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The Watchman.

"I HAVE SET WATCHMEN UPON THY WALLS O JERUSALEM THAT SHALL NEVER HOLD THEIR PEACE, DAY NOR NIGHT."

VOL. I.

TORONTO, CANADA WEST, MONDAY, APRIL 15, 1850.

No. 13

Poetry.

FAMILY WORSHIP.

BY CATHARINE PRINGLE CRAIG.

We will not say the former days
Were better than our own;
That softer fell the dew of heaven,
Or the sun more brightly shone—
That the stars looked down with a sweeter light
Through the depths of the azure sky—
Or that wand'ring zephyrs touch'd the notes
Of a richer harmony;
For we know Jehovah's word is pledged
For the sunshine and the dew—
The flowers may fade, but the breath of spring
Shall their wasted life renew;
And the anthem of nature's praise is hymn'd
Through changing years the same,
And to countless ages the stars of night
Their story shall proclaim.
But we miss, oh! we miss in the homes of men
The holy song of praise—
The sweet and solemn strain is hushed
And we sigh for the former days.—
Is the smile of heavenly love withdrawn?
Is the time of blessing o'er?
Have we no more a God in heaven—
A Father to adore.
Not silent are our blessed dead,
Though their work on earth is done,
The struggle and the gloom is past,
And the glory has begun.
The beauty of the sinless land
Shines radiant on each brow,
And a song of joy and happiness
Is the song they are singing now.
Awake, ye children of them who sleep
In the bed of peaceful rest,
And let your voices blend again
With the anthems of the blest!
We know you learned at your father's hearth
The hymn of love and praise,
Let us hear your song with your children now—
The songs of your early days!
Oh! so sweet on the breath of the balmy air,
Shall the sound of such music be,
That passing angels may pause to hear,
And rejoice in the melody—
And soft as evening dews that fall
When no rude wind is stirred,
Shall the peace of Heav'n on that home descend,
Where the worship of God is heard.

Miscellany.

THE SAVIOUR'S AGONY IN GETHSEMANE: ITS NATURE AND CAUSE.

From the Saviour's entrance upon his public ministry, his life was one unbroken series of trials. His sufferings, however, during the earlier part of his career were not to be compared with those he endured towards the closing scenes of his eventual history. The bitter cup had been steadily filling all along; and shortly after his last entrance into Jerusalem, it became full to the brim. The clouds had been steadily gathering; now, from various quarters, they were nearly wholly gathered; and the storm pent up within them was about to break forth with terrific violence, and to be poured with merciless impetuosity upon the head of the Innocent One. On the first disclosure of this, the disciples were taken by surprise. To Jesus himself, however, it was all fully known long before—The first indirect intimation he gave of the near approach of the gathering storm was in these words: "Now is my soul troubled: and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour? But for this cause came I to this hour," John xii. 27. After this various important things had occurred in connection with the Saviour, which we must leave unnoticed, before his unparalleled sufferings commenced. He is now come to the evening immediately before his crucifixion. The ordinance of the Lord's supper is instituted, and observed along with his faithful disciples. This over, he delivers those pathetic and truly consolatory discourses contained in the 14th, 15th, and 16th chapters of John's Gospel; and pours forth from the fulness of his heart that pregnant prayer contained in the 17th chapter of the same Evangelist:—"When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples over the brook Cedron, where there was a garden, into which he and his disciples entered," John xviii. 1. You now see where the Man of Sorrows is. This "garden" is that better known by the name of Gethsemane. Here a memorable and a deeply-acting scene occurred. We cannot do better

than lay it before you in the words of the Evangelist Matthew, adding some little additional information. Luke supplies us with. Matthew xxvi. 36-44: "Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.— And he went a little farther, and fell on his face and prayed, saying, O my father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt. And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. And he went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done. And he came and found them asleep again; for their eyes were heavy. And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words." Luke (xxii. 43, 44) supplies us with two additional facts: "And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony, he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

First: Let us briefly consider the nature of this agony—Luke says that, "being in an agony, his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground." These words cannot be satisfactorily explained except on the supposition that real blood was actually mingled with the sweat that came from the pores of Jesus' skin. And that profuse, bloody perspiration proceeded from his intense mental anguish. At this statement no one need be surprised: history supplies us with many instances of bloody sweat proceeding from mental anxiety or fear; and that, too, when the cause of that anxiety and fear was not worthy to be compared with what filled the Saviour's mind with anguish. In 1552, an officer who had charge of a fortress, was treacherously seized, and threatened with instant execution, unless he surrendered the place. In view of such an ignominious death, he was seen covered with a bloody sweat over his whole body. A young man was unjustly condemned to die at Rome; he was observed to shed bloody tears, and to discharge blood, instead of sweat, from his whole body. Three young men, brothers, were found guilty of a certain crime; two of them had taken the lead—the third, led on by them, had assisted. The two were hanged; and, whilst they were yet suspended, the third was exposed to public view in front of the scaffold. He was observed to sweat blood from his whole body—A robust man was in Paris condemned to die when he heard the sentence passed, he was observed to be covered all over with a bloody sweat. A nun once fell into the hands of cruel soldiers: when she saw herself encompassed with swords and daggers, she was so terrified and agitated that she discharged blood from every part of her body, and died, untouched, in sight of her assailants.—"A sailor was so alarmed by a storm, that he fell down, and his face sweated blood, which, during the continuance of the storm, returned like ordinary sweat, as fast as it was wiped away."—(See pages 86-88 of the admirable work by Dr. Stroud, on the "Physical Cause of Christ's Death.") But enough of such cases. Let us keep them in view only in so far as they throw light upon the Saviour's agony and bloody sweat. They show most distinctly that there is such a thing as bloody sweat proceeding from mental anxiety or fear. Considering the mental anguish of Christ towards his closing hours, we need not wonder at such a phenomenon taking place in his case. The Evangelists were obviously at a loss to describe the amount of that anguish. They heap words and phrases, and ideas together, in order, if possible, to convey to our minds something like an adequate conception of it: "He began to be sore amazed, and very heavy." Not only was he "sorrowful" but he was "exceeding sorrowful." Not only was he exceeding sorrowful; but he was "sorrowful even unto death." The load he bore was so heavy that "he fell on his face," "on the ground." He might have fallen sooner than he did, had not God, perceiving his extremity, "sent an angel from heaven to strengthen him." "Being in an agony, his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground." Every pore of his skin was like a bleeding wound; "His blood stained all his raiment." He it was whom the prophet saw "coming from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah; glo-

rious in his apparel; travelling in the greatness of his strength; speaking in righteousness: mighty to save." To the Saviour, the time he spent in Gethsemane, in connection with the clear views he had of the trying scenes that were speedily to follow, was almost overwhelming. President Edwards, in speaking of this, suggests some such idea as the following: the tragedy of the Babylonian fiery furnace, and the three pious Hebrew youths, was about to be acted over again. The furnace is prepared; the combustible materials are gathered; the fire is kindled; the flames are raging. Jesus is brought to the mouth of that furnace: he looks in: here a struggle commences. His purely human nature shrinks from the dreadful endurance; but his higher feelings sustain him. Now is the crisis of the world's history, and, in particular, of human redemption. To enter the furnace is terrible to think upon; no wonder though pure humanity shrinks from it. But to decline would be to frustrate the benevolent and merciful designs of God, and to let the human race sink irremediably into the place prepared for the devil and his angels. The thought of this the Saviour could not endure. Rather than bring about such a catastrophe, he manfully entered the furnace, and patiently bore all it could inflict. It was this that gave rise to such a struggle in his bosom, and "being in an agony, . . . his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."

TO BE CONTINUED.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS.

Every one that gets to the throne must put his foot upon the thorn. We must taste the gall if we are to taste the glory. Whom God justifies by faith, he leads into tribulations also. When God brought Israel through the Red Sea, he led them into the wilderness; so when God saves a soul he tries it. He never gives faith without trying it. The way to Zion is through the valley of Baca. You must go through the wilderness of Jordan, if you are to come to the land of promise. Some believers are much surprised when they are called upon to suffer.—They thought they would do some great thing for God; but all that God permits them to do is to suffer. Go round to every one in glory—every one has a different story, yet every one has a tale of suffering. One was persecuted in his family by his friends and companions: another was visited with sore pains and humbling disease, neglected by the world; another had all these afflictions meeting in one—deep-culled unto deep. Mark, all are brought out of them. It was a dark cloud, but it passed away; the water was deep, but they have reached the other side. Not one of them blames God for the road he led them: "salvation!" is their only cry. Are there any of you dear children, murmuring at your lot? Do not sin against God. This is the way God leads all his redeemed ones. You must have a palm as well as a white robe. No pain, no pain; no cross, no crown; no thorn; no thorn; no gull; no glory. Learn to glory in tribulation also: "I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with that glory that shall be revealed in us."

INFLUENCE OF INDIVIDUAL PIETY.

Few persons seem to be aware of the great amount of influence they are daily exerting upon others around them. It matters not how insignificant or obscure the position they occupy in the world may be, their example leaves its impression, either for weal or for woe, upon those with whom they have to do. How important, then, that that the influence of our example be of a proper kind! Every professor of religion, especially, should see to it, that he is constantly striving after conformity to the image of Christ; for he that fails to do so, in the words of Tiedry, "is depriving mankind of some good which can be communicated by his agency. On the other hand, he who lives in habitual communion with God is surrounded by a Divine influence, silent and impalpable, it is true, yet not the less real. Like the high priest, he comes from the holiest place, with the odour of incense fresh about him. His life is the most eloquent of sermons; and the amount of good which he does, merely by living in the world as a Christian ought to live, is beyond the power of human calculation. To the church, his pious example, though of very high importance, is not essential to the appreciation of the truth and sanctity of our faith, but the exclusively worldly man gathers most, if not the whole, of his ideas of true religion, not from the standard and testimony of the Bible, nor from the representations of faithful ministers, but from the example of those who are said to be under its influence. It is the volume of man's life which he reads; and as its page is fair

or blurred, so does he decide upon the nature and the value of the faith whose characters it is alleged, are written there."

BE CONTENTED WITH LITTLE.

I once knew a man who had thousands and thousands; but the desire to get more hindered him from enjoying what he had. He was discontented and wretched; and if ever he put up prayer to God, it was that his riches might increase.

I knew a poor woman, also, who had but half a dollar a week in the whole world to live upon, and yet she was cheerful and happy.—She had always a little money by her to assist those in distress; and instead of praying that God would add to her store, she was even praising him for what he had so graciously bestowed. She had many trials, but she rejoiced through them all; for

"True piety is cheerful as the day:
Will weep indeed, and heave a pining groan
For other's woes, but smiles upon her own."

So that you see, my boys and girls, a little with God's blessing, is better than a good deal without it. Think of this again, and make up your minds to be contented with little.—*Old Humphrey.*

THE HEARTS RELUCTANCE.

God's simple way of justification is the very last one to which the human heart will betake itself when seeking to escape the wrath to come. Its terms are too humiliating. Any other way it matters not how difficult or costly, if it only spare the humility of submission, and the shame of sorrow and repentance. Men will indulge in grief, inflict penances, perform arduous services; they will pass months and years in afflicting their souls, bowing down their heads as a bulrush; they will grapple with despair, and look destruction in the face, if by any means they can obtain salvation without repentance, and peace without submission. Here lies the grand stumbling block of impenitence. Here is the epitome of the countless schemes of error which have sported with the souls of men, from the time of Cain's false service to the present hour. Man's selfish ingenuity has been put to the rack of thousand devices to find out some other way. Vain experiment! He who rejects the straight and narrow way has his doom legibly written before him. He has every attribute of God's character pledged before him that he shall suffer to the uttermost.

AMBITION.

