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The Church Times.

"Evangelical Truth--Apostolic Order."

VOL. IX.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1860.

NO. 6.

Calendar.

CALENDAR WITH LESSONS.

Day & Date	Fest.	MORNING.				EVENING.			
		Gen.	Luke	Gen.	Phil.	Gen.	Phil.	Gen.	Phil.
March 2	Sun. in Lent	Gen. 43	Luke 13	Gen. 48	Phil. 1	Gen. 43	Luke 13	Gen. 48	Phil. 1
3	Mon.	Deut. 31	15	Deut. 31	15	Deut. 31	15	Deut. 31	15
4	Tue.	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
5	Wed.	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
6	Thu.	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
7	Fri.	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
8	Sat.	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17

Poetry.

[The following beautiful stanzas are from the pen to which is to be credited the lines on Milton beginning "I am old and blind" which received the rare compliment of being printed in the late Oxford edition of the writings of that great poet, as a supposed lately discovered poem of his own. We print now from a manuscript copy.]—Ed. Er. Rec.

WHY STAND YE GAZING UP INTO HEAVEN?"

We are mourning! Boughs of cypress overhade our Christmas hearth;
Tear-drops gem the skirts of gladness,—sorrow clasps the hand of mirth.
Desolation's sable garments trail across our household floor!
Heralded by pain and sickness, death has crossed our threshold o'er.

We are lonely! From our couch one true heart is called away!
From affliction's clasping tendrils, is moved the prop and stay.
Round our fireside when we gather, saddened memories take the place
Of our father's tones of kindness, and his dear familiar face.

Now the old arm-chair is empty, and the time-worn Bible clasped,
With the marker folded in it, at the page he opened last.
Daily waited he with his Davour—daily from his lips we heard,
Precepts beautiful and precious, taught us from God's holy word.

Noble was his life's example, upright hearted and sincere;
Firm when weaker hearts were shrinking, in the truth devoid of fear,
Bold, where boldness is a virtue—steadfast in upholding right;
Guided by the clear shining, of the true and inward light

So he lived, that when the summons came to him, which comes to all—
He was at his post of duty, watching on the outer-wall.
From afar he heard the trumpet, though our listening ears were sealed:—
From afar discerned death's angel, to our vision unrevealed.

"But a little while," he murmured, "and life's closing scenes will come!
Gracious Father, I am ready! wilt Thou take my spirit home?
O Heart-searcher, I am nothing! Thou hast been my strength and stay!
Where thy voice of love has led me, I have followed day by day."

But a little while we lingered round about his dying bed,—
Seeking how to soothe his anguish, how to prop his weary head,
But affection's ministrations, may not stay the enfranchised soul,
When its prison-bars are broken, and the gates of pearl its goal!

Clasping in his own the dear hand of his loved one yet again,
With a smile serene and holy, wearing not a trace of pain;
His pure spirit was borne upward, to the sapphire throne of heaven,
Where the new name, and the white robe, and the crown and harp are given.

Marvel not that we stand gazing! oh, revealed to mortal eyes
For a moment, seemed the opening of the gates of Paradise;
Scents from vials full of odors, blending with the sounds which rolled
Outward, as of shining angels harping on their harps of gold.

We are lonely! He is mingled with that countless angel throng!
We are weeping—he is joined with the seraph hosts in song!
From his ransomed soul outpouring anthems holy and sublime,
Thro' the eternating ages, circling round the orb of time

We are fatherless and widowed, but our heavenly Father's care,
Has been as a living answer, to his earnest voice of prayer.
We are sitting 'neath the cypress, but with saint and seraph;
By the tree of Life overhadowed, oh, we love to think of him!

Religious Miscellany.

THE WASHING OF THE FEET.

THERE are some Christians who consider that the work of conversion is the whole work in which the believer has to engage. He is to throw himself upon God's grace, and then every thing is done. His future Christian life, like that of the inhabitant of the extreme North, who is to live through the coming winter on the stock collected by him during the preceding fall, is to be spent in hibernating on the provender secured when he made his preparation to enter upon his religious career. And perhaps he may find some texts of Scripture which he may wreat to sustain him in this view. "He that is born of God cannot sin." "There is no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus." But let these texts be taken in connection with the last words of our blessed Lord, and how wonderfully does their real meaning overshadow their apparent, so that from them as well as from the whole of His gospel, the fulness of the Christian life appears.

"HE THAT IS WASHED NEEDETH NOT SAVE TO WASH HIS FEET, AND IS CLEAN EVERY WHIT, AND YE ARE CLEAN, BUT NOT ALL."

It is as if our Lord had said, "You, whoever you be, whether the first or the last sinner saved by grace, when once justified by faith in Me are purified from sin. The payment of your debts is made. Your new nature is of God, and cannot commit sin. But against that new nature there are many temptations constantly arising which, if not beaten back, may destroy the soul. At present they may but cast pollution round your feet. But unless that pollution be from day to day cleansed, it will strike upward, and at last reach the heart. Think not, then, that in being washed by grace you need no further cleansing. But recollect that the Christian, cleansed as he is, must continue ever sitting by the fountains of divine grace, so that even his feet may be washed in righteousness, and his path be perfect."

The application of this to us is very direct. If we could pierce through the veil of human imperfection that is over us, we would see ourselves sitting in a vast circle, which is the church, in the midst of which stands our Lord. He girds himself and takes a towel. It is His loving face that is bent over us, and His divine hands that are stretched down to wash us from the soil which temptation has cast upwards on us. Who, then, in the pride of his heart, will cry, "Thou shalt never wash my feet!" Who is there that will say, "My own strength is sufficient for my own perfection; I can keep myself clean now that I am made clean." Or who will not rather cry, "Dearest Lord, to be cleansed from my minutest sins I come to Thee. With deepest gratitude I thank Thee for Thy converting grace, but I feel that if Thou hadst left me when converted, my own pollution would again have grown over me as a leprosy, until I would again have become utterly corrupt. But Thou didst come day by day to me and didst wash my very feet! And I do come day by day to Thee, O blessed Lord, and do cling to Thy very knees, so that as Thou didst love Thine own even to the end, I to the end may love thee!"—*Epis. Recorder.*

SIN'S HOSPITALITY.

Sinful habits are like importunate hosts. When the heart drops in upon them for a short visit, just to see how they are, and what they look like, they immediately set to work to try to induce it to stay. "Just one day, and just one more, and then another," is the cry. It is extremely hard to get away, the pressure of civility is so great; and the result is that an interchange of hospitality takes place, and after the heart becomes domesticated with sin, sin becomes domiciled in the heart. It is this that so greatly impedes the journey of the soul to the promised land. And it is here that we find the difference between the soul in sin, and the soul which has put sin under its feet. The latter is but a wayfarer passing from inn to inn, who rises when he pleases and passes on to the next post. There are none to call on old reminiscences or invite present sympathies or love. He passes through the world as a strange place, for, to his chastened heart, there is no hospitality which sin can exercise

which can detain him. He is like a man harrying to reach his home, and has that home always rising before him in its splendor and its loveliness. "Lord, I am a stranger here and a sojourner," he cries, and then he hears that sweet voice replying, "In all thy travail I will be thine."—*Ibid.*

The zeal of some of our Roman Catholic contemporaries does not appear to do them much good. Without noticing similar instances nearer home, the following from the *American Celt*, published in New York, shows how absurd is ecclesiastic interference in political affairs. In allusion to the coming Presidential election the *Celt* styles it "a struggle between the seven sacraments and the seven thousand false ideas which the fanatics disguise under the name of liberality." Upon which the *Express* remarks:

For the first time in the history of our beloved country, the seven sacraments are to be dragged into the political arena,—so that instead of slavery, and Kansas, and Missouri, compromises, and Wilmot proviso, the Romish platform is to be—

Baptism,	Communion,
Confession,	Extreme Unction,
Confirmation,	Holy Orders, and
	Matrimony.

Candidates for the Presidency, we may expect now, to be called upon to say whether they are sound on the sacraments,—not whether they are in favor of a high tariff, a distribution of the proceeds of the public lands, internal improvements, a Pacific railroad or any other of the ordinary politicalisms of the day.—*Toronto News of the Week.*

"The law of God is infinitely spiritual, and obligeth us not only to the performance of the external duties of obedience, but requires also the absolute perfection of the inward dispositions; not only that our love of God be sincere and cordial, but that it must be intense and perfect to the highest degree; thus, Deut. vi 5. 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.' The Law and covenant of works exact a perfection of degrees in our love and obedience, as well as our parts, it must not only be sincere, but complete: it not only tries our obedience by the touchstone, but weighs it in the balance, and gives us no grains of allowance. Now is there any man upon earth that so loves God, or obeys Him, that it is not impossible he should love Him more, or obey Him better? Do not some Christians exceed others in their grace and holiness?—And might not all exceed themselves if they would? The law gives no allowance for any failings. And therefore if thou canst love God more, and serve Him better than thou dost thou art not a fulfiller of the law, but a transgressor of it. Hence, St. Austin, in his Confessions, hath a pious meditation, 'Woe to our commendable life, if thou, Lord, setting thy mercy aside, shouldst examine it according to the strict rules of justice, and the Law.'—*Bishop Hopkins.*

PRONOUNS OF THE BIBLE.

