

forty-seven reappointed, who were in the service last year.

Twenty five Colporters in the Home employ reported for this meeting, and gave the following as the results of their labours for the month of May:—4513 visits from house to house for Bible reading and prayer—267 families found destitute of the Word of God:—417 persons induced to attend church:—293 children brought into Sabbath Schools:—215 sermons preached:—199 prayer-meetings and Synods of Sabbath Schools held:—190 visits to vessels and for seamen made, 37 hopeful conversions and 26 persons baptized.

A very interesting communication from Rev. J. G. Oncken was read, from which it appears, that the Society's Colporters in central Europe, had, during the past year, in expounding the Word of God, "contributed to the supply of more than five hundred preaching stations, and to the hopeful conversion of twelve hundred and forty-three souls," and that "some of the Colporters were now suffering bitter persecutions, which would lead, it was feared, even to fines and prisons, for circulating the Word of God and holding religious conventions" and "were able to have their meetings new in very many cases only at the dead hour of night" and "yet so great was the demand for the Word of God, Mr. Oncken had already published at the Society's expense, forty thousand (40,000) New Testaments since the first of January, and would need twenty thousand more in the course of a few weeks."

American Bible Union.

The Board of Managers held their regular Monthly Meeting, June 5th. There was a full attendance of the members.

An abstract from the Correspondence of the previous month was read—nearly five hundred letters having been received, expressing strong sympathy, and approval of the course of procedure in printing Revisions.

The Treasurer reported an expenditure of \$5,168 30 for the month of May, and communicated the gratifying intelligence that the expenses had all been promptly met by the kind liberality of the patrons.

Rev. A. Maclay, D. D., communicated his resignation of the Presidency, by letter, whereupon resolutions expressive of their Christian feeling towards him, and of their high sense of the services he had rendered to the cause of Scripture Truth and faithful Translations, were passed by the Committee, and a Committee of five brethren was appointed to nominate a suitable person to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Bro. Maclay.

The Committee, after some time spent in consultation, unanimously recommended Rev. THOMAS ARMITAGE, D. D., as President of the American Bible Union, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Dr. Maclay.

The Report was accepted, and the nomination of the Committee confirmed by the election of Dr. Armitage, as President of the American Bible Union.

For the Christian Messenger.

Sketch of a Western Tour.

Ms. Editor,

Leaving Half Island Cove, June —, we proceeded to Guysboro', where, as usual we were comfortably entertained at the hospitable dwelling of our esteemed Brother H. R. Cunningham, whose business, we regret to say renders it necessary for him to be in Halifax nine months out of the year. Being one of the most active members of the church, as well as the most liberal contributor towards the support of the gospel in Guysboro', his absence from home is much regretted by the whole church, and is a serious misfortune to the Baptist cause there.

Brother Hall is labouring with a considerable degree of success, between Guysboro' and Manchester. Since he went there, a few months ago, about twenty have been added to the church as the result of his faithful ministrations.

There is not a more important or promising field of labor in the Province, than Guysboro' town and vicinity. There is sufficient material there, of the right kind to compose a large and flourishing interest. All that is required is prayerful, judicious and persevering labor, "Labor omnia vincit." But it is absolutely impossible for any one man to supply, in connec-

tion with Guysboro' the various surrounding settlements demanding a share of the prayerful efforts and sympathies of our brethren.

The whole region between Manchester and the Strait of Canso, is entirely destitute so far as the Baptists are concerned. Other denominations, it is true are occupying the ground; but that should not excuse us for entirely neglecting them. A mission, if established in that section would doubtless after a short time, be self-sustaining, though at first it would require considerable aid from the Domestic Missionary Board.

Then there are in an opposite direction White Head, New Harbour, Tor Bay, and a host of other settlements stretching along the Eastern Shore, between Cape Canso and Isaac's Harbour, all of which are totally destitute of Baptist influence. Truly there is very much land yet to be possessed. Thousands of souls in these extensive regions are perishing for lack of knowledge, and alas! how negligent and half-hearted are we in our efforts to extend to them the gospel of salvation.

Shall we whose souls are lighted
By wisdom from on high?
Shall we to men be lighted
The lamp of life deny?

No! we "will not rest," nor "hold our peace" until means are devised and set in active operation to effect the evangelization of those multitudes yet confined to the region of moral gloom.

It is in vain that we plead a want of men, or money to support them. Let us cherish and cultivate the spirit of Christ and his Apostles. Let us consider our imperative and indispensable obligation to employ our time, our energies and our wealth in the service of God; remembering at the same time the account we shall eventually have to render at his dread tribunal, and there will be less vain excuses when the claims of the perishing are presented. More anon.

J. C. Head.

Obituary Notices.

