whereupon the St. John Freeman, the Catholic organ, says—"Did Mr. Boyd ever read what Professor Agassiz has written and published of the schools of Boston; of their utter failure to cultivate what is highest and noblest in man, and the consequent degradation in many ways of the pupils attending these schools? Does he know that amongst other facts ascertained by the Professor, a very large number of the inmates of the houses of all lanes which abound in association, Boston, thence were told him that they were debauched in those schools, which Mr. Boyd—was trust in ignorance of their true character—praised so highly?"

Such an outrageous and ridiculous libel as this might well deserve some comments, but we prefer to sift the alleged story at one down to its exact worth. The remarks attributed to Professor Agassiz, on which the above was founded, were made in a meeting of the Social Science Association in this city. They were not published in the regular reports of the meetings, but were contained in a separate paragraph in one of our city papers. The reporter who wrote it, on being questioned as to the accuracy of the words he had used, stated that he was not positive, but that he understood Professor Agassiz to say something like that of which the above extract contains an exaggerated form. A distinguished educator present at the meeting, when asked his recollection of Professor Agassiz's remarks, said, "he made no charge whatever against the Boston schools, and did not intimate that there was any fault in their government. Another gentleman standing as high for veracity and character as any other in the State, declared that there was nothing in Professor Agassiz's language to warrant the paragraph referred to, and that like it, unless it was the intended remark that there was 'more immorality in the school than the teachers knew'—a remark which might be generally applied to all schools as a reminder to the vigilance of teachers."

We dwell upon the matter somewhat explicitly, because we have had occasion to see misrepresentations quite as unfounded as this going abroad on a round of mischief for years. Perhaps we shall not stop this, but it is a duty to try it. Professor Agassiz is away in the South seas, and has no opportunity to put his foot upon this calumny, but his friends and the friends of our noble school system will do his work for him as well as they can. Since our attention, however, was called to the matter, our apprehensions about its effect have been greatly allayed. In the important county of Westmoreland, N. B., the supporters and enemies of the free school act have just had a square fight at the polls, and the school candidate has triumphed by a handsome majority. The voters disbelieved the Agassiz story from the start. So it will be all through New Brunswick. The free open non-sectarian schools will be sustained, they will be gradually patronized by the whole population who desire to be up with the times, and they will prove the greatest blessing ever inaugurated.

THE CONGREGATIONALIST has a pregnant paragraph, which is worth noting: "How easy it is for the minister of a large parish or teacher of a District-school, to perform his work as to have no fault found, our readers very well know. How easy it is to make a newspaper that shall be just right in the eyes of all good people, editors ought to know. If it does not hit right and left, and rebuke this and that without fear and favor, then it is becoming tame or has no backbone, and its publishers are afraid of losing subscribers. So say some. Quite another class, however, are startled, and frequently grieved at earnest and decided criticism in any direction, and immediately exhort the editor to stop fighting, and show a more Christian spirit!"

EDUCATION OF WOMEN.
A report has been published on the examination for women conducted by the University of Cambridge, last July. It is the third annual examination of the kind held by the University, and it is satisfactory to find that the number of candidates increases steadily. Beginning with thirty-six candidates in the first year, the university had eighty-four candidates in the second year, and a hundred and twenty-nine last July. It would appear, notwithstanding the absolute smallness of these numbers, that the examination in most cases is generally of a high order. Various associations, more or less directly springing from the examination, have been formed for the improvement of women's education. Lectures and educational leading libraries have been established in several towns, and at Cambridge and Rugby a system of tuition by correspondence has been invented by which women living at a distance and out of reach of skilled assistants in their studies can obtain the assistance of able teachers. A paper of questions is sent every week or fortnight to each member of the association in whatever subject she is especially studying, and her answers are returned to her with corrections and advice. There is also a good deal of pecuniary assistance offered by persons who are able and willing to help women's education in this way. Several exhibitions and gratuities, amounting in all to a considerable sum, are awarded according to the results of the Cambridge examination.

General Intelligence.

LEGISLATURE.

NOVA SCOTIA.—Monday the 4th inst., the House met at half past two o'clock. Mr. C. J. Campbell, Esq., member elect for Victoria, was introduced by the Hon. Provincial Secretary, and sworn in by the Clerk in the presence of two members of the Legislative Council.

The Hon. Provincial Secretary reported from the Committee on preparing Standing Committees, as follows:—
"Privileges.—Hon. Atty. General, Mr. Townsend, Hon. Mr. Robertson, Mr. Macdonnell, Mr. Holmes.
Education.—Hon. Prov. Secretary, Mr. Desjardins, White, Gayton, Rickett, Blanchard, Allison.
Mineral.—Hon. Mr. Morrison, Freeman, Plinn, Hon. Mr. Ferguson, Cameron, Vickrey, Woodworth.

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NOT LONG SINCE, Mr. John Boyd, well known as one of the most public-spirited and able citizens of New Brunswick, delivered a lecture, in which he paid a earnest tribute to the schools of Boston, where he said, "all classes are educated alike." Whereupon the St. John Freeman, the Catholic organ, says—"Did Mr. Boyd ever read what Professor Agassiz has written and published of the schools of Boston; of their utter failure to cultivate what is highest and noblest in man, and the consequent degradation in many ways of the pupils attending these schools? Does he know that amongst other facts ascertained by the Professor, a very large number of the inmates of the houses of all lanes which abound in association, Boston, thence were told him that they were debauched in those schools, which Mr. Boyd—was trust in ignorance of their true character—praised so highly?"

SUCH AN OUTRAGEOUS AND RIDICULOUS LIBEL as this might well deserve some comments, but we prefer to sift the alleged story at one down to its exact worth. The remarks attributed to Professor Agassiz, on which the above was founded, were made in a meeting of the Social Science Association in this city. They were not published in the regular reports of the meetings, but were contained in a separate paragraph in one of our city papers. The reporter who wrote it, on being questioned as to the accuracy of the words he had used, stated that he was not positive, but that he understood Professor Agassiz to say something like that of which the above extract contains an exaggerated form. A distinguished educator present at the meeting, when asked his recollection of Professor Agassiz's remarks, said, "he made no charge whatever against the Boston schools, and did not intimate that there was any fault in their government. Another gentleman standing as high for veracity and character as any other in the State, declared that there was nothing in Professor Agassiz's language to warrant the paragraph referred to, and that like it, unless it was the intended remark that there was 'more immorality in the school than the teachers knew'—a remark which might be generally applied to all schools as a reminder to the vigilance of teachers."

WE DWELL UPON THE MATTER somewhat explicitly, because we have had occasion to see misrepresentations quite as unfounded as this going abroad on a round of mischief for years. Perhaps we shall not stop this, but it is a duty to try it. Professor Agassiz is away in the South seas, and has no opportunity to put his foot upon this calumny, but his friends and the friends of our noble school system will do his work for him as well as they can. Since our attention, however, was called to the matter, our apprehensions about its effect have been greatly allayed. In the important county of Westmoreland, N. B., the supporters and enemies of the free school act have just had a square fight at the polls, and the school candidate has triumphed by a handsome majority. The voters disbelieved the Agassiz story from the start. So it will be all through New Brunswick. The free open non-sectarian schools will be sustained, they will be gradually patronized by the whole population who desire to be up with the times, and they will prove the greatest blessing ever inaugurated.

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