He that digs for wealth, ought to know that every ounce of earth he throws up, is excavated from his own grave; and he of pallid look, that sits hour after hour studying for the crown of literary distinction, that the very lamp by which he labors for the prize is fed by the precious oil of life, that will soon all be wasted away.—And the man that dashes through dust and blood, in the fierce pursuit of military glory, knows well that the struggle is in the field of death, and that often it is the cold hand of death that puts the wreath of glory on his brow. Yet is their folly not cured.—*Nevis.*

A HINT TO KEEPERS OF LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

There is an individual in the wards of the Pennsylvania Hospital (for lunatics) whose duties are of the highest importance, and whose office, as far as my knowledge extends, is peculiar to that institution. This person is called a companion, or teacher, and indeed is the active and untiring agent of the physician. The companion is entirely relieved from the domestic duties of the keepers, and, being intelligent and courteous, is the means of effecting a great amount of good by teaching the patients what will help to rid them of their delusions, promote their happiness, and hasten their recovery.

A CHEAP RELIGION, THE BELOVED RELIGION WITH MOST MEN.

St. Basil complained of the covetous rich in his age, because they preferred only that kind of devotion which is without cost, as to pray for fashion, and fast out of miserableness; but they would not offer one halfpenny to the poor. Such are to be found in our days, who are content to hear God's word read and preached, with their hats on their heads, and leaning on their elbows; and, if need be, they will make bitter invectives against atheism and popery. Yet they are willing to serve God with that which cost them nought. Let but the parish impose an ordinary charge, or the pastor desire but some oil for his lamp; accustomed offerings for his better subsistence, you shall have them as a bulrush in a wet place, so dry that a penny is as easily screwed from them as a new coat from a child, or a sword from a soldier engaged. *J. Boy's Sermons.*

Family Circle.

KNOWLEDGE AND PIETY WOMAN'S BEST DOWRY.

A HINT TO YOUNG MEN.

There is no sight so truly pitiable as that afforded by a rising family of children under the guardianship of an ignorant mother. I would be understood, in the use of the term ignorant, as wishing to convey the picture of a mother whose maiden days were devoted to the acquirement of fashionable accomplishments, to the exclusion of solid mental culture and virtues.

The following remarks by Hannah More are so just and weighty, that I cannot withhold them:

"When a man of sense comes to marry, it is a companion whom he wants, not an artist. It is not merely a creature who can paint and play, sing and dance; it is a being who can comfort and counsel him—one who can reason and reflect, and feel and judge, and discourse and discriminate—one who can assist him in his affairs, and lighten his sorrows, purify his joys, strengthen his principles, and educate his children. Such is the woman who is fit for a mother; and the mistress of a family. A woman of the former description may occasionally figure in the drawing-room, and attract the admiration of the company, but she is entirely unfit for a helpmate to a man, and to train up a child in the way it should go."

The foregoing remarks hold good respecting society at large, apart from the high considerations of religion. But mere intellectual culture is not enough to constitute the sex proper companions for the sons of God; his Daughters only are suitable.

No deliberation or circumspection, therefore, can be too great in a transaction of such importance as the choice of a partner for life. An error here leads to the most awful consequences. It is fatal and irremediable. The Christian is concerned, in a particular manner, to proceed with peculiar caution in forming this delicate and important connection. No personal attractions, no brilliancy of talents, no elegance of manners, no polish of education, should induce him to form such a connection till he has unquestionable evidence that these pleasing qualities are connected with real and genuine piety—this is the gem which sparkles with undiminished lustre in the darkest seasons of adversity and in the broad sunshine of prosperity; which illumines the cottage, and adorns the palace; which outshines the greatest diamonds upon earth; and which will emit eternal splendour from the crown of glory in heaven. The possession of the "pearl of great price" is essentially requisite to the enjoyment of conjugal felicity; but an abundance, "of this world's goods" is far from being requisite. Such abundance generally increases the cares and anxieties of life, but seldom, if ever, adds to its real comfort. All who enter into the marriage state from mercenary motives, though they may enlarge their possessions, and increase their fortune, live in splendid misery, and find that they have bartered happiness for wealth. The connection which is truly desirable, is pure and disinterested; it unites hearts and hands in the bonds of mutual love. Human life has few enjoyments so exquisite as that of loving and being loved. No pleasures are comparable to pleasures which affect the heart. Such, in a peculiar manner, are the pleasures which are found in the sweet retirement of domestic life. They are simple they are innocent, they are virtuous.

MAY WE EXPECT THE CONVERSION OF CHILDREN.

From the Montreal Witness.

It is important that Christian parents should pray and labor for the early conversion of their children. Indeed, it seems strange that they can do otherwise, for feeling as they must do the unspeakable worth of the souls entrusted to their charge, and the fearful evil of sin, we should imagine that they would labour unceasingly, and pray importunately, that even from infancy these cherished objects of solicitude and affection should be securely lodged in the ark of safety. Yet, do we not find many, who, in seeking the salvation of their children, are laboring only for a distant good, whose

ly, ready to submit to the fancied necessity that these beloved ones must pass, at least, sixteen or twenty years of their short lives, alienated from Christ, laying up material for future repentance, and in fearful jeopardy of the loss of their souls? Is it true, then, that the gospel can only be embraced and obeyed by those whose minds are matured? Are its invitations and promises addressed exclusively to such?—While it becomes us to be reverent when we speak of the purposes of the infinite Jehovah, yet, may we not ask—Does He give us any intimation that he is unwilling to renew and sanctify the little child? On the contrary Do not the promises and declarations of Scripture make it evident that "out of the mouths of babes and sucklings he hath perfected praise?" and may not the truths of the gospel savingly affect the heart, and govern the life of one whose infantile capacity cannot comprehend many of the sublime and difficult truths of revelation? Why, then, should parents hesitate to bring their babes to Jesus, seeking and expecting his blessing on them as such? It is because few comparatively give evidence of conversion in childhood? Perhaps the number who do so is greater than many imagine, but if not, the apathy and faithlessness of parents may be one great cause why such is not more generally the case. If they believed that their little ones, even in their tender years, might be born in the family of God, would not a hope so precious arouse them to more frequent and fervent prayer, more earnest effort, and more diligent self-control, lest they should, by unhallowed example, prevent so blessed an issue?

Once-born of a mother, all of whose children were hopefully converted at a very early age, who, on being asked—What was the peculiarity of their training that might be supposed to have a bearing on this happy issue? replied, That she knew of none, unless it were this.—That having ever been fully persuaded that childhood was the period in which, humanly speaking, they would be most likely to yield their hearts to God, she has been led to earnest prayer and effort for their conversion during this season. How often do we see a contrary feeling cherished, and any evidence of piety in childhood viewed with manifest distrust, and tried by more rigid tests that are applied to those of mature age.

Though we doubtless, see instances in which the promising appearances of childhood fade away before the evil influence of worldly allurements, and corrupt companionship, yet are there not more instances, than we at first sight may conclude, of true piety, at an early age? For as it has been well said—"Though Christians, they will still be children: thus in the case of the sickly, who are, in their earliest years, separated from those of their own age, and who, as they cannot engage in childish sports, cease to have a relish for them; if a work of grace exists, its displays will be powerfully affected by circumstances of such a nature. But the good seed may take root in children, where no such external influences prevail to urge it to a precocious ripeness."

In some cases, parents take such a view of the doctrine of Divine sovereignty, as paralyzes their efforts. The youthful daughter of a faithful minister of the gospel, was under deep religious impressions; a friend who became acquainted with the state of her mind, requested her father to converse with her on the subject of her souls interests; but he replied—"No, if it is God's work, he will carry it on without human aid; if it is not, all my efforts will be useless." Is such the true—the Scripture view of God's sovereignty? If so, why was the ministry instituted? Why is it perpetuated? In the natural world, any one who should act on such views, would earn, and would well merit the appellation of madman. Suppose the husband man should say, as he surveys his fields in the spring—"Why should I sow seed, and till the ground; if God be pleased to grant me a harvest, he will do so without my exertions, if not my labor will be in vain. Would you not doubt, and most justly, too, the man's sanity? And yet, it is no less true that the blessing of God is indispensable to the success of the husbandman's efforts, than it is that unless he renew and sanctify the hearts of the children, all the parent's efforts will be futile. But in both cases He has connected the means with the end, and it is equally presumptuous to expect His blessing without the use of appropriate and Divinely appointed means, as to expect success by unaided human effort. The true duty of the parent seems to consist in faithful, judicious, prayerful efforts, as though all depended on his labors united to a spirit of absolute dependence on God, a deep prevailing conviction of human helplessness, and God's almightiness in the work of salvation.

Montreal, March 21, 1848. MARIAN.

FAMILIES IN HEAVEN.—What a pleasing ideal! Space may have severed and the rule of death ushered into eternity the several members of that domestic group. But they have escaped the pollution of the world; they have triumphed over death, and in yonder "blissful station," free from sorrow and parting they dwell forever with the Lord. We ask not "shall they recognize each other?" The cold shroud may propound such chilling interrogations, but the intelligent Christian entertains no doubt on the subject.—Ed.

Geographic and Historic.

NIGHT SCENE IN THE HOLY LAND.

The broad moon lingers on the summit of Mount Olivet, but its beam has long left the garden of Gethsemane and the tomb of Absalom, the waters of Kedron and the dark abyss of Josaphat. Full falls its splendor, lower on the opposite city, vivid and defined in its silver blaze. A lofty wall, with turrets and towers and frequent gables, undulates with the unequal ground which it covers, as it encircles the lost capital of Jehovah. It is a city of hills, far more famous than those of Rome, for all Europe has heard of Zion and Calvary, while the Arab and the Assyrian, and the tribes and nations beyond, are as ignorant of the Capitoline and Aventine Mounts as they are of the maivern or the Chiter hills. The broad steep of Zion, crowned with the tower of David, nearer still, Mount Moriah, with the gorgeous temple of the God of Abraham, built alas! by the child of Hagar, and not by Sarah's chosen one, close to its cedars and its cypresses, its lofty spires and airy arches, the moonlight falls upon Bethesda's pool, further on entered by the gate of St Stephen, the eye, though 'tis the moon of night, traces with ease the Street of Grief, a long winding ascent to a vast cupola pile that now covers Calvary, called the Street of Grief, because there the most illustrious of the human, as well as of the Hebrew race, the descendant of King David, and the Divine Son of the most favored woman, twice sank under that burden of suffering and shame which is now throughout all Christendom, the emblem of triumph and honor, passing over groups and masses of houses built of stone with terraced roofs or surmounted with small domes, we reach the hill of Salem, where Melchizedek built his mystic citadel, and still remains the hill of Scopus, where Titus gazed upon Jerusalem on the eve of his final assault. This destroyed the Temple. The religion of Judea has in turn subverted the fane which were raised to his father and to himself in their imperial capital, and the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and Jacob, is now worshipped before every altar in Rome—Jerusalem by moonlight! 'Tis a fine spectacle, apart from all its indissoluble associations of awe and beauty. The mitigating fogs softens the austerity of a mountain landscape magnificent in outline, however harsh and severe in detail; and while it retains all its sublimity removes much of the savage sternness of the strange and untrivalled scene. A fortified city almost surrounded by ravines, and rising in the centre of chains of far-spreading hills, occasionally offering through the rocky gleans the gleams of a distant and richer land! The moon has sunk behind the Mount of Olives, and the stars in the darker sky shine doubly bright over the Sacred city. The all-prevailing stillness is broken by a breeze, that seemed to have travelled over the plain of Sharon from the sea. It wafts among the tombs, and sighs among the cypress groves. The palm-tree trembles as it pauses, as if it were a spirit of woe—is it the breeze that has travelled over the plain of Sharon from the sea? or is it the haunting voice of prophets mourning over the city that they could not save? Their spirits surely would linger on the land where their Creator had deigned to dwell, and over whose impending fate Omnipotence had shed human tears. From this mount who can but believe that, at the midnight hour, from the summit of the ascension, the great departed of Israel assemble to gaze upon the battlements of their mystic city? There might be counted heroes and sages, who need shrink from no rivalry with the brightest and the wisest of other lands; but the lawgiver of the time of the Pharaohs, whose laws are still obeyed; the monarch whose reign has ceased for three thousand years, but whose wisdom is a proverb in all nations of the earth; the teacher whose doctrines have modelled civilized Europe; the greatest of legislators, the greatest of administrators, and the greatest of reformers—what race, extinct or living, can produce three men such as these? The last light is extinguished in the village of Bethany. The wailing breeze has become a moaning wind; a white film spreads over the purple sky; the stars are veiled, the stars are hid; all becomes as dark as the waters of Kedron and the valley of Josaphat. The tower of David is merged into obscurity; no longer glitter the minarets of the mosque of Omar; Bethesda's angelic waters, the gate of Stephen, the street of sacred sorrow, the hill of Salem and the heights of Scopus can no longer be discerned. Alone in the increasing darkness, while the very lines of the walls gradually elude the eye, the church of the Holy Sepulcher is a beacon light—D'Israeli's Tancred.