DEACON JOHN TEDFORD.

Died at Hebron, March 24th, Deacon JOHN TEDFORD, in the 47th year of his age. Thus in the prime and vigor of life, the church is called to give up for the heavenly mansion, one of her brightest ornaments. In his case truly Wisdom was "justified of her children". He lived more in a few years than a multitude of persons do in many, because he lived to God. The deceased was pious from his youth, yet diffident in his disposition, and trembling in his hope, he hesitated to unite with the church. He would converse on the subjects of religion, and once got so far as to relate his experience in a church conference, with which the church expressed entire satisfaction, and a readiness to receive him to membership, when baptized. The enemy however, got the advantage of him, persuaded him that he had gone too far, and by his stratagems prevented him from coming up to obedience of the gospel ordinance, until seven more years of his life had passed away.

How much precious time is similarly wasted by converted souls, through false views, and wrong practices. How many whose experience accords with this trait of our departed brother's. It is wrong for a Christian to condescend to argue with the devil. He is sure to gain the ascendancy if one does. Better take up the weapons of the gospel and face him boldly. "Resist the Devil and he will flee from you."

His views of christian experience however, became more clear, his faith increased, his hope grew stronger, and on the 16th of July 1837, he was baptized by Elder A. V. Dimock, and united with the First Yarmouth Church, of which he continued a member until the 9th July 1840—when having removed into the neighbourhood of Hebron, and believing it was for the glory of God, obtained a dismission and joined the second Yarmouth church. Would that all church members acted as consistently in this respect. He had his particular sphere to fill. His piety was affectionate and ardent. To encourage the halting and trembling, maintain peace amongst brethren, and sustain the religious meetings of the church, were services in which he appeared to advantage. He took an active part in every movement that he deemed for the glory of God, and the good of his creatures.

On the 16th July, 1854, he was set apart

for the Deaconship, to which he was chosen by unanimous action of the church, the duties of which office he quite well understood, and was very ready to discharge, thereby giving satisfaction to all concerned, and securing the respect and confidence of the whole church, as also the public generally.

To the writer he appeared fast ripening for Heaven—though he had no thoughts that his labours on earth would be so soon closed. During the winter past, he seemed rather more than usually anxious for the salvation of impenitent sinners. The church concluded to hold some special meetings which were to commence on the 10th of March. From the time of the appointment his whole soul seemed absorbed in the anticipation of them. He talked and prayed at home and abroad in reference to them, in fact, wherever opportunity offered. At their commencement on Saturday, he appeared in usual health, with buoyancy of spirit, and took deep and profitable interest in their progress, as long as his Heavenly Father permitted. On Thursday evening near the close of the meeting, he rose, and expressed himself somewhat as follows:—"I have been looking over this large congregation, as I sat here and thought probably we should never all meet here again. Who will be the first to be taken? Perhaps I shall," said he. He then urged the necessity of immediate preparation for death in a most affectionate and impressive manner. True enough,—that night after he retired for rest he was taken ill, and after suffering intensely, with but little respite at intervals, for nine days, his immortal spirit left its earthly tabernacle which had become much broken down, for a house not made with hands. He was as much resigned to his lot as any man I have visited in his last days. He had obtained the "full assurance of faith." He spoke of death with composure, and no murmur escaped his lips. On Monday 26th of March, his remains were followed to the grave by as large a procession as I have ever witnessed—giving at the same time a token of their high esteem for the deceased, expressing sympathy with the afflicted family, and their own feelings of general loss sustained by the community and the church. After burial a discourse was delivered by the writer, from Pal. xii. 1, to an attentive and solemn congregation.

Humanly speaking, a great loss is sustained by the church, society, and especially his beloved family. We miss him in the prayer-meeting, the conference, the Sabbath school, the Temperance society, &c. May we all make wise improvement by this dispensation,—learn to live more for our God. And may the Lord redeem his promise—to be "a father to the fatherless and the widow's God." And may the writer and reader so live, as to "die the death of the righteous, that our last end may be like his."—*Con. by Rev. W. G. Goucher.*

Hebron, June 5th, '56.

MARY RUSCO.

Sickness and death are making their ravages among us, causing the hearts of many to grow sad. Death has a gloomy aspect whenever and wherever it appears, and ever speaks to the living, "Prepare to meet thy God."

We have been called upon to part with our much beloved and highly esteemed sister, Mary Rusco, the wife of the late Theophilus Rusco. She departed this life April 22nd, in the 79th year of her age, leaving a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn her loss. Our sister was baptized by the Rev. Mr. Tupper, 35 years ago; and since that time has walked in full fellowship with the church. In her sickness she was extremely patient often exclaiming "Come Lord Jesus, come quickly" and after some months of suffering, she fell asleep in Jesus and entered that rest that remains for the people of God. We therefore only mourn for our loss, but could not wish her back again. No minister being present a sermon was not preached for some weeks. It was then delivered, as she had requested, from 2 Cor. iv. 17, 18, by Mr. T. Keilor, and to a very solemn congregation.

