

The Provincial Wesleyan.

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The Editor of the Provincial Wesleyan is not responsible for the opinions of correspondents unless they are signed, and he is not responsible for the opinions of correspondents unless they are signed, and he is not responsible for the opinions of correspondents unless they are signed.

The Young Men's Christian Association.

In an age more than any other marked by progress and power of intellect and spirit, it is not surprising that the human mind should be turned to the study of the sciences, and that the human hand should be turned to the arts, and that the human heart should be turned to the study of the Bible.

Missionary Meetings.

DEAR BROTHER.—The Annual Missionary Meetings for this Circuit have just been held, and knowing that your numerous readers are interested in all that pertains to the progress of the Redeemer's kingdom, I transmit the following brief notice respecting our success, for insertion in your valuable paper.

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of interest in the Association was experienced. Dr. Twining, and we much regret that it is not in our power to furnish such a report of his treatment of the subject on which he discoursed.

The Age, and its demands upon Christian Young Men,—as well in any degree do justice to the philosophy, eloquence, and christian earnestness by which it was characterized.

We trust that the course of lectures for this winter so auspiciously begun, will be attended by manifold profit to those for whose especial benefit it has been designed.

At the meeting to which we have just referred, it was stated that the Association numbered now in members and subscribers, one hundred and fifty names. The decease of the Hon. H. H. Cogswell, who had filled the office of President of the Society, and who had ever manifested the deepest interest in its progress, was feelingly alluded to by the chairman, and the sentiments of respect expressed by him for the departed, were responded to by the silent attention which pervaded the assembly.

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what I do most decidedly object to, is their fashion of entering into Methodist families, where, instead of making their presence spiritually profitable, they respect the hospitality, shown them, by a barage upon their favourite theme.

What have been the consequences resulting in instances in which their witness has succeeded in detaching Christians from that ministry under which they were first made happy in the love of God? Do we find superior piety? enlarged liberality? more fervent, zealous activity in the cause of Christ? The very opposite is the rule.

A few days ago a Baptist Minister went into a person's house, whose wife is a member of the Methodist Church, to whom he expressed himself as quite a home. Poor woman, the little knew what was coming. The Bible was taken down, extracts were selected and long were the children made thereupon. At last, pointing to a child in arms, he gravely said, "I suppose you had that child sprinkled?" "Yes, sir, I had."

And who hath required this on your hands? The unanswerable (?) rejoinder. It might be well if that gentleman would inform us, who had required such conduct at his hands.

Again this same individual, after an interview with a veteran Wesleyan of "three score years and ten," arrogantly made his boast, that he could make him a Baptist in half an hour.—Modern man! But giving him credit for more than his knowledge, we cannot but consider the assertion extremely absurd; for if baptism, as he says, were not necessary, who has long suffered for the glorious achievement of his mission. Let such men get into the highways and hedge and call sinners to repentance—cease from clandestinely disturbing the fold of Christ, and they may perhaps wipe away the reproachful stain which now disgraces their character. These remarks are made not in an aggressive but in a defensive spirit, and that our people may be apprised of their danger.

Are Wesleyans, baptized in infancy, with living and in ripe years with the Holy Ghost, living in the enjoyment of the favour of Heaven and the possession of the Spirit of Adoption, by which they cry "Abba Father"? If so, they can walk by the same rule, and "mind the same thing," knowing that He who has begun the good work will carry it on to the day of redemption.

ALPHA.

Guano Steamer.

In a letter to the editor of the *London Times*, in reply to a communication which had previously appeared in that paper, Mr. Cunard thus vindicates the owners of the ship, from the charge of indifference as to the safety of the lives of the passengers and crews who cross the ocean in those vessels:

"We are obliged by act of Parliament to carry boats of a stipulated size; we have not only the number required by the act but one more in each ship; each boat has at all times the proper number of oars, a mast with a sail bent to it, some water casks, an axe and other articles likely to be useful in cases of emergency. A crew is regularly appointed to each boat. The boats may not be exactly placed in the way that Mr. Weld would place them, but they are carried in the manner in which the judgment and experience of the captain think best for their safety and usefulness; they must be well secured to the ship, or they would be carried away in heavy weather, which occasionally is the case, with all the care we take of them; four of the boats are on davits, two are within and on the top of the deck houses."