Luther pronounced pronouns to be the sweetest and most consolatory expressions to be found in the Word of God. What, in fact, more tenderly elevating than where the prophet Isaiah heralds peace and refreshing to the people of Israel? "Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people, saith your God." No longer the "Lord God, the Lord strong and mighty;" your God and my people." And how marked the difference between saying, "The Lord is a shepherd, and "The Lord is my shepherd;" between the heathen who acknowledge God as the Father of all things, and the ransomed of his well-beloved, who behold in the Lord "Our Father which art in heaven," and say, "the Lord will hear me when I call upon him," and who best Christ answer, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

CHEERFULNESS A VIRTUE.—Dante places in his lowest Hell those who in life are melancholy and repining without a cause, thus profaning and darkening God's blessed sunshine.—*Tristi fummo nel ar dolce*, and in some of the ancient Christian systems of virtues and vices, Melancholy is truly, and a vice; Cheerfulness is holy, and a virtue. Lord

Habon also makes one of the characteristics of moral health and goodness to consist in "a constant quick sense of felicity, and a noble satisfaction." What moments, hours, days of exquisite felicity must Christ, our Redeemer, have had, though it has become too customary to place him before us only in the attitude of pain and sorrow! Why should he always be crowned with thorns, bleeding with wounds, weeping over the world he was appointed to heal, to save, to reconcile with God? The radiant head of Christ in Raphael's Transfiguration should rather be our ideal of him who came "to bind up the broken hearted, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

Provincial Legislature.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FRIDAY, FEB. 8.

The Hon. the Attorney General, by command, laid on the table of the House the Report of the Commissioners of the Railway, which, he said, exhibited the amount received and expended by the Railway Board to 31st Dec. last. The accounts showed that up to that date £205,078 17s. 6d. had been received, and £202,482 7s. 6d., leaving cash on hand £3593 10s. 1d. That to complete all outstanding contracts to 1857 would require £220,648 2s. 6d., and that when the 61 miles contracted for were completed the cost would not exceed £3873 stg. per mile. The receipts of the road for the six months ending 31st Dec. 1856 were

From passengers	£1659 13 2
" freight	94 18 1
" do of iron	38 9 4
Contractors for use of locomotive	105 0 7

Running expenses	£845 12 11
Per repairs occasioned by accident	150 10 0

The next paper is a statement of the operations of the Nova Scotia Railway for six months, viz., June, July, August, September, November, and December.

Trains run per day, to and from Sackville—June to November	4
November to 31st December	3
Miles run	8098
Passengers carried	30,563
Freight carried, viz.,	
Horses and Waggon	472
Single horses	43
Mail Coaches	72
Do Horses	278
Hogsheads and Puncheons	163
Barrels	612
Boxes	470
Bags	1200
Bundles and Parcels	537
Baskets	96
Bags Iron, cwt.	192
Quintals fish	57
Lumber	M feet. 21
Chests Tea	32
Tubs	20
Cows	6
Pigs, Sheep, and Calves	8
Stores	4
Iron Rails	2068
Chairs	3101
	Tons 5843

The last document I have to submit is a report of the progress of the works—showing that since May 1854, 6½ miles of road had been located and put under contract—of this 8 miles were completed, over which traffic is daily passing. The report then goes on to show the direction of the lines located so far as laid out. The main line commences at Bedford Basin, follows the valley leading to Lily Lake, thence crosses Rocky Lake, passes between first and second Lakes, thence along north side Long Lake, down Rawdon River Valley, along east shore of Grand Lake to Sandy Cove here, and continuing on its west side to Nelson's. The Windsor line is next described with the reasons for its adoption.

[As the report has been already published, in extension, we omit any further reference to it.]

It will be perceived that the actual cost of the 6½ miles located is no longer dubious but has become mere matter of Arithmetical computation. This fact also is of a character equally interesting that a line of road commencing at the Governor's farm and terminating at Sackville, passing over the most costly portion of the whole line has yielded over and above the working expenses together with an accidental loss of £150. 10s. two and one half per cent. on the outlay. Looking then to the whole subject as it is presented to us in these documents, I cannot but congratulate the House upon the certain prospect of a speedy completion of our lines East and West, and a remunerative return from them afterwards. Under those circumstances, Mr. Speaker, we confidently look forward to the time when our Railway system shall tap the waters of the Bay of Fundy on one side and the Gulf of St. Lawrence on the other; while the main trunk will connect us with New Brunswick, the Canadas and the United States.—With these remarks, sir, I beg to lay the papers which I have alluded to on the table.

Mr. Tupper said—As there is nothing particular before the House, I rise to offer a suggestion which I hope will commend itself to the minds of hon. gentle-

men—in connection with the subject to which the hon. Attorney General has just called the attention of the House. It is exceedingly gratifying both to the House and the country to receive such cheering intelligence as to the progress of our Railway and the prospect of success which the undertaking in its present aspect exhibits. It would be well that the House should understand whether the route pursued does or does not conform to the surveys of Mr. Sykes and Mr. Beattie. While I am on my feet I may also observe that the establishment of a pier at Parboro' to which a steamer might ply and be accommodated in taking on board and out passengers and freight arriving from and going to St. John, N.B., would prove of great advantage, and in a short time amply repay the outlay, in this opinion I am sustained by the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

Hon. Attorney General—In reply to the remarks of the hon. and learned member for Cumberland, I think I am correct in saying that the line pursued by the Railway is nearly identical with that surveyed by Mr. Beattie for the first eight miles—but that when it passes beyond these eight miles it pursues an entirely different course. The cost of constructing those eight miles is about £6,000 sterling per mile—much less than was anticipated.

Hon. J. W. Johnston—I think there is some deviation from Mr. Beattie's Survey of the first section; the line he contemplated ran further from the water and would not have interfered so much with the road.—None of us, however, are disposed to cavil with the course pursued; but on the contrary, now that the work is fairly underweigh to offer no opposition that might at all retard its completion—or to interfere with the exercise of such a discretion by the Commissioners as is necessary to carry on the project to a successful issue; but it will be perceived that the cost—so far as the work has yet proceeded, exceeded the amount contemplated by the more sanguine of the friends of this work.

Mr. M. I. Wilkins—In the larger estimates submitted it was probably contemplated that the work should be of a more expensive character than that of the one in course of construction.

Mr. McLellan—I am sure, sir, that when the road was first talked of, as good a line could have been built for £4000 sterling per mile as that which now costs £6000

Hon. Attorney General—The rise in prices has added considerably to the cost; in the article of gunpowder alone, which cannot be imported from the United States into the colonies, the cost per mile has been increased by several hundred pounds.

Mr. M. I. Wilkins asked if any work had been performed on that portion of the line which branched from the Windsor route towards Truro?

Hon. Attorney General—Yes; contracts for a considerable portion have been taken and some work done on the line.

Mr. Chambers said—the hon. member for Cumberland in attending to the requirements of the constituency has reminded me of my duty; I feel that if any accommodation can be afforded to the county of Hants and more especially to the township of Newport, which I more immediately represent, it ought to be conceded. The course which the Railway is to run will deprive a large, fertile and thickly settled district of its advantage; compelling the inhabitants to travel upwards of ten miles to Windsor or a greater distance to the half-way house before they will be enabled to avail themselves of it, while it passes through a district almost entirely uncultivated if not unproductive. I would suggest, therefore, that the government should consider the propriety of lending their aid towards the construction of a short branch to connect this fertile district with the main trunk.

Hon. Attorney General explained that the Railway Board had found it necessary to adopt the line of the present Railway because of the difficulties attending the construction of a line running through any other locality to Windsor.

Hon. Provincial Secretary said it was true that the Railway followed a barren track, but the course pursued was inevitable. He entirely coincided with the hon. member for the township of Newport in the ideas he had expressed and the loss sustained by the people of a portion of the country in consequence of this; but he much mistook the intelligence, public spirit and enterprise of the inhabitants of that district if they do not, very shortly after the construction of the line to Windsor, effect a junction with the main line by means of a branch.