ZEPHYRS FROM ITALY.

THE PEASANTRY OF POMPEII

The ruined city of Pompeii is surrounded by an embankment formed of the ashes and earth removed in effecting the excavation of its remains. It is provided with several gates of entrance, which are guarded by soldiers, and no person can enter within the walls unless accompanied by a guide under government. The country around Pompeii is under a high state of cultivation, abounding with vineyards, plantations of cotton, and fields rich with harvests of fruit and grain. The peasantry are

chiefly engaged in the pursuit of agriculture, and although very poor, are industrious and happy, as there are no beggars about the place. Every body appears to be engaged in some useful calling, and apparently accustomed to depend upon personal exertions for the procurement of a livelihood. As soon as the sun rises I meet the peasantry upon the road with well polished implements of husbandry upon their backs, cheerfully traveling to the fields to commence the avocations of the day—offering as they pass along, the respectful salutations, sometimes raising, sometimes removing, their cone crowned hats. It is healthful (independent of the benefit from air and exercise) to walk about in the dawn of the morning and experience from a class so useful and honorable such friendly marks of consideration.

The tails of the lay they are accustomed to relieve by the soothing influence of vocal melody and the mutual interchange of every kindly office. Pursuing their avocations in a spirit so laudable and commendable, the shades of evening find them without a cloud upon their brows, peacefully retiring to their habitations. How reviving at that interesting hour to experience the benefit of their welcome gratulations, falling like music upon the ear and imparting a satisfaction to the soul as enduring as the pleasures of memory. They love to employ in their evening salutation "the note," (happy night) a sentiment full of joyful hopes and delighted anticipations. I always repose well-attired, have been blessed with the favorable wishes of these artless laborers of the soil.

The road which passes by Pompeii is the common medium with Naples as well as several important towns intersecting its course; over this road the productions of the country are transported which contributed to the subsistence of the capital and its populous dependencies. The heavy and numerous trains which perpetually rumble along this grand highway give palpable evidence of the agricultural wealth of these interesting plains.

The cheerful and contented disposition of the children of the peasantry has often commanded my highest admiration. They always appear, satisfied in whatever situation circumstances may place them, and readily accommodate themselves to every exigency. During the vernal and Summer seasons the little boys seldom wear any thing beyond a coarse shirt, while the dress of the girls is almost as simple. Accustomed from their infancy to the practice of active and frugal habits and to breathe the balmy air of their favorite fields they naturally possess uninterrupted health with its usual concomitant advantages.

The rustic carriages of the country are provided with a netting suspended beneath the vehicle for the reception of luggage. When the usual accommodations of the conveyance are occupied by persons of riper years, it is no uncommon occurrence to see this humble receptacle filled with children, manifesting by their simple songs the utmost cheerfulness in their obscure and novel situation. I have also observed them contented, when transported in the huge pocket of the panniers which are borne upon the backs of the donkeys.

So peaceful is the air that prevades this lovely region, that the days of the people appear composed of Sabbaths, and their temporal condition, a beautiful exemplification of primeval felicity.

Impressed with the beneficial tendencies of rural occupations, as well as the numerous and exalted advantages arising from habits of communion with the works of an Omnipotent Author, the language of the poet, appeared peculiarly in consonance with the train of my meditations:

Whom Nature's works can charm, with God himself. Hold converse; grow familiar, day by day, With his conceptions; act a on his plan, And form to his the relish of their souls.

DOUGLASS.

Antiquaries will feel deeply interested in the discovery of vast regions of ancient ruins near San Diego, and within a day's march of the Pacific Ocean at the head of the Gulf of California. Portions of temples, dwellings, lofty pyramids (seven of these within a mile square) and massive granite rings or circular walls, round venerable trees, columns and blocks of hieroglyphics—all speak of some ancient race of men, now forever gone, their history actually unknown to any of the existing families of mankind. In some points, these ruins resemble the recently discovered cities of Palenque, &c., near the Atlantic or Mexican Gulf coast; in others, the ruins of ancient Egypt; in others, again, the monuments of Phœnicia, and yet in many features they differ from all that I have referred to. The discoverers deem them to be antediluvian, while the present Indians have a tradition of a great civilized nation, which their ferocious fore-fathers utterly destroyed. The region of the ruins is called by the Indians "the Valley of Mystery."

The statute book, to the present minute, contains an unrevoked ordinance of the 10th Edward III., sec 3, commanding that no man shall be served at dinner or supper with more than two courses, excepted on great holidays (those specified) at which he may be served with three.

The Press and General Review.

ROME AS IT IS.

(Cor. of N. Y. Courier and Enquirer.)

In estimating the probability of a permanent reconciliation between Pius IX and his subjects the rank and religion of the Romans, and their profound hatred and contempt of the Cardinals and Priests are facts of paramount importance. The very first social peculiarity that struck me in Rome was the general want of respect for the clergy Ecclesiastics in the street, I observed, no where received any of those tokens of regard, so commonly rendered in other Roman Catholic countries. Even the religious processions bearing a holy image, or indeed the sacred host itself, I marked, went their way unsaluted and unnoticed. I have since in the course of my stay, visited a hundred different Churches, and from St. Peter's down whether at mass, at matins or at vespers, I have almost uniformly found a dreary void.—The Priests and the Choirs, an old woman or two, and perhaps a stray peasant from the country, have alone relieved the solitude. All is august and imposing, but the holy incense floats unwatched, the divine symphonies swell unheard, and the sacred altars blaze unregarded.

Roman Catholicism finds the fewest faithful in the very seat of its faith, and the coldest disdain in the very centre of its glory. The doctrinal elements of the religion are the same everywhere, but its spirit and its type vary exceedingly in different countries. In all places, except Rome, it is more or less modified by civil institutions, and by popular character; but here it is subject to no extraneous influence, and free scope is given to all of its worst tendencies. It is not Catholic, and liberal, and tolerant, but papistical, and bigoted, and persecuting. It seeks to prevail not by its own purity and wisdom, but by intimidation and by charlatanism; by

—“reliquies, beads, Indulgences, dispenses, pardons, bulls.”

Adopting the maxim that ignorance is the mother of devotion, it systematically stultifies the human intellect. The people receive no religious instruction, are allowed no catechisms and have no knowledge of the elements of their creed. Tawdry wax figures, representing certain biblical scenes, and exhibited in public booths under the patronage of the church afford their most definite notation of Scripture history, and the six injunctions of the Santa Croce—to pray the masses, to hear mass on Sundays and festivals, to keep the fast, to confess during Holy week, to commence at Easter and not to marry during certain seasons—constitute the clearest idea of Scripture ethics.—Miracle-working images abound, and numerous relics are to be seen of every imaginable category, from the rock wherewith Abraham laid Isaac to be sacrificed, to the prints of our Saviour's feet in the pavement of the Appian way. No intelligent right-minded man can go through the churches of Rome, and survey all the miserable tawdry employed in the name of Christianity, without the intensest disgust and indignation. But the people of Rome are not in a situation to make all these means and appliances successful. Their constant intercourse with enlightened foreigners, forbids, and they have learned full well that the purpose is to blind and degrade them. The natural effect is bitter animosity against the Church, and a rooted repugnance to the very religion whose name it bears.

The low intellectual and moral character of the priesthood reinforces this hatred with contempt. The number of ecclesiastics of all grades in Rome is about twenty thousand.—their education is chiefly confined to the scholastic learning of the middle ages, and they little appreciate either the ideas or the doings of modern civilization. There are, doubtless among their many devout men, but if universal assent is to be trusted, the great majority possess little private worth. The vast wealth of the Church supports them in indolence, and, under the garb of religion, they indulge their lowest appetites and passions. It is as notorious here as the noonday, that the profligacy which so fully blackens all Rome, has its chief source in the priesthood, and that the highest church dignitaries participate in the general corruption. Let one plain fact suffice to illustrate. In a single street, there are now living an illegitimate daughter of a late pope, and seven illegitimate daughters of cardinals, three of whom are public prostitutes. In honor of my race, I cannot credit all the depravity charged upon the Roman ecclesiastics; yet I am forced to conclude that the people of Rome despise their priesthood for the best of all reasons—because the priesthood, as a body, is despicable.

The wickedness and tyranny of the Jesuits greatly envenomed popular enmity towards the church by which they were tolerated. Until the late expulsion of the order, the inquisitorial system was carried out, with less hardihood to be sure than formerly in Spain, but yet with great daring; and surveillance and denunciation prevailed to an extent that filled all society with constant dread. The walls lined with instruments of torture, and the two hundred wretches bent and withered with misery, disclosed by the breaking open of the sacred chamber of the Holy Tribunal, excited a popular exasperation which years will not allay; and though the

Pope be restored with powers as absolute as ever on no terms will the Roman people submit to the re-establishment of his infernal coadjutors the Jesuits. According to a late pastoral letter of Cardinal Arch Bishop of Naples, the disciples of Ignatius Loyola are indispensable auxiliaries to true Catholicism; if this be so, true Catholicism has but a slender chance hereafter in the capital of the Catholic world.

Many and various are the social evils which have alienated and still alienate the Roman people from the church, but their great political grievance is the rule of the Cardinal college.—In theory, the sixty-four members of this body are persons selected from all Catholic nations for their pre-eminent virtues and talents, but in reality they are all Italians, excepting seven and owe their place exclusively to wealth and family rank. The Pope, who appoints them has a direct personal interest in naming men of great pecuniary resources, since rich Cardinals are in the habit of ceding their annual stipend of \$4 500 to the increase of his yearly salary of \$20 000. The Cardinals are the Pope's authorized advisers in temporal as well as spiritual matters, and they determine upon every political measure of any importance. The majority of the college are said to be selfish, arrogant, unprincipled and unscrupulous men, and every wavering purpose and misstep of Pius IX. is attributed to their agency. It was the vindictive spirit of the cardinals that so long protracted the late negotiations. The French demanded a universal amnesty, because honor and humanity forbade them to do otherwise, the Cardinals refused it because their vengeance was too sweet to forego. Both parties were a last obliged to concede, but the people have no faith in the efficiency of the compromise. They believe that the Cardinals are implacable, and that secret poisonings and assassinations will sooner or later do the work of the public executions upon all seriously implicated in the establishment and maintenance of the Republic.—The Romans regard the Cardinals as their deadly foes, and fairly quail before the power of their malice. None of the virtues and none of the acts of Pius IX. yields them a ray of hope for they know that the Cardinals are still their masters. Bitter experience has subdued all republican aspirations, and if the Papal Government could rid itself of its ecclesiastical element, and become assimilated to other liberal monarchies, it might, perhaps, eventually win popular confidence and support. But so long as the Cardinal College retains its present political power and influence, no concession of any character whatever will reconcile the Roman people to the temporal power of the Pope.

BOSTON OPINIONS OF A BOSTON JURY'S VERDICT.

From the New York Herald.

