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Agent for the Island.

Health and life.

THE PROTESTANT, AND EVANGELICAL WITNESS.

ation to judge terribly the earth, and men are calling to rocks and mountains to fall upon them and cover them, the everlasting arms shall be thrown around him, and the storm shall pass over his head. He shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. He is in Christ.

Such an one is in a city of refuge. The answer of the brethren can lay no charge against him. The law cannot condemn him, there is a wall between him and the avenger of blood. The enemies of his soul cannot hurt him. He is in a secure sanctuary. He is in Christ.

Such an one is rich. He has treasures in heaven which cannot be effected by worldly changes. He needs not envy the richest merchants and bankers. He has a portion that will endure when bank-note and sovereigns are worthless things. He has Christ.

Such an one is insured. He is ready for anything that may happen. Nothing can harm him. Banks may break, and governments may be overturned. Financiers and politicians may rage around him. Sickness and sorrow may visit his own friends, but still he is ready for all—ready for health, ready for disease—ready for tears, ready for joy—ready for poverty, ready for plenty—ready for life, ready for death. He has Christ.

Reader, this happiness may be yours. Seek Christ and be happy. Repent, believe, follow Jesus, and you will be a happy man.—Rev. J. C. Ryd.

THE Protestant & Evangelical Witness.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1861.

Melancholy Intelligence from the New Hibernia Mission.

We regret to learn from the *Pictor Chronicle* that the last Steamer from England brought very melancholy intelligence from the Mission on the New Hibernia group, in connection with the Presbyterian Church of those Lower Provinces. Three letters have been received in Pictor, one from each of the missionaries, Messrs. Paton, Geddie, and Gordon; and not having space to publish in full the summary of their contents as given in the *Chronicle* of Thursday last, we condense it in the following facts for the information of our readers.

The first of the series of sad reverses which have befallen the Mission, was the death, on the 1st January last, of Rev. Mr. Johnston, the last missionary who left these Colonies. About a week previous to his death, he and Rev. Mr. Paton had visited several of the neighboring stations, and both appear to have suffered severely from exposure to the weather. For one or two nights after their return to Tans, Mr. Johnston was unable to sleep, and in order to obtain relief resorted to the use of laudanum. On the morning of the 16th, he appeared to be enjoying his usual health, but about mid-day fell asleep, and his wife finding him so ill, sent for Dr. John, her brother-in-law, and sent for Mr. Paton. From the symptoms he observed, he became apprehensive that he had taken an overdose of laudanum, and immediately applied such remedies as were within his reach. For a time the remedies appear to have been successful; he awoke, continued to improve, and on the second day was able to walk about; but on the 21st he again fell into a profound sleep from which he was not destined to awake until the resurrection morn.

That climate, immediate intermission is necessary, and at sunset on the same day, his remains were deposited beside those of the wife of the devoted missionary brother, Mr. Paton, who, having vainly exerted himself to save his life, had watched his departing breath. Mr. Johnston, at the time of his death, had just acquired a sufficient knowledge of the language to enable him to converse with the natives, so that his career of usefulness may be said only to have been commencing.

The following incident is related in Mr. Paton's letter. On the evening of the 1st January when retiring from worship, Mr. Johnston turned back to say that he had observed two of the natives at the window armed with clubs, and Mr. Paton went out and called them in, a summons which they reluctantly obeyed. On enquiring what they wanted, they replied "medicine for a sick boy," but it was evident from their manner that they had some other object in view. They were told to return in the morning, as Mr. Paton was about retiring, which they promised to do. Secretly, however, was Mr. Johnston clear of the doorway, when one of the savages aimed a deadly blow at him with his club, but while he was stooping, in the act of picking up a kitten which had left the house when the door was opened. By a rapid movement, the blow was evaded, and fell harmlessly on the ground; but it was immediately followed by a second treacherous attempt from his companion, which also was providentially frustrated by a dog belonging to the mission house, whose instinct seemed to warn him of the danger, flew at the would-be assassin and diverted him from his purpose. The two were called into the house by Mr. Paton, and astonished of the wickedness of their conduct. It was afterwards ascertained that but they succeeded in their attempt upon Mr. Johnston's life, a large body was in waiting in the bush to follow up the attack, and probably perpetrate outrages of the most serious character.

