

LETTERS FROM READERS.

A SENSIBLE LETTER.

DEAR SIR,—Ere what is usually termed "the gay season" is upon us, will you permit me, for the sake of our young people, to enquire whether in these days of reform in Church and State and of women's work there are none amongst us equal to the reformation of our late-hour style of entertaining? Could our young friends not be persuaded to appear at their friends' houses at the appointed hour, instead of arriving when it would be more rational for them to be retiring? HAY

that punctuality is highly appreciated in our sensible Governor-General? I

some of our brave hostesses who dared public opinion in banishing the intoxicating cups from their supper tables, would add to the kind invitations the hour for carriages to be ordered—say eleven or half-past—this fearfully exhaustive fashion might also be banished from our Canadian homes, as well as make

attend to other things very differently, from what is sometimes the case in our present system of entertainments. Something intellectual occasionally would also prove most advantageous. If any Canadians are so constituted, they may let us rid ourselves and habit of every licence, as well as vice that tends to weaken the moral standard of those who are so soon to hold the reins.

WELLWISHER.

Sept. 17, 1874.

PAN-PRESBYTERIAN UNION.

(To the Editor of the Montreal Witness.)

DEAR SIR:—Some of the readers of the

Pan-Presbyterian Union has been received in Europe. My late visit to Great Britain was simply for the purpose of seeing my friend but being there I put myself in connection

scheme. I was happy to find that all the Presbyterian Churches of the three Kingdoms, including the Established Church of Scotland, the Free Church of Scotland, the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, the Covenanters' Church of Scotland, the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, and the Covenanters of Ireland, the Welsh Calvinistic Church and the Presbyterian Church of England have passed strong and decided resolutions in its favor, and appointed committees with full power to carry out the grand design. I was able to hold public meetings in London, in Belfast, and in Edin-

"What step are we to take next?" and in answer I got valuable suggestions, all pointing in the same direction. I will lay these on an early date before the committees of the American churches. I may add that I have had communications from the French churches, the Bulgarian, the Swiss Evangelical Churches, the Welsh, from Dr. Dörner, of Berlin, and from William K. Swift, of Boston, and from distant

College of New Jersey,
Princeton, N. J., Sept. 18.

THE ALLEGED ABDUCTION CASE.

MRS. BARBER EXPLAINS.
(To the Editor of the Witness.)

DEAR SIR:—Repugnant as this task is to me I feel it my duty to address this letter to you for immediate publication.

You have in this evening's issue a statement of facts purporting to have been made by my father himself, in which every regard for truth seems to have been wholly discarded. I can have expected everything at the hands of Mr. Barber; I do not feel surprised at any statement he has already or may hereafter make.

moves my very soul, to think that I should be so deceived, and that I should so forget himself as to be accessory to such statement as is rendered against me. I have no doubt that my father has done this; his malice, his ill will, his hatred, his spite, his envy, forbids it; it truth must not be outraged in this manner—it must be vindicated at all costs. I have no doubt that my father's acquaintance he was in the employ of my father's partner, when his presence was required for Westport, on account of increased pressure of business. Mr. Thibault was an entire stranger to me, and I had such to do with him, that I could not have been cognizant of any evident growing jealousy of an apprentice my father's, who tried by every means to injure him in the sight of my parents. I did not take any notice of him, and I am sure that Thibault had been wilfully slandered, and my parents were so fully conscious that he had been wronged, that they themselves informed him of it.

fully aware of the foregoing fact; I not only received instructions from my parents to tell Mr. Thibaut well, but as he always proved himself to be gentlemanly in his conduct, be-
towards myself and sister, we made it a point to use him kindly and we considered him worthy of our attention. He soon became one of our family, my mother calling him her "dear boy." Mr. Thibaut was never dissipated; not to be known as such. I am not aware that Mr. Thibaut had a private conversation with

not, but states on the contrary that he repeatedly told my parents he would not, and could I marry me until he had a position in life, a would work hard to obtain this. This explanation seemed perfectly satisfactory to them, and while they treated Mr. Thibaut with apparent kindness they in secret would continually "tell me" about my affection for him, vowing all kinds of vows that I should never marry him. This lasted month after month until I was almost crazed by these daily scenes. What I have suffered for over two years it were useless to attempt to describe.

had become aware of this opposition through my mother, conferred with my mother about this, assuring her on his honor that the rumors in circulation, that we were about to elope, were false. Having failed to convince her, things ended in open hostility, when Mr. Thibault's departure from home immediately followed. This painful scene took place at the breakfast table about May 1st, 1878.

himself seemed to be excellent friends ; fat-
stating that mother was to blame, as her fan-
were but the results of over-excited imagination
(I refer by this to our running away.)
Two or three days before Mr. Thibaut's

Mr. Thibault gave me up, on a request from me by the violence of my parents' opposition. I was not engaged to Mr. Barber, December, at which time I accepted of his ring under protest. His statement that we had been previously engaged, and that the engagement had been broken off, is *entirely* untrue. Mr. Thibault never advised me for one instant ever to leave my home. I stayed three weeks in Burlington with Mr. Barber. The ladies whom they allege were the accomplices of Mr. Thibault are entire strangers to me.

made that Mr. T. stole a horse at Port Henry in order to elope with a girl, is a barred-out horse in the town of Port Henry, but I did not see it in Port Henry. Again, when Mr. Barber states that his informants said I was crying or showing signs of distress, I was standing at the door of the hotel, and it was not happier in my life. I feel like an emancipated slave, and am a thousand times more contented as I am, than when I was living in slavery. I feel that I have no more business to obtain revenge against my parents. Mr. Barber, but stated that could I have warned him in time he never would have allowed this marriage to take place. I have no fault to find in the perfect. With regard to the shooting question, it is a *ruse* gotten up by Barber in order to secure the arrest of Thilant, thereby insuring my return to slavery. I have no doubt that my parents and Thilant has not had a firm- in his eyes.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, I would state I have full confidence in the honor and affection of Mr. Thibault; had he desired ruin, it was in his power to have abandoned on arriving in this city.

I have already taken legal measures to obtain a separation from Dr. Barber, as I am fully resolved never to return to him.

Yours truly
MRS. BARBER nee NETTIE BAILEY

