

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Grand Ligne Mission.

LETTER FROM REV. NARCISSE CYR.

Yarmouth, Nov. 13th, 1856.

MY DEAR BROTHER,

The time I purposed to devote to a temporary agency in behalf of the Grand Ligne Mission in Nova Scotia having expired, I am about leaving for Montreal, the field of my labour and my home, and in compliance with the request made to me by some of the brethren, I now send an account of what I collected for the mission.

Table with 2 columns: Location and Amount. Halifax £22 6 4, Windsor 2 0 3, Wolfville 14 11 3, Cornwallis 15 16 9, Billtown 3 12 6, Pleasant Valley 3 7 10, Aylesford 6 11 0, Bridgetown 3 12 10, Clarence 5 6 6, Valley West, &c., 2 19 4, Lower Granville 2 7 6, Weymouth & St. Mary's Bay 4 3 10, Tusket 2 12 6, Lebron 4 14 5, Yarmouth 12 7 9.

£104 10 7

I expect something more from Windsor, Billtown, Aylesford, Yarmouth and other places, and though the contributions were not as general, and in some cases not as large as I should have liked, yet I am very glad I visited your country, and shall feel encouraged to come again if my life is spared. I have met with warm friends of the Grand Ligne Mission, and I will ever remember their kindness towards me, and their tokens of interest in the progress of the Gospel among my dear fellow-countrymen.

I had the pleasure moreover of visiting French families in Bro. Chute's field, and was very much pleased with the good dispositions they manifest. I pray God they may soon be freed from Popery and enjoy the glorious liberty of the children of God. I can say to the brethren they have no reason to be discouraged in the French Mission; on the contrary they ought—as they are able—to put forth greater efforts to bring the Acadians under the saving influence of the Gospel. I intend to write on this subject more fully when I get home.

With Christian regards,  
yours truly,  
N. CYR.

P.S.—As you are so kind as to receive donations to the Mission, I have said to some of the brethren to send their donations to you, if it is more convenient, and you may send them to me through a draft on Montreal, when the sum is large enough.

N. C.

[A friend lately returned from a visit to the United States, informs us it is probable that Madame Feller will make a visit to Nova Scotia during next Summer, if spared. The friends of the Grand Ligne Mission in this province, especially those ladies who are interested in the cause to which she has devoted herself, will, we know, be glad to meet with one of whom they have heard so much.—Ed. C. M.]

For the Christian Messenger.

Rev. Isa. Wallace's visit to Nova Scotia.

DEAR BROTHER,

I expect to return to St. John this evening. A retrospect of the visit in N. S., which I am now about closing will hereafter afford me no small pleasure. This visit has been interesting to me for several reasons. It has considerably extended my knowledge of the geographical position and resources of the Counties of N. S., that I had not previously visited. The magnificent prospects and beautiful scenery frequently presented to my view in the course of my tour will not soon be forgotten. The dreary, rocky and barren regions through and over which I passed I shall not try to remember. The progress of the flourishing and rising Towns of N. S., I shall hereafter trace with interest and shall not be indifferent to the decline of certain Towns that seem already to have arrived at their summit of glory and whose course now is evidently downward.

This visit has been interesting to me because it has greatly enlarged my acquaintances and considerably increased the number of my Christian friends. This was in fact the chief object of my visit. Recollections of the whole-hearted hospitality I have enjoyed, the cordial greetings received from so many friends and the affecting partings with no expectations of meeting again on earth will not soon be erased from memory's tablet. These are scenes and emotions to which, should I live, my mind will in after days revert with no ordinary interest.

My visit was useful to me because it afforded me an opportunity to reconnoitre the enemy's strong holds and learn something of the aggressive operations of the servants of Immanuel in N. S. I have witnessed with pleasure the advancing state of the cause of Christ in many localities and with sorrow its languishing state in many others in consequence of the want of faithful labourers. The Baptist cause in those portions of the Province that I have visited is upon the whole gradually progressing. Would that the gradations were longer and more quickly successive! In the Counties of Digby and Yarmouth Baptist principles are decidedly prevalent. The same remark will apply to Queen's, King's and Annapolis. An improved system of Home Missionary operations is evidently much needed in N. S.

I was happy in being permitted to visit Acadia College once more. The friends of this valued Institution have much reason for gratitude to God in reference to the past and for encouragement in reference to the future. Notwithstanding all adverse circumstances the College still lives with an efficient staff of Professors and a number of students large compared with other Colleges in these provinces.