Mr. Dimock—The line of the road is settled and the districts through which it is to pass finally decided on; it is, therefore, of little use to revive a subject which I have been instrumental in moving here before; but, sir, I do believe that if Mr. Sykes had been requested to pass upon the propriety of adopting either of the respective routes alluded to, he would not have chosen the one now adopted—for, looking to profit as well as convenience, the other would prove infinitely more advantageous.

Mr. Whitman—One reason for adopting the line was, that it would shorten the distance—in my view, a very valid one; but the hon. member for Newport seems to think that every consideration should be accorded to them, and that there is no other place in creation but Newport or Hants.—(Laughter.)

Mr. Chambers—Creation is a large word.—(Laughter.) I presume the advantage of the line spoken of exists only in diminishing slightly the distance; if so, the preponderance of benefit is in favor of the course which I believe should have been adopted.

The discussion here dropped.

REVISED STATUTES.

Hon. Solicitor General said—It is well known to hon. gentlemen round these benches, that in the year 1851 the Provincial Statutes were revised, combined together, and published in one volume by a commission appointed for that purpose; since that period very many important alterations and additions have been made in and to the Law. So many Statutes have been repealed, and so many others passed, that the principal portion of our Law is not to be found in the Revised Statutes at all, but is contained in four other volumes. The commission who originally executed that work had many and serious difficulties to contend against,—it required much science, information and ability to perform it with satisfaction, and I believe they succeeded in carrying out the designs of the House as fully and with as great accuracy and fidelity as could have been anticipated for a first effort; with the experience and labours of that commission to guide and assist them a new one would be enabled to supply that which had formerly been omitted.

Mr. Morrison hoped that if a commission were appointed it would be composed of laymen—since by the hon. Sol. General's own showing the lawyers were not competent to perform the work.

Mr. Marshall—Hear, hear. I perfectly coincide with the ideas expressed by the hon. gentleman who has just resumed his seat. The manner in which the work has been performed previously, gives us but little inducement to place its revision in the hands of the same persons.

Hon. Solicitor General would, as a lawyer, be quite prepared to entrust the performance of the duty entirely to laymen, since he was quite sure that nothing could tend to increase the pay of the profession more than such a course of procedure.

The discussion dropped, and the House adjourned.

The House of Assembly met, pursuant to adjournment, on Tuesday last, and having been summoned before His Excellency the Governor in the Council Chamber, were directed to choose a Speaker pro tem in the place of Stewart Campbell, Esq., incapacitated by illness. Upon their return to their own House, Mr. Wade was proposed and elected without opposition, which election was ratified by His Excellency. The new Speaker having been conducted to the Chair, returned his acknowledgements for the honor conferred.

Several reports of Committees were presented, and Mr. Marshall introduced a bill to amend the law respecting patents for inventions.

Mr. Annand asked leave to introduce a bill in amendment of Chapter 2 of Revised Statutes, in order to enable the Postmaster General, and make that officer eligible to sit in the Cabinet.

After remarks from Mr. Archibald, (in course of which he insisted that the provisions of Cap. 7 of the Statute Law of the Province should not be without very sufficient reason disturbed); from the Hon. Attorney General, who professed that this was the first time he had heard of the bill, and said that he would not pass a hasty opinion upon it; from Mr. Tobin, who thought that the Post Office was well worked, and agreed with the member for Guyborough that there were already heads of department enough in the House; from Mr. Annand, who eulogized the Postmaster General's efficiency as much, but insisted that British precedent and practice might be safely followed in this as in other instances; from Mr. A. Archibald, who was of opinion that discussion on the bill might be conveniently postponed—

Bill read a first time.

Mr. Annand asked leave to introduce a bill to amend cap. 10 of Revised Statutes, providing for the vacating seats in the Assembly.

The Hon. the Prov. Secretary laid on the table of the House, returns of persons named as Sheriffs for current year. Also, voluminous correspondence, between Imperial and Provincial Townships, on the subject of mines and minerals of the province. Also, returns of Pickled Fish, &c.

The Hon. the Attorney General remarked that he was in great hopes that, on a careful consideration of the papers, the House would be able to come to a unanimous or nearly unanimous opinion upon them.

Correspondence referred to committee on Mines and Minerals.

Mr. McLellan introduced a bill to Incorporate Milton Railroad Company.

On Motion of Mr. McLellan, House went into Committee on the state of the Province. House being in Committee, &c.—

The hon. gentleman introduced a resolution affirming the principle of the Ballot, which he proceeded to explain and enforce at some length.

After a rather lengthened discussion, in which several members took part, the resolution, on a division, was negatived, 23 to 19.

An experiment is now being tried at the proof-
butt in the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, to test the strength of a six-pounder gun, made entirely of iron from the mines of Nova Scotia. The gun is about five feet long, and weighs about five cwt. It has been fired with a charge of 2lb. of powder, and cylinders equal to the weight of 12lb. of two shots; 18lb. or three shots: up to 30lb. or five shots. The experiment is to test the resisting properties of the iron—for which object it will be tried by successive charges until the charge reaches 30lb. of iron/cylinder.

News Department.

From Papers by Steamer America, Feb. 16.

OUR RELATIONS WITH AMERICA.

On Friday night Mr. Cobden called upon the Government to explain the non-productive of the correspondence respecting our relations with the United States. It has been published in America, and as a pamphlet in London. But Mr. Cobden could not avail himself of it in that shape, for he could only bring forward a motion founded on documents before Parliament:—

“He briefly described the two questions at issue; referring the serious quarrel likely to arise on the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty to the unfortunate propensity of diplomatists to involve their sentences in phraseology that becomes unintelligible. On the enlistment question it is admitted that we are in the wrong, he was afraid that the correspondence had assumed an unbecoming, embittered, and personal character. There was a talk of arbitration on the Clayton-Bulwer treaty; and some such mode, some reference to ‘seconds,’ would be an honourable mode of settling the enlistment question. Both would be better in the hands of the people and the House of Commons, than in those of the press and the Government. A war between England and the United States, whichever side succeeded, would be the most horrible, the most inhuman calamity, even to the victor, that could possibly happen. If we succeeded we should destroy our own offspring; if they succeeded, it would be a paradise.”

Lord Palmerston dealt at once with the two questions. He described the Clayton-Bulwer treaty as having arisen out of the jealousies of both nations with regard to the proposed Darien ship canal, and other matters, each supposing the other had an exclusive object. The treaty was to remove the causes of jealousy: it was prospective, and not retrospective. He was now quite prepared to lay the correspondence on the table, although it is not technically closed. With regard to enlistment, when Government found that in carrying it on it would be difficult to avoid what might be the cause of offence to the American Government, it was discontinued. Shortly afterwards, the American Government complained of the enlistment proceedings; and the reply was, that the British Government, in regarding that measure might be taken, had stopped proceedings—a proof of the sincerity of the regret felt at anything that might have been done in violation of the American laws. “The hon. gentleman has said that the relations of Governments should be regulated by those rules which apply to the conduct of gentlemen towards each other, now I would ask, what could be more satisfactory as between gentleman and gentleman, than that one should say to the other, ‘I thought I foresaw that what my servants were doing might give you reason for complaint, I have stopped their proceedings but nevertheless, if they have, contrary to my instructions, done anything with which you have reason to find fault, I beg your pardon, I am very sorry for it, and express my regret?’ (Cheers.) When the communication to which I have referred was made to the American Minister in London, he expressed himself satisfied with the explanation, and said that he felt confident that his Government would entertain a similar feeling in regard to it. For some time nothing more was heard; but subsequently the correspondence was renewed; and just before Parliament met, Lord Clarendon received an exceedingly voluminous despatch, which could not be answered until materials arrived from Washington; so that if the correspondence were now produced it would conclude without the British reply. When that is made, the Government will be most anxious to lay the papers on the table. Any conflict between the two nations would be most calamitous and lamentable; and in the present case, if both sides act with fairness and conciliation, there cannot be a real and unavoidable cause of war—a war which would be a reproach to both nations.

Sir De Lacy Evans said that after Mr. Cobden's speech, the House must have heard Lord Palmerston's with great satisfaction. It would be better that international affairs should be left to secrecy and the Foreign Office, than that they should be discussed as Mr. Cobden discussed them.

