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Poetry.

SABBATH MORNING.

BY MRS. SIGOURNEY.

Sweet day of rest, begin;
The week hath had its way,
With care, and strife, and folly's din,
And scarce a pause to pray,
The week its leisure hath kept
In mammon's mine to toil,
The votaries wearily have slept,
And early waked to toil.
It as a sower went
Its earthly seed to cast,
And some upon the winds were spent,
To reap the winds at last.
With many a deep regret,
And hope that vainly burned,
The work-day world our tasks hath set,
And we her lessons learned.
The week hath had its fill
Of service, and of speech;
Six days and nights it ruled at will,
But one it may not reach.
We see its dawning gem
Gleam o'er the mountain's breast,
Kneeling, we kiss its garment's hem;
Begin, sweet day of rest.

American Messenger.

A BEAUTIFUL THOUGHT.

BY MESSRS. DOANE.

Chisel in hand stood a sculptor boy,
With his marble block before him,
And his face lit up, with a smile of joy,
As an angel dream passed o'er him.
He carved the dream on that shapeless stone,
With many a sharp incision;
With heaven's own light the sculptor shone—
He had caught that angel vision.
Sculptors of life are we, as we stand
With our soul uncarved, before us;
Waiting the hour when at God's command,
Our life-iron passes o'er us,
If we carve it then, on the yielding stone,
With many a sharp incision,
Its heavenly beauty shall be our own,
Our lives that angel vision.

Christian Miscellany.

"We need a better acquaintance with the thoughts and reasonings of pure and lofty minds."—Dr. Sharp.

A Neglected Duty.

INSTRUCTIVE INCIDENTS.

One morning, just as the day began to dawn, Mr. M. was roused by a hard knocking at his door. On opening the door, he found Mr. R., a friend who lived about three miles distant. "Walk in, Mr. R.," said he. "I hope nothing bad has happened to call you from home at so early an hour."

"I thank you, I won't come in. Mr. L., I believe, owes you a considerable sum."

"He does."
"Well, you must be wide awake if you don't wish to lose it. He is about to leave the place, and has taken measures for the speedy removal of all his property. I thought you could not well afford to lose your debt, and so I have come over to let you know how things stood."

"I am very much obliged to you; but have you come from home at this early hour on purpose to inform me?"

"I had no other business."
"It was very kind in you to take the trouble."

"It was no great trouble to take for a neighbour. We must help one another: good morning."

"Stop, stop; come in and get some breakfast before you go back."

"I can't stay, for I must be home as soon after sunrise as possible. I have several workmen to attend to; and besides, if you are going to secure your debt, you had better not wait for breakfast."

"Very true."

Mr. R. set out on his return, and Mr. M. went to visit his delinquent debtor. "Mr. R.," said Mr. M. to himself, "is a very good man; very few men would have taken so much trouble to serve another. He is a very kind, upright man; I wish all Church members were as much so."

Now it had so happened that Mr. R., with all his kindness and uprightness, had never spoken to Mr. M. about the danger he was in of losing his soul! It would certainly have been as great a proof of kindness to have warned him against the loss of his soul, as it was to warn him against the loss of his debt. It required no greater gift of speech to do the one than the other.

How fearfully is the duty of warning men neglected! How few make it their business to speak to men respecting their eternal interests!

An unfeeling, obtrusive mode of speaking respecting the interests of the soul is only adapted to do harm; but a warning kindly given, the result of a heart-felt interest on the part of him who gives the warning, seldom fails to exert a beneficial influence.

On a certain occasion a poor day-labourer went to a rich farmer and manufacturer, and said, "Sir, you may think I take too much upon me, but I have been wanting to tell you for a long time that I feel bad about you."

The humility and affection with which he spoke touched the rich man, and led him to request his visitor to say what he had to say to him with freedom. The poor man was silent and embarrassed.

"What did you wish to speak to me about?" said the rich man.

"About your soul."

"Well, what have you to say?"
"I am afraid you will have your only portion here, and won't get to heaven, and that you won't do the good you ought to do with your property and influence."

The conversation was interrupted by one who had business with the rich man, who dismissed his Christian friend courteously, saying, "I am much obliged to you, and will try to think of the matter you mentioned."

The next Sabbath he was seen where he had not been seen for months—in the house of God; and he continued to attend, with a good degree of regularity, from that time onwards. The collector for a benevolent cause was emboldened to present a subscription paper to him; he put down five dollars in the poor man's name, and paid it. Whether any saving results to his soul followed from the conversation above alluded to, is not known to the writer. Certain it is that the warning was kindly received, and produced some good effects.

The neglect of this duty is not always owing to forgetfulness or indifference, but to a strange disinclination to utter from the lips what is felt in the heart.

Two men were engaged in mowing the same meadow. One was a pious man, the other was a profane Sabbath-breaker. The pious man felt deeply for his fellow-labourer, and determined to urge him to break off from his sins, and to seek the salvation of his soul. But he found it difficult to speak to him on the subject. Though they were alone, and it would seem there was nothing in the way, yet day after day passed, and no word of warning was spoken. The pious man was distressed in consequence of his neglect of duty, and on a certain night fully resolved that on the morrow, as soon as they reached the meadow, he would make an affectionate and solemn appeal to his companion.

The next morning that companion did not come to the meadow. The pious man wrought alone till noon, and then went to the dwelling of his fellow-labourer. He found that he was no longer among the living! In the night he was taken violently with the cholera morbus, and died about ten o'clock.

"He spoke of you," said the widow to Mr. S., "and wanted to see you; but I had no one to send for you."

"Did he say anything about dying?" said Mr. S.

"He was in great pain most of the time after he was taken, so that he did little else than groan, but—he was afraid to die."

Mr. S. felt his heart faint within him as those words were uttered. "He was afraid to die." Yes, he might well be; and a professing Christian who was with him daily, and who really cared for his soul, had never done anything to prepare him for death.

On a certain occasion Dr. Chalmers, when away from home, passed an evening in company with a number of pious friends and a former parishioner, who was seventy-two years of age. He was a large, stout man, apparently in perfect health. Though God had spared him more than three score and ten years, yet he had not secured the one thing needful.

During the evening the conversation took a devout turn, and was continued till a late hour. The old man listened attentively, and seemed to ponder what was said.

Dr. C. noticed the attention he paid to the conversation, and felt inclined to speak to him personally respecting his eternal interest, but thought it would hardly be proper in the presence of the company.

The next morning a noise was heard in the old man's room. Dr. Chalmers ran into the room just in time to see him die. It was the second death he had ever witnessed. When it was certain that life was extinct, he knelt down and offered an affecting prayer, and then called together the household, and gave them a solemn exhortation. He was greatly depressed during the day, a large part of which was spent with a friend in the woods. "It was touching," said the friend "to see him sit down on a bank repeatedly, with tears in his eyes, and say, 'Ah! God has rebuked me; I know now what St. Paul means by being instant in season and out of season. Had I addressed that old man last night with urgency, it might have seemed out of season to human eyes, but how reasonable it would have been!'"—N. Y. Observer.

Sudden Conversion.

Sudden conversions are in accordance with Scripture. In the Acts of the Apostles we find that ordinarily conversions were sudden under their ministry. The three thousand conversions on the day of Pentecost all appear to have taken place during the sittings of one assembly, and all the subsequent outpourings of the Spirit with which the first age of Christianity was blessed, seem to have been characterized by conversions of this sort. Though Saul was three days seeking the Lord, yet the jailor of Philippi and all his household were converted in one hour. And we have reason to believe that such conversions were every day taking place under the ministry of the apostles. Not only the example of Scripture, but the general spirit and genius of the Bible, are favourable to sudden conversion. The Bible calls upon men to repent now! It does not instruct them to adopt a course of action preparatory to their doing so, but allows of no delay. Its language is, "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." Sudden conversions are neither unphilosophical, unscriptural, nor unusual.

A Nail in every Building.

When I used to travel for the London Missionary Society, I went to Peterborough. A farmer there had read the report of that society. He found that we had one hundred and twenty-three missionaries. He sent for Mr. Arundel to say, "I have a great desire to hit out something new." I questioned whether any member of Parliament would have hit it. He said, "I am determined to have something to do with every tract distributed, every sermon preached, every school established; and for this purpose I will give a sovereign for each of the missionaries. Here is a check for one hundred and

twenty-three pounds, in order to do something all over the world."

That is what I call an enlarged idea. But in the meantime another report came out, and stated that thirteen new missionaries had been sent forth. "Well," said he, "I am determined to keep it up," and he gave another thirteen pounds. If all rich young men and young ladies were to say, "I will have something to do with every Home Missionary station; I will give a sovereign for each of the missionaries; I will be interwoven with their efforts; this society would soon be released from difficulties."—Rev. R. Knill.