Mr. Weld says, "It would take three-quarters of an hour in the tranquil waters of the Mersey, in broad daylight, to launch each of these boats." I have not the pleasure of knowing Mr. Weld. He is evidently not a seaman himself, and has been misinformed. Every boat in the ship under such circumstances, could be launched, equipped and manned in three minutes. The boats are quite sufficient to carry every person in the ship. We are not only bound by act of Parliament to have boats and other suitable equipments, but the bonds of the admiralty order our ships to be rigidly inspected immediately before going to sea on each voyage. The public have therefore this as a security for their safety.

Mr. Weld says: "We make the lives of our passengers and crew a very secondary consideration." This is, indeed, a very grave charge, and is entirely without foundation. It is our first consideration. We have been so fortunate as to carry about 100,000 passengers across the Atlantic—a distance of 3000 miles—without injury to one of them. We do not speak of this boastfully, for we know not when accidents may happen. Mr. Weld alludes to the unfortunate occurrence of the Arctic. The passengers who were saved say that the boats were sufficient to carry 600 persons. There were only 400 on board. Some of the boats were lost by the unskillful management of passengers, and one not used at all. Additional boats would therefore have been useless. Capt. Luce is known to be a good seaman, and a firm and resolute man. He did his duty under the trying circumstances in which he was placed. If his crew had stood by him, all might have been saved."

The Newspaper Credit System.

The almost universal practice of giving and taking credit on Newspapers, is an evil of such magnitude that the sooner the friends of the Press put an end to it the better. In some parts of the neighboring States, the proprietors of Newspapers for their own safety, have been driven to the necessity of combining to refuse credit; and others having the command of Journals possessing a high character and extensive circulation, and being thus in a position of comparative independence, have rigidly adopted their cash system, as the best for themselves and for their supporters. We have been led especially to call attention to this from the complaints of others engaged in this department of labor, and because there are none, perhaps, who have greater reason to complain.

The case of the newspaper proprietor, in giving credit on newspapers, is analogous to that of a Farmer selling a few thousand bushels of wheat on credit. He sells it, he shall suppose, in lots of two or three bushels each (the value of one or two years' paper), to parties he had never seen, and whose circumstances he, perhaps, knows but little, and who are scattered over the whole province. Would any man of common sense submit to this mode of selling his produce? But this is not all; would he consent, as newspaper proprietors are generally expected to do, in addition to the giving of such credit, to hire agents to go from county to county, and from door to door, to collect these debts, and that, for giving, perhaps, a credit of from one to five

years. We argue that no man would consent to this. The vexation, trouble, and loss, the farmer would justly regard as unendurable. The case is strictly analogous. Every year we issue from our office, to about 2000 parties, residing between Sandwich and Quebec, that which costs us from \$3,000 to \$4,000; and, as a general rule, to which, however, there are many honorable exceptions, they expect an agent to call upon them individually for the amount!—This is not the case merely for one year, but with some for many years. A custom, so unreasonably unjust, so ruinous to the stability of the press, and often so damaging to its character and freedom, must sooner or later be abolished.

There is not a day-labourer in Canada who is unable to pay four or five cents per week in advance, to enjoy the benefits of a good weekly paper; and, if so, what apology can be given for substantial farmers, merchants, and mechanics not making their payments always in advance? There can be none; and we are satisfied that the thousands who have acted upon the credit system, have no conception of the difficulties it entails upon the proprietors of public Journals, or every man of judgment and principle among them would rigidly adopt the system of paying in advance.—Toronto Examiner.

Life Assurance.

Although the uncertainty of human life is an old and familiar truth, so much so that further attention of its verity might justly be considered superfluous; yet strange as it may appear, few truths require more to be urged upon our attention or pressed home upon our consciences than this, because there are none more liable to be neglected or forgotten.

The recent melancholy wreck of the U. S. Steamship Arctic is one of those calamities calculated to impress the value and importance of Life Assurance.

"The system of Life Assurance, as practiced in this country, we are happy to say, has become too well known and too highly appreciated, theoretically at least, by the great body of the intelligent and respectable classes, to require any lengthened commendation or explanation in this place.