The newspapers of Boston sustain the verdict of the jury on the Webster trial, as a just and true one. This is not surprising. They had tried and convicted the prisoner before the subject underwent a legal examination. The secret inquest—which, in itself, should have vitiated the whole of the subsequent proceedings—furnished the evidence of guilt; and upon this evidence there was much more reason for making up a fatal verdict, than upon that motley array of opinions upon handwriting and teeth which went far to bias the mind of the jury.—We do not assert that the prisoner was not guilty; but we do assert, that he was not proved to be guilty, by any legal evidence of a reliable character, and we defy all the lawyers to the contrary. However strongly circumstances may persuade us of the guilt of the accused, nothing has appeared to assure us, beyond all doubt, that Dr. Parkman's body cannot be found elsewhere. Our duty in such a matter is not to be guided by apprehensive impressions, but by evidence at once clear and uncontradictory. From the first, we have feared that the public opinion of Boston had settled into a firm belief in the prisoner's guilt, from the mere presumption of evidence; and the sequel has confirmed our most serious misgivings. The public share in the surprise that has been created by the verdict, drawn out, if we are to credit the proceedings in the jury room, by three questions, in no one of which was any suggestion made that the government had failed in making out its case.

It may not be out of place here, to refer more fully to the coroner's court in this case. It was a secret tribunal, as in the Coolidge affair in Maine. The public were not admitted, or the reporters of the public press. Now, though the statutes of Maine and Massachusetts provide for a coroner, they have not assigned to him any duties. It is an office established upon traditions, and but little understood. One thing is certain, however, that though the powers of the coroner are arbitrary in some measure, and superior, under some circumstances, to all judicial powers yet it has never been established that he can hold a secret investigation. The English law, from which we derive our action does not permit it; and it would be impossible to say by what authority our coroners are guided. The fourth statute of Edward First defines a coroner's duties—and among these he is empowered to sit only *super visum corporis*, and “at every place” where the body is found. It is certain that the Boston coroner was not led by this statute—for he held his investigation in the Old State house, a mile from the medical College. These coroners must be looked after, and their

duties made known. Meanwhile, we hope the Boston editors will revise their judgement upon the verdict.

EPIDEMICS

- Art. I.—1. *Epidemics of the Middle Ages*, from the German of J. F. C. Hecker, M.D. Translated by B. C. Babington, M.D.
- 2. *The Remote Causes of Epidemic Diseases*. By John Parkin. Hatchard and Son.
- 3. *Report on Quarantine*, from the General Board of Health. Hansard.
- 4. *Experimental Researches on the Food of Animals*. By Robert Dundas Thompson, M.D. Longman.
- 5. *The Domestic Practice of Hydropathy*. By Edward Johnson, M.D. Simpkin, Marshall & Co.

THE late epidemic has revealed the existence, and fearfully illustrated the destructive power, of some unknown agents of mortality, the precise nature and cause of which, in their connection with known and more familiar morbid influences, have hitherto been suffered to remain involved in the deepest obscurity. It leaves us with the unpleasant conviction that the accounts handed down to us of the ravages of pestilence in ancient times, were not historical exaggerations, as they have generally been considered, and that we have been laboring under a mistake in supposing that modern civilization had attained an immunity from similar desolating and wide-spread calamities. The work of Dr Hecker on the epidemics of the middle ages, recently translated by Dr. Babington, has now become one of serious interest, as belonging, not to the past alone, but connecting the past with the present, and relating to physical phenomena which there is now reason to believe to be constantly latent, and the manifestation of which may be expected at frequently recurring intervals.

With a view to the practical conclusions which may perhaps be drawn from this volume, and from other sources, we propose to give some account of its contents.

The work of Dr. Tralles (*Historia Cholerae Atrociſsimæ*), must completely set at rest the controversy about the modern Asiatic origin of malignant cholera. The received opinion of the medical profession, with few exceptions (Mr Phacelray and Dr Chambers among the chief,) has been that malignant cholera is altogether a new disease, first appearing in August, 1817, in the delta of the Ganges, at Jessore, after the annual inundation of the marsh lands by which it is surrounded, and there carrying off 10 000 persons (a sixth of the population) in a few weeks; thence proceeding to Calcutta, and devastating every town and village within an area of several thousand square miles. It is admitted, however, that Brahminical records notice a disease of a somewhat similar character to have prevailed among the Hindoos of remote antiquity, and our own occupation of India is not so recent, but that a little research has now established the fact that it appeared in 1781 at Ganjam, 500 miles to the north-east of Madras, where 500 men sunk beyond recovery within an hour; at Madras, the following year, when it attacked the army of Sir John Burgoyne; and the next year at Hurdwar, where it swept off 20 000 pilgrims. It was then called by the Muslims *mordechim*, or bowel-death, corrupted by the Europeans into *mort de chien*; and it was remarked that at the same period a severe epidemic influenza, or catarrhal fever, visited Russia, England, Germany and France, and occasioned a great mortality.

The doctrine, therefore, that malignant cholera is new in India, rests entirely upon assumption; and that it is new in Europe, can hardly be maintained as in the slightest degree probable by any one who has attentively considered the analogous effects of several of the epidemics of the middle ages, as described by Dr. Hecker. The testimony, however, of Dr. Tralles is decisive of the fact that epidemic cholera was known in England in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Those who hold the contrary opinion have generally maintained that the cholera morbus of antiquity was a violent dysentery, characterized by the presence of bile; but Dr. Tralles shows that in his time the absence of bile had not only been noticed, but various theories formed to account for the want of this secretion. He notices the serous and aqueous discharges by vomiting and purging; the draining of the body of all its fluids; the thickening of the blood by the loss of its serous portion, and consequent arrest of circulation; the icy coldness; the consecutive fever; the rapid death in a few hours, with cramps and spasms in severe cases, and their frequent sudden occurrence in the middle of the night; all of which have been marked features of the epidemic recently prevailing among us. Commenting upon this evidence, the editor of the “London Medical Gazette” observes—

“We began the investigation already prejudiced in favor of the view entertained by Dr. Copland and other reputable authorities, namely, that before the year 1817 it was altogether unknown either in India or Europe, and that the *materies morbi* first sprang from the jungles of Jessore in that year. We must admit, however, that the description given by Dr. Trotter of cholera, as it was known to medical writers in 1753, has satisfied us that a much older date must be assigned to the first outbreak of this pestilence. His description is, perhaps, as complete

as the state of pathology at that time would admit, and if we except the want of reference to any account of the state of the renal secretion, all the marked peculiarities of the present disease are clearly indicated.”

Celsus, the Hippocrates of Rome, is quoted by Dr. Chambers to prove the existence of cholera, with serous discharges, in the first century; and in looking attentively at Dr. Hecker's summary of the statements of ancient medical writers, respecting the *cardiac*, or heart disease, referred to as early as the time of Alexander the Great, 300 years before Christ, it is impossible to resist the conclusion that they were describing, under another name, the last stage of malignant cholera. The disease was called *morbus cardiacus*, not by medical writers, but by the people, who concluded the heart to be the seat of the malady from the irregular beatings and violent palpitations which were one of its symptoms. Other symptoms were “cold numbness of the limbs” (*torpor frigidus*;) “profuse and clammy perspirations;” “a feeble and almost extinct pulse;” “a thin and trembling voice;” “a countenance pale as death;” “an insufferable oppression on the left side, or even over the whole chest;” “eyes sunk in the sockets, and, in fatal cases, the hands and feet turning blue;” “and while the heart, notwithstanding the universal coldness of the body, still beat violently, they for the most part, retained possession of their senses.” Finally, “the nails became curved on their right hands, and the skin wrinkled.” These are nearly the very expressions used by Dr. Adair Crawford, in describing the last stage of malignant cholera, as it occurred in St. Petersburg in 1848,

“The whole surface of the body became as cold as marble, and covered sometimes with a clammy moisture; the pulse extremely feeble, and often imperceptible; the face sunk, and the features contracted to, sometimes, nearly half their usual size; the eyes sunk deep in their sockets, and surrounded by a dark circle, and the pupils generally dilated. The cheeks, hands, feet and nails assumed a leaden-blue or purplish colour, and likewise, though in a less degree, the entire surface of the skin, whose functions seemed completely paralysed. One remarkable phenomenon was the sudden collapse of the soft parts of the body, the effect necessarily of all the vessels being nearly emptied of their fluids, and of the rapid absorption of the adipose substance; so that patients were reduced, sometimes in twenty-four hours, perhaps one-third or more of their previous size. The skin of the hands and feet were shrivelled up; the violence of the cramps usually diminished, though not always, and they were limited chiefly to the hands and feet, which often remained contracted after death. The vomiting and diarrœa were also less urgent; the tongue was moist, flabby, and cold; the respiration hurried or else slow, and much oppressed with frequent deep sighing; the breath cold, the voice plaintive and reduced almost to a whisper. There was great heat, oppression, and anguish in the epigastrium and about the heart, to which regions all the suffering was referred.”

These facts are important, for they help to dispel much of that mystery about cholera which has made it the object of superstitious terror, and point out the path to be followed by those who would learn the cause of epidemics, and the means of obviating their effects. It is a great step towards a true knowledge of the evil, to discover that epidemics are not caprices of nature, to be regarded as original maladies, but periodical visitants, obeying therefore fixed laws which it may be possible to trace out by closely watching the recurrence of their operation.

It is of vast moment, also, to the interests of humanity, in a moral as well as a commercial view, to be thus enabled to get rid of that most mischievous of medical errors—the doctrine that epidemics, like the cholera, are propagated by contagion. We would guard this observation by an admission that in all cases of disease the air of an unventilated room may be rendered poisonous to the healthy by the sick; and that the sick may otherwise predispose the healthy to attack, by the influence upon the nervous system of fear and sympathy; but that the casual contact of strangers with the person or the clothes of a sick man has ever been a cause of the spread of cholera, or of any other epidemic, is a notion at variance alike with probability and fact. In a paper presented by Dr. Strong, of the Bengal army, to the Statistical Society, he states, that during the twenty years ending with 1847, there were deaths annually from cholera in goals under his superintendance, but that it did not spread; never attacking more than one in nine of the inmates. But the sudden cessation of cholera in London at the close of the last autumn, and its equally sudden disappearance from other cities, after raging for an average interval of eight or ten weeks, demonstrates the fact that its propagation depends upon atmospheric conditions, and not upon human intercourse. Even in the height of an epidemic season, the nurses and physicians in constant attendance on cholera patients, have not suffered more than the rest of the community, from the supposed danger of their exposed position, and have enjoyed comparative immunity where the arrangements of ventilation and drainage have been perfect. In the general hospital of Hamburg, no case of cholera occurred among its 1 600 inmates, although 117 cholera cases were admitted between the 7th and 22nd of September; and in London, at St. Bartholomew's hospital, where 473 cholera patients were admitted during the past summer, of whom 199 died, the disease proved fatal to only one of the nurses of that institution. The attacks in other cases being confined to premonitory diarrœa, which, by prompt attention, were speedily subdued.

If it be said that its appearance in different countries has not been exactly simultaneous—that it is in India one year and in Europe the

next—in France in the summer, and in England in the autumn, showing a march or progress like that attributed to contagion—the answer is, that neither do corresponding seasons always occur in different countries in precisely the same years or months. The weather is of ten wet in England when it is dry in Germany; cold and dry in England when it is hot and damp in Russia; winds blow from different points of the compass, even within the same country—moving in eddies or circles; electrical phenomena equally vary, and the course of epidemics must obviously vary with them.

TO BE CONTINUED

Ecclesiastical.

THE CANADIAN WESLEYAN METHODIST NEW CONNEXION CHURCH.

For the Watchman.

To all the Superintendent Preachers in the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion Church.

I would remind you, through the *Watchman*, that it will be needful for you to forward to me by the twentieth of April next, a statistical account of your circuits in the same form as the Tabular view of the state of the Connexion as published yearly in our minutes, accompanied with those remarks which will assist me in making up my annual report for the English Conference. The Conference in England passed a resolution, last year, requiring this to be done, by the General Superintendent, annually. I trust that the latest communication will reach me by the time above specified.

I am, Dear brethren,

Yours affectionately,

H. O. CROFTS,

General Superintendent.