Winter.

Winter is again upon us. The last ray of Summer that lingered playfully about our northern zone has faded away. The last leaf of Autumn that fluttered in gaudy colours to the passing breeze has fallen, withered and decaying. The mellow warmth of that brief, anomalous season that interposed itself at the very verge of Winter, as if it would turn back the course of nature, and usher in the Spring, has yielded to biting frosts and chilling storms. The winds whistle cold; northward the snow falls thick and fast; the forests moan as the fierce blast sweeps through their naked branches; the streams are transmuted into a solid, glassy pavement; the warbling of birds, the hum and chirp of insects, are succeeded by a dreary silence in the woodland, the meadow, and the glen; the feathered tribes have migrated to a sunnier clime; the insect tribes have betaken themselves to their native caverns; the beasts of the forest burrow in their dens. In the city the cold wind sweeps through the narrow streets, the snow mantles the houses, the ice hangs pendant from the roofs and sleets the pavements, the public walks are thinned, and passengers quicken their pace; families crowd around the hearth-stone or the glowing furnace; the poor shiver in open, fireless garrets, or in dark, damp, freezing cellars.

However the poet and the moralist may discourse of the wisdom and beneficence of the Creator in "the budding Spring," "the beautiful Summer," "the luxuriant Autumn," they must surely be silent now. Winter must chill their gratitude, and freeze their song. Not so. The royal Psalmist finds in Winter, its storms, its frosts, its snow, a theme of glowing praise. In his exhortation to universal thanksgiving to God for his power and goodness in creation and in providence, he enumerates among the grounds of praise, that "He giveth snow like wool; he scattereth the hoar-frost like ashes; he casteth forth his ice like morsels; who can stand before his cold?" And in his sublime invocation to all things celestial and terrestrial to join in the praise of God, he summons "fire and hail; snow and vapour; stormy wind fulfilling his word."

Uninspired poets, also, have found in Winter much to admire and praise, while painters have drawn from it some of their most effective subjects. The poet of the Seasons, Thompson, does not exclude Winter from his lofty hymn of praise.

The Psalmist recognises the hand of God in Winter as in Summer. "The day is thine, the night is also thine; thou hast prepared the light and the sun. Thou hast set all the borders of the earth; thou hast made Summer and Winter." The same hand that clothes the earth with the verdure of Summer, clothes it with the snow of Winter; the same breath that wafts fragrance over the dewy fields, chills them with its frost. Winter is an ordinance of the Creator for the good of man—a part of that vast system of alternation and compensation by which a wise and beneficent Providence governs the world. It was the promise of Jehovah to Noah—the second progenitor of the human race—that "while the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, and cold and heat, and Summer and Winter, and day and night shall not cease."—Independent.

Missionary Intelligence.

(From Wesleyan Notices Newspaper, Dec. 1850.)

Wesleyan Missions in Southern Africa.

THE BECHUANA DISTRICT.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. James Cameron, dated Thaba-Uncu, July 25th, 1850.

I was cheered at the last renewal of the quarterly tickets, to find most of the members of our church were holding fast the profession of their faith without wavering, expressing the liveliest gratitude for their deliverance from the ignorance, degradation, and misery of Heathenism, and for their introduction to the blessings and privileges of Christianity. Five catechumens, three of whom professed to have obtained the forgiveness of their sins through faith in Christ, were after a lengthened probation, admitted to the sacrament of baptism. Amongst these was the eldest son of the Chief Moroko, with one of his companions. He has been privileged to grow up under the sound of the Gospel, and to receive instruction from his infancy. He was three years at the Watson Institution, and eight months with Mr. Smailes at Colesberg, where he enjoyed every advantage both of a scholastic and religious kind, not to mention my own efforts to instruct him. He reads English, Dutch, and Sichuana, writes a fair hand, and understands the common rules of arithmetic. Since his return from Colesberg, about a year ago, he has been upon trial for church membership; and as his Class-Leader spoke well of him, and his moral conduct was irreproachable, I thought the prolongation of his novitiate might be productive of discouragement, if not of worse consequences,—so I consented to baptize him. I do hope he will, conformably to his baptismal pledges, renounce the vanities of the world, the lusts of the flesh, and the works of the devil.

Our sacramental and love-feast occasions, on the 7th and 14th inst., were indeed times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. In no Christian Church, even of favoured England, could the memorials of the Saviour's passion have been received with greater propriety: each one, kneeling erect, reverently took from the hands of his Pastor the symbols of Christ's body and blood, as the outward seal of the Gospel covenant, with all the rich blessings it insures to penitent believers. At the love-feast many testified to their having experienced the power, as well as adopted the form, of godliness. A few spoke with so much feeling as to move the whole assembly, who seemed as with one heart to follow hard after God.

On Tuesday, the 9th inst., the foundation-stone of our new chapel was laid, with the usual formalities. From various causes, and especially the want of funds, this building has been delayed much longer than was at one time anticipated; but we have now made a commencement in good earnest, and hope, with the Divine blessing, to have it completed within two years. The people contributed money to pay for the doors and windows, and brought them hither from Colesberg, a distance of a hundred miles, in their own waggons, and at their own expense. All our male members have engaged to work by turns, in parties of ten or twelve, till the building is finished. It is in the form of a T, and comprehends an area of two thousand seven hundred and seventy-two square feet. Great was the rejoicing of the people at laying the first stone of this new and spacious edifice. I discoursed to them on the miseries of Heathenism, and the vast temporal and spiritual advantages which the Gospel had brought them. I believe every heart responded to the truth of my statements. At the conclusion of the service we repaired to the old chapel, singing a hymn by the way, and there the whole church partook of a repast, consisting of bread and meat, with plenty of tea, a beverage which a few years ago was utterly unknown among the Baralongs, but which some of them now begin to relish, as much preferable to their native beer. At this feast we were joined by Moroko and one of his head men, who thus showed themselves interested in our undertaking.—The former has promised to assist us with

his waggons in fetching wood, which must be brought from a great distance, or in any other way that I may suggest; and I have no doubt of his fulfilling his promise.

Western Africa.

GAMBIA.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. George Meadows, dated St. Mary's, Gambia, May 23d, 1850.

We still have much to encourage us in our labours. Our schools are large, our society peaceful and flourishing, and our services are well attended, and often graciously visited by Him who has said, "In all places where my name is recorded I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee."

Several conversions have taken place lately. A Krooman—one of a class thought by some to be almost beyond the reach of the Gospel—has been awakened, and experienced the efficacy of that blood which "can make the foulest clean."

But we need more help to maintain the ground we at present occupy, as well as to extend our borders. If one of us were to be laid aside by illness, (and we cannot expect to be always well and fit for work here,) our society and schools would greatly suffer. We do hope that you will at least send us a well-trained Schoolmaster after the rains.

Family Circle.

Presence of Mind.

Presence of mind may be described as the power of determining what is fittest to be done upon any sudden occasion, and under adverse circumstances, and of carrying the design into immediate execution with such success as to lead one to suppose it an action of calm deliberation. It is, in short, the union of rapid thought and self-command. This power is possessed by individuals in very different degrees. Minds are so diversely constituted, that we often see the same circumstances producing quite opposite effects. Thus an emergency, that totally unnerves one man, is just sufficient to call the powers of another into full activity. Whilst the former cannot act at all, but seems reduced to a state of mental paralysis, the latter applies himself with calm energy to the difficulties of the case, and escapes the perils that appeared inevitable, by an intuitive selection of the only path that could lead him out in safety. Presence of mind is more generally diffused amongst men than women, but, perhaps, the most striking isolated examples are told of females. Most people have heard of the mother, who, seeing her infant so near the edge of a precipice that the slightest advance would hurl the little creature to destruction, had the presence of mind to suppress the scream of alarm that was on the point of breaking out. Simply whispering the little creature's name, and at the same time baring her breast, she drew it from its dangerous position into the safe haven of her arms. When presence of mind is combined with fortitude, the compound is very admirable; and there are few things that show, in a greater degree, the power of the mind over the body. The following circumstances, which took place a few years ago in an English county, are a pointed illustration of this unusual combination of qualities:—

A young couple, named Aubrey, inhabited a tolerably large house in the village of —, in Norfolk. The house—an old one—was built in a garden of considerable size, and had no other occupants than the gentleman and lady just mentioned, their infant, rather more than a year old, and a single female domestic, who had not been very long in their service. Every evening at nine o'clock a silence the most complete reigned throughout the village; at ten the lights in the different houses began to be extinguished, and in a short time no ray disturbed the blank darkness. It must have been a very extraordinary circumstance if any steps were afterwards heard in the streets. Judge, then, of the utter solitude of a house screened by elms and sycamores, and standing three or four hundred yards from the public way. One evening, in the month of November, Mrs. Aubrey was in the house, awaiting the return of her hus-

band, whom some affair of business had called away in the morning, to a town about six miles distant. He expected to receive a considerable sum of money in the course of the day, and his wife had prevailed upon him to take a pair of pistols, as he anticipated being detained until nightfall. About six o'clock in the evening Mrs. Aubrey went up-stairs accompanied by the servant, for the purpose of putting the child to bed. The room was on the first floor, a large apartment, looking into the garden. The wainscot darkened by time, the heavy furniture, some family portraits with sedate countenances and in ancient costumes, gave the room a somewhat gloomy appearance. Opposite to the chimney there was a deep recess, in which stood the bed; and near this was placed the child's cradle. The curtains were drawn, but one corner had caught by accident on some piece of furniture, and a post of the bed was exposed; a fine massive piece of carving, on which some cabinet-maker of yore had expended no slight skill and patience.