Mr. Johnston appears to have been deeply impressed with a sense of the danger which had incurred, and of his providential deliverance. From that day Mr. Paton says he appeared more or less indisposed, and he never saw him smile. A few days after this occurrence, a slight disturbance took place, caused by the arrival of a number of armed men from some of the neighboring islands, evidently bent on mischief; but a quarrel occurring among them and the natives of Tans, terminating in the death of one of their number, changed the course of events, and the mission house and its inmates again escaped unharmed.

For some time previous to these and occurrences, measles, accompanied by dysentery, had made terrible havoc among the native population. All efforts to stay the progress of the epidemic were unavailing, and daily many were falling before it. Hundreds of the Tans died, and so fearful was the mortality that the dead were left unburied, lying on the ground or in the huts in which they had expired. Among the less enlightened of the population, the missionaries were superstitiously regarded as the cause of all this misery; but those who had been more immediately under their instruction viewed it in its proper light, and were prepared to defend them.

From Mr. Geddie's letter, which was dated Anticosti, April 3, it appears that on that island they had also experienced their full share of trouble. There the epidemic had first made its appearance about the first of January, having been introduced by a hand-boat vessel whaling the harbor. Thrilled at the mortality which was on Tans, it seemed to have had still greater in Anticosti; for Mr. Geddie expresses the belief that fully one-third of the population would fall before the epidemic before it could be stayed. So general had been its ravages, that many who might have recovered, died for want of food; being unable to procure it for themselves, and their neighbors being even in a worse condition. The parents to whom the climate proved mortal, were buried in the prime of life, now dead.

Some time during the month of March, the church and school at the neighboring station were destroyed by fire. The fire was discovered at night, and notwithstanding the efforts of the natives and crew of a vessel in the harbor of the time, out of many of the natives, the progress was not arrested, and in a very short time nothing was left standing but the steepled dome tower. Mr. Geddie says that he

little doubt that the fire was the work of an incendiary. Incendiary robs upon a small party, one of whom was bound to threaten that if a man who was sick died, the church would be burnt. The man died and the threat was fulfilled; but when he was bound to make the threat, was examined, he denied all knowledge of the origin of the fire. Whenever the health of the island improves the chief promise to investigate the matter. A few zealous and indomitable spirit that Mr. Geddie's would have sunk under these troubles, but his unfading energy is shown by the fact that already a new school house has been erected in which they meet for divine service.

But as if their list of misfortunes were not complete, on the 15th of the same month in which the fire occurred, the islands were visited by a terrific hurricane which caused considerable damage. The station conducted by Rev. Mr. Copeland suffered severely—the sea arose at least ten feet above high-water mark, almost destroying some of the buildings. Among the natives the storm was regarded as a judgment, and it is probable that so many disasters coming together will have an injurious effect on the mission.

A second letter from Mr. Geddie, dated 15 days later, states that the disease was abating on Anticosti, but it had laid in the grave one third of the population. Mrs. Johnston had been brought there from Tans. She was of opinion that her husband's death was caused by inflammation of the brain. From Mr. Gordon's letter, the date of which is not given in the *Chronicle*, it seems that Errossang, had not been exempt from the general suffering. The epidemic had raged to so frightful an extent on that island that nearly two-thirds of the population had fallen before it. Out of 100 persons who had communicated themselves to Mr. Gordon's teaching, only two had died, a fact which may exercise a beneficial effect on his future labor. In consequence of an attempt having been made on his life, by one of the natives bring a gun at him, he was bound to be compelled for a time to discontinue his visits to a portion of the island. One gratifying piece of intelligence among so much that is painful, is the continued good health of the missionaries. Mr. Geddie writes that Mr. and Mrs. Matheson were in better health than they had been since they came to the islands, and as for Mr. Geddie, after 15 years experience in the work, no damage to his attention is to be deeper than ever.