London, C. W., March 27th, 1850.

For the Watchman.

ELIZABETHTOWN CIRCUIT.

We have some revivals going on, on this circuit; my colleague is holding a protracted meeting, I cannot send you the particulars, but the Lord is working with him.

I am in a revival meeting at Mandes, the congregation is increasing every night; my strength is not sufficient for the task. Some have been to the anxious-seat, for to implore the Lord to deepen his work, many look astonished and surprised, a death like attention mark their evening sitting, while I address them in the name of Jesus Christ. I hope the Lord will bless his own word and save many of these immortal souls. One man got up before the congregation and heartily expressed his determination to forsake the foolish, and live from henceforth to walk in the way of understanding. I cannot say what may be the result of the meeting; we are in the second week since its commencement.

T. RUSK.

March 19th, 1850.

NEWCASTLE MISSION.

MY DEAR BROTHER HOWARD:—I am happy to inform you, in the Township of Percy, we commenced a protracted meeting the 21st of March, and continued it until the last of the month; and at the close we received into society ten; sickness prevented some from attending that would have united, and others were gone out of the neighborhood who would have united also; we do expect the increase will be sixteen. This is a new appointment three miles from the chapel. Two of these persons I had the pleasure of taking into society sixteen years ago on the Picton Circuit. They removed from a part where they enjoyed the ordinances of God's house every Sabbath; and as soon as I heard of them I called to see them, and they wished me to commence a protracted meeting and God in mercy blessed our feeble efforts; to his name be all the glory.

J. C. WARREN.

April 9th, 1850.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.—The Provincial Government has given five acres of land, on the banks of the River Thames, in the town of Woodstock, to Roman Catholics of this neighborhood, as a site for a Church, &c., &c. We understand that a subscription is now on foot for the purpose of providing funds and materials for the erection of the necessary buildings. A building committee has also been formed, consisting of two Protestants and three Roman Catholics, and it is expected that the work will be commenced early in spring.—*British Ame*

A powerful revival of religion is on progress at Oswego. The first Methodist Church has an addition of nearly 200 within a few weeks. The Baptist and Presbyterian Churches have also had large accessions.

REMOVAL.

The *Watchman* office is removed to the building lately occupied by Mr Cleland's Printing establishment. Post Office Lane

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Rev. E. V.—The *Watchman* has been sent regularly from its commencement to the address of "W. Yerxa, Picton, P. O."

The Watchman.

Monday Evening, April 15, 1850.

RESPONSIBLE POSITION OF THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES OF CANADA.

Unquestionably, Christ the Redeemer is the world's only hope. Banish Christ from the records of inspiration and you have a universe without a common centre, a system without a Sun. Not less true is it, that in a subordinate sense the church is to any nation what in a supreme and efficient sense, Christ is to the world. The Redeemer is the central Sun; but the Church furnishes an unnumerable host of satellites, each of which receives and transmits to others the genial light of the blessed Gospel. Whether therefore we contemplate a nation or a world its character and destiny depends instrumentally on the church.—Philosophers may propound their systems of ethics, and patriotic statesmen may boast of the wisdom of their legislation; yet it is to the presence and agency of the churches, that the greatest nations of this or any other age, owe their greatness.

Enterprising these sentiments and glancing at the immense natural advantages and the diversified resources of Canada, the position of the Protestant Churches of this Province assumes a very responsible character. Uncompromising faithfulness cannot fail to render every advantage promotive of the Redeemer's glory; but a want of spirit and zeal and christian enterprise will suffer the enemy of righteousness to press into his service, the very materials which the Creator intended for the probation of his own glory, the salvation of immortal souls. Nature has placed this Province in a commanding position, and no intelligent christian will question the responsibility of the Churches of Christ to render that position distinguished, for its beneficial influence on our own country, as well as on other lands.

The extensive field presented for benevolent enterprise, demands the serious attention of the Churches. Comparing the religious opportunities of the inhabitants of our Towns and Cities with those of the agricultural portion of the community, we might imagine that nothing remains to be accomplished for the former. Than this, however, a more erroneous conclusion could scarcely be drawn.—Much, very much, remains to be done for the Towns of Canada, ere, in point of morality and intelligence, they attain that standard which the interests of religion throughout the colony, render imperative. The light of truth must shine into the places "where Satan's seat is;" and the very outcasts of society must be brought under the sound of the blessed gospel. For, reproach though it may appear, it is nevertheless true, that very many in our colonial towns, never hear the word of life: they have no relish for the pure doctrines or the strict morality inculcated in the volume of inspiration. "They hate the light neither come to the light, lest their deeds should be reprobated," and unless zeal be found in the churches prompting them to bear the torch of truth into the lanes of the City to search out the abodes of the wanderers from God and to take them by the hand and lead them to the Saviour,—iniquity will continue to abound and the prevalence of immorality and irreligion will blight the fair prospects of our rising Province.

"Righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a disgrace to any people;" and when darkness dwells in the populous towns of any country, the character, the moral atmosphere of that nation becomes pestiferous. As well might we expect purity of conduct when the soul is the seat of the darkest passions, the foulest appetites, or physical energy when the heart is the seat of disorder,—as to expect the moral greatness of that nation, whose towns are sinks of iniquity. We would therefore earnestly urge upon the attention of the Churches, the necessity of greater faithfulness and perseverance in laboring to regenerate the population of our Towns. "Appearances often deceive;" and we are aware of the extreme difficulty of convincing many of the lack of benevolent effort where so many places of worship are erected, and so many evangelical ministers laboring. Yet such is the state of things that we hesitate not to assert that twice the number of pastors at present engaged in the towns of Canada, would find ample room for the employment of their talents. No parties unacquainted with the real state of things, the idea of sending missionaries to a city containing from a dozen to a score of protestant churches, appears preposterous. But it cannot be denied that in many such instances a fearful proportion of the population are perishing "for lack of knowledge."

Turning, however, from the Towns of Canada, our attention is attracted by the rapidly increasing population of a widely extended agricultural country. In every stage, from the woody forests to the well cultivated soil, immortal beings have fixed their habitations and are toiling by "the sweat of their brow," to obtain a subsistence. In most parts of the old settlements the gospel is preached by some in many by several, evangelical denominations, yet of comparatively few places can it be said that sanctuary privileges are abundant, and to a ruinous extent it must be admitted that the amount of travelling and preaching devolving on the ministry almost excludes the possibility of performing pastoral duties. And while the wretched parts of the country are but partially supplied with ministerial agency, it is lamentable to contemplate the dearth of the word of life which still exists in the new and remote settlements. The tide of emigration which set in a few years ago seems destined ere it ceases, to bear on its bosom the overflowing population of the British Isles to eve-

ry uncultured part of our shores. Already whole Townships have been located; and little doubt can exist that for years to come, the same tide will continue to flow.—And who can consider without emotions of sympathy, the condition of the emigrant, who though he enjoys exalted opportunities in his native land, is at once severed from the society of religious friends and the sound of the gospel? Yet such is now the condition of many an emigrant in the back woods of Canada.—And can christian benevolence remain inactive or christian sympathy slumber while such a state of things exists?

Hitherto we have not alluded to a fact, in which Protestants of every name are deeply interested. The emissaries of Popery are busily engaged in disseminating their soul-destroying heresies, and throughout the length and breadth of Canada that foe to liberty, to God, is "compassing sea and land" to strengthen her position. We need not allude to her rich Corporations, her colleges and smaller seminaries of learning, the whole of which are rendered subservient to the deep designs of a Jesuitic Priesthood,—in order to convince Protestants that Papal agencies are on the alert. No opportunity of subverting the gospel of Christ on extending the influence of that system of error, is suffered to pass unimproved.

What then remains to be done by Protestant Churches? We answer, much, very much. "There remains yet much land to be possessed" and unless the lovers of truth proceed to its occupancy, the powers of darkness and error will pre-occupy the ground. Under such circumstances, we ask Protestant Churches, can nothing more be done? Will they not exceed their present liberality, and labor with greater zeal, and pray with greater earnestness than heretofore? And are there not men of intelligence, "full of faith and of the Holy Ghost;" men called of God to proclaim salvation to a perishing world,—who will "take their lives in their hands," and go forth to make "the wilderness and the solitary place glad," by the tidings of a Saviour's dying love? Meanwhile let the dark spirit of bigotry be driven from the precincts of the Sanctuary; and let the Churches mutually aid each other in the work of the Lord. When Protestant Churches damage each other, what wonder that Popery should prevail, that error should be disseminated.

Our space will not admit of further remarks at present. Before dismissing this subject we would just allude to one matter which certainly deserves notice—the fearful responsibility which rests upon the Editors of denominational Journals! Not one of these but strengthens or mars, the unity of the Church of Christ. Let them beware!

EDUCATIONAL:

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO AND VICTORIA COLLEGE.

In consequence of the faithful endeavors of certain parties to prevent a fair trial of the Toronto University, as constituted by the Act of last Session of the Provincial Parliament, we deem it necessary briefly to bring this subject once more before our readers. It must be painful to those who are unwilling to attribute corrupt motives to men who profess regard for the obligations of christianity, to witness the factious course pursued by the opponents of the present constitution of the University of Toronto. But certainly a moderate share of candor, if exercised, would induce any intelligent man to act a more consistent part under such circumstances. It should be remembered that never was public opinion more fully consulted on any subject than on this vexed question—that this was the turning point at the last election—and that a large majority of a Legislative Assembly thus chosen, sanctioned the Act as it now stands—that subsequently the Legislative Council, His Excellency, and Her Majesty Queen Victoria in Council, sanctioned the Bill and made it LAW. Perhaps, however, those who are attempting to awaken dissatisfaction, indulge the vain expectation of turning the tide of public opinion, and thereby securing the subversion of the present constitution. But none who has closely observed the expression of public opinion in Upper Canada on this and kindred questions, will for a moment entertain such an unwarrantable expectation. That Professors, &c., should cling to their offices and associated emoluments in the University, and yet pronounce it "godless," though inconsistent, is by no means a matter of astonishment. But that individuals professing a regard for the public good should endeavor to prevent the successful operation of the Institution, and destroy public confidence in its character, is certainly both unwise and impolitic. Should the progress of affairs in the University be retarded at every successive stage, though the parties acting a factious part may think otherwise, the public will repudiate their conduct and demand the removal of such nuisances. If the system introduced by the present Act be a bad one, the sooner it is tested, its weakness exposed and its defects corrected, the better. But should it prove (not faultless, for this no one expected but) equal to the expectations of those who approve of the present constitution, its opponents will occupy rather an unpleasant position.

It was not to be expected that the settlement of a question involving so many difficulties and respecting which so much bitterness and opposition had long existed, would be effected in a manner satisfactory to all. And the little ebullition of feeling which has been evinced by disappointed parties, is what might be expected. It has sometimes been said that a preponderance of influence is given to the Episcopalian Church, but even if such be the case, the conduct of Episcopalian officers, if sectarian, will be condemned and corrected by public opinion. But we sincerely hope no such bias will be manifested, and that no ground of complaint will be furnished. The first meeting of the Convocation was certainly a bad specimen; and to be furnished a strong assurance that the hostile parties, conscious of the inefficiency of the Act, dread the idea of its having a fair trial. Be this as it may, we sincerely hope such a factious course will not again be adopted.

We very much regret the opposition, feeble though it is, attempted by the *Christian Guardian*. Of course our contemporary does not expect to write down the constitution of the Toronto University; he can at best, calculate merely on damaging its reputation for a while, and that

but in the estimation of a handful of the community. If, however, his object be to divert public favor from the Provincial University to the Victoria College, neither the end nor the means appear false, worthy, and certainly that conduct which warrants even a suspicion like this, ill accords with his character as ORGANIST of a large and influential religious community.