I was pleased to enlarge my acquaintance with the Baptist Ministers of N. S., and am happy in stating that with scarcely an exception they received me with the utmost cordiality. Some of them could not sympathize with my mission but they manifested much interest in my welfare personally; and assured me that should I embark for a distant field I would bear with me their best wishes and their prayers. Others of them however most heartily approved of the Mission to Australia, two of whom expressed a desire to enter upon it themselves, should circumstances admit of their doing so. Several Baptist Ministers that seemed to be in the range of my visit I did not have the happiness of seeing. This I regret much. I greatly desired an interview with Rev. Mr. Cunningham that I might form his acquaintance and sympathize with him in his affliction. I anticipated this pleasure in my return to Digby but I find that my hope cannot be realized.

Although it was not my object during this visit to collect funds yet about £29 were handed to me unsolicited. The names of the donors with the sums given and the amounts of the collections will be paid over to the Treasurer of the Australian Missionary Board.

Yours in the hope of Eternal Life,  
ISA. WALLACE.

Lower Granville, Nov. 13th, 1856.

For the Christian Messenger.

Valedictory Address to Rev. J. V. Tabor.

To the Rev. J. V. Tabor.

DEAR BROTHER,—You are now about taking your leave of us as a church and people; this from an acquaintance of four years' duration, and the important relation of our Pastor, causes in us sad feelings. These years have in very deed been to you years of labour and toil. Our place of worship whilst it remains will bear witness of this: and although the number of converts in Bridgewater have been few, yet we rejoice to know that many have been converted around us, and you leave behind you many seals of your ministry. The wilderness and solitary places have indeed been made glad through your instrumentality, and may sorrow because they shall listen to your instructions no more.

Dear Brother—It is to us a satisfaction that you have ever been ready to advance the interests of every moral institution since your residence among us, and we request you still to bear us in your sympathies, feeling that we shall miss you, Mrs. Tabor and family very much from our daily associations.

And now dear Brother we bid you and yours an affectionate farewell; praying that God may abundantly bless you in your new field of labour.

Signed

In behalf of the Church and congregation at Bridgewater, by Wm. Newcomb, Obadiah Parker, Deacons; B. W. C. Manning, James Starratt, Cornelius Kennedy and 12 others.

REPLY.

To the above address Elder Tabor gave the following response:—

Dear Brethren in Christ and respected friends.

Words can but very faintly characterize present feelings. The present parting is painful. Distance and time must intervene between us without any affectionate exchange than a union of prayer, and a desire for each others' welfare. I go from a loved circle but not to cease to love. Mrs. Tabor and family will long partici-

cipate in these my feelings towards you, for we know that we leave many friends, but we resign ourselves thereto because Providence indicates our present action.

I bless God that his grace has been manifested during the past four years, and that the seals to my ministry are the children of God, converted from the love of Sin to the service and support of the gospel. I bless God that my successor (whom may the Lord quickly send) can enter upon happy engagements with the church, where when I came among you the Baptists had no foothold, that for your benefit the field has been enlarged, and that union prevails among you, and former difficulties being removed there is a pleasing prospect left for a happy Pastorate. With you associated in my support the Chelsea church demands my affection, and will long enjoy it.

Farewell! Pray for South Yarmouth Church, my future home, and for your friend and affectionate Pastor, and companion in labour, and for all his family.

And I remain

Dear Brethren, Sisters & friends,

Yours most affectionately

JAMES V. TABOR.

Bridgewater, Nov. 3rd, 1856.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mission to Australia.

LETTER FROM REV. E. B. DEMILL.

DEAR SIR,—About a fortnight since I wrote a short article for your paper. The subject to which attention was directed was one of grave importance. I did not know that it had been attentively considered by the readers of your paper, nor did I know that the Baptists of Nova Scotia generally had formed definite views as to the new object brought to our notice by the action of the last Convention. At our denominational gatherings in this province the Australia Mission seemed to be regarded with something very like indifference. Under such circumstances I addressed to you a letter signed "Vin Aigre," in which I sought to point out our own necessities and to urge some considerations in opposition to this projected mission. I expected of course that my views would be passed by unnoticed, or if noticed that their errors would be exposed. I had reason to expect this, as my letter was the only attempt to present any opposition to the grave and important scheme now on foot. Surely there was nothing very improper in the Editor of a denominational paper admitting to his columns a few lines on a subject to which he had not committed himself. Hence I was somewhat surprised to find the Editor of the *Visitor* turning away from the mission and its merits, from Vin Aigre and his faults or follies, to throw blame on the Editor of the *Messenger* for admitting the letter to its columns.

Now I would beg leave to ask if we are to undertake a new and expensive mission, are we to be visited by agents, and not have the liberty of opening our mouths, to say yes or no. I did not know that there was a censorship over the Baptist press. I was not aware that a convention vote was a finality, and that a decision formed in a rainy night, by some twenty delegates, without discussion, by a small majority, was binding on the consciences of all the Baptists of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward's Island. Had I known this I should not have presumed to object to the "decision of the body." But as I have yet to learn these facts I may in the mean time be permitted to present some thoughts in reference to a most serious and important undertaking.