The night was dark and melancholy, quite in character with the time of year.—Gusts of wind rattled on the windows, dashing the rain violently against the glass. The trees in the garden, bending under the sudden currents of air, occasionally struck the house side—a gloomy and monotonous concert this—and no human voice mingled in it to promise assistance in case of need. Mrs. Aubrey seated herself on a low chair at a corner of the hearth. The light of the fire, and that of a lamp placed on the chimney-piece, striking some objects in full, and leaving others in darkness, made all kinds of strange effects by their opposition or combination. The child, which fully occupied her attention, sat on her knee, whilst the servant executed some commands of her mistress at the other end of the room. Being about to complete the child's readiness for its couch, the mother turned towards the cradle to see that it was prepared, and just at the moment, a bright flame shooting out, threw a strong light upon the recess. Conceive, if you can, the astonishment, and the start she gave, when, under the bed, and at the place where the curtain had been lifted up, she perceived, as plain as ever she saw anything in her life, a pair of thick clouted boots, in such a position that it was evident that they contained feet. In an instant, a world of thoughts rushed through her brain, and the utter helplessness of her situation flashed upon her. It did not admit of a doubt that a man was there with some evil intention, either to rob or murder. Her husband would probably not reach home before eight, and it was then scarcely half-past six. Mrs. Aubrey, however, possessed sufficient command over herself not to do what a thousand other women would have done, namely, fall to shrieking. To all appearance the man had reckoned upon staying where he was for a considerable time; perhaps he had intended to remain until midnight, and then carry off the money that Mr. Aubrey was to receive; but, if obliged to come out of his lurking-place now, he might revenge himself upon the two defenceless women, and stop all information of theirs by putting them to death. Then who could tell? perhaps the servant herself might be in league with the fellow. Indeed, there had been of late certain grounds of suspicion, as regards the girl, which Mrs. Aubrey had disregarded, but they now forced themselves on her mind. All these reflections occurred to her in much less time than I have taken to put them down.

She came to a determination at once. She first thought of some pretext to get the servant out of the room:—"Mary," she said, with as steady a voice as she could assume, "you know what your master will like for supper; I wish you would go and make it ready. He will be pleased, I am sure, that we have thought of it."—"Will you not need me here, as usual, ma'am?" inquired the girl. "No; I can do all myself, thank you; go and cook as nice a supper as you can; for I am sure my husband ought to have something nice after a long ride, and in such weather." After some delay, which doubled her mistress's anxiety, although she endeavoured to repress it, the servant quitted the room. The sounds of her footsteps died away on the stairs, and then Mrs. Aubrey

truly felt herself alone—yet the two feet remained there, in their shadowy concealment without stirring. She kept near the fire, holding the infant in her lap, now and then speaking to it, but only mechanically, for she could not remove her eyes from that horrible sight. The poor child cried to be at rest, but the cradle was near the bed, and under the bed were those frightful feet. It was impossible to go near them. She made a violent effort, however—"Come, then, darling!" she murmured; and lifting the child in her arms, and supporting herself on her trembling limbs, she went towards the cradle. She is now beside the feet—she places the baby in its little nest; concealing as well as she can, the tremors of her voice, she rocks the cradle in time to the song she usually sings. All the time she sang, she kept fancying a dagger was lifted up to strike her, and there was no one to succour her. Well, baby fell asleep, and Mrs. Aubrey returned to her seat near the fire. She durst not quit the room, for that might excite the suspicions of the man, and the servant, was probably his accomplice; besides she wished to remain near her infant. It was now no more than seven—an hour—still a full hour before her husband would reach home! Her two eyes are chained, by a species of fascination, to the two feet; she cannot direct them to any other object. A profound silence reigns in the room; baby sleeps peacefully; its mother sits motionless—a statue; her hands crossed on her lap, her lips half open, her eyes fixed, and her breast has a fearful tightness across it.

"Now and then there was a noise without in the garden, and Mrs. Aubrey's heart leaped within her, for she imagined it announced her husband's arrival and her own deliverance. But no, not yet, she was deceived; it was merely the sound of the wind, or the rain, upon the trees. She might be the only being in the world, so deep and mournful was the silence. Every minute seemed an age. Look! look! the feet stir. Is the man coming out of his concealment? No, it was nothing but a slight movement, perhaps involuntarily made to ease an unpleasant position. Again the two feet are quiet.

"The clock is audible once more, but it is only to chime the half hour. Half-past seven; no more than half-past seven! Oh, how full of anguish was every minute! Repeatedly she addressed prayers on High for a period to this hideous suspense. Upon the chimney-piece there was a book of religious meditation; she reached it, and tried to read. In vain!—her eyes wandered off the page continually to see if the clouted boots were still under the bed. Then a new source of anxiety shot through her head—What, if her husband does not come at all! The weather was bad, and his parents, who lived in the town whither he had gone, might prevail upon him to remain with them over night. She would not be astonished if he complied, especially as he had a good deal of money about his person.—What, if he comes not at all!

"Eight o'clock has struck, and there is no arrival. The possibility her active brain suggested becomes every moment more and more probable. For two hours did this agonized female bear up against her thoughts, but at length it became hopeless to hope. Hark! Is that a noise? She has been deceived so often before, she is afraid to believe her senses, and yet, this time, there is no deception. The entrance-door opens, is closed; steps come along the lobby, and mount the stairs; the room door turns on its hinges. But if it had been a stranger, he would have seemed a messenger from heaven. Well, in he walked, a fine athletic figure. Down go the pistols upon the table; off comes the cloak, thoroughly soaked, I can tell you;—a happy man was he to see all he loved dearest in the world. He stretched his hands to his wife, who grasped them convulsively; but, exercising her wonderful self-command once more, she stifled her emotion, and, without uttering a word, she placed a finger on her lips, and pointed with the other hand to the two feet. If Mr. Aubrey had doubted for a moment what to do, he had not deserved to be the husband of such a woman. By a sign he made her comprehend his meaning, and then said, 'Just wait one moment, my

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dear wife; I have left my portfolio down- stairs, I will step for it.' He was not two minutes absent; he came back with a pistol the charge of which he had examined. He advanced towards the bed, and then seized one of the feet with his left hand, whilst with his right he held the pistol, ready to fire in case of need.

"If you resist," cried he, with a voice of thunder, "you are a dead man!"

"The person to whom the feet belonged did not seem inclined to put this contingency to the test. He was dragged into the middle of the floor, crouching under the pistol that was pointed at his head. He was then searched, and a pointed carefully concealed, was found upon him. He was a thorough scoundrel in his appearance, and he confessed to have been in league with the female servant, who had told him he might expect a rich booty that night. All this time the infant was never quite awakened.

"Both the criminals were handed over to justice; both were convicted upon trial, and punished. Notwithstanding Mrs. Aubrey's temporary courage, she was attacked the same evening with a violent nervous disorder, and some time elapsed before it quite left her."

The Flower that looks upward.

A group of young, light-hearted girls sat together in the twilight, busily arranging the flowers they had been gathering in the pleasant woods and fields.

"What beautiful things flowers are!" said one: "and what a pleasant amusement it would be, now that we are all sitting here so quietly, if each were to choose which flower she would rather be like."

"Just as if there could be any choice," exclaimed Laura Bennett, a little proudly—"Among all the flowers that grow, there is none to vie in beauty with the Rose. Let me be the queen of flowers or none!"

"For my part," observed her sister Helen, "I should like to resemble the Luxuriant rhododendron, so beautifully described in our book of flowers. When any one, in passing, strikes it roughly, it scatters, we are told, a shower of honey-dew from its roseate cups, and immediately begins to fill its chalice anew with transparent ambrosia; teaching us to shew sweetness even upon the hands that disturb us, and to fill again with pure honey-drops the chalice of our inward thoughts. Oh! who would not wish to be meek and forgive like the rhododendron, if they could? But this is very difficult," added poor Helen, with tears in her eyes.