The experiment of the Wensleydale life-peerage has cost Ministers the loss of their first pitched battle. The discussion was technical, and to the ordinary reader dry, turning much on precedents and the authority of text-writers; the upshot of it, fairly weighed, is, that both precedent and authority are in favor of the patent, but that the precedents are very old, and the authorities, though respectable, not overwhelming. In point of principle the question is not clear; but here again there appears to be no sufficient reason for assuming that a descendible quality is an inseparable attribute of a peerage. Illegal plainly it is not; but as plainly it is a great innovation, and if, as is commonly supposed, a hereditary Upper House is part and parcel of our constitution, unconstitutional—in this sense, that it tends to infringe on the hereditary character of the Upper House. You must look however in Lord Derby's speech—you generally may when he carries a majority with him—for the motive that really swayed the majority. It was a very natural one; jealousy of the independence and of the time-honoured privileges of their order—time-honoured and time-worn; a dread of being “swamped;” fear of Ministerial influence

repugnance to the introduction of a class whom Lord Derby skillfully represents as inferior as “complete specimens of their kind, wanting some in the beams of the sun of Ministerial favour to ripen them into perfect growth; a nervous apprehension of “the small end of the wedge.” The answers that the Crown has already the power to swamp, and peers have already a motive for subservience in the hope of promotion, do not detract, though they weaken, these objections; and the broad counter-argument (drawn partly from the absurdity and inconvenience of the practical prohibition against ennobling any man who is not either childless or rolling in wealth) that the innovation would be a useful innovation, the encroachment on the constitution a real change for the better, is too broad perhaps to be fairly stated in the House of Peers. A curious feature in the debate was the inversion of parts, men sprung from the people defending the sacredness of hereditary nobility against the possessors of historic names—Lyndhurst, St. Leonards, Brougham, Campbell, against Granville, Argyll, and Gray.

And what will the Government do? Cancel the patent, and grant a hereditary one, which would be an unconditional surrender? Or bring in a bill? Or send Lord Wensleydale, with his writ, to his tutored admission at the bar? There is a rumour (duly contradicted) that the Chancellor has resigned, following the example of the Duke of Wellington—which means that his colleagues are disposed to give in. And there is a counter rumour that they will fight it out. At present they show no signs of yielding, and the Committee of Privileges, which means the House itself sitting early in the day and receiving evidence of fact and law commenced its proceedings yesterday.

The Archbishop of Canterbury headed a deputation to Lord Palmerston on Saturday on the subject of the Sunday observance question. The Earl of Shaftesbury, the President of the Wesleyan Conference, and the Moderator of the English Presbyterian Synod, were amongst the leading members of the deputation, which also embraced representatives of the greater part of the Protestant religious societies of the metropolis. The Archbishop, after a few words of introduction, read an address deprecating any interference with the Sunday by opening public institutions. Lord Palmerston promised to “bring the subject before his colleagues that afternoon.”

PARIS, Feb. 11.—Assurances of the pacific intentions of Russia, and of the fixed determination of the Emperor Alexander to devote himself and his reign to the arts of peace and the improvement of the internal administration of his empire, are rife amongst us, and, it must be said, are also generally believed. Of the peaceful tendencies of Louis Napoleon, and his desire to avoid all impediments to the successful issue of the negotiations, there can be little doubt, though I do not vouch for the truth of the story which says that, conducting a foreign Minister to the door of his cabinet the other day, after relieving his tears expressed of an unfavourable result, the Emperor dismissed his visitor with the encouraging words—“*Soyez tranquille, la France ne discute point le traité de paix en Procureur.*” The journalist who reports this legend omits to say whether he derived his information on this tête-à-tête from the Emperor or the diplomatist.—*Corresp. London Guardian, Feb. 13.*

RUSSIA.

The correspondence from the Crimea informs us, at last, of the arrival of the intelligence of peace. Few contemplate the prospect of a cessation of hostilities with satisfaction. “There has been,” says the Times reporter, “much malediction and strong language going on this morning among all ranks from generals high in command to junior ensigns.” The next consideration was how long it would take the army to get away? The Quartermaster-General's people say it would take a year to get men, material, and stores of all kinds away, and to clear the English army and its appurtenances entirely out of the Crimea and Turkey. Some further accounts of the destruction of the docks is given; accelerated, we are told, by the rumours of peace. But the general news is of little interest.

A letter from the French camp, dated Jan. 29, says—“On Tuesday last the Piedmontese had an affair of outpost with the Russians, and made 200 prisoners.”

The whole Russian force now in the Crimea is estimated at 100,000 to 120,000 men, including militia.

Advices from Warsaw state, that in consequence of the decease of Prince Paskiewitch a nine days' mourning has been ordered for the whole country by the Emperor; all places of public amusement will remain closed, and the Guard and the army put on craps; the regiments that bear the Marshal's name will, however, keep on their mourning for six weeks. The funeral was attended with all the honours of royalty. A correspondent of the Times says—

“The death of Prince Paskiewitch is stated to remove the last obstacle that stood in the way of introducing great changes into the administration of the kingdom of Poland; one chief feature of this plan, on which the present Emperor is said to lay great stress, is, that his favorite brother, Nicholas, should assume the post of Viceroi, from the duties and responsibilities of which, however, the Grand-Duke is said to draw back with diffidence and apprehension.”

The Count of Chambord is reported to have addressed a circular to the leaders of Orleansists and Legitimists, announcing to them that the fusion between the two branches of the Bourbon family is accomplished, and calling on all the Royalists in France to forget their old feuds and enmities, after the example of the chiefs of both houses.

General Prince Gortschakoff is appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Armies of the West and Centre, and Imperial Lieutenant of the kingdom of Poland, with all the rights and prerogatives of that office.

The Sultan recently honoured the British Embassy at Constantinople with his presence, on the occasion of a ball given by Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHURCH TIMES.

DEAR SIR,

The annual meeting of the Dartmouth branch of the D. C. Society was held on Thursday, 21st inst., in the Parish School-house. The Chair was taken by the President at 7½ p. m. After calling on the choir to sing the 100th Psalm, the chairman opened the meeting with the usual Prayers, and then addressed those present on the object which they had met together to advocate and sustain. Resolutions were moved and seconded by Messrs. J. R. Smith, Draper, W. C. Silver, Kuhn, Turner, and S. P. Fairbanks. The ladies as usual composed the majority of the audience, and, here as elsewhere, set an example which the other sex seem slowly disposed to follow. The Choir cheerfully complied with the request of their Rector, to lend their aid, and greatly contributed to the interest of the meeting for which they received unanimous thanks. A Committee was elected for the ensuing year, who met on the following Monday to divide the village into districts, and to appoint Collectors.

Before concluding I wish to inform the readers of the Church Times that the ladies intend holding a Bazaar the first week in June, to pay off a debt contracted in finishing the Parish School-house. As this is a good cause, they hope to receive encouragement from the members of the Church in Halifax.

Dartmouth, Feb'y. 28th, 1856.

FOR THE CHURCH TIMES.

Heaver Harbor Parsonage,
21st Feb'y, 1856.

MR. EDITOR,—Under the term “Memoranda” in the Church Times of 16th instant, I observed an inquiry solicited in reference to the missing Vessel which left Sheet Harbor on the 7th ult. for Halifax. If any favorable circumstance were to appear to throw light on the present mysterious void, it would indeed be a great consolation to the families and a large circle of friends that have been, by this unhappy event, thrown into deep distress. But, I fear, even the faintest hopes are at an end from what has recently transpired; that the unfortunate vessel was wrecked, and the crew, three in number, met a watery grave on the first night after leaving the harbor. It is thought the sad accident occurred somewhere about Jeddore ledge, as it is reported here that a binacle and compass, answering to the description of those that the schooner had, have been since found and recognised. In the person of Edward Rutledge, one of the sufferers, the members of the Church here, only few in number, but gradually increasing, have been suddenly deprived of a most indefatigable member,—over ready to give a helping hand in assisting the onward progress of the sacred edifice which has lately been erected here,—never backward in attending on the Clergy and studying their comfort, whenever thrown in his way. We must instance the following: When the Bishop, last summer, was on the eve of leaving Sheet Harbour, the Missionary at that station no sooner hinted that he was desirous of placing his lordship and chaplain under some safe, experienced hand, as the sea was rough, than he, whose absence we now deplore, volunteered to man his Whaler with a hardy crew to take the party to the next harbour. By this visitation, ten out of the small community have met a watery grave within the narrow limit of twelve months, last past. While, then, we submissively bow to the inscrutable wisdom of an unerring Providence,—while we sympathise with the distressed ones thrown upon our Christian compassion—let the watchword be to the living, “Be ye, also, ready;” for, “there is but a step between you and death.”

Yours,
J. B.

Two parties were hunting moose on Monday last in the vicinity of the New Guysborough road, and it so happened that one man of one of the parties got behind a tree, and heard a crackling in the bushes when it was nearly evening, and thought it was a moose, and fired at the supposed animal, and shot a young man named Goff, one of the other party, advancing in a different direction, who died from the effect of wounds he received in twenty-four hours after, leaving a wife and a young family to deplore his loss. This is a melancholy accident, and a warning to others who go out to shoot moose at this season of the year.—*Sun.*

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—The Cunard Steamship *Persea* sailed at 12 o'clock to-day, on her first trip from the United States to Liverpool. She carries 150 passengers, and about \$700,000 in specie. As the *Persea* was going out she grounded on Geddes' Channel, but got off without damage, and proceeded to sea.