Those of our readers who peruse the *Guardian* will doubtless perceive that great effort is being made, to sustain the Victoria College. This is certainly a praise-worthy enterprise; but our Rev. contemporary should take heed that his good be not evil spoken of on account of his employing improper means to accomplish the end at which he aims. Doubtless the friends and supporters of the Wesleyan College must perceive that all support from government will ere long be withdrawn, at which period it will have to struggle for life. It was not therefore with a small degree of satisfaction that we lately perused a plan of voluntary endowment, suggested by the Rev. Mr. Yur-dusen through the columns of the *Guardian*. We look upon this document as clearly evincing the conviction of the College Board as to their being ere long cast on the liberality of their brethren and the public for the means of sustaining the Institution; and it involves in our opinion, the only correct principle for the support of denominational Colleges—Voluntary endowments or contributions. It will be well for the Wesleyan Body, if its leading men once more cast themselves on their people and even at this late period abandon heartily their grasp of government patronage and state pay.

Before dismissing this subject we appeal to our readers in behalf of the University of Toronto. We only ask for it JUSTICE; a sufficient trial and then an impartial verdict. Let us judge nothing rashly; and let those who regret the late amendment of the charter, remember that public patience was long tried with the old charter; and that, at least, an equal trial may be expected for the new.

PROTESTANTISM DEFENDED.

Truth has never lacked champions since its opponents first lifted up a standard of opposition. The boasting sons of error, have oft uttered a shout of triumph; and unconscious, however, that their apparent success was destined to ex-pubite and render more conspicuous, their complete overthrow. It is not an easy task to render the field of controversy extensively contributory to the treasury of the Lord; and the sons of peace usually shrink from that sphere of operation. But that Christian minister who indulges in quiet when the ramparts of truth are assailed and the sacred institutions of christianity invaded, must entertain strange notions respecting the divine requirements, and the duty of the minister of Christ.

These reflections have arisen in our mind while contemplating a course of lectures on "the fatal tendency of Puseyism," delivered by the Rev. Wm. McClure, Pastor of the Methodist New Connexion Church in this City. To some of these lectures we have already alluded briefly; but now that they are concluded, a more definite notice is requisite. The subject is one which affects not merely individual sections of the church, but the whole Protestant community; Within the pale of the Episcopalian Church dissenters are usually in the habit of directing their researches when the evidences of Puseyitic tendency are sought. But we can assure our friends in the ranks of dissent, that in other communities, as well as in the Episcopalian Church, abundant instances might be pointed out, evincing a tendency to Puseyite opinions. It cannot therefore, be deemed unnecessary to direct the attention of dissenting congregations to the fearful influence of those sentiments. In the case before us, the interest awakened by Mr McClure's Lectures, vastly exceeded our expectations. The audiences were very large and diversified in character and sentiment; yet the deepest attention was manifested throughout. The several topics were ably discussed; and with regard to the existence of Puseyite notions under the mask and within the pale of Protestantism, and the anti-scriptural character and dangerous tendency of those tenets,—evidence the most convincing was advanced. The statements of Dr. Pusey and his co-adjutors were compared with the preaching of Christ and his apostles; allowing each party to utter its own sentiments in its own language, that an impartial christian public might discover the inspiration of the one and the deformity of the other.

The following subjects were discussed in these Lectures, each constituting a separate discourse;—1st. What is Puseyism? 2nd. Apostolic Succession. 3rd. Baptismal Regeneration. 4th. Transubstantiation. 5th. Tradition. 6th. Ecclesiology. 7th. Invocation of Saints. 8. General Summary.

Several peculiarities in these Lectures are worthy of special notice; but our space will not admit of our doing justice to the able manner in which Mr McClure dealt with Puseyite errors. With distinguished ingenuity he gave the published sentiments of those whom he opposed; and never in his comments on what they advanced did he evince a disposition to misinterpret their writings. Such was the spirit breathed throughout the lectures, that even those whose sympathies were in favor of his opponents, could not reasonably take offence at any thing advanced; and from the efficient manner in which the several topics were discussed, there is reason to hope that his "labor was not in vain in the Lord."

We hope to see these Lectures given to the public in a still more durable form than oral delivery. If published in a cheap form, we have no doubt they would be productive of much good.

We commence in to-day's paper the publication of extracts from an article on "Epidemics" from the *Westminster Review*. They deserve a careful perusal, especially when viewed in connexion with that fearful scourge—cholera, which is again making its fatal progress on this Continent. Those who wish to peruse the article throughout will find a few copies of the *Review* at the Boston Book Store, No. 6, Wellington Buildings, King Street.

THE CENSUS.

It is rather doubtful whether, under existing circumstances a correct census will be obtained of the several denominations in Canada. Some tenaciously refuse to return the unconverted members of their families as members of the Church to which they belong...

CORRESPONDENCE.

ALBION, 11th April, 1850.

Sir:—By the last mail from Toronto, I received a copy of the Watchman, No. 12, containing a paragraph, headed Post Offices, wherein it is stated...

P. S.—Whether you will insert my reply in the Watchman I know not; but as I am a servant of the public, common justice should prompt you to do so.

REMARKS.

Our readers will please excuse our inserting a communication containing, as does the above, an epithet or two of a stamp for which we do not frequently find space in the columns of the Watchman.

Does Mr W. seriously think that we have leisure to write to every Post Master whose bungling or inefficiency is reported to us. Who does he mean when he says "your correspondent?"

REVIEW OF NEWS.

British papers by the Europa contain little of the marvellous in the news department. The changes which have crowded in such rapid succession upon the attention of the world since the commencement of 1848...

ing of lay delegates from Wesleyan Methodist Circuits, a meeting consisting of upwards of 400 laymen and convened for consultation on the course to be adopted by the Methodist reformers in order to secure their rights.

In France the late elections have been decidedly favourable to the Socialist party.

The New Brunswick Legislature has probably ere this passed the Bill transferring the Colonial Post office department to the several Provinces. And it is confidently expected that the uniform rate of three pence currency per letter not exceeding half an ounce in weight...

The Legislature of Prince Edwards Island has stopped the supplies, and passed a non-confidence resolution.

Dr. Strauch, Bishop of the diocese of Toronto, has gone to England, bearing a petition against the Charter of the University of Toronto, and prepared otherwise to oppose dissent and promote the interests of his own section of the Church.

The Hon. W. H. Merritt, has accepted the office of Chief Commissioner of Public Works; and Mr. Bourret of Montreal has also accepted the office of Assistant Commissioner and President of the Legislative Council.

An association styled "the County of Middlesex Teachers' association," was formed on the 6th inst., at London, C. W.

The papers from nearly every part of the Province contain accounts of the destruction of Bridges, Mill dams &c., &c., by the late freshet.

The attention of our readers is respectfully directed to Mr. Cosgrove's advertisement on our last page. The works speak for themselves; and we have no doubt the prices will be equally satisfactory.

General Intelligence.

NEW BRUNSWICK. COLONIAL POSTAGE.

A bill prepared by the Hon. Attorney General for regulating the Post Office Department within this Province, is before the House. It is prepared under the authority of an act of parliament, which confers on these North American colonies, the power of regulating inland posts.

1. An uniform rate, throughout British North America, of three pence for every letter under half an ounce, and other letters in proportion.

2. No transit postages between the provinces to be charged.

3. The present rate of two pence sterling on letters from England, for their transmission from Halifax, to any place in these colonies, to be continued.

4. The prepayment of postage to be optional.

5. Each Province to retain the amount of postages it collects.

6. The postage on English letters collected in the colonies to be paid over to the post Master General in England; the provincial rate of two pence sterling to belong to the province which collects it; if prepaid in England, this rate of two pence is to be credited to the province to which the letter is addressed.

7. All franking whatsoever, disallowed.

8. Postage stamps for prepayment to be allowed, and Colonial stamps to be engraved.

9. Newspapers, pamphlets, and magazines, to be transmitted at present rates of postage; but with power to each Legislature to order their transmission free of charge.

The bill contains all the exemptions with regard to the transmission of letters otherwise than by post, which are contained in the Imperial Acts, as also to the penalties which those acts impose for violation of the Post Office regulations. The new regulations are to go into effect on the 6th day of October next, in all the Colonies; and we are quite sure that all the Colonists will hail with delight, the abrogation of the present enormous rates of inland colonial postage, and the establishment of a responsible and uniform rate for the transmission of all letters in British North America, no matter what distance they may be carried.

The free transmission of newspapers will, no doubt, be at once directed by the Colonial Legislatures, and the people then will enjoy the benefit, not only of cheap communication with their distant friends and fellow subjects but also the blessings which will flow from the wide spread diffusion of information by means of untaxed newspapers. The advantages which will follow from this amelioration of the Post Office laws, can scarcely be prized too highly, or sufficiently appreciated.—St. John's Courier.

AT WOODSTOCK.—Two blacksmith and two wagon shops were destroyed by fire in Woodstock on Tuesday week. The furniture at Brick's Hotel was much destroyed by hasty removal, &c. Some obstinate people refused to allow water to be taken from their wells, on the occasion. It is said ducking would be too good for them; we imagine, and in some places, we know, a ducking they would have got.

KINGSTON AND PERTH ROAD.

The inhabitants of the young town of Sydenham have set an example to the people of this city worthy of imitation, as will be observed by perusal of the account they have sent us to-day, of the proceedings of a meeting recently held for the purpose of co-operating with those few interesting gentlemen here, who have associated for the purpose of constructing a Road to the town of Perth and the fine country adjacent thereto.

ACCIDENT ON THE LOWELL RAILROAD.—About 7 o'clock this morning, as the accommodation train for Lowell had reached Medford, the engine gave out, and while standing on the track the express train came up and ran into it, smashing to atoms one of the long passenger cars, and a baggage car. The engine of the express train was badly injured. The fireman of the express train, Mr. Brown, had an arm broken, and was obliged to have it amputated.

MELANCHOLY CATASTROPHE.—FOUR CHILDREN BURNED.—We learn that the house of Mr. James Rouse, of the town of French Creek, in this county, was consumed by fire on Sunday the 17th inst., and that four of his children perished in the flames.

HORRID MURDER IN INDIANA.—Isaac Pearce, a respectable farmer, and preacher of the United Brethren denomination, living in Vigo county Ind., was cruelly murdered in bed, on the night of the 15th inst. It seems, from appearances, that a diabolical fiend entered the room, and while Mr. P. was asleep, inflicted a blow upon the temple with a hatchet or tomahawk, the blade of which entered the brain and produced death some 24 hours afterwards.

THE BUFFALO EXPLOSION.—As the result of the investigation of the Coroner's Jury into the cause of the disaster on board the steamer Troy, the conclusion is arrived at, that the explosion was occasioned by the lack of the requisite quantity of water in the boilers, and that such lack of water eventuated from the omission of Levi L. Post, the deceased engineer of the steamer, to employ competent and attentive assistants.

MR. GORHAM'S CASE.—The conflict which is now raging in the Church of England, arising out of the decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, is, as many foresaw, only the beginning of the end. The Bishop of Exeter knows not when he is beaten. So far from giving up the contest, he is marshalling his forces in battle array, and there may be no mistake about the matter, he refuses to induct the Rev. Mr. Gorham into vicarage of Bramford Speke.

The Recorder's Court.—This novel Court was opened yesterday with all due formality. Mr. Alderman Campbell presided as Recorder, supported by the Mayor and other City magistrates. The Grand Jury was charged in due form and retired, and afterwards brought in four bills of indictment for larceny, three women and one man. One of the parties pleaded guilty, and the trials of the other three came on to-day.

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FIRE.—About half past four o'clock yesterday morning a fire broke out in the rough cast buildings on the north side of King Street directly east of Dr. Case's Residence. The alarm was not given very promptly, in consequence of some disarrangement of the machine connected with the bell, but the firemen were speedily in attendance, and by working vigorously saved two of the five houses. About 12 o'clock the fire again broke forth, but was subdued without further damage.