"It is indeed," said Lucy Neville, gently, "if we trust to our own strength. And who is there to help us? It is only when my father looks at me, in his grave, kind manner, that I have the slightest control over myself. What a pity it is," said Lucy, simply, "that we cannot always remember that the eye of our Heavenly Father is upon us!" "I wish I could," said Helen. "I have heard my mother say," observed Lucy, "that praying is better than wishing."

"Now Clara," interrupted Laura Bennett, turning impatiently toward a fair gentle-looking girl by her side, "we are waiting for you."

Clara smiled, and immediately chose the pale convolvulus or binewood, winding so carelessly in and out among the bushes, and flinging over them a graceful covering, an emblem of meek beauty and loving tenderness. "The only pity is," said she, "that it should so soon close up and fade."

"But what says our dear Lucy?" exclaimed Helen.

"I think that I can guess," said Clara Seymour, "either a violet or a heart's ease—am I right?"

"Not quite," replied Lucy with a deep blush; "although both the flowers you have mentioned are great favourites of mine.—But I should like to resemble the daisy most, because it is always looking upward!"

"Do tell me," said Helen, as they walked home together, carrying the flowers which they had gathered to adorn their several dwellings; "do tell me now why you wished just now to be always looking upward like the daisy?"

"Oh, Helen, can you ask? What more do we require for happiness than to be able, let the cloud be ever so dark, to look up-

ward, with the eye of faith, and say, "It is the Lord's will, and therefore it is best?"

"Do you always think thus?" asked Helen.

"Alas, no," replied poor Lucy, while the tears fell fast. "But I am trying and praying to God to teach me."

General Miscellany.

A Living Suspension Bridge.

"They are coming towards the bridge; they will most likely cross by the rocks yonder," observed Raoul.

"How! swim it," I asked. "It is a torrent there."

"O, no," answered the Frenchman, "monkeys would rather go into fire than water. If they cannot leap the stream, they will bridge it."

"Bridge it! and how?"

"Stop a moment, captain, you shall see."

The half-human voices now sounded nearer, and we could perceive that the animals were approaching the spot where we lay. Presently they appeared upon the opposite bank, headed by an old gray chieftain, and officered like so many soldiers. They were, as Raoul had stated, of the comadrejas, or ring-tailed tribe. One—an aide-camp, or chief pioneer, perhaps—ran out upon a projecting rock, and after looking across the stream as if calculating the distance, scampered back and appeared to communicate with the leader. This produced a movement in the troop. Commands were issued, and fatigue-parties were detached, and marched to the front. Meanwhile several of the comadrejas—pioneers no doubt—ran along the bank, examining the trees on both sides of the arroyo. At length they all collected round a tall cottonwood that grew over the narrowest part of the stream, and twenty or thirty of them scampered up its trunk. On reaching a high point, the foremost—a strong fellow—ran out upon a limb, and taking several turns of his tail around it, slipped off, and hung head downwards. The next on the limb, also a stout one, climbed down the body of the first, and whipping his tail tightly round the neck and forehead of latter dropped off in his turn, and hung head down. The third repeated this manœuvre upon the second, and the fourth upon the third, and so on, until the last upon the string rested his fore-paws upon the ground. The living chain now commenced swinging backwards and forwards, like the pendulum of a clock. The motion was slight at first, but gradually increased, the lowermost monkey striking his hands violently on the earth, as he passed the tangent of the oscillating curve. Several others upon the limbs above aided the movement. This continued until the monkey at the end of the chain was thrown among the branches of a tree on the opposite bank. Here, after two or three vibrations, he clasped a limb, and held fast. This movement was executed boldly just at the culminating point of the oscillating, in order to save the intermediate links from the violence of a too sudden jerk! The chain was now fast at both ends, forming a complete suspension bridge, over which the whole troop, to the number of four or five hundred, passed with the rapidity of thought. It was one of the most comical sights I ever beheld, to witness its quizzical expression of countenances along that living chain! The troop was now on the other side, but how were the animals forming the bridge to get themselves over? This was the question which suggested itself. Manifestly by number one, letting go his tail. But then the point d'appui on the other side was much lower down, and number one, with half a dozen of his neighbours, would be dashed against the opposite bank, or soured into the water. Here, then, was a problem, and we waited with some curiosity for its solution. It was soon solved. A monkey was now seen attaching his tail to the lowest on the bridge, another girdled him in a similar manner, and another, and so on, until a dozen more were added to the string. These last were all powerful fellows, and running up to a high limb, they lifted the bridge into a position almost horizontal. Then a scream from the last monkey of the new formation warned the tail end that all was ready, and the next moment the whole chain was swung over, and landed safely on the opposite bank. The lower links now dropped off like melting a candle, whilst higher ones leaped to the branches, and came down by the trunk. The whole troop then scampered off into the chapparal and disappeared.—Captain Reid's Adventures in Southern Mexico.

Singular Test.

There is a curious ordeal in India which shows the action of fear upon the salivary glands. If a wrong is committed, the suspected persons are

got together, and each is required to keep a quantity of rice in his mouth for a certain time, and then put it out again; and, with the greatest certainty, the man who had done the deed put it out almost dry, in consequence of the fear of his mind keeping back the saliva.—English Paper.

The True Man.

The man, whom I call deserving the name, is one whose thoughts and exertions are for others rather than himself, whose high purpose is adopted on just principles, and never abandoned while heaven or earth affords means of accomplishing it. He is one who will neither seek an indirect advantage by a specious road, nor take an evil path to secure a real good purpose.—Sir Walter Scott.

Wesleyana.

For the Wesleyan.

Horæ Wesleyanice, or Thoughts on Methodism.

No. IV.

From the theology, purpose, spirit and economy of Methodism, it might have been predicted that its action upon the multitudes with which it has come in contact, must have been immense. Numberless facts would prove such a prediction true. Its direct and immediate action and success may, for the moment, be withdrawn from consideration. Its collateral and indirect influence is a subject fraught with interest. The Historian, who shall trace its operations, and weigh its results upon contemporaneous religious bodies, and thence shall estimate its bearing upon Christian Nations, and, through them, upon the world at large, must be endowed with a profound and acute philosophical cast of mind, vast information, and a comprehensive knowledge of the spiritualities of religion, combined with a manly candour, of which our age has furnished no example. But though its recondite and remote results are beyond the reach of the common intellect, many of its influences are at work in the sight of all men, and many of its achievements lie upon the surface of society.

It is well known that, at the time of the advent of Methodism, real piety was well nigh dead in the land. In the English Church, and out of it, there was almost the coldness of death. The masses were but little removed from barbarism, and no man cared for their souls. The Latimers, the Bedells and the Leightons were no more; the Simeons, the Vens and the Newtons were to come. Nor had the Howes, the Allines and the Owens any spiritual successors; though Watts sung like a seraph, and Doddridge taught like a sage. The whole lump of the nation was un-leavened. The uselessness of the wealthiest Church in Europe was astounding.

Now it was that Methodism came forth to do its work of "spreading scriptural holiness throughout the land." And as though it had blown the "trump of God," men awoke from slumber. Even those who refused to co-operate with Wesley, were compelled to exert themselves a thousandfold more than before; or the Chapel would have emptied the Church.

And, then, on account of the supplementary relation in which, at first, Methodism stood to the Establishment, great numbers were brought to the Episcopal Communion, who were truly devoted to God and His cause. These persons must have largely influenced that portion of their fellow-members with whom they came in contact.

Besides, many young men, converted by Wesleyan instrumentality, being, in numbers of instances, the children of Methodist parents, entered the ranks of the Episcopal Clergy, and laboured faithfully in the Redeemer's cause. Their labours raised up pious coadjutors; and thus the early impulse of Methodism went on with increased momentum at every step. And, even where Wesleyanism did not augment the piety of the Establishment, it added to its activity.

In a way, very similar, has the progress of Methodism exerted vast influence upon the Independent interest. Large numbers, brought by Wesleyan agency to the enjoyment of peace with God, were not so tolerant of the imperfections of the Church of England, as the Methodists, perhaps, have too readily shown themselves to be, and they naturally ranged themselves, therefore, under the Independent banner.

Others there were, deeply indebted to the Wesleyan Society for their spiritual hopes, upon principle, utterly hostile to the connection of Church and State, and who, not obtaining sympathy or aid in the propagation of their views, in this particular, among the Methodists, also passed over to the Independent ranks.

Some instances occurred in which men of decidedly Calvinistic sentiments were converted to Christ by Wesleyan effort; and these, not content to hold their favourite theory upon sufficiency, likewise went to the Independents for their spiritual food.