Pugwash, June 10th, 1856.

A. T.

Meditation on death gives a grand and mellow tint to our habits of thinking; as a great ocean exposed to the rising sun, borrows from its edge to the farthest bound of waters a celestial glow of light.

European Intelligence.

[From the European Times, June 7.]

The American Misunderstanding.

Lord Palmerston declared in the House of Commons on Thursday night that Mr. Crampton, our ambassador at Washington, had been dismissed.

The question is, will this act on the part of the American Government be followed by the retirement of Mr. Dallas? The Times declares that it assuredly will. Speaking from authority, that journal says,—“Those who endeavour to persuade themselves that we shall learn the dismissal of Mr. Crampton without enforcing the retirement of Mr. Dallas, are calculating upon an amount of endurance totally inconsistent with the character of Englishmen.” It would seem, then, that the preliminary steps to a war between the two countries,—the actual dismissal of the British ambassador from Washington, followed by the subsequent withdrawal of the American Minister from London,—may be said to have occurred.

Notwithstanding these threatening appearances, our conviction is, that war is impossible, and we are satisfied that when the great mass of American citizens, whose individual interests and prosperity are bound up with the continuance of peace, learn that Mr. Crampton has left the United States, they will seriously open their eyes to the dangers with which they are threatened, and, not less for the welfare of mankind than their own, will rise in their might, and "push from their stools" the unprincipled politicians who for mere party purposes have brought things to this pass.

We cannot, we confess, place much sincerity in the acts of General Pierce and his advisers. His administration has been most unpopular, and his last card is a rupture with England,—a rupture which would be deeply deplored by all the wise and good in both countries, and to the verge of which he has now brought us. Unless we are greatly mistaken, the bold step which he has taken by the dismissal of Mr. Crampton, so far from contributing to the end he has in view, is all but certain to defeat it,—that is, if wise and prudent, rather than vindictive and warlike, councils prevail; and we are borne out in this our estimate of the result by old politicians who have long resided in the United States, and can gauge with tolerable accuracy the feelings of the great mass of the people.

The Times of yesterday, highly indignant at the dismissal of Mr. Crampton, says of that gentleman:—"Did we believe he had really been guilty of any offence against the United States there would need little pressure or remonstrance to induce us at once to remove him from the situation he would have dishonoured; but an attempt be made to sacrifice him to the emergencies of local politics, we shall feel that his quarrel is our own, and certainly not pass it over without distinctly marking our sense of the indignity." We entertained the conviction long before the publication of Lord Clarendon's answerable despatch to Mr. Marey, that the character of the witnesses who gave evidence in the Hertz trial rendered their statements worthy of little credence.

THE SANDHURST CEREMONIAL.

There was an imposing demonstration on Monday, June 2nd, at Sandhurst, in Berkshire, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of a new military college, which is to bear the name of the greatest military commander of our age,—the late Duke of Wellington. To make the occasion as attractive as possible, the Queen, the Royal family, the Prince of Prussia, and large numbers of the nobility and gentry being present, there was a grand review of the troops after the primary event of the day had passed over. 15,000 or 16,000 common soldiers went through a long and fatiguing series of military evolutions. In marching past the Royal pavilion, which commanded a view of the entire field, one of the soldiers sunk into the treacherous soil, was unable to recover himself, and those behind him, in obedience, we presume, to military rule, were compelled to pass over his body. It is needless to say that when he was dragged out of the way of the next regiment marching past life was quite extinct. To see these soldiers, after the review, attempting to slake their thirst in the dirty ditches of the neighbourhood,—for pure water was not to be had even by those who could afford to pay for it,—was a sad reflection on military management, and involuntarily reminded many of the spectators of our Crimean disasters.

Attention was concentrated on the Prince of Prussia, whom the newspapers, in their flattery, describe as a "remarkably fine, well-made young man, of fair complexion, with a fresh open expression of countenance, which insensibly wins upon the spectator." This is very pretty, but it is not true. It is as overdone as the portraits of the same personage in the pictorial papers. If the Prince is to be the husband of the eldest born of Queen Victoria, we sincerely hope, for the sake of all the illustrious personages concerned, that he may be found to have more intellect than in a phrenological or physiognomical sense he appears to possess. His figure is well enough; that is to say, he is tall and slender, but although born to rule, his appearance is certainly the reverse of impressive.

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