We are happy to learn that Mr. Campbell, one of the survivors of the late melancholy casualty at Big Pond on the St. Peter's road—the particulars of which we published in our paper last Saturday—is likely to recover from the injuries he then received. We also understand that the girl, saved as a daughter of Mr. Campbell's, and not one of the other girls, that were in his house when the catastrophe occurred, as previously reported; both of whom were unfortunately killed by the sad occurrence.—*Cape Breton News.*

FOUTH'S DEPARTMENT.

THE WOOD ANEMONE;

ON, "FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US."

"My dear Frank, how tall you have grown!" said Aunt Margaret Earle, as she tenderly embraced her nephew, on her arrival at "Torricdale." She held him out at arm's length, and surveyed his fine figure and smiling face, with an admirable expression upon her own.

"I am so tall that you can take my arm now, when we walk, aunty."

"Yes, Frank, thank you; and you, my little Richard, shall take my arm on the other side; for you shall not be slighted because you happen to be shorter than Frank;" and aunt Margaret extended her pretty hand to a smaller and plainer looking boy near her.

"I am slighted for everything in which I chance to differ from Frank," said Richard, with an angry colour and flash of the eye. "I don't want your other arm when Frank has one."

Miss Earle put her hand on the frowning brow, and the lines of irritation disappeared under the soft touch; she bent and kissed the flushed cheek, and caressed the fiery lad in a loving way, very peculiar to aunt Margaret. Richard's face brightened; he turned and kissed her with an eager, glad manner, saying—

"Oh, if all loved me as you do, aunty, and as they love Frank, I, too, could be loving and good; it would be easy, then, but now—"

"Richard, don't you remember the old proverb, 'He that would have friends must show himself friendly?'"

"It isn't of any use; all say I am a bad boy, and if I do try to be good, they only notice it to laugh at me."

"We shall see," said his comforter.

Frank was Richard's senior by only one year, though so much taller, but he was avowedly the family favourite. He was finer looking than his brother, slower and less impetuous in disposition, less independent of others' opinions; hence more conciliatory and pleasing. Richard was nervous, quick, "incapable of doing a small, mean act, or of concealing a great misdemeanor." Frank was polite, and Richard abhorred anything "underhanded." Yes, Frank had most friends, and Richard was the bad, disagreeable boy of the family. Aunt Margaret alone discriminated justly in her treatment of the lads.

The boys had each a small plot of ground, where they cultivated a few vegetables for the table, and some flowers of divers kinds. Richard, who had much taste and skill in horticulture, had transplanted several kinds of wild flowers into his garden, and the soil had so much improved by the change as to enhance its attractions considerably.

The morning after aunt Margaret's arrival, they dressed early to gather and offer her a bouquet of their own culture. Frank had his nearly all arranged when Richard came down.

"Frank, where did that beautiful anemone come from? It came out of my garden, I'm sure, for you have none, and have been envying me mine for a week. Give it up, you mean fellow, you."

"Go it if you can," shouted Frank, running along the walk.

"I can and will, or you shall pay for it, Frank Torricdale," and Richard started in hot pursuit.

They brought up under aunt Margaret's window, where Richard gave the unfortunate bouquet a fatal blow, which snapped from their stems some of its finest flowers; "and take that for your meanness," he said, as he doubled his hand to give Frank also a blow.

But aunt Margaret had now reached the window, and she called out, "Richard! Richard! Frank! why, are you fighting, boys?"

"I am not fighting, aunt Margaret," said Frank, in a quiet way. "It is master Richard, who has ruined my flowers, when I had them all fixed for you, and who was just going to strike me."

"And you deserved it, you arrant coward, you," said the angry impetuous Richard, as Frank demurely walked off.

Miss Earle came down in a few minutes, and found Richard in his garden, making ready his offering for her, and muttering to himself in anticipation of the reproof he expected for his conduct. "No, you didn't fight, you milk-sop, so you won't be blamed for it; but you could steal my flowers because you knew no one would punish you for that. Frank is the smallest fellow in his way, and I am always blamed for the quarrels, somehow, just because I won't be put upon always and forever. I fight for him at school, I learn his les-

sons for him, I find his books for him, and now I must raise flowers for him to give away and get the credit for, while I get just the credit of being the most quarrelsome boy in school and in the world." "What are you talking about, Richard?" said Miss Earle, quietly.

He blushed, and did not answer. She came nearer, and said—

"Two wrongs never make a right, Richard, dear. Do you say the Lord's Prayer when you go to bed at night?"

"Yes, aunty; but as I am, I never can go to sleep till I have said my prayers."

"Do you say, 'forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us?'"

"Yes."

"And do you know what you pray for, don't you? Suppose you prayed thus to-night, and God were to answer the prayer—how did you forgive Frank's trespass this morning?"

"Oh, aunt Margaret," said Richard, with a crimsoning face, "I see what you mean. You think if my prayers were answered, I should be cursed instead of blessed. Yes, I pray to be forgiven as I forgive others, and in place of forgiving others I return all their wrongs and what I fancy they intended for wrongs, in the worst way I can."

"If you were to begin now, this morning, to do what was right, and as the Bible teaches you, to do as you would be done by, don't you think you would deserve some other name besides that of 'the bad boy?'"

"I wish I could, I do indeed; but if I do right no one minds it. No, they think I can't do anything but wrong?"

"That is rather discouraging, my dear boy, but still it is no reason for giving up the effort to do right. God and your own conscience are to be your judges, and in well doing there is a sure reward of peace, such as you must be a stranger to now. Think, while we are at breakfast, of some way of proving to Frank your sorrow for what you have done; begin now to forgive as you would be forgiven?"

After breakfast, Richard was missed by Miss Earle, who asked the servants where he could have gone, and was told by Tom, the groom, that he saw him going towards the wood. Knowing she would not be considered an intruder by Richard, whom she really loved and appreciated as he deserved, she followed in the pathway pointed out to her. In the shadow of an old trunk of a tree, where the soil was rich, and vines grow luxuriantly about him, was Richard on his knees, his hat off, and looking very intently at some fine anemones of which grew there. As she came nearer, she saw he was loosening the earth about their roots, as if to remove them.

"What now, dear Richard?" she said in a pleasant tone.

He looked up. "I am making up a bouquet to give Frank in place of the one I destroyed this morning and I am thinking of putting these fine roots in his garden."

"Right, Richard. What were you thinking of, as you looked so earnestly at them?"

"I was thinking that these flowers were 'my first fruits.' I shall never see the anemone without being reminded of my wrong, and I hope 'right,' too, aunty. If I had not commenced fighting this morning, but had run out here at once, and got these for myself, and carried the roots home for him, as I shall do now, then I might have prayed to-night to be forgiven as I forgive others. But, oh! it frightens me to remember how I resent everything. My prayers have been calling down curses instead of blessings!" said he, abounding as he spoke. "Pray for me, dear aunt, that God will forgive my past sins, and keep me from future transgression."

"Yes, my love," said the good aunt, "but still, you must try to pray for yourself, and when you go to bed try to look into your conscience, and find no reason for repeating this prayer."

"Does not the Bible say, 'Let not the sun go down upon your wrath?' I shall never dare to close my eyes again with angry, resentful feelings in my heart, or with the memory of revenging feelings or actions through the day. 'Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,' is so very solemn—awful, indeed, in its full meaning—I wish I had known sooner what I prayed for, when I repeated it."—*Pleasure and Profit.*

The Hospodar of Wallachia, following the example of Prince Ghika in Moldavia, has just caused a bill to be prepared for the abolition of the slavery of the serfs on his territory.

SELECTIONS.

HONESTY THE BEST POLICY.

The maxim that honesty is the best policy is not a very respectable motive to right action. Genuine honesty is a thing of principle, not of calculation. But yet the maxim is nothing less valid than a statement of fact. There was reason in Wolsey's exclamation, at the end of his tortuous career, "Corruption wins not more than honesty."—All human experience, in all grades of life, confirms it.—It has always been so, and will remain so, for the moral world is not less steadfast than the natural world, nor are its laws less powerful or less sure. That which is false either in word or action cannot have solid endurance, for it rests, not on that which is, but on that which is not,—not on that which is in harmony with God's universe, but on that which is at variance with it, and the whole tenor of which is to bewilder and delude and disquiet and degrade and destroy. Dishonesty is always a losing business. Want of principle is a want of judgement. A knave is a fool.