"While we freely make this admission, yet, at the same time, we regret we are compelled to state that the practical recognition of the duty has been and is so generally and shamefully neglected, not by the ignorant, thoughtless and deluded, but by thousands and tens of thousands of well informed, industrious, and successful and enterprising citizens—there is something so anomalous in this state of things that we candidly confess we are at a loss satisfactorily to account for so extraordinary a circumstance. When we compare the apathy and indifference which prevail respecting insurance as applied to the risk of life, with the attention and care which are so extensively displayed with regard to all descriptions of property—whether it consists in personal or real estate, bonds and mortgages, mercantile or commercial, or whether in shares of a steamship company, or an interest in the value of goods transported or conveyed by the same—we say, when we compare the interest which is generally taken with regard to all this diversified description of property, as far as insurance against loss is concerned, with that which is manifested when only the risk of life is in question, that we are literally surprised and confounded!"—Dallas Star.

From Late English Papers.

THE CZAR'S MISSION IN THE EAST.—The St. Petersburg Court Journal, of the 20th, publishes an article worthy of notice, as it contains a sort of programme of Russia's policy, and announces without circumlocution the object which Russia seeks to attain by the present war. At first it states that the demands made by the Western Powers of the Porte, in regard to placing the rights of its subjects upon the same level, go twice as far as intended to be demanded by Russia, especially through Prince Menschikov's mission. (If says the Court Journal) it was the conviction of the Western Powers that it was essential to carry out their object, they should have said on the Prince being sent to Constantinople, "You ask to little." You only demand the half in the entire equality. Had this been done the unhappy conflict might have been avoided, and the "faithless publication of the blue book" rendered superfluous. The noble and decided language addressed by the Emperor in regard to Turkey does not reflect upon him (adds the Court Journal) the slightest spot as monarch, Christian, or ally, because the existence of the Ottoman rule is an anomaly—a thing deprived of vitality. England was in her heart convinced of the rights and justice of the Emperor, but concealed her own grasping intentions in order to convert them at the proper moment to her own special advantage. Did not England fear the power and unbounded character of the Emperor, the world would never have witnessed a union between France and England. England looks about for an ally which after the object was attained, might be the more easily thrown overboard than Russia. Russia's mission is certainly great. She is called upon to set limits to the materialism of England. France holds a secondary position. She is a mere bubbling political whirlpool; not a durable and general destructive inundation. Russia must fight England, because she alone not France, is the focus and support of all Revolutionary principles. It is not Russia, but England, who imposed the curse with "mercantilism," treats undeveloped humanity and the rights of nations. It is Russia's mission to protect Europe from the torrents of the west. As formerly the stream flowed from East to West—now the reverse is the case. No matter how the cause for the war is regarded, that between Russia and Turkey is founded on religious grounds. Through the policy of the Western Powers the war has, however, assumed the character of a struggle between Conservatism and Communist revolution. Only one path is open to the Emperor—that of right and honour. He will adhere to his word not to make conquests, but at the same time, it is his mission to restore Russian "preponderance" on the Bosphorus because that is absolutely requisite for the development of Russia and the re-establishment of order. It is Russia's holy duty to establish and consolidate the dominion of Christianity on the Bosphorus. Finally, the Emperor, as the strong rock and defender of Europe, has to fulfil the lofty mission of consolidating European Conservatism. To attain this object, Russia must carry on an obstinate war, which will break down England's avarice, and unconditionally terminate Turkish misrule.

THE OPERATIONS IN THE BALTIC.—The notion has been industriously propagated in different quarters that the Baltic fleet has done nothing. Comparisons are drawn between the brilliant success of the Allies in the Crimea, and the supposed inaction in the north. It is said that Sweden and Cronstadt would have fallen if our Admirals had chosen to try their strength against the bottled granite of these fortresses. Now let us look for one moment at the real facts of the case. Does a triumph less deserve the name boast, out blood? Does Sir Charles Napier less deserve the thanks of his country because he has brought back his ships unharmed, and has scarcely more men than he would have lost at home? The truth is the Baltic fleet has done a vast

amount of injury to the man it was sent to injure. The Emperor of all the Russias has been hurried up in a prison during the whole of the summer months. His fleet has been rendered useless. His splendid vessels have never sailed to sea. His splendid vessels have never sailed to sea. His splendid vessels have never sailed to sea.