LACHINE RAILROAD.—The Directors of this Railroad have made up their third annual report. The whole cost of the work is stated to be £108,048 10s 4d, a very large sum for a road only eight miles in length. The particulars of expenditure are given, and we see that £25,553 17s 2d, has been disbursed in land and land expenses, the latter being a very heavy item we suspect, and accounting for almost the whole of this sum, nearly one-fourth of the entire cost of the road.

REMITTANCES. Paid to end of Vol. I.—Messrs. S. Fisher, R. A. Clement, S. Haskett, Rev. W. Ramag, T. Cosford, W. Green, T. Barry, Miss M. A. White, G. Clayton, G. Rainsford, J. Simminton, W. Wilkins, G. DeWitt, Mrs. M. Simmerman, W. Wilson, W. Clement, J. Dymon, J. Osterhout, Rev. D. D. Rolston, J. E. Ebbes, Esq., Messrs. Hamilton & Kneeshaw. For 6 months:—A. Bater, J. Goold, W. Courtneay, J. Tinline, P. Webster. For 3 months:—E. & H. Lawrence.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.—Revs. T. Reed, 1; E. Williams, 1; Rev. D. D. Rolston, 2; J. G. Haskett, Esq., 3; Mr. Gayner, 3; A. Friend, 2. LETTERS RECEIVED.—Rev. W. Bothwell, J. C. Watts, T. Rump, H. Wilkinson, E. Williams, Messrs. E. & H. Lawrence, J. G. Haskett, Esq., S. Machell, Esq., J. G. Hodgins, Esq., Revs. H. O. Crofts, W. Bothwell, F. Haynes, J. G. Breckenridge, J. C. Warrar, R. Dick, Mr. S. D. Kenny.

DIED. At St. Thomas, the wife of Rev. D. D. Rolston, late of Belfast, Ireland, on the 2nd inst., of Typhus Fever.

Toronto Market Prices, April 15.

Table listing market prices for various commodities such as Flour, Wheat, Barley, Rye, Oats, Potatoes, Beef, Pork, Bacon, Hams, Mutton, Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, Fowls, Straw, Hay, and Fire Wood.

IRELAND.

Notwithstanding the ministerial favorable reports to the improving state of Ireland, the local papers from the south, middle and western counties are full of the most appalling accounts of the destitution, misery and demoralization of the population—food is cheap—very cheap—but the farmers are absolutely beggared; not merely the smaller farmers—but the gentry also—they have not the means of paying the labourer, and consequently the ground remains untilled. The Ballinasloe Star says:

"We are now in the last week of February, and let us see what progress has been made in tillage and cropping, as compared with last and other former years. There is not yet an acre of oats in the ground in this part of the country, the sowing of spring wheat has also been thrown completely out of season. There are no potatoe tubers as yet planted, and this is essentially the season for that operation, not only that an early crop may be secured before the period at which the blight usually sets in, but also that too much work may not be thrown in upon the farmer at a more advanced and important stage of the season. The ploughing and digging of the land remains over, as if nothing was intended to be put into the ground this year, except in some rare instances where the people are watched cared for, and spurred on to energy and duty."

In Kilrush, Co. Clare, the people in the Workhouse were actually dying of starvation—The proprietor of the Limerick Examiner gives the following terrible description—

"Never, while I live, will the impression of that day leave my mind. 'Merciful God,' said I to the Rev. Mr. Moran, 'is it possible a human body can exist when thus skeletonised?' He replied, that he too, at one time thought it impossible, but that the sights he had lately witnessed, since the relief was cut off, changed his opinion. To describe minutely those 300 starvings is a task I am unable to undertake.—One characteristic, however, seemed to attach to them all—idiotcy. It was depicted in their fleshless features. They all lay motionless; some bread was placed near them, but few could partake of it, so enfeebled and exhausted were they. As the priest approached, they seemed to feel his divine ministry was the last plank left them. I have seen death in every shape—I have witnessed several executions from time to time, but I protest most solemnly I would rather witness a thousand such executions than again pass through the infirmary of the Kilrush workhouse. The skin of some was livid, that of others seemed as if they had been struck with lightning. The clergyman and doctor agreed in stating that of 300 starved creatures, 150 would necessarily die; that no human skill could restore them, and that the sooner their agony was over the better for them. The best illustration I can give you, is the fact that I actually fancied a parcel of women over 20 years of age to be little girls. 'How long,' said I, 'are those children here?' 'Child, Sir,' said the Rev. Mr. Moran, 'they are women, or at least, they had been so; what they are now I cannot tell you.' One old man, who had subsisted for four days on a half penny worth of bread, was actually brought to the workhouse in a state of nudity, covered up in hay.—I shall never forget the peculiar expression of his countenance. I never before witnessed such a sight. As for the little children, they seemed to me to be all idiotic, stunted in their growth, and bearing its close resemblance as possible to the unfledged birds. There they sat, listless and insensible, and seemed to be quite indifferent to everything passing around them; the faces of some quite yellow, those of others dark, as if even before death decomposition was setting in."

At the Assizes held at Ennis, the County town, there were nine persons charged with Murder—and a still larger number with arson.

In Tipperary, matters are equally distressing. In Meath, Chief Justice Blackburne, in charging the grand jury said, the calendar presented a fearful aggregate of crime, that the offence of Whiteboyism appeared to prevail to an alarming extent, and exhibited itself in its accustomed form, by the organization of conspiracies against life and property.

In Cork, Waterford, Limerick and all the other towns, whether seaport or inland, there is the same melancholy reiteration of squalid misery, beggary and starvation.

THE OVERFLOW IN THE WESTERN RIVERS.—Our advices from the Mississippi river and its tributaries are of a most alarming character.—The news from Pittsburgh and other points on the upper Ohio, is, that the river is rising, while at Louisville and Nashville, the streets are flooded. In the latter city, the water in some of the streets is of sufficient depth to float steamboats of a small class, and the merchants have been driven from their stores. The Missouri river is also rising, and the probability is that a great amount of damage will be sustained, and the mildness of the spring will, in a great measure, prevent the usual precaution to prepare for the floods. The crevasse at Bonne Carre, below New Orleans, at last advices, was more than a half mile wide, and whole plantations were deluged, entirely destroying many fields of growing sugar cane. What the results will be, it is impossible to conjecture.—N. Y. Herald.

VEGETARIANISM—ANOTHER HUNDRED.—The Vegetarian journals are yet full of particulars of the London expedition, without being able to fix upon the point of departure. The truth of the matter is this—The whole affair is a humbug—a hoax. The Vegetarianism originated in Washington, and is indebted for its existence to a few credulous correspondents of silly newspapers.

NEWS FROM EUROPE.—OCEAN STEAM NAVIGATION.

In the course of a month or six weeks, we shall have a semi-weekly steam communication with Europe. The following steamers will run as regular packets—

Table with columns for Collins's Line, Cunard Line, Atlantic, Pacific, Arctic, Baltic, Adriatic, Glasgow Line, City of Glasgow, Hamburg Line, Helena Sloman, Bremen Line, Washington, Hermann, Asia, Africa, America, Caledonia, Cambria, Europa, Hibernia, Niagara, Canada, Havre Line, Franklin.

Here are twenty splendid steamers to connect America with Europe; almost enough to bridge the Atlantic.

The Weekly trip of the Cunard steamers will begin on Saturday next from Liverpool, and on the 1st of May from New York and Boston. The Collins steamers will commence their semi-monthly trips on the 27th instant, and their weekly trips about the 1st of June. The Franklin will begin her trips to Havre next month, and her mate will be ready in the fall. The Bremen line now leaves Southampton and New York once a month. The City of Glasgow will leave Glasgow on the 16th instant for New York, and thereafter leave each port in alternate months. The Helena Sloman is to leave Hamburg on the 10th instant, and her trips will be bi-monthly.

According to this arrangement, we shall, in about a month hence, receive news every three days from Europe. It is expected that in a few weeks, the New York branch of the Cunarders will run direct to this port. Then we shall obtain our advices from the other side of the Atlantic via Halifax but twice a month. News from Europe by that route, in that event, will be an expensive article. Three days foreign intelligence, compressed into a few hundred words, as it necessarily will be, will then cost two dollars per word.—N. Y. Herald.

FURTHER NEWS by the EUROPA.

GREECE.

On the 1st of March three hours after the departure of the French steamer for Marseilles, the English Consul at Athens issued the following circular—

"I am instructed by her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Greece, to inform you that Her Majesty's government, having good hopes of obtaining a satisfactory settlement of their demands on the Greek government through the good offices of the French Republic, has given orders to Vice Admiral Sir William Parker, to suspend for a reasonably limited period of time, the coercive action of Her Majesty's squadron, but nevertheless, to retain a Greek vessel actually in his possession, or pledges in deposit, until a final arrangement shall have been made. Orders have consequently been given to Vice Admiral Parker, for the present free ingress and egress of all vessels actually in possession of Her Majesty's squadron."

This circular caused great satisfaction in Athens, the trade appears to have immediately resumed its usual course.

The correspondent of the Times stated that, on the 2nd instant, Mr. Thouvenot wrote to Mr. Wyse, proposing that Sir W. Parker should give up the Greek ships into his possession, and that he the representative, would guarantee the payment of the claims of her Majesty's government on Greece.

Mr. Wyse replied that he regretted being unable to comply with M. Thouvenot's proposition; that the instruction which he had received from Lord Palmerston did not permit him to accept of such an offer.

FRANCE.

The elections have closed without any disturbance whatever. The official declarations of the members returned from Paris took place on Friday morning, when the three socialist candidates—Carnot, Vidal, and Deffitte—were declared duly elected. The numbers polled were as follows: Carnot, 132,697; Vidal 128,439; Deffitte, 126,932. M. Deffitte, lowest of the successful candidates, has a majority of 1,339 over Mr. Fove, the highest candidate of the unsuccessful list. Very few persons were present at the ceremony, and little excitement was manifested.

The Patrie, which is looked upon as a semi-official paper, intimates that the government will adopt prompt and effective measures, by which the ultra democratic party shall be restrained. The Monitor also announces the appointment of M. Ferdinand Barrot, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Turin, on a special mission, in the place of M. Lucien Murat.

The retail trade of Paris has suffered a severe check, in consequence of the agitation accompanying the election. The accounts from the departments are favourable, the manufacturers in the principal towns being fully occupied. There is some difference between the Minister of Finance and his colleagues, as to the amount of caution money to be deposited by the press. Some of the conservative journals are denouncing, by name, the shop-keepers who voted for the democratic candidates at the recent election, and calling upon the public to withdraw from them their custom, and never to enter their shops.

Letters from Strasburg mention that an association is immediately to be formed there for the propagation of anti-socialist doctrines among the peasants.

The news from Paris on Tuesday and Wednesday was of a more tranquil character than for some days past, and all appearances of an insurrection at Lyons had disappeared.

of the mountain have proposed an amendment to the budget for the reduction of one million five hundred thousand francs in the allowance to the parochial clergy.

ITALY.

The Paris Univers has the following.—Cardinal Antonicelli has made known to M. D'Orsay, that the Holy Father resolved to leave for Rome in the beginning of April, and that resolution was about to be communicated officially to the diplomatic corps.

The Constitution of the 9th inst., states that the British government has presented a notice to the Tuscan cabinet, demanding compensation for the losses sustained by the British residents in Leghorn, during the bombardment of that city by the Austrian troops at Leghorn.—They are apprehensive of a visit from the British fleet.—Advices from Naples state that the municipality of Naples presented the king a petition, signed by 20,000 persons, praying that the constitution might be abolished by law, as it was de facto.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

Five columns of the First Zeitung are filled with the sentences passed by courts martial upon the persons who have been compromised in the late Hungarian revolution. All the sentences of death have been commuted to terms of imprisonment in irons in the fortifications for periods of twelve and sixteen years. The Austrian government has repealed Baron Haynau's tax on the Hungarian Jews, and even promised to indemnify those who have already paid the assessments.

An inundation of the Danube has caused immense injury in Hungary, especially at Comorn, Raab, and the Kaspar districts. Fifteen thousand persons have taken refuge at Raab, in the greatest destitution.