Since writing the above extract from two letters, written by Mr. Gordon to his relatives in Canada, we have received a copy of the *Chronicle* of the 1st instant, which contains the foregoing and intelligence. They confirm the foregoing and intelligence. Being only received by late evening's mail, we must defer publishing them until next week.

Our Offences.

The Editor of the *Examiner* in his last issue brings some *severe* charges against "the paper called the *Protestant*." The first is, aiding the Colonial Secretary to address what is termed in the *Examiner* "a curse and ally" successively against Catholic clergy, and the disloyal subjects of the Crown. The second is, "forgetting the innumerable insults which (the *Protestant*) casts upon the Catholic priesthood and people." And the third is, "forgetting, too, that its *defunct* predecessor, the *Protector*, declared that all the members of the Catholic Church were only fit to be slaves to the Protestants—were ordained by God for no higher duties than those of "hewers of wood and drawers of water."

In regard to the first offence, we pined not guilty. The Colonial Secretary has neither received, nor does he require our aid in addressing the Protestants of Prince Edward Island, against the Roman Catholic clergy in their efforts to gain political ascendancy here and elsewhere. He understands Popery too well, and is too far in exposing the machinations of her milited votaries to stand in need of our assistance.

In the second charge we are accused of "forgetting" that which we never knew. If by the term "insults" the *Editor* of the *Examiner* means gross abuse, then we have not so far as we can recollect, over admitted such into our columns, against any person, priesthood or people. We have, however, at times expressed our opinion freely with respect to the doctrines of the Church of Rome, and the conduct of her priesthood; but if people possess so tender feelings that they cannot bear to have their errors referred to without considering the act an "insult," they are altogether too sensitive for this world, and must stand in fearful dread of the next. We may observe that were Mr. Whelan's sense of insult as acute in regard to the nature of his own expressions, when he himself is speaking or writing, as it appears to when he is forming an opinion of the conduct of those who may make him, or the Church to which he professes to belong, the subject of comment, the feelings of his auditors and readers would be spared many an outrage.

As to the third charge, that of forgetting the offences of our predecessor, we have only to say that we never designed the *Protector* to be a scape-goat for the sins of the *Protector*. We are responsible only for our own opinions, and ought not to be accused of forgetting or writing, as it appears to when he is forming an opinion of the conduct of those who may make him, or the Court of Tarras is concerned. Lord John Russell has recorded the words of Bartolo Ricasoli with the emphatic term, *scandal*; and it is done for the sake of the Western Alliance, until France has become a party to the proposed annexation of Sardinia to France as the price of the evacuation of Rome. The speech was formally brought before Parliament by Mr. Lingdale and Sir Robert Peel, and drew out the speech with which Lord John Russell closed his career as a representative of the Commons of England. That speech convincingly proved that the rumour has not been without foundation, although M. Thoreau had indignantly repudiated the idea with an air of injured innocence, whilst Baron Ricasoli had pledged himself, in emphatic terms, not to yield one inch of Italian soil. Still France occupies Rome; and, whilst Lord Napoleon's flag floats over the towers of St. Angelo, suspicion must arise, suggesting the repetition of the unprincipled annexation of Savoy and of Nice. Some time ago we mentioned the fact of the disclaimer received at Paris by Lord Cowley, and now we have this fact repeated by Lord John Russell, with the emphatic assurance that such an association could never be thought of by France, until France has become a party to the Western Alliance.

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The Editor of the *Examiner* has also charged us with having been instrumental in causing the death of Mr. Johnston.