Three men are now on their way to Van Diemen's Land to serve out fourteen years of penal sentence, who last year ranked among the most sagacious, and responsible and respectable bankers in the British kingdom. They did business together in an honest way up to 1852. Embarrassments then began to press upon them. To meet these, the substantial resources of their bank were first drained; then their private property was pledged; and finally, to save off impending bankruptcy, the securities of their customers were plundered. Their difficulties arose originally from making advances to speculators without obtaining tangible security; but what began in indiscretion ended in recklessness; what originally was an irregularity, finally became a piece of monstrous turpitude. It is difficult to trace the first deviation from the line of moral rectitude in the history of their business; but that deviation, wherever, or whatever, it was, sealed their fate. They are utterly ruined men. There is not an honest pauper in any workhouse in England, whose condition is not preferable to theirs. The sooty collier who is delving far, far, down in the deepest darkest seam of the Island, would be a fool to exchange places with Sir John Dean Paul, on the convict ship. The very rage of the beggar, shine like regalia when seen by the side of the felon's garb.

The history of Robert Schuyler after the commission of his fraudulent acts, and the circumstances of his recent death are another memorable illustration of the short-sightedness and insatiation of dishonesty. If there was ever a man in this city who was pledged by every earthly consideration to a life of integrity and honor, it was he. But in an evil hour to save himself, as he thought, from difficulty, he yielded to temptation, he committed himself, unwatched, and unobserved, to a dishonest course, and his very concealment with its attendant success led him on, till he reached exposure and infamy. He escaped the law, but he did not escape the consciousness of his disgrace, or the compunctious visitings of remorse. He died a wretched exile, stripped of everything which makes life worth keeping. Mr. Schuyler was a man of great energy, and, it was thought, uncommon sagacity. But never was there a more egregious or a more fatal act than his in thinking that the devil could help him in the prosecution of his business. From the day that was concluded upon, ruin was inevitable.

Intelligence has just reached our city of the death of James C. Forsyth, under an assumed name, in England—a fresh instance of dishonesty brought to ruin. Not many men have started in life with fairer prospects than he. Well versed, educated, talented, and honoured—a member of our State Constitutional Convention in 1846, afterwards the candidate of the Whig party for the high office of Secretary of State—he had every inducement to keep true to the line of integrity. But he gave way to a passion for gaming, became involved, and undertook to extricate himself by raising money with the forged signature of his father and father-in-law. Exposed he fled, and was a wanderer over the earth, until life became an intolerable burden. He has died, ere he had seen forty years, a blasted, ruined man.

Illustrations of the insatiation of trusting to wrong doing for acquisition of gain, or for deliverance from difficulty are constantly occurring, and it behoves every young man of business to note them well. The present generation is undoubtedly a very enlightened and smart one, but it is neither enlightened nor smart enough to set aside or get around the honest old Scripture law, that "The way of transgression is hard." The man who, in his lust for gold, digs a pit, one of

which he cannot climb is a fool; and so is the man who rushes into such a pit to save himself from obstacles and embarrassments in the legitimate walks of life. There is neither safety nor wisdom, but in a strict conformity to the line of justice and truth. It is a trite proverb that no man becomes wise all at once; and in these times of intense business stir and strong temptations, it cannot be too faithfully borne in mind that it is the first step which costs.—*N. Y. Courier and Enquirer.*

THE LEGEND OF THE KOH-I-NOOR.

There is a strange and gloomy superstition in India respecting the possession of the Koh-i-noor—that famous diamond which all England went mad to see in the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park, which the Hindoos say entails ruin and destruction on every dynasty that possesses it. This is its history, as far back as it can be traced. The earliest years of the Koh-i-noor are lost, like the beginning of all great things, in the obscurity and mist of time. Meer Joomlah, its first historical possessor, is supposed to have torn it from a native Hindoo prince, and is known to have presented it to Aurungzeb, the Emperor of Hindostan. With him then begins its historical existence. At the death of Aurungzeb, the fortunes of his house declined, and the Empire, consolidated by him with so much skill and power, crumbled to pieces as soon as his powerful hand was withdrawn. A complete desolation came over India on the invasion of that tyrant robber, Nadir Shah of Persia. He took the Koh-i-noor from Mahomet Shah, the degenerate Emperor of Hindostan; and after plundering Delhi, and floating its streets in blood—after committing cruelties and excesses that make one blush for humanity, and after gathering up a fabulous amount of spoil from his victims, he set out on his return to Persia—but never to reach it. He was assassinated by his chiefs in the mountains of Cabul, and Ahmed Shah Durranee, the first king of Cabul, secured the Koh-i-noor as his share of the plunder. His dynasty lasted till our own times; but a fate hung over it parallel only to that which brooded so darkly over the fortunes of Egyptus. Parricide, murder, incest, treason, rebellion—these make up the annals of Ahmed Shah Durranee's house, the only alternations being from crime to misfortune, from sorrow to sin. Shah Soojah, driven into exile, sought hospitality as a fugitive king from Runjeet Sing. The fatal Koh-i-noor was still preserved to him—almost the only remnant of his former wealth. Runjeet Sing knew he had the diamond with him, and starved him till he gave it up to him, which the poor, weak, craven runaway was at last compelled to do. Soon afterwards Runjeet Sing entered into an alliance, offensive and defensive, with our Government, one of the objects of which was the absurd one of placing Shah Soojah on the throne of Cabul. When the alliance was concluded Runjeet Sing died, bequeathing the diamond to the God Jugernaut. His bequest was disregarded, and after a rapid succession of members of his family had each in turn come to sorrow and ruin, the British Government destroyed the Sikh nation, and Lord Dalhousie sent the Koh-i-noor to Queen Victoria.

This, then, is the history of this famous diamond, and these are the facts on which is founded the superstition that no dynasty possessing the fatal gem can prosper or continue. This superstition has a material truth. So many foregone coincidences could not fail of leading to a like conclusion for that which is to come after; the dark shadow of such a past must inevitably fall on the pathway of the future. But it has also a spiritual truth, which is, that ill-gotten wealth seldom prospers with those who have gotten it, and that, if justice sleeps for one generation, she awakens up with her naked sword brandished before the eyes of another. The Koh-i-noor has been fatal to all its possessors, because they were all men of violence and crime; they ruled lawlessly, and they plundered ruthlessly, and that plundered wealth turned to cursings not blessings in their hands. With us—when the people of India shall be ruled in justice and in mercy—the chief ruler of England may wear the Koh-i-noor on a brow uninjured by its mystical blaze, but until then, until justice and not lawlessness, right and not violence, stand by the Indian throne in our British halls of Government, we may fear that the fate of the Koh-i-noor may be fulfilled here as in Hindostan, and that ruin may follow robbery, and judgement come after crime.—*Pen and Pencil.*

WAKING UP THE HEARERS.

One of the old divines said, 'He that sleeps in the place of worship is no better for the time than a corpse,

at whose funeral the minister is preaching.' And another of that worthy fraternity remarks, 'that sleepers in religious assemblies are public nuisances, and ought to be driven out from the place they so much disgrace.' Several centuries ago, old Bishop Aymer, seeing his congregation pretty generally asleep, took his Hebrew Bible from his pocket and read a chapter, which roused attention, when the old minister sharply rebuked them for sleeping when they might have understood him, and listening when they know not a word he said.

Of the witty Dr. South, it is said, that preaching before King Charles, he saw that potentate asleep, he stopped short, and in a loud and altered tone of voice three times called out, 'Lord Lauderdale!' his lordship stood up and looked at the preacher, who addressed him with great composure, 'My Lord, I am sorry to interrupt your repose, but I must beg of you not to snore so loud, lest you should wake the king.'

A clergyman at Exeter, in England, named Nicoll, once saw several aldermen asleep, and sat down. The silence of the preacher, and the movement among the hearers, woke the worshipful magistrates, and they stood up. The clergyman then rose and said, 'the sermon is not yet finished, and now you are awake, I hope you will hearken more diligently.'

Many years ago, we heard an eccentric Baptist minister cry out in a sleeping congregation, particularly addressing one of his members: 'Brother Thomas Smith, if you don't wake up, I shall call you out by name.' There was no more sleeping in that house that day.

Andrew Fuller, one Sabbath afternoon saw the people during the singing of the hymn before the sermon, composing themselves for a comfortable nap; and taking the Bible, he beat it against the side of the pulpit, making a great noise. Attention being excited, he said, 'I am often afraid that I preach you to sleep, but it can't be my fault to-day, for you are asleep before I have begun.'