Not a few cases, transpired, moreover, of Wesleyan Preachers who, retarding the disposition to yield to the self-sacrificing spirit of the Independent system, withdrew from the Methodist Con-

nexion, with their personal friends and admirers, and, subsequently, disappeared among the Independents.

And, as in the instance noted of the Church of England, many young men, who were led to the religious life by Methodist zeal, for various or different reasons, finally engaged in the Independent Ministry.

Some aid has, also, been rendered to Independency by the agitations which have existed, at times, in the Methodist Church, and which have resulted in the retirement of the dissatisfied who, having in vain sought organic changes in the Wesleyan Polity, ultimately attached themselves to the Independents. Now, it is manifest that these events could not have transpired without operating most powerfully upon the Independent Denomination. Accordingly there has been a vast increase of piety and zeal and numbers in that Body, concurrently with the more rapid spread of Methodism. To these statements, may be added the consideration of the effect of the competition which must exist between a people so intensely active as the Methodists, and the Denominations galvanised into life by the collision.

If Methodism cannot claim the honour of originating the aggressive spirit of Protestantism, it has performed the task of increasing its power and enterprise. And, in later times, in direct attempts upon the godless multitudes, both of Christian and Pagan Lands, it has fallen to Methodism to lead the van; and, in this position, it has cheered, by its onset and triumphs, the less vigorous sections of "the sacramental Hosts of God's Elect."

As the natural consequence, the Missionary spirit has been intensified to a wonderful degree. Protestant Britain is no longer satisfied to enjoy its own creed safe from Papal violence; it feels its duty, to some praiseworthy extent, to proclaim among all nations the unsearchable riches of Christ. That sense of duty to perishing man, will go on, deepening and widening, and prompting to deeds of self-devotion and moral heroism, until every soul on earth shall hear the "glad tidings of great joy."

Grand, beyond thought, as this consummation of love and truth will prove to be, when the men of the "latter day," whose eyes shall see the great sight, shall search for the instrumentalities by which the mighty work was wrought, Methodism will be named with respect, and Wesley be venerated as one of the best and greatest of men. It may thus, perhaps, be finally demonstrated that the collateral and indirect results of Methodism, will even transcend in magnitude the marvellous acquisitions of its own immediate organizations, immense, without precedent for centuries, as they have undoubtedly been, and are, in all probability, still likely to prove.

ERASMUS.

Correspondence.

For the Wesleyan.

Point de Bute Circuit.

MR. EDITOR.—We have just concluded our annual Missionary Meetings on the Point de Bute Circuit; and have been gratified and encouraged by the pecuniary results. The first meeting was held in the Point de Bute Chapel. The Chair was occupied by Harmon Trueman, Esq. After singing and prayer, the Chairman opened the proceedings with some appropriate remarks, then called upon the Rev. Messrs. G. Johnson, J. G. Hennigar, and C. Lockhart, to address the meeting. They, at some length, directed the attention of their audience to the degraded state of the heathen world, the necessity of using vigorous efforts to ameliorate their condition, and the certainty of ultimately achieving a final conquest over idolatry and vice. The following evening a similar meeting was held in the Wesleyan Chapel at Fort Lawrence. The congregation paid great attention, while the Rev. Messrs. Johnson and Lockhart exhibited to them the deplorable condition of multitudes of our fellow beings in heathen lands, who have neither Bibles nor Missionaries to teach them the way to heaven. They then enforced the necessity of liberal contributions in behalf of the heathen; and a number responded to the appeals, by contributing a third more than last year. On Monday, Jan. 13th, the next Missionary Meeting was held at Bay de Vert. The congregation was large and attentive. The Rev. A. Desbrisay took the Chair. Mr. T. Pickard moved, and Mr. Hennigar seconded, the first resolution. The second resolution was moved by the Rev. G. Johnson, and seconded by Mr. S. Gooden. The Rev. J. G. Hennigar moved, and Mr. G. Hamilton seconded the third resolution. The speeches were suitable to the occasion, and calculated to excite the sympathies of the hearers in behalf of their brethren in distant lands, who have forgotten the God of their salvation, and have not been mindful of the rock of their strength. The proceeds of the meeting surpassed the former year. The Missionary notices in this Circuit were, on the whole, exceedingly interesting, and the proceeds have proved more cheering than had been anticipated.

ALPHA.

Point de Bute, N. B., Jan 15, 1851.

For the Wesleyan.

Wallace Circuit.

MR. EDITOR.—We commenced holding our Missionary Meetings in this Circuit at Pugwash, on Monday evening the 13th inst. The Rev. E. EVANS, Chairman of the District, and General Superintendent of Missions in Nova Scotia, &c., &c., and the Rev. Wm. CROSCOMBE, of Amherst, and several of our Lay friends, rendered us their most valuable and important services. The Chair was taken at this our first meeting at 7 o'clock, by Mr. R. D. De Wolfe. The speeches delivered displayed sound judgment and well-cultivated minds, and were fraught with an holy influence and a burning charity for mankind. The effects were as pleasing as they were profitable. The collection and subscription amounted to about £6.

On Tuesday evening, the 14th inst., we held our Missionary Meeting at Wallace Harbour.—The Chair was taken at 7 o'clock by J. Huestis, Esq. The congregation was large and attentive, thereby evincing their deep interest for the moral, spiritual, and eternal welfare of the heathen world. The speakers rose in sublimity with their subjects, giving evidence of a deep and growing zeal for the salvation of their fellow-perishing men, and the effect produced on the audience was most delightful. A Christian feeling and a holy influence pervaded the assembly during the whole of the services. The collection and subscriptions amounted to the handsome sum of £15 14s. 0d.

On Wednesday evening, the 15th, we held our Missionary Meeting at the Head of Wallace Bay. The Chair was taken at 7 o'clock by Mr. Elijah Tuttle. Here, as at the former Meetings, the speakers entered into the subject of Christian Missions with a holy zeal, fluency of speech, and sublimity of thought, that would do credit to the most ardent and able advocates of our growing Missions. "It does one's heart good" to take part in meetings of this nature. Hard and unfeeling must that heart be that could listen to such stirring appeals and not sympathize with his fellow perishing men, and uncharitable must he be that could refuse to aid in sending the Gospel to them. The Rev. Mr. Crocombe proceeded on his way home at the close of this service. The Collection and Subscription amounted to £8 12s. 4d. The interest taken by our friends in the cause of Missions was well sustained at this meeting.

Thursday morning, the 16th inst., we held our Missionary Meeting at Wentworth. The Chair was taken by Mr. Lemuel Bigney. This Meeting was characterized by the same hallowed feeling that had attended all the former meetings. There was no disposition either on the part of the speakers or people to "stop the supplies." S. Fulton, Esq., M. P. P., gave a just and merited rebuke to all that would do so, and showed how utterly impossible it would be for the Committee to misappropriate the funds of the Society if they were disposed to do so. The Chairman in his eloquent and effective manner, also, referred to this subject, and showed that the cry of "stop the supplies" did not lie so much against the Wesleyan Missionary Society as against all other Missionary Institutions. The Wesleyan Missionary Society in some cases employed three agents to one of some other Societies, and in others two to one with the same amount of money. He thought all were doing the very best they could; but if the Wesleyans could do more than others, it was all owing to their *conneccional* principles. The subscriptions at this meeting amounted to £3 18s. 0d. Having so far proceeded with our Missionary Meetings, we have to report a large increase in our receipts over last year. This is mainly to be attributed to the very efficient services of our respected Chairman; indeed our friends were delighted as well as profited by his kind visit to this Circuit, and will long bear it in grateful recollection.

Yours truly, WESLEY C. BEALS. Wallace, January 20th, 1851.

THE WESLEYAN.

Halifax, Saturday Morning, February 1, 1851.

SUNSHINE THROUGH THE CLOUD.