He is entirely innocent of the charge, and we are sorry to see that he has been thus impugned.

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GODDIE'S THEOLOGY EXPLAINED AND DISPROVED.—We are requested to say, that the Rev. J. Davis will deliver a discourse with the above object, to-morrow evening, at 8 o'clock, in the place of God, in regard to the salvation of sinners. Service at the usual hour.

SAINTS' CONVENTION.—The *Protestant* School in connection with the Bible Christian congregation in this city, together with 150 minister, teachers and a large number of visitors, celebrated their second Anniversary by taking up together at Willow Farm, on the Princeton Road, about a mile from Princeton. After tea, &c., which was served at 12 o'clock, the services were held at 2 o'clock, and were conducted by Rev. Mr. Woodman, Bible Christian Minister, and several other gentlemen, to whom the services were highly gratifying. Mr. Barker then made some forcible observations, illustrative of the advantages of Sabbath School, and was followed by a fervent and eloquent prayer for the divine blessing.

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THE PROTESTANT, AND EVANGELICAL WITNESS.

At Mount Pleasant, Windsor Road, on the 12th inst., by the Rev. Thomas Danson, Mr John McLaughlin, Coote Head, to Miss Ellen Reid, daughter of Edward Reid, Esq.

At the same, Charlottetown, on the 17th inst., by the Rev. Thomas Danson, Mr David H. Williams, of Tryon, to Miss Jane Egan, Lot 45.

By the Rev. T. Danson, on the 17th inst., Mr James Cawfield, to Miss Ann Robertson, both of Baldwin's Head.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

(Continued from fourth page.)

FRIDAY, April 12.

Hon. Mr HAVILAND moved a resolution to the effect that the division taken yesterday on the motion of the speaker, he, not concerned as a question of principle, as the cause of the division was purely ministerial circumstances, in order to prevent the escape of an individual from the gallery, who had been guilty of a contempt of the privileges of the House. The resolution, after some discussion, was agreed to, Hon. Mr Cole and Mr Sinclair only voting against it.

Mr. McGAUL presented a Bill to authorize the Trustees of the Lower School to sell the present school site, and appropriate a portion of the public square as a school site in lieu thereof.

The remainder of the day was taken up in discussion on the Volunteer Bill, but as scarcely any new matter was adduced, the Reporters consider that no interest will exist by their omitting to transcribe their communications that they were "distracted and onward," his honour would have been put to the test. Other papers besides the Examiner had anonymous correspondents; even the Protestant that pink of partisans had its editor in the chair, and was compelled to speak; and so also the Standard. He concluded by moving a paragraph to the London *Newspaper* of the World of March 17, with respect to a riot said to be caused by Orangemen at Derrywicks in Ireland, which he remarked showed that he was not wrong in speaking against Orangemen.

Mr COLE said the Orange Association had it in their power to sustain him in his contention that he had done a good service to the cause of Civil and Religious Liberty; and that it was his belief that such a service could be found for the maintenance of the Order. Look at Canada where there were so many Orangemen, and no riots had taken place between them and the Roman Catholics. They appeared to be on friendly terms in that Province. But why should we not do the same? We have a similar Association here, and I hope that it will be successful, which was organized recently; and it was at one time reported that there was a Lodge in existence here. So far as he understood the principles of Orangemen, no person who did not deserve to be deprived of the liberty which they enjoyed under the British constitution had anything to fear from them. It was well known that there was not such a right as the right of self-government. He read the paragraph, which is as follows:—

"Upon Mr Tilly's motion that the sum of £2000 be granted to defray the expenses of the Militia, he voted to obtain the sum, which it was proposed to furnish this money. He replied that he had voted to furnish each company with a sum sufficient to procure the services of a drill sergeant, and the remainder was to pay for the rent of a drill-room and general armory, and to procure a certain amount of ammunition for use of volunteers, and pay salary to the Adjutant General. He also stated, that it was his opinion of the Government to offer a silver medal to be shot by the different companies."