PRUSSIA.

Advices from Berlin, inform us that the negotiations between the courts of Austria and Prussia, for the definitive constitution of a central government for Germany have entirely failed. The Paris correspondent of the Morning Chronicle, says that the French government has received advices from Switzerland, from which it appears that Prussia has abandoned all claims upon Neuchatel, stating explicitly that she abandons all claims, only because she considers the sacrifice one which she is bound to make for the preservation of the peace of Europe.

RUSSIA.

Accounts from every part of the empire speak of the remarkable state of the weather. The alterations of that and frost have been quite unusual and severe, as the winters in Russia generally are; the cold has been more intense this year, than in the memory of man. It is stated from St. Petersburg that a ukase has been issued, according to which the Russian and Austrian governments engage reciprocally to surrender the Jews who have passed from one country into the other.

GERMANY.

At the opening of the Chamber, on the 15th, the King of Wurtemberg declared, that a Unitarian state of Germany will be nothing but a chimera, and that if attempted to be carried out, it would lead to the separation and dissolution of Germany itself.

The speech was greatly cheered, and produced a favourable effect upon the people.

A letter from Berlin, dated the 16th instant, says:—"We learn from an authentic source, that the mission of Count Gennyssen to Vienna has failed completely."

Hanover has taken the decided resolution to place herself in the face of the rivalries of Austria and Prussia, and to act a passive part amid the internal complications of Germany. It is reported that a Congress of German sovereigns will be held in April, at Dresden, to hold Council on German matters. The Emperor of Austria, and the Kings of Bavaria, Hanover, and Saxony, will be present.

SWITZERLAND.

The Swiss, of Berne, says the Federal Council have decided to accord a subsidy of from 20 to 100 Swiss livres to the refugees gravely compromised, who should select asylums there out of Switzerland. The most necessitous are to be transferred to the frontier.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The overland mail from Bombay to 16th, Calcutta to 17th February, and Hong Kong to 30th January, arrived in England on the 22nd March. The political news possesses no interest—the whole of India was perfectly tranquil. At Bombay business was still flat.

The weather for January has been unusually cold and wet. Canton and Shanghai markets are satisfactory; sales of imports have been large at Liverpool prices generally.

PROSPECTUS OF "THE WATCHMAN."

RELIGIOUS AND LITERARY JOURNAL, PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE CITY OF TORONTO.

This Journal will vindicate the great principles of Protestantism; but especially that form of Protestantism termed dissent or non-conformity. The equal civil rights of the several sections of the Christian Church, the support of the Gospel Ministry by voluntary contributions, the introduction of lay agency into all the Councils of the Church, are some of the positions which will be advocated in the Watchman. Error and sin, wherever existent, or however high the earthly authority by which they may be sanctioned, will be fearlessly exposed; but party politics will never be admitted in the columns of the above Journal.

The Watchman will not be the official organ of any religious community; yet the undersigned will feel great pleasure in inserting brief notices (if furnished) of the progress of evangelical denominations. Especially is it expected that in the absence of a connexional organ, the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion Church will consider this Journal their medium of acquainting the public with their operations and progress.

Great care will be taken to render the Watchman not only unobjectionable, but interesting and instructive, as a

family newspaper. It is intended that this periodical shall maintain a position equally distant from the dry region of romance and the spiritless monotony of an uninteresting compilation. The following plan of Departments has, after much consideration, been adopted.

- 1. THE MISCELLANY—containing original and selected articles—religious, moral, literary, scientific, &c.
2. THE FAMILY CIRCLE—in which the duties, responsibilities, advantages, &c., of this most ancient compact will be discussed.
3. THE GEOGRAPHIC AND HISTORIC—which will furnish notices of the position, history, habits and customs, &c., of the various nations of the earth.
4. THE PRESS AND GENERAL REVIEW.—Here the sentiments of the leading periodicals on the great topics affecting the interests of the Church and the world, will be inserted; also occasional reviews of late works.
5. ECCLESIASTICAL.—or an index of the progress or decline of evangelical Christianity in the world.
6. THE WATCHMAN of principal editorial department—containing a faithful testimony for the truth, a solemn protest against the prevailing errors in the doctrines, practice, polity, &c., of professedly Christian Churches; also a review of news.
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8. THE AGRICULTURAL department will contain general selections, notices of the latest improvements, &c., in this most important branch of Canadian industry.
By engaging in this enterprise, the undersigned places himself under heavy responsibilities—moral, literary and financial; and he is fully aware that without divine assistance and the hearty co-operation of brethren in Christ and personal friends, those responsibilities will be extremely burdensome.
The Watchman will be published every Monday evening, by and for the undersigned.

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Annual subscription for a single copy, in advance, 10s. Ditto ditto, not in advance, 12s. 6d. 12 papers to one address, per ann., each, in advance, 8s. 9d. Each Agent furnishing ten subscribers, who pay in advance, will be entitled to a copy for one year gratis; and for every additional five pounds, remitted in advance, a copy of the Watchman will be furnished.

Ministers of the Gospel, and other responsible parties, are respectfully requested to act as Agents.

Communications to be addressed to T. T. HOWARD, Box, 321, TORONTO, P. O., and invariably post paid, unless from parties who act as Agents gratis or who furnish literary articles for publication.

For rates of advertising, see last page.

T. T. HOWARD, Proprietor and principal Editor.

Toronto, Jan. 21, 1850.

GREAT INDUCEMENTS TO BECOME SUBSCRIBERS TO THE WATCHMAN.

The PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE is to assemble on the 14th of May; and we imagine from the almost restless anxiety which the public mind has evinced relative to the assemblage and work of our Legislators at the ensuing session of Parliament, that every one will be desirous to know, at least weekly, what the people's Representatives are doing. We are aware, however, that the majority of our Agricultural population do not desire to plod through everything that each speaker advances on any particular subject, in order to ascertain what is being done. Nor do they wish to be misled by the discolored versions too frequently emanating from interested parties. On the contrary, every inhabitant possessing a spark of patriotism will feel anxious to peruse, from week to week, a brief summary of the proceedings of our law-makers; and when subjects of unusual interest occupy attention in our Legislative Halls, they will desire a pretty full report of what may be said by the principal speakers. In order, therefore, to adapt the Watchman to this numerous and influential class we shall furnish a weekly summary of the business of Parliament, and a carefully condensed report of debates on great public questions. To afford still further inducement to parties to avail themselves of PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE we have resolved to make the following

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New Subscribers, from this date, requiring back Nos., in advance, for Vol. 1., 8s. 9d. Do. (single copies) commencing No. 15, to end of Vol., in advance, 6s. 3d. Do. to Clubs of ten or more, commencing No. 15, to end of Vol., in advance, 5s. 0d. Any person remitting 10 dollars (post paid), will receive eleven copies of the Watchman from No. 15 to the end of Vol. 1., addressed separately, if required. For the accommodation of Subscribers who have taken the Watchman from the commencement of the Vol., the advance term is farther extended to the 1st of next month.

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Toronto, March, 1850.

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Tristly, to perform such extra trips to any part of the River and Gulf of St. Lawrence, as may be required during the season.

Tenders to specify the rate for each trip or for the four, and also the rate per diem for the extra crew.

E. B. LINDSAY, C. T. H. Q. Trinity House, Quebec, 7th February, 1850.

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VOLUME EIGHTH, COMMENCING JULY, 1849.

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TO THOSE IN HEALTH, Without health even life is not desirable, unless a remedy can be found. To preserve health no other mode of living can compare with this system. In fact, were its rules observed and carried out, many of our cities would be forever banished from the earth, and the succeeding generations grow up in all the vigor of true manhood. It will be a part of our duty to teach the world how to preserve health, as well as to cure disease.

TO WOMEN AND MOTHERS, it is universally conceded, by all intelligent practitioners, as well by the old school as the new, that the Water-Cure is not equalled by any other mode of treatment in those peculiar troubles common only to woman. This Journal will contain such advice and instruction as may be considered most important, in all these critical yet unavoidable cases.

TO HYDROPATHIC PRACTITIONERS, We wish to have it distinctly understood, that this Journal will be devoted to the interests of no party, but will represent the entire Hydropathic profession. Our pages will be open to all who may favor us with such communications as may be of general interest to all classes. Reports of important cases, and all other matters pertaining to health, will be thankfully received, and laid before our readers.

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Agricultural.

CARBONIC ACID.

It is commonly supposed that the carbonic acid resulting from burning charcoal in a brazier, remains as a heavy stratum of vapor upon the floor of an apartment as it does upon the floor of the "Grotto del Cane," and that no danger is to be apprehended in entering the apartment if a person stand upright. But this notion is seriously erroneous, as the chemist can prove. In fact, as carbonic acid is formed during the combustion of charcoal, it is materially lighter than air, because it is of an exceeding high temperature, or in other words, rarified by the heat; and accordingly, says the "London Builder," it ascends in virtue of the thermal levity, and blends uniform with the air of the apartment, while another curious action is simultaneously ensuing, viz., the charcoal, in order to burn and continue burning, must have oxygen—it takes this from the air to form carbonic acid, but leaves the nitrogen, which is equally ineffectual, so that, in the course of a very short time, if no egress be permitted for the substances, so inimical to life, the entire volume of the air becomes thoroughly vitiated, and a person entering the apartment would be suffocated.

CULTIVATION OF THE GRAPE.

The European varieties are numerous, many of which were early brought to this country by emigrants, and have been extensively cultivated. But some of our varieties are decidedly superior for open culture in Maine to any introduced from the old world. Among these, are the Isabella, Catawba, Bland, Lenoir, and Ohio, which are recommended by Downing, as a selection for a small garden. But for open culture in our climate, the Isabella and Catawba are decidedly preferable, and more adapted than either of the others. The Lenoir, however, is worthy of a trial here. It ripens well in New York, and though of a less size than the Isabella, is thought to be rather superior in flavor, being sweet and excellent. Downing in remarking upon the qualities of the Isabella grape, says:—"Its great vigor, hardiness, and productiveness with the least possible care, have caused it to be widely disseminated. A vine growing here has borne twelve bushels of grapes in a single year. It is perhaps a little more hardy and ripens earlier than the Catawba, which renders it valuable at the northern parts of this state, (New York,) or the colder parts of New England. No farmer's garden however small should be without, this and the Catawba—There is little difficulty in ripening the Isabella in our climate, if upon rich soil, and not in a very exposed situation. The south side of a building is a fine situation for ripening the fruit, and tastefully trained, with its beautiful foliage, and delicious, clustering fruit, adds a lively charm to the scenery around. Projecting rocks and ledges offer a favorable situation for rearing grapes; the fruit ripening earlier on account of the heat imparted to the rock by day, being retained through the night. We have succeeded in ripening grapes in this way, about two weeks earlier than those of garden culture. There is yet one other item of credit due, which, with a neat farmer, will not be easily overlooked. It is simply that of converting, in this way, an unsightly place into a beautiful oasis.—Maine Farmer.

SOIL FOR SHEEP.—The soil most suitable for sheep is a dry one. It should have in its composition a due proportion of clay, in order that security be afforded against a burnt up pasture during the heats of summer, a thing that cannot be provided against in porous sands.

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Sir,—Having for a considerable time severely suffered from an attack of Rheumatism, in my right arm and side, I applied to one of our respectable Physicians; but his treatment was of no permanent benefit to me. I was, therefore, induced to procure a bottle of your IMPERIAL BALSAM, which has completely cured me, having now been perfectly free from any kind of pain for twelve months. You may use this communication as you think proper, and refer enquirers to

Yours, very gratefully, GEORGE CLEZIE, Cabinet-Maker, No. 1, Adelaide Street, East. Price 2s. 6d., 3s. 9d. and 5s. per Bottle. The above Medicine is for Sale by S. F. URQUHART, General Agent, 69, Yonge Street, Toronto.

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JOHN CRAIG, Painter and Glazier. 76, KING STREET, WEST, Toronto, 16th December, 1849.

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