Suppose, for instance, Sweden and Cronstadt had been taken, were we prepared to finish the campaign by a march to St. Petersburg? It is certain that the mere capture of these fortresses would have served scarcely any purpose, that what has been already gained without striking a single blow—and the experience won in this bloodless campaign will render victory more open, if not more certain, when the war is opened to the fleets and armies of the Allies.—Globe.

PRICES AND PROSPECTS.—The recent considerable rise in the price of corn seems to have taken the greater part of the country by surprise, and that mainly because, from the admitted abundance of the harvest, extremely low prices were anticipated. Just after harvest we conversed with many intelligent farmers, who, after dwelling with satisfaction on the bulk and quality of their crops, just as they had said in the same breath, that prices would fall as low as naturally to diminish the benefits to be derived by the growers for such abundance. At this time, also, the millers and dealers were equally confident that prices would be low, and, believing the price to be entirely in their own hands, they refused to purchase more than their absolute and immediate wants compelled them to take.

Then the very dry weather greatly interfered with the wheat sowing until late in the autumn, when some rain had fallen, so that the ordinary demand for seed-wheat did not begin to operate upon the market until opinion as to prices had taken a turn, and, in the place of extremely low prices, high ones began to be anticipated.

Then, of course, the dealers rushed into the market, and the recent unlooked for excitement was the result. An advance of 10s. per quarter of wheat, which occurred in one day in Mark Lane a fortnight ago, is an occurrence not a little extraordinary. Now, however, the check has come, and every market day shows an increasing downward tendency. The wheat crop in America is estimated pointed to a very low range of prices during the current year, it is clear the greatest extent to which all the old crop had been consumed was not sufficiently attended to; so, on the other hand, when the late rice took place, and the widest notions as to current prices were indulged in, the abundance of our recently earlier crops received too little attention. There are certainly reasons for believing that prices cannot be very low; our own crops are probably larger than those of the greater part of the continent of Europe, while the comparative want of the Indian corn crops in America must diminish, if not altogether stop, our supplies of that from thence. On the whole, the best opinion seems to be that prices will range about midway between the low rates which prevailed just after harvest, and the high prices the past few weeks. It is not to be overlooked that we have a large breadth of wheat grown last season, and that the present autumn has been most favourable for cleaning and preparing the land; so that should the present fine weather continue through any portion of the present month, there will certainly be much land also sown with wheat this year.

The existing high price will assuredly tempt farmers to sow what on every acre of land which is likely to bear a crop. Indeed, in some instances, we have noticed wheat sowing, unless the ensuing season prove extremely favourable, the prospect of a good return would seem to be but indifferent.

Provincial Legislature.

Our last summary was to Monday the 4th inst. On Tuesday the Hon. Messrs. Johnston and Howe spoke warmly against the course pursued by the Home Government in reference to the disposal of the Fisheries.

On Wednesday the Hon. Provincial Secretary communicated to the House information of the receipt of the previous evening of a Telegraphic Despatch from the British Ambassador at Washington, stating that orders had been issued by the U. S. Government for the admission of the products of this Country on the same terms as those of Canada and New Brunswick from the 3rd inst.

On Thursday the sum of £2000, sterling, was unanimously voted by the House in aid of the Patriotic Fund for the relief of the families of those of England's Soldiers and Sailors who fall in the present war. Mr. Johnston's resolutions moved on a previous day, denunciating of the treaty, formed the subject of discussion. The Attorney General, Mr. Johnston and Mr. Howe were the principal speakers.

On Friday the debate was continued—the Hon. Provincial Secretary defending the action of the Imperial Government, and the course pursued by His Excellency's advisers in this Province.

Saturday and Monday were occupied with reports on the treaty and the resolutions respecting it. On Monday evening the resolutions were negatived by large majorities, and the Bill for accepting the terms of the treaty passed by a majority of 32 to 10.

On Tuesday the Bill was read a third time, and sent to the Legislative Council. Mr. Howe introduced a series of resolutions indignantly denouncing the authors and negotiators of the treaty, which gave rise to a warm debate.

General Intelligence.