He supposed if a proposal was made by the Government here for a silver medal to be shot by the different companies, some parties would be horrified. He hoped that if a moderate sum was named with which the blank should be filled up, hon. members would not oppose it.

Mr COLES was surprised to hear the hon. member introduce the Bill to the House, as he had introduced the bill to the House of Assembly, and he considered that a Government measure, all the members of the Government should be prepared to take the responsibility of the Bill. There should have been an understanding, when the Bill was introduced, what the sum was to be.

Hon. Col. GRAY explained that he was prepared to take the responsibility of the whole Bill, but it was certainly necessary to the hon. introducer of the measure to desire him to name the sum.

Hon. Mr HAVILAND knew that the hon. leader of the Opposition was very anxious to think there was division in the Government. But the present Government was different from that of which the hon. member was leader. There was no division in the Government, and the leader of the Government spoke of the Administration as "the Government" and not "my Government," as formerly did the hon. leader of the Opposition. The hon. member should not have twisted us for having introduced the Bill with a blank.

Hon. Mr COLES remarked that he did not say they should not have introduced the Bill with a blank, but that the should have been named the sum.

Hon. Mr HAVILAND assured the hon. member had forgotten the Bill which he desired to be passed to give certain officers pay, but he would not take the responsibility of it, and had a message sent down by the Governor suggesting such a measure, as a kind of fuel. On another occasion, a change was contemplated in the mode of collecting the revenue, again, and a message sent down from the Governor with a resolution, and, though he had "my Government" to deal with, he was unwilling to take the responsibility of the measure until he knew that it would pass. (He [Mr H.] thought the Bill under consideration could not be properly worked with a less sum than £2000, since there were some 27 companies in the Colony. Since this small sum could not be obtained, especially as the late Government spent £450 on one company alone. He would move that the blank be filled up with £600.)

Hon. Mr LAIRD seconded the motion. He thought, considering the spirit which the young men in the colony displayed, the sum named was very well calculated to meet the wants of the public funds was such that the House could not well give more.

Hon. Mr HINSHAW said that so little had been given this year for roads and bridges, though he approved of the volunteer movement, he could not go so far as the Government in aiding it. He thought £200 would be quite sufficient, and would move in amendment that it be paid to the Provincial Government.

Hon. Mr THORNTON said he had supported this Bill, but he should vote for the amendment that the blank be filled up with £2000. Though there were 27 companies, he understood that the company at Georgetown was pretty well drilled, and so were the companies at Charlottetown, and the names of the drill sergeants for these companies had not been mentioned.

Hon. Col. GRAY remarked that it was very little account what sum was named, for he thought the Government would spend no more than was necessary; and after referring to the great care which was taken of arms in the army, and the strict attention that was paid to this point by the general officers appointed as inspectors, he said it was evident that the volunteers here had not been drilled, and, let us just as an instance, Companies of Companies could not be expected to be so strict with the men, as a stranger who would come to inspect them. If we could not get a person to volunteer his services as Inspector of Volunteers, we must provide a salary. There was no doubt that the Inspector General to the same position as the Adjutant General. We had no Inspector of Volunteers.

Hon. Mr COLES said he now here in the Public Accounts £25 to the Adjutant General, and £25 to the Inspector General.

Hon. Col. GRAY.—He was not satisfied as such. The officers were drilled in Britain. For example, there are no companies of Volunteers, we could not expect them to go out on foot to inspect the Corps in the country; for though Sir Charles Napier said all that was necessary for a soldier to carry into the field, beside his arms, was a clean shirt and a piece of soap, yet we would be ashamed to see the Inspector of Volunteers going out to the country with a stick in his hand, bearing a clean shirt and a piece of soap. (Laughter.) Laughter was general, and we could not get an answer. We had been entrusted with arms worth about £10,000 by the British Government, and surely we ought not to do less than provide that they be taken care of.