It seems to me that every man has a perfect right to express his views on such a subject, anonymously if he chooses. If my views are absurd why must I be put to the blush in seeing them exposed. If there is reason in them, whom does it concern, whether they were written by N. or M. When Louis Napoleon wished to fetter the free thoughts of France, he decreed that every writer should publish his name to all his productions. This seemed a comparatively harmless decree, but it proved the destruction of the liberty of the press.

Now, before we establish a mission in Australia let us consider well what we are doing, let us all ask whether the decision of the Convention was judicious or not. If not in our own individual judgement, why have our present and future enterprises clogged and hampered. Our own provinces are missionary ground, ministers are scarce and our people are comparatively poor. Now, where can a man of ordinary abilities do more good than just here? Has Australia a brighter prospect than our own British America? Are not souls as precious here as in any quarter of the globe?

And is there not reason to expect that missionary labor expended here will prove as productive to the cause as in Australia? Yet while this is the case we are asked to establish a mission in a foreign portion of the globe, where each missionary must be maintained at an expense, which would sustain two or three men at home.

Our missionary ground is very extensive. Prince Edwards Island and Cape Breton, two noble provinces, destined to be populous and wealthy countries, are being now in the days of their youth neglected in their training. The whole district of the Eastern Association is without missionary labor, because we have not the means of maintaining it. All through New Brunswick and Nova Scotia there are noble and populous sections of country calling for help, but unheeded. Our College is suffering for want of funds, it must be sustained as a high literary institution, and now new appeals are made to us in its behalf. Many of us remember the perishing heathen, and will contribute our mite to them, though our own Brother Crawley is under other direction than ours.

Yet in the face of all this we are undertaking a mission to Australia, without knowing or thinking as to its expense. We ought to count the cost. Two hundred for outfit, two or three hundred a year to prosecute, for how long a time we know not. This will be the least expense. Are we prepared to add this to our numerous and necessary expenditures? Then have we the men? An appeal comes from Australia; we learn that the cause of their depression lies in the fact that they have not men of the intelligence and popular talent, necessary to enable them to maintain themselves before denominations now highly favoured in these respects. The Missionary who goes to Melbourne, must take his place before an intelligent and enlightened people, else he will fail.

The question as to this mission was taken on the last evening of the Convention, when many of the delegates had returned to their homes. The night was rainy; and when the time came to discuss the question it was ten o'clock. There was then of course no discussion, nevertheless there was a respectable minority opposed to the mission, and with them was the President of the Convention; and all who were present will remember with what force he expressed his objection.

E. B. DEMILL.

For the Christian Messenger.

EUROPEAN MEMORANDA.

[From our Special Correspondent.]

LONDON, Nov. 7.

THE MONITEUR AND THE ENGLISH PRESS.

Mr. Editor:—My last described the somewhat dangerous position of Louis Napoleon. He or his subordinates have given another proof of the insecurity and discomfort of a reign whose history, acts, and plans will not allow of fair and free criticism. The press of France has been so long gagged—opinion so long stifled, and its expression so curtailed, that the freedom of our journals affords a contrast, dangerous, in the opinion of France's ruler, for the contemplation of Parisian minds. Every one knows how freely the position of the Emperor, and continental politics are discussed here. Doubtless, many a sting has been received in grim silence by the autocrat of the Tuileries: but at last he has betrayed the smart, and, in owning, only increased its severity. Of course your readers are aware that the *Moniteur* speaks the Imperial mind, and its leaders often proceed direct from his pen. That paper recently published a remonstrance on the strictures of our press, accompanying them with a hint or threat that their continuance would endanger the national alliance. Our papers, headed by the *Times*, pounced upon it, and, like a hive of bees disturbed, swarmed on the hapless *Moniteur*. *Punch*, with his biting sarcasm, joined the throng; and so dignified, earnest, independently, and cutting, were the replies; that an explanatory and somewhat propitiatory note appeared in the *Moniteur* disclaiming undue influence with that power so mighty here as to be reckoned the fourth estate of the realm. *Rumgr* also adds, that diplomatic explanations were required and given. However that may be, the affair has only given fresh zest to news-lacking journalists; and Louis finds that, rule the French as he may, our press cares neither for his cajolery nor threats. And well it is that it should be so. If politics be forbidden, religion will also; and as dissent in all its sects is, according to some, schism, that would also be tabued. Where then would be *The Christian Witness*? And letters to its Special Correspondent might be directed to some English *Cayenne*. Truly does Dr. Vaughan, our Dissenting champion, say—"Destruction of the press is no more possible than annihilation of