A dark and portentous cloud has been spreading over the religious sky, threatening to obscure the native brightness of divine truth, and pour a desolating torrent on the fair garden of the Lord. To speak without metaphor: popery has been these years past making special efforts to reconvert England to the faith of Rome, and bring the population again under its burdensome and tyrannous yoke. Recent movements have indicated a determination to force onward the object of its ardent and long cherished aspirations: these have startled the protestant mind by their daring—inspired confidence by their rashness. An over anxiety to extend its dominion has induced a precipitancy of action which can result only in ultimate defeat. Though appear-

ances seemed to invite the invasion of error, yet realities have shown decided preference for truth. Traitors to protestant principles lurked in the land and filled high and influential places in the Church—the principles themselves were dearer to the population at large than all external organizations or ecclesiastical ties. Apostates have been stripped of their sophistical garbs—the true friends of the one Christ, Zion's sole foundation, have stood forth, sublime in their loyalty to Jesus their King, nerved with dauntless courage, clothed with the whole armour of God, ready to show prowess, and do battle, for the Lord of hosts, for the cause of Truth, for religious liberty, for rights and privileges dearer than life, in strong combined repulse of the advancing foe and ambitious alien. It needed but such invasion to evoke the latent spirit of unconquerable opposition to the Roman Antichrist, which dwelt in the hearts of millions of England's bravest sons, and cause it to take substantial form, and, under the auspices of high heaven, to put on zeal as a garment, and, surrounding itself with the concordant elements of righteousness and truth, to form an impregnable fortress around the ark of the Lord. Occasion, undesigned on the part of the foe, has been given for the manifestation of protestant principle—England has placed herself in a becoming posture of defence—her vales and hills have resounded with watch-words of fidelity—her nobles and yeomanry have alike responded to the calls of duty—and, at present, hearts and hands are united against the inroads of the common foe. Light from the clear cerulean beyond shines through the dark and threatening cloud, at once a token of good, and pledge of divine faithfulness, given, like the beautiful bow of promise which spans the distant arch, to cheer and animate the minds of those who trust in the love and fidelity of Him who sitteth on the circle of the heavens.

No counsel against the Lord and against his Anointed can prosper. The time of the destruction of Antichrist may not yet have come. He may be permitted to rage and fret against the servants of Christ, threaten and attack the armies of the living God, and, blinded by the spirit of delusion, attempt to invade the territories given to Immanuel, but his doom is fixed—his time draweth nigh—the "man of sin, the son of perdition" shall "the Lord consume with the spirit of his mouth, and destroy with the brightness of his coming." Rest we, then, with confidence, on this prophetic assurance—its accomplishment is certain—its failure impossible.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The Members of the upper and lower House, as these branches of the Legislature are called, have been in Session for more than a week past. Some business has been done, and many speeches have been made. The Address of His Excellency at the opening of the Session has occasioned the expression of some diversity of opinion among the members of the House of Assembly, especially that part of it which referred to the executive appointment of the Hon. Provincial Secretary as a Delegate to England on the affairs of the Railway. To this matter we only give a passing notice, fearing lest we should be thought by the over sensitive to be trespassing on the forbidden ground of party politics. And yet we are not sure but that we are as capable of giving as dispassionate an opinion on this subject, as those who are mixed up with the turmoil and swayed by the counter-influences of party, and one which, from its disinterestedness, would be likely to commend itself to the sound sense and sober judgment of the country at large. Our readers, and the country generally, are in great danger of sustaining a grievous loss, which perhaps can never be made up to them, by the restraints which we have voluntarily imposed on ourselves! By refraining from expressing our judicious opinions on this all important, all absorbing subject, when there are so many strong and urgent solicitations to the contrary, we afford them the best pledge, which it is in our power to give, of our ability to resist temptations, and the solid foundation on which they may repose the utmost confidence respecting the fidelity, with which we shall steer our self-determined course in avoiding the dangerous rocks and shoals or *saltows* of politics! We shall, however, give as full a synopsis of the business trans-

actions of the Legislature as our limits will permit, which we have no doubt will be expected, and which we hope will prove satisfactory to our numerous patrons.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

We are pleased that our Agents are not forgetful of the interests of *The Wesleyan*, but are sending in orders for papers for new subscribers. This is right, and we hope their continued efforts in the same direction will prove successful. These practical instances of remembrance greatly encourage us amid our ceaseless toil to furnish a good family paper. We may here state, that the numerous and spontaneous testimonies, which we are constantly receiving, of the spiritual benefits resulting from the perusal of *The Wesleyan*, afford us still more abundant encouragement in the prosecution of our work; nor shall we fail to keep this higher object ever in view, whilst catering for the public taste. Let our friends proceed in their highly appreciated efforts to increase the circulation of *The Wesleyan*. The introduction of a weekly paper, containing such a variety of good and useful reading, into the family circles of our people, cannot, with the divine blessing, but result in spiritual profit, and general improvement. We have a few numbers on hand from the commencement of the last half-year of this volume, which, with those extending back to the first series, we should be glad to supply to new subscribers. Perhaps some may wish to obtain Volume I, with the preceding seven fortnightly numbers: if so, they can be supplied. First series 1s. 9d.—Vol. I, 10s.

Altars.

The *Church Witness* has an excellent leading article on the subject of "Altars" and cites numerous authorities to show that the Anglican Church has excluded them. We give an extract or two:—

"But of what consequence, it may be asked, is it whether you style the surface that sustains the consecrated elements, an altar, or a table—whether it is built of stone, or of wood—whether it be a fixture, or a movable? It is just of this consequence, and nothing less, that the name, and the form, and the mode of erection, imply, and are intended to convey, by that sure but silent process which emblems carry on, true or false ideas of the Christian priesthood and rites. It is a favourite theory with some minds, that the whole internal arrangement of our churches should be emblematical. If so, let us take heed that they are emblematical of truth, not of falsehood; that they are adapted to the Christian, not to the Jewish dispensation; the temple of Christ, not of Solomon. If these things were not connected with a new system of doctrine, as foreign to the genuine principles of the Church of England as those of the New Testament, men of Romish tendencies would not be so fond of them; and, if they were not calculated to effect some alteration in public sentiment, and prepare the way for the reception of this new system of doctrine, such men would not cleave to them so pertinaciously. If they are not designed to teach, why adopt them? If that teaching is of no moment, why contend for them? Why make innovations upon established usages for the sake of them? Why violate the laws of the Church to introduce them? If, on the other hand, they are emblems, and those emblems do teach, and that teaching be deemed important by men who wish to innovate, but is at the same time false, directly contravening that of our Protestant Church and Bible, then it behoves those who wish to be faithful to the truth, by every lawful means, to protest against their introduction."

"If our readers examine the above testimonies, they will see, that whereas an Altar supposes a sacrifice, and a sacrifice a sacrificing priest to mediate between God and the people; our Church has carefully and peremptorily excluded Altars from her churches, in order that her people may understand, that we have no longer a *literal* sacrifice, or *sacrificing priests*, within them; that the one Great Sacrifice on Calvary has superseded every other *literal* sacrifice, and that He who offered it there has, in his Priestly character, no successor in the earthly church."

The United States Cheap Postage Bill.

The Postage Bill has passed the House. The following are its principal features. Postage on each letter weighing under half an ounce, 3 cents. No post office or route shall be discontinued, or compensation to postmasters be diminished in consequence of the passage of this act. On printed matter, of no greater weight than two ounces, 1 cent; bound books, weighing not over 30 ounces, to be deemed mailable matter. Newspapers delivered in the State where printed,

chargeable only with half the foregoing rates. No postage on newspapers sent to actual subscribers in the county where printed or within 30 miles; 50 per cent. to be deducted from postage of magazines when prepaid. Three cent-pieces, three fourths silver and one fourth copper, to be coined. Stamps, as now, to be provided and sold at post-offices. Forgery of stamps to be punished by fine and imprisonment. A million and a half to be appropriated to meet deficiencies in the revenue. Letters uncollected in the period of two weeks, to be published once only. The Postmaster General to establish suitable places of deposit for cities and towns, to be collected and delivered by carriers at 1 or 2 cents each.—*Zion's Herald*.

New York Educational Funds.

The capital of the Literature Fund is \$272,880.12—its revenue \$57,948.12, and its expenditure \$43,369.59. These are applied to the support of academies. This fund by the Constitution of the State is inviolable. Next is the Common School Fund, which now amounts to \$2,290,673.23—the revenue \$463,553.13—the expenditures \$326,030.06. The capital of this fund too, which has been increasing for many years, is inviolate, and its income must be applied to the support of common schools.—Then there is the United States Deposit Fund, \$4,014,520.73—its revenue \$269,141.68—its expenditures \$260,228.04. This capital is also inviolate; and \$25,000 of its income, by law, is added annually to the capital of the Common School Fund, and the balance is distributed to colleges and academies.

Morals of the Sandwich Islanders.

In 1847 there had been among them but five executions, and these for three murders, for ten years. No one since that time has been convicted of murder. Rarely is a native seen intoxicated. As a nation, they observe the Sabbath, and attend upon the means of grace, read the Bible, and seek God with their families.

Dr. Junius Smith, who is paying great attention to the culture of tea in South Carolina, says that the heat of summer is far more to be feared for the tea-plant than the cold of winter, and requires more watchful care. He adds, that he should not be surprised if the cultivation of the tea-plant should be vastly extended in New England, while comparatively it stands still in the South.

Mr. Croelman, Member for Colchester, has been appointed Financial Secretary. He has to appeal to his constituents, and his appointment to office can only be confirmed by his re-election.

Charles W. Fairbanks Esq. is agitating the resuscitation of the Sturtevanadic Canal.