Hon. Mr COOPER thought the British Government had acted liberally in giving the arms; but he had a well-considered opinion, that the Government that supported the proprietors in opposition to the people, and that supported an Orange party to put down another party, was not a wise government.

Hon. Mr McNAUL was not satisfied, either. He would not allow the Government to be put in this position in this way, for they had never supported an Orange party.

Hon. Mr COOPER said that he was only satisfied when the proprietors were considered; and then a majority should suffice to maintain only half the funds of one party, and if they had had their remarks to the end, they might have maintained both.

Hon. Mr COOPER said that he himself had been induced to support the Inspectors of Volunteers, and that he had done so, but he had not done so entirely for the sake of the Inspectors, but for the sake of the people.

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Blank with £600 was a justification of what he had said all along that the Government would be prepared to vote an extravagant sum for this service. His hon. friend in his remarks has made the other day in concluding our debate, has said, "I may wish to contribute to the expense of the letter requesting the formation of the Royal Victoria." The hon. member had read my letter to him, and I have enclosed a copy of it in this paper. One of the letters was from Captain Murphy, and another from Lieutenant Reddin. He said he considered it necessary to read these letters to justify his own veracity and that of his private communication, in which he had every confidence, to the end that he did not wish to expose those letters to the House and give evidence of the correctness of his statements. These letters showed not only the difficulty the Irish Volunteers experienced in obtaining arms; but the almost impossibility. In reference to the assertion of an hon. member that the anonymous communication in the paper with which he (the W.) was connected was "distracted and cowardly," he would call upon the House to give evidence of the correctness of his statement.

Mr COLE.—Any person who stabled in the dark was a dastard and a coward.

Hon. Mr WHARF.—He might now cloth his state, that the division taken yesterday on the motion of the speaker, he, not concerned as a question of principle, as the cause of the division was purely ministerial circumstances, in order to prevent the escape of an individual from the gallery, who had been guilty of a contempt of the privileges of the House. The resolution, after some discussion, was agreed to, Hon. Mr Cole and Mr Sinclair only voting against it.

Mr COLE.—The Bill to authorise the Trustees of the Lower School to sell the present school site, and appropriate a portion of the public square as a school site in lieu thereof.

The remainder of the day was taken up in discussion on the Volunteer Bill, but as scarcely any new matter was adduced, the Reporters consider that no interest will exist by their omitting to transcribe their communications that they were "distracted and cowardly" as they participated in the debate.

Saturday, April 13.

House again in Committee on the Volunteer Bill. On motion, the clause under consideration, which provided that the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, during the year 1861, draw from the Treasury of this Island a sum not exceeding £1000, to be expended in the payment of Staff Officers, Drill Sergeants, &c., was agreed to.

Mr COLE.—The Orange Association had it in their power to sustain him in his contention that he was not wrong in speaking against Orangemen.

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so to them simply as representatives of the people, and not as magistrates or justices of the Peace.

The SPEAKER said it was not customary to discuss a petition at that stage.

Mr BEER received leave to present a Bill founded on a petition, which was then read and ordered to be read at a general meeting.

Mr HOLM presented the report of the Committee in reference to the Saturday Market, which is as follows:—

The Committee to whom was referred the petition of divers inhabitants of Strathtyne, Scotch Settlement, praying this House to lend its influence to have Tuesdays and Fridays declared as market days in Charlottetown, and to establish a regular market in the town of Westport.

The Committee considered that the appeal of the petitioners was well founded, and that it would be in the interest of the public to have a regular market established.

That the bill be read a second time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be read a third time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be passed, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be read a fourth time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be read a fifth time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be read a sixth time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be read a seventh time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be read a eighth time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be read a ninth time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be read a tenth time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be read a eleventh time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be read a twelfth time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

That the bill be read a thirteenth time, and referred to a committee to be appointed.