And finally, we have heard of an old minister in Kentucky, who purchased a whistle, and when his hearers went to sleep as usual, he emitted from it a very shrill sound. All were awake, and stood up to hear him say, 'You are a set of smart specimens of humanity, ain't ye?' as he slowly gazed at his wondering people; 'when I preach the gospel, you go to sleep; when I play the fool, you are awake, and look like a rush of hornets with a pole in their nest.'

Gentle reader, accept a hint, and keep AWAKE.

SHUTTING DOORS.—'Don't look so cross, Edward, when I call you back to shut the door, grandpa's old bones feel the wind; and besides, you have got to spend your life shutting doors, and might as well begin to learn now.'

'Do forgive me, grandpa, I ought to be ashamed to be cross to you. But what do you mean. I ain't going to be a sexton. I am going to college, and then I am going to be a lawyer.'

'Well, admitting all that; I imagine 'Squire Edward C——' will have a good many doors to shut, if ever he makes much of a man.'

'What kind of doors? Do tell me, grandpa.'

'Sit down a minute, and I'll give you a list.'

'In the first place, the door of your ears must be closed against the bad language and evil counsel of the boys and young men you will be at school or college with, or you will be undone. Let them get possession of that door, and I would not give much for Edward C——'s future prospects.'

'The door of your eyes, too, must be shut against bad books, idle novels, and low, wicked newspapers, or your studies will be neglected, and you will grow up a useless, ignorant man. You will have to close them sometimes against the fine things exposed to sale in the store windows, or you will never learn to lay up money, or have any left to give away.'

'The door of your lips will need especial care, for they guard an unruly member, which makes great use of the bad company let in at the doors of the eyes and ears. That door is very apt to blow open; and if not constantly watched, will let out angry, trifling or vulgar words. It will backbite sometimes worse than a March wind, if it is left open too long. I would advise you to keep it shut much of the time till you have laid up a store of knowledge, or at least till you have something valuable to say.'

'The inner door of your heart must be well shut against temptation, for conscience, the doorkeeper, grows very indifferent if you disregard his call; and sometimes drops asleep at his post, and when you may think you are doing very well, you are fast going down to ruin. If you carefully guard the outside

doors of the eyes, and ears, and lips, you will keep out many cold blasts of sin, which get in before you think.

'This shutting doors, you see, Edgy, will be a serious business; one on which your well-doing in this life and the next depends.'—*Am. Mess.*

CURLING.—Many of our young men and some who are not so very young, have been improving the recent bracing pure atmosphere in the enjoyment of this exciting and manly game.—We also observe by the *St. John Morning News*, that on the Lake near that city, a club of gentlemen may be daily seen participating in this exhilarating and healthy exercise.

For the information of some of our readers who may not understand the nature of the game, we copy the following description from that paper.

It is played by a party forming rival sides, each indiv. and being possessed of a circular hard stone of about nine inches in diameter, flat and smooth on the under side, and on the upper having a handle fixed to the stone. Each player is likewise armed with a broom to sweep the ice, in order to accelerate the progress of the stones. An open space of ice of from 30 to 40 yards in length, and 8 or 9 feet across, called a rink, being cleared, and a mark, or tee, being made at each end to play to, the contest takes place by each person hurling or causing his stone to slide towards the opposite end of the rink. A certain number being the game, the object of each side is which will have the greatest number of stones nearest the tee; and all play from end to end alternately, till that is ascertained. To hurl these stones with precision in this species of sport is exceedingly difficult; much depends on the keenness of the frost, the tone of the ice, and the stone.—Sometimes the best and oldest players have placed their stones in a cluster round the tee, one rapid shot from an antagonist will disperse the whole in all directions. Occasionally it happens that in hurling the stones come far short of the mark—but if they do not get beyond a line called the hoggscore, they are dragged aside and not counted. A more than usually extensive match is called a *bonspiel*. The taste for this invigorating sport is every day increasing, and the game bids fair to become very popular.—*Pictou Eastern Chronicle.*

GENEROUSITY.—On the evening of the 8th Jan., being the 8th anniversary of Holloway's Pills and Ointment, the hands employed at the Establishment (upwards of sixty in number, twelve of whom are clerks), partook of an excellent supper, at which a very interesting ceremony took place, viz., the presentation of gold watches by Professor Holloway to five persons, each of whom had been ten years in his employ.—The Professor has also made provision for all who may continue in his service a certain number of years, to save them from penury in old age, an act which renders him deserving of the great success he has experienced. We may add that the worthy superintendent of the establishment, Mr. John Driver, was presented by the employes with a very handsome silver snuff box, as token of his kindness and consideration to those over whom he has been placed for the last five years.—*London Papers.*

The dissolution of the French Polytechnic School has been decided upon, owing to its revolutionary character. It was remarked that it passed the Imperial Guards silent to a man, when every other corps was *frénetique* with enthusiasm. The Emperor, who was in a balcony, remarked the affront thus offered to the army then drawn up in the Place Vendôme. A lady standing by observed—'Que votre Majesté n'y fasse pas attention. Les Polytechniques ne sont pas des officiers, ce ne sont que des architectes! Voilà nos St. Cyrains; ce sont eux, après tout, qui commandent les gros bataillons.'

The *Sicde*, referring to the pannon of the Zouaves in the Crimea for their stage, says that during the fighting of the 7th of June, one of the actors, after penetrating with his comrades into the Russian works, threw himself upon a Russian officer, dashed him to the ground, and began unbuttoning his prisoner's regimentals. 'I don't want to kill you,' he cried, 'but give me your coat—it's for the theatre.'

The *Gazette du Midi* announces that Louis Philip's widow has had a relapse. Dr. Astruc, of Marseilles, left on the 16th for Nervi, to visit the ailing patient.

Monsieur Antinori, one of the auditors of the Sacra Rota tribunal, has, with his Holiness's permission, doffed the prelatial garb to enter the holy state of matrimony.

The General Vicariate of Rome has just published an official census of the population of Rome for the year 1855. In all, there are 177,461 inhabitants, among whom there are in all, 8,024 priests, monks, nuns, or seminarians—that is to say, one to every thirty-five inhabitants.

The Cathedral of Uim has long been in a very dilapidated state; workmen have been at length employed to make the necessary repairs to the church, which dates as far back as 1277, and is said to be higher than any other in Germany. The tower has remained, since 1597 in an unfinished state.

Prince Gortchakoff, late Commander-in-Chief of the Russian forces in the Crimea, is to succeed Prince Paskiewitch as Stadtholder (Viceroy) of Poland.

The Church Times.

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1856.

EDUCATION.

THAT the masses ought to be educated is a truth which no good citizen will dispute—that they will be educated in some way or other,—that they demand “knowledge” with a tone which will accept no denial, is a truth which no wise statesman will dare to hide from himself, and no earnest Christian will fail to improve. We all admit that “Knowledge is power”, but do we all realize the truth, that this is a two-edged aphorism—that it is as powerful to do evil when misdirected as it is potent for good when guided well—that knowledge, without godliness, is as keen an arrow in the hand of Satan, as sanctified learning is a most efficient weapon in the armory of God.

The first godless School ever created was beneath the tree of the knowledge of good and evil—the teacher Satan—the education sin—and the first lesson there learnt, which is a warning ever fresh, was this, that knowledge unsanctified by, and in defiance of God's word, is merely the “power” to be miserable, the faculty of being lost. This we need bear in mind when we see the inhabitants of every country leaving tumultuously in its struggles for knowledge, for the only voice that can calm those waves and still that rising storm is the voice of heaven—the oil on the waters must be religion. How the increasing demand for enlightened instruction on the part of the people is most wisely to be met, how this tide of knowledge which is either to devastate or enrich the land through which it is surging, can be best controlled, is a problem which all civilized Europe is now engaged in solving. Nor is Europe alone in the study,—it is not too much to say that the whole of Christendom is interested and hard at work on this giant task, which, in its failure or success, must determine how shall be written many a page of its future history. We all know with how determined a legislation the United States urge on the advancement of useful knowledge among the people—and doubtless to this general diffusion of instruction and the expulsion of ignorance, is owing to a great extent the unparalleled rapidity of growth which marks that country.

And now in Nova Scotia it has become a most legible truth that the State must either vigorously legislate for the Education of its people, or we must be content to lag far in the rear of the sister colonies.

That the system now worked is most miserably adapted to the wants of the Province is painfully evident—or rather it is the utter absence of system which is the cause of complaint. This must be remedied and at once—but how? is the question for which His Excellency has prepared us in his opening Speech. The measure thus promised will be soon before the country, and it is most natural that a great anxiety should prevail to see in what would the Education of the country is to be shaped.