J. S. Thompson Esq. delivered a superior Essay on the Geography of the British Empire before the Mechanics' Institute on Wednesday evening, the 22nd ult.

Judge Marshall continues his Lectures at Temperance Hall.

The Bishop of Exeter, it is said, has lately ordained a Wesleyan Minister; some *Local Preacher* we imagine.

The Branch Wesleyan Missionary Meetings, for Nova Scotia District, so far as they have been held, and notices have been received, have been more than usually interesting and productive.

The question of Education will come up again this Session for discussion. We hope the subject will be viewed calmly and dispassionately, and that some comprehensive measures will be adopted to include the ACADEMIES, under denominational management, which have been receiving for some years past the fostering care of our Legislature. These have been on the whole, perhaps, among the most efficient educational institutions of the country.

James F. Forbes, Esq., M. D., has been appointed by His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor, in Council, to be Health Officer for the Port and District of Liverpool, in Queen's County; also James McKegney, Esq., M. P. P., to be provisionally, a Member of Her Majesty's Executive Council in this Province, and was sworn into office on the 29th ult.

THE ROYAL GAZETTE of Wednesday, contains the Royal assent to Acts No. 2970 and 3020—the former to continue and amend certain Acts relating to the Colonial Revenue—the other entitled an Act for establishing Free Trade in certain articles between the United States and the British North American Provinces.

In the second line, No. 3, *Horn Walesian*, published in our last, for "eternal," read "external" economy.

Galignani's Messenger states, in the authority of letters from St Petersburg, that on the 3rd of October a terrible tempest broke out at Kergis, where the horde of Korin generally establishes its camps, and 168 persons were killed, as also were 205,600 sheep, 1,202 horses, 490 camels, and 360 oxen. During eight days the soil was covered with snow to the depth of 64 yards.

The celebrated Cicerochlo has been sentenced by the Consulta of Rome to fifteen years hard labour for having fought for the Republic.

Provincial Parliament.

(Chiefly from the City Papers.)

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

As intimated in our last, the Provincial Legislature was opened in due form on Thursday the 23rd ult., by His Excellency, Sir JOHN HARVEY, by a Speech from the throne which we have already published. The members of the House of Assembly returned to their Hall, when the Speaker read the speech.

BILL PRO FORMA.

Hon. Mr. Doyle asked leave to introduce a Bill entitled an Act for the better regulation of Elections. The Act contemplated conferring upon all male inhabitants of Nova Scotia having paid their County Rates, the right of voting at Elections. Leave was granted and the Bill was read a first time.

Mr. McKeagney moved an Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech—which was seconded by Mr. Mignowitz, but which, being only an echo of the Speech, need not be inserted.

It was moved that the answer to the Speech do lie on the table till to-morrow.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

Mr. Fraser presented a petition from a number of the inhabitants of Windsor, praying an Act of Incorporation for a Company to be called, "The Halifax and Windsor Telegraph Company." The petition was received, read, and laid on the table.

Mr. Fraser asked leave to introduce a bill for the incorporation of the Company.

Mr. Marshall thought it would be well if the hon. member for Hants would allow the petition to lie on the table until other petitions of which he was aware, of a similar nature, were presented, when a committee might be appointed to which they could all be referred.

After remarks from the Hon. G. R. Young, Mr. Fraser acquiesced in Mr. Marshall's proposition.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

Messrs. Fraser, Killam, Campbell, Mignowitz, and Marshall, were appointed a Committee of Public Accounts.

FRANKING PRIVILEGE.

On motion of the Hon. Attorney General, the resolutions of last year, restricting the members from the Franking Privilege, and requiring an account to be kept with each member at the Post Office were affirmed, and ordered to be published.

REPORTING.

A committee of Messrs. Young, Mignowitz, Freeman, Munro and Fulton, were appointed to make arrangements for Reporting the Debates. The House adjourned.

FRIDAY, 24th Jany., 1851.

Hon. J. W. Johnston laid upon the table a resolution—affirmatory of the applicability of Elective Legislative Councils for Nova Scotia. He was of opinion that it was better to discuss the matter early in the session, as if left till a late period, a subject of this kind was not fully discussed. He would therefore ask that it be made the order of the day for Tuesday next.

Hon. G. R. Young thought the opposition was not so much to the general principle of the system of Elective Legislative Councils as to the details, which had not been submitted by the hon. mover.

After remarks from Hon. J. W. Johnston the resolution was made the order of the day for Tuesday next.

PETITIONS.

Mr. Freeman presented a petition from Dr. Willobisky praying remuneration for services performed in relieving the Indians. Leave was granted and the petition laid on the table.

Mr. Fraser asked leave to present a petition from certain inhabitants of Hants praying an Act of Incorporation for a Company, to be called the "Avon Marine Insurance Company." And also a bill to carry out the prayer of the petition. The petition and bill were both received, and the bill read a first time. In moving it (Mr. F.) said that the Shipping in the Bay of Fundy was much larger than was generally conceived, amounting to some 5000 tons—and trading to New South Wales, California, and in fact all parts of the world.

ADDRESS.

Upon reading the Sixth Clause of the Address, the Hon. J. W. Johnston said, he was sorry to oppose the answer to the Speech. When I heard you (Mr. Speaker) read the speech, I flattered myself it was unnecessary to say or to do ought to raise discussion upon it. I think it would have been wise had the hon. mover of the Address abstained from introducing matter of controversy—more especially as the whole subject cannot be brought before us—and it is inexpedient and unwise to deal with any particular portion. This house is required to affirm a policy of which they are entirely ignorant.

In the Sixth Clause is expressed unqualified approbation of the policy of sending a Delegate to England, before the people have had an opportunity of passing judgment upon the matter. But more, we are called upon to approve of the mission while His Excellency does not give us the instructions upon which the negotiations have been based. Suppose after the passage of this address—the house should disapprove of the policy in which it now may concur, should we not be placed in an anomalous position, in being obliged to declare unsound, a policy which we had previously affirmed. The Government have either given us too much or too little—but I think they would have placed this house in a better position had they abstained from introducing the subject to its notice until it be presented intact.

On the subject of this Railway I feel a more than ordinary desire to avoid everything like unnecessary opposition. When the general subject is discussed I may feel myself more inclined to support a policy which will afford aid to any feasible Railway project in any part of the country, rather than support any particular work. But imagine the Delegate presenting the subject to the notice of Her Majesty's Government—would he not be asked this question? How far will the Legislature go in granting the funds of the Province in aid of this work? What could he reply to such a question propounded by the capitalists were he to go into the Money Market? He could say nothing for he has not taken the precaution of making himself acquainted with the opinions of the Representatives of the people. The government should have ascertained how far the views of the Legislature would sustain them before they presented this subject to the people of England. Suppose the Delegate gone home to raise money to build a Railway as a Provincial undertaking and to pledge the funds of this Province to meet the demand. If this be the policy in which this mission has been undertaken then I could not acquiesce in it, for however much I may be in favour of this work I could not feel myself justified in mortgaging the funds of this Province for an undertaking so carried on. This, Sir, is the amendment which I propose to move to the clause of the address just read.

Hon. Attorney General said I am sorry that upon a question—so interesting, so vitally important; a question which should unite us harmoniously—anything discordant should be introduced—until all that it is possible to say has been said touching this great work. Until from the information submitted this House is enabled to judge fairly and act freely. When the Report of the Portland delegation was received—a burst of feeling in favour of those Counties more immediately interested and from the inhabitants of this City ensued. The matter was pressed home upon the Executive; the Lieutenant Governor felt the necessity of action. He could not remain cold, supine and indifferent, to the interests of the Province while all around was activity, energy, and life. No! he took the highest course; communicating with the Home Government—first by Despatch and subsequently by sending home the Gentleman now in England—a member of the Cabinet; not to pledge the revenues of this Country; not to interfere with the privileges of this House, but to lay the matter clearly before the Home Government, and to ascertain upon what condition they would be prepared to lend their sanction and pecuniary aid to such an undertaking. To ascertain how far the people of England are disposed to respond to the feelings of the people of Nova Scotia.—Sir, if the Lieutenant Governor, or the Executive, is to be found fault with for such a line of conduct; if they are to be met at every step with such measures as these, a damper may be placed upon their actions, and all their efforts are to be paralysed. I sincerely hope that this amendment will be withdrawn and the address allowed to pass.

Messrs. Marshall and Harrington supported the amendment moved by Hon. Mr. Johnston.—Messrs. McKeagney, Killam, Creelman, and Hon. G. R. Young supported the action of the government.