BAPTIST CONVENTION.—The Minutes of the Ninth Session of the Baptist Convention of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and P. E. Island, held in this City in October last, has been handed to us. They contain a considerable amount of information on the various interests of the close communion Baptists of these Provinces. We subjoin the following Report on the state of the Churches, which affords a synopsis of the Demographic:

"The number of members embraced by the five Associations connected with the Convention stood last year as follows:

Western Association, N. S.	254
Central, Do. Do.	102
Eastern, Do. Do.	249
Western, Do. N. B.	291
Total.	1096

The Associations lost during the year by removal, 277. The same number were gained by the same time, by letter, 277. They gained in the same time, by baptism, 1180. Showing a net increase of 803 members during the present session.

Revivals have been enjoyed in the course of the year by the Churches at Wallace Road, Goose River, Pughash, Little River, Leicester, Isaac's Harbour, and Wentworth. Eastern As-

were shed over that grave. That mother, though filled with grief, did not yield to despondency. She condescended to secure a humble tenement in an upper room in the village, and thither she repaired with her little ones, and by hard labour endeavoured to support her family as well as she could.

Some of the teachers of the Sabbath school sought them out, and brought the children to the school. But that widowed mother found it difficult to provide comfortably for her family. One morning, as she arose, arranged her dress, and began to prepare her breakfast, she sat down; she wept; she supposed her children were asleep; her sighs probably attracted the attention of her little boy.

"Mother," says he, "what makes you weep?"

"My son," said she, "I have nothing to eat."

"He sprang up," "Mother," said he, "I have learned a prayer in the Sabbath school, and at that prayer it says, 'Give us this day our daily bread.' Now, if we pray that prayer, will not the Lord give us bread?—Come, mother, let us pray."

"They knelt down together, and that little boy prayed the Lord's prayer. As they arose, a gentle tap was heard at the door. Some kind neighbor had thought of that poor widow and her orphan children, and had brought them a plentiful supply of the necessities of life.

"There," said the little boy, "didn't I tell you that if we prayed that prayer, the Lord would give us bread?" From that desolate chamber that prayer ascended to God, from simple, believing, confiding and earnest hearts. It came up before God as grateful incense, and he directed that kind friend to supply their necessities.

Let the Sabbath school teachers be faithful in imparting religious instruction to their pupils, for who can tell which shall prosper, this or that. It may be some precious truth may be sanctified, or some duty inculcated, that may be the means of saving a soul from the snare of the destroyer or the slough of despondency.—Lutheran Observer.

Paris and Versailles.

From a letter by the Rev. Dr. Gesner, of Canada, to the Toronto Christian Observer.

The Garden of Plants in Paris is much admired by strangers. It was founded by Louis the 13th in 1635. Every species of plant, from the smallest shrub to the cedar of Lebanon may be seen here. Buffon, the great naturalist, who was appointed professor here in 1739 devoted much of his time in collecting from all countries the most varied productions of nature. Currier, in like manner, and many other learned men, threw their entire energies into this garden, and the world may now benefit by their selections. It contains an amphitheatre for gratuitous lectures, a library of natural history, a menagerie, several galleries devoted to Zoology as well as plants and flowers in endless variety. Among all the beautiful trees there was none which I so much admired as a majestic CEDAR OF LEBANON, standing about half way up the mound called the Labyrinth. This tree, which stands six feet above the ground, measures ten and a half feet round, while its noble and stately branches shoot out, horizontally, in every direction, and to such an extent that several hundred persons might stand together beneath its boughs. While resting in meditative mood, under these majestic boughs, and looking around me, where were numerous species of ever-green and of most other plants, among which this noble tree was chief, standing out in bold relief above the rest, both in beauty and in greatness, I could not but admit the striking scriptural emblem of a true Christian. "The righteous," says David, "shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon." Those that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God."

More than 1200 species of plants are cultivated in this garden, among which are several labelled "from Canada." Ten thousand specimens of birds belonging to 2500 species ornament the gallery of Zoology; together with a great multitude of fish, serpents, &c., &c.

THE ARTESIAN WELL, near the Invalids, is a striking monument of human perseverance. The boring commenced Jan. 1st, 1834 and continued for seven years and two months. For the first 1300 feet the diameter is 12 inches, for the last 700 it was contracted to 6 inches. They reached the water at the depth of 1500 feet, but not sufficiently abundant. At 2000 feet they reached a vein which forced the water 112 feet above the surface, at the rate