It is confessedly, in the present divided state of the Christian world, a most difficult subject of legislation. Apart from the difficulty of maintaining the Schools, there arises this question: What shall be taught in them? The education must either be of a merely secular character or be blended with religious teaching—both of these would meet with many opponents. The first would be denounced as unfit for men who must live eternally—the next would be canvassed by every denomination, few if any of whom would be content with the doctrine of teaching only the great indisputable truths of Christianity. No, each communion does in reality set too much value on the distinctive doctrines which separate them, to admit of their being kept out of the sight of their young members—it is but natural that they should wish to train up their children in those distinctive tenets, or the vital importance of which they rest the grave responsibility of separating themselves from the elder Church—for if it be admitted that the points of difference be immaterial, separation being a breach of the unity of the faith is indefensible on any grounds. Even among those who demand the infusion of religion into secular education, there are so many shades of opinion, so many doctrines vital in the estimation of some, expedient with others, indifferent with many, that even were the offer freely made, that we might frame a religious system, there would be still room for discussion, what limits to distinctive and dogmatic teaching should be fixed—so that all creeds might meet and meet without compromising any truth worth contending for. The preliminaries would be comparatively easy—the great truths, the denial of which make a man infidel and a Church apostate, might be amicably accepted. But let us ask ourselves, as honest men—are we prepared to obliterate all those features of doctrine and

discipline which we recognize as rules of the One Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. Would we, would the mothers of the English Church, calmly hear that their babes were to be left to the unprovoked mercies of God, would they patiently abide the teaching that their children should not be allowed to go with them to the moray seat and in the full spirit of adoption, cry “Abba Father”—yet if these truths are worth contending for by the parents, surely it is robbing the children to keep them in ignorance—youth cannot cancel the obligation of knowing the whole counsel of God, so that each separated body of Christians would (and each universally except the Church does) teach their young disciples the distinctive doctrines of their communion.

It is moreover evident that whatever be the system of Education prescribed by the State, there will be a modification and adaptation given to it by each Christian body—it may form the general reservoir, but its contents will be drawn off by very different channels. Religion will give tone, and the peculiar phrases of Religion a colouring to the system of the State. We shall not call this bigotry, and we therefore expect that no honest non-conformist will brand with that odious title the efforts of our Church in securing that the young of the flock, at least before their years of discretion call them to God's altar to be confirmed in the faith, shall know the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments, and be further instructed in the Church Catechism set forth for that purpose.”

To effect this we chiefly rely on the faithful endeavours of our Sunday Schools; if these put out of sight the Baptismal Service, and neglect to impress on the memory and understanding of the baptized, those fundamental scriptural truths which are provided for the bunding up God's children in the faith, we do not marvel that a clamour is raised when we ask for the same accredited formulary in the Common School.

As long as we are Churchmen we must hear our Church, and we know that Church education can only be based on the Church's doctrine, and this can only be sought in her authorized formularies.

Our Sunday Schools must be fully impregnated with the Church Catechism, and then our Common Schools will even without dogmatic teaching, never wear away the affection of young Churchmen.

We have been led to these remarks by observing the stir which has been lately made to invigorate the National School, the interior economy of which as far as depended on the Master is in its meridian, but its exterior arrangement was seemingly in its evening of life—we now however, having before our eyes the cheerful generous sympathy which was aroused by a call for assistance to King's College, and in reading over the names of the gentlemen who compose the new, practical and active Committee, (which we published in a previous number,) in whose hands are placed the destiny of the National School, believe that it will assume new life, and that having interested the right men in its behalf we shall soon wipe off the disgrace of having such an institution almost in ruins—and hope that we shall soon behold our venerable Cathedral Church and its handmaid the National School, put on with Spring a new dress, and be a satisfaction to Churchmen and an ornament to this city.

We understand that a Bazaar is to be held at Dartmouth in aid of the Funds of the Dartmouth Church School, and that it will take place on a day, the associations connected with which are not yet faded from the recollection of many among us.—The present generation know but little of the enthusiasm with which the Anniversary of the birth of good old George the Third was celebrated, by their fathers, both at home and abroad. That is the day appointed for the Dartmouth Bazaar, and we have no doubt that the reminiscences that it will give rise to will cause a large assemblage at Dartmouth, and a large contribution of every thing likely to aid the cause,—from the old who have not forgotten the occasion, and their descendants who value the Church of which the old King was so strenuous a defender, and her institutions, which in every part of the habitable globe are lending their aid to civilize and christianize the people.

THE ATHENÆUM.—We are glad to know that the Athenæum Committee are, by the kind offices of the Citizens, in a fair way ere long to pay off the debt upon the Institution. Another of those intellectual entertainments which have afforded a charming variety to the amusement of our winter's evenings, took place on Tuesday last, when Hugo Reid, Esq. delivered an extemporaneous lecture on the historical parallel between the royal houses of Stuart and Bourbon. The lecturer was perfectly at home upon his subject, and by the way he treated & imparted

a good deal of information and material for thought to the student of history. He was succeeded by Mr. Passow, who gave a series of dramatic and poetic readings from the dramas of Sheridan Knowles and others, which agreeably entertained the large audience for the space of an hour. The fine band of the 70th regt. played at intervals between the addresses, and the audience which was large, dispersed, with a disposition to swell their numbers upon the next occasion.

The Legislature of New Brunswick was opened on the 14th inst. The Lieut. Governor's speech commences with an expression of gratitude to the Almighty for the many blessings which have been bestowed on the people of the Province during the past year—notices that the agricultural crops have been abundant and the fisheries successful—is thankful that the Province has been exempted from the recurrence of disease—and alludes to the Railway mission of the Attorney General, and to measures for the purpose of facilitating and promoting the construction of railways, which he is sure will receive earnest attention.

The expenditure of the year 1855 has largely exceeded the revenue during the same period, but strangely enough, it appears that the revenue collected has been nearly identical with the amount stated in the estimate. It follows that for some reason or other the Government of New Brunswick has been living much above its income, and there are strong symptoms that with governments as individuals the natural result will follow.

The Lieut. Governor directs the attention of the Legislature to the state of education with a view to provision being made for its improvement, and the establishment of a good academical and common school education, on liberal terms, without distinction of class or creed.

The Assembly, at the latest advice, was discussing a vote of want of confidence in the administration. The result was uncertain, although the officials spoke confidently of a majority to sustain them.

NOVA SCOTIA LEGISLATURE.

The Assembly met again on Tuesday, when Mr. Wadd was chosen Speaker. Since then there has been but little done to expedite the business which the Governor's speech led the country to anticipate. Indeed, it is said that divisions amongst the ministers and their supporters threaten a serious hindrance to several of the contemplated measures. The Educational Bill has not yet made its appearance.

The New York Church Journal of Feb. 14, contains the following information relative to the appointment of a Bishop for the Island of Jamaica:

JAMAICA.—A letter from the West Indies gives us the following information, as authentic. We have seen nothing of it as yet in the English Papers, and await its official confirmation:—

“The present Bishop of Jamaica, the Rt. Rev. Aubrey Spenser, D. D., has determined to retire from the active duties of his Diocese, in consequence of his declining health. The Hon. and Rev. Reginald Courtenay has been appointed to fill the station of the former Prelate. Mr. Courtenay passed through St. Thomas en route for England in the last steamer, two weeks since, for consecration, and will return to the West Indies in about eight or ten weeks. Dr. Spenser still retains the title of “Bishop of Jamaica,” and Dr. Courtenay's will be “Bishop of Kingston.”

The R. M. Steamer Canada arrived on Friday morning from Boston. The New York Herald, in a temperate article on the threats of the British press towards America, and a glance at the resources of the United States, recommends it to Congress as a duty to prepare for the emergency, by taking up the subject of the navy, increasing the steam vessels of war, looking after the coast defences, and placing the United States in an attitude that will show to the world that they are prepared to maintain their rights at all hazards. There is, however, in all the comments of the United States press on British relations, a monarchical perversion of British magnanimity towards that power, which shows the national peculiarity of the people, and may perhaps drive them into a contest, the end of which, judging by human means, will redound neither to their profit or honor.

From despatches received at Washington Feb. 22, Great Britain informs the American Government that she has made full and ample apology on the enlistment question, and can do no more—as to Central America she is willing to submit that question to arbitration—there is no intimation that the British Ambassador will be recalled. There appears to be no prospect of an early settlement of the matters in dispute. Mr. Crampton has received fresh instructions not to absent himself from Washington as he heretofore contemplated, but to attend to the unfinished business of the departments.

Poetry.

PASSING CLOUDS.

Where are the swallows fled?
Frozen and dead,
No chance upon some bleak and stormy shore.

Why must the flowers die?
Prisoned they lie
In the cold tomb fearless of tears or rain.

The sun has hid its rays
Those many days!
While dreary hours never leave the earth?

Fair hope is dead, and light
Is quenched in night,
What sound can break the silence of despair?

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