Hon. J. W. Johnston referred to the remarks of those who had advocated the passage of the Address—argued that it was improper, that any reference should be made in the address to a subject which had not been submitted to the House and of which they knew nothing,—that the proceedings of the Government were altogether—so far as they were acquainted with them—in opposition to the views of the Portland Convention. The main sustaining principle of that combination was the Union of Maine, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia; has the hon. member for Pictou forgotten that at a meeting held in Halifax after the Portland Convention a prominent and leading member of the Government, arose and moved that the scheme be taken up as a Provincial undertaking. Casting adrift at once New Brunswick and Maine—connection with which I had always viewed as the most feasible means of obtaining our object. But, sir, what more did I hear on that occasion? When the people of this city were congregated to deliberate upon a scheme of such magnitude—that if it fails—hopeless bankruptcy to this Province will be the result. A member of the Government asserting that he had not decided upon his course of conduct until he had entered the meeting. Sir, the statesman who urged the adoption of any course touching the adoption of

such a measure should have slept and thought, and slept and thought again ere he acted. If such haste were necessary the house could have been convened at an earlier day—and then the Provincial Secretary would feel himself in a position to deal with the question. Let me in conclusion—do away with the impression created that the amendment I have proposed operates in opposition to the Railway question—no such intention animates me—I oppose this address because I am requested to sanction a policy of which I know nothing.

Hon. Attorney General said, I do not conceive that a necessity existed for the amendment which the hon. member has moved. We are not called upon by the address to sanction any line of policy—to give in our adhesion to any course which we may hereafter find reason to condemn. The language of the Resolution moved by the Hon. Provincial Secretary at the meeting held at Halifax, was almost precisely similar to that in which the Windsor Railway resolution was couched, and I can assert that I was consulted time after time regarding it, and that it met my cordial approval. Sir, we have had great meetings—discussions—controversies upon the subject of Railways since 1845, and what has been done? nothing! Some new action was necessary—and His Excellency decided to send a delegate home in order that the wants and wishes of this people might be understood by Her Majesty's Government and the British public—and that every argument might be adduced to induce them to regard us more favourably than heretofore. With these remarks, I move that the House adjourn until two o'clock to-morrow.

The adjournment carried.

SATURDAY, 25th January, 1851.

PETITIONS.

Mr. Freeman asked leave to present a petition from the Inhabitants of the Northern district of Queen's County—praying aid in building a Lock up House in that district; leave was granted.

He also moved that the petition be referred to a select Committee.

Mr. Mignowitz moved that it be referred to the members for that county.

Mr. Freeman thought that the petition should be referred to a select Committee who might pass upon its merits. He hoped a petition so respectfully signed would be treated with that respect and consideration from the house which it merited.

Mr. Mignowitz withdrew his amendment.

After remarks from Mr. Dimock, Hon. J. W. Johnston and Hon. G. R. Young, it was moved that the petition lie upon the table, which passed in the affirmative, 17 to 15.

THE ADDRESS.

Mr. Killam said that he should vote against the amendment proposed by the hon. member for Annapolis, and if that were lost he would be prepared to move another amendment.

Mr. Fulton said, I feel, Mr. Speaker, that upon a subject of such importance to this Province, I cannot allow myself to give a silent vote. My constituents take the deepest interest in the carrying out of the Railway alluded to in the Address; I am aware that a difference of opinion exists among them as to the terminus, and the principle also upon which this work should be constructed; those topics, however, are not at present before the House. It has been asserted, by some gentlemen, that the answer to the Lieutenant Governor's Speech involves not only an approval of the Delegation—but at the same time fixes the principle upon which the Railway is to be constructed. I confess my inability to perceive anything of the kind in that document; and, in common with all who have this Railway at heart, I have to regret a misconception which has given occasion of disunion upon this all important subject. I have perceived that hon. members in addressing the House, have not confined themselves to the true point at issue, but have taken a wide range; and by adopting this course have succeeded in attaching an importance to the discussion, not originally intended, and to which, to my apprehension, it is not entitled. I am, Sir, fully aware that upon this subject, more than upon any other likely to engage the attention of the House, the language and actions of members may be open to misconception; while I may entertain the opinion that a delegate should not have been sent home until after the Legislature had been convened, I nevertheless do not deem the fact of his having been sent of sufficient importance to justify our censuring the Government for having adopted that course. When I consider the nature of this amendment, and mark a combination in favour of it, a reunion of members opposed to the line running thro' the County which I have the honor to represent, while others are altogether opposed to the building a Railway—a suspicion is engendered in my mind of which I cannot divest myself. My inclinations lead me to surrender my individual opinions, rather than do anything having the slightest semblance of opposition to a work upon which the eyes of all in Nova Scotia are anxiously turned as upon the panacea that is at once to improve our condition and elevate us as a people. In Cumberland a difference of opinion exists touching the mode in which this work should

be carried out,—some deeming it better that it should be taken up by a private Company, others that it should be undertaken by the Government upon the responsibility of the Province; but one universal pervading opinion is entertained, that it must be undertaken and perfected by some means. In conclusion, sir, I cannot construe the language of the address in the sense in which some gentlemen do; to my mind it pledges the support of this house to no particular line of policy that may have been adopted by the Government, but it sanctions and approves of their action in sending home a delegate to ascertain the terms upon which Her Majesty's Government would supply the requisite funds to construct this Railway and nothing more; I shall therefore vote for the answer as proposed by the Government.

During the continuance of the debate, Hon. L. O'C. Doyle, Hon. G. R. Young, Hon. Attorney General, and Messrs. McKeagney and Dickie addressed the house in favour of the Address: Hon. Mr. Johnston and Mr. Marshall in favour of the amendment. Mr. Fraser recommended the amendment to be withdrawn on the adoption of one like the address passed by the Upper House, which, he said, conveyed almost precisely the same ideas as those embodied in the amendment of the Hon. Mr. Johnston.

On the division there appeared for the amendment—Messrs. Thorne, Fraser, Freeman, Marshall, Harrington, Ryder, Johnston, Taylor, Moore, Snow, Campbell, Whitman, Munro and Beckwith.—14.

Against the Amendment.—Messrs. Fulton, Wier, Songster, McKenna, Bent, Kedy, Ernst, Robertson, McDonald, McDougall, Creelman, Mott, Killam, Mignowitz, Bourneuf, Young, Archibald, Uniacke, Dimmock, Dickie, Doyle, Smith, McLeod, Card and McKeagney.—25.

Mr. Killam, then moved the following amendment.

Under the circumstances in which the new question of constructing a Railway from Halifax to Amherst, was presented, and pressingly recommended to your Excellency, we regret, that before adopting a policy involving principles and consequences so momentous to the whole people of Nova Scotia, or taking any steps in accordance therewith, your Excellency had not waited until the usual meeting of the Legislature, and ascertained by deliberate and legitimate action the opinions thereon of the members of this Assembly.

After some discussion the question upon the amendment was taken, when there appeared—

For the amendment: Thorne, Taylor, Harrington, Ryder, Johnston, Killam, Bourneuf, Beckwith, Moore, Snow, Whitman, Freeman, and Campbell.—18.

Against: Robinson, Fulton, Wier, Songster, McKenna, Bent, Crow, Kedy, Ernst, McDonald, McDougall, Creelman, Marshall, Mott, Archibald, Mignowitz, Young, Blackadar, Uniacke, Fraser, Dimock, Dickie, Smith, Card, Doyle, McKeagney, McLeod.—27.

The address, as originally introduced, was then put and carried—and after the presentation of a Bill, the House adjourned until 12 o'clock on Monday.

MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 1851.

The House met at 12 o'clock and adjourned, in order to present the Address passed on Saturday in answer to the Speech; and resumed again at 1 o'clock.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY.

Hon. Speaker was also authorised officially to communicate to the House, that Samuel Creelman, Esq., a member of this House, had been appointed to the office of Financial Secretary, and in accordance with the usual form, a writ would issue for the return of a member to represent the County of Colchester.

THE CONSOLIDATED LAWS.

Hon. Attorney General finally reported at some length from the Committee for the Consolidation of the Laws, that the work had been completed and when printed would form but one ordinary sized octavo volume.

The Report was received.

The Bill for revising and consolidating the laws having been read a first and second time, was referred to a Committee of the whole House.

LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING PETITIONS.

Hon. Attorney General moved that Tuesday the Eighteenth day of February next be the last day for the reception of Petitions; which passed in the affirmative.

Hon. J. W. Johnston thought it would be wise to adopt the course followed in New Brunswick, which was, to decide at the end of one session the last day for the presentation of Petitions in the next. The people in this country were by this means made acquainted with the day, and governed themselves accordingly.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Hon. Attorney General, by command of His Excellency, laid on the table of the House, a variety of despatches between Sir John Harvey and Earl Grey.

One of these related to the act of the last session for taking the census, another specially confirmed the act relating to the Registers of Deeds.

(Continued on Page 240.)

