

did not penetrate to an unusual depth, and the wheat fields and the meadows came out in the spring, fresh and green from their long winter slumbers.

Snow has been called the poor man's manure. The absorption of caloric, which becomes latent in melting snow, prevents a sudden transition from the chill of winter to the warmth of spring.

A locality that experiences abundant falls of snow, will admit of the cultivation of many things that cannot be grown in places destitute of snow; and many countries would be, without its protecting influences, mere regions of waste and desolation.—Rural New-Yorker.

Temperance.

The New Brunswick Liquor Law.

At a full meeting of the Council, (St. John,) on Wednesday last, the Mayor read and submitted the rules prepared by the committee for the guidance of the Liquor Agent. They were, in substance, that he should keep on hand a reasonable supply of Alcohol, Strong Spirits, Brandy, dark and pale, Holland's Gin, Jamaica Rum; Wines, viz: Port, Light and Dark Sherry, Malaga, Madeira, and Champagne; Ale and Porter in bottles, and such other description as the Committee of the Council may order from time to time; that the advance charged on the cost-price and charges, should be 20 per cent., that the Agency should be kept where the Council may appoint; that the Agent should sell to none but for legal purposes; that the Agency should be open from 9 A. M., to 7 P. M. in winter, and 8 P. M. in summer; that the Agent should enter the names, &c., of all the persons to whom he sold, the description of liquor, &c., and that he should render a quarterly account to the Common Council, the committee having the constant right of supervision.

Mr. Mercer said ale was required in large quantities for mechanical purposes, (painting) and if it could only be got in bottles would come very high.

The desired change was made in respect to ale.

The advance was fixed at 25 per cent.

A letter was then read from the Rev. James Porter, in which he stated that if the regulations were based upon the condition that the Agent should own the liquors, he would not consent to anything so preposterous, and could not accept the Agency.

It was the opinion of the Recorder that the Agent must own the liquors.

Ald. Fairweather thought, as they wished to carry out the law as far as lay in their power, they must only look out for another agent, and if possible one who having a stock on hand would accept the office.

The appointment of Mr. Porter was then cancelled in due form.

A letter was then read from Mr. Thos. Main, Water-street, soliciting the appointment in case Mr. Porter did not accept it, relating his long acquaintance with the business, his great experience, &c., and informing them that he had a stock on hand which in fact he had offered to Mr. Porter, and which he was now ready to turn over to the Agency on the most liberal terms.

Ald. Keans said Mr. Main was a thoroughly honest man, and just the man they wanted; that he understood exactly what would be required of him, and wished the City Guager would go and take account of all his stock, which he would give at cost and charges, &c.

The Mayor, Ald. Fairweather, M'Avity, and King, and Councillor Nowlin, were appointed a committee of supervision.—Freeman.

GREAT excitement has been experienced in St. John on the occasion of prosecutions for non-compliance with the Prohibitory Liquor Law. The captain of the police was struck by one of the mob, who appear generally opposed to the law. He was afterwards taken into custody, and fined £20, or in case of non-payment, five months in the Penitentiary. Another person was fined £10 for breach of the Law.

At St. Andrews a public meeting has been held for the purpose of agitating for a repeal of the Law. The Rev. Mr. Barron, (Roman Catholic priest,) and Dr. Alley, (Episcopalian,) moved resolutions,—the former on the probable deficiency of the revenue, consequent upon the carrying out of the law,—the latter upon the interference with trade and emigration, which may be expected from its introduction.

At Moncton proceedings had been instituted against Mr. Harris, keeper of the Hotel, for keeping liquor for sale. He was fined £10 and costs, but has appealed from that decision, so that matters remain until the opinion of the judges be obtained.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Home Mission.

The appeals so often, lately made, on behalf of Home Missions, have not yet, been responded to. Whether this arises, from real indifference, on the subject, or from the perplexity which exists on many minds, as to the best method of remedying acknowledged defects, in the present system—we cannot determine.

That some new and more effective organization is imperatively called for, few we think will deny. The nature of that organization, its constitution, and powers, is a subject that requires thought,—prudence,—prayer. Interests various, and in some cases almost conflicting, will have to be consulted, prejudices strong, and of long standing, will have to be overcome, and much time and labor will have to be expended. But still, we think no difficulties exist, which are insurmountable.

One or two considerations perhaps may be urged in favor of the formation of a Society, similar to that in New Brunswick, and our own Education Society.

1. Such an organization would prevent anything like sectional jealousy. This of course ought never to exist, but human nature is ever the same, and very often the claims of small communities to consideration are, with some appearance of injustice, overlooked.

2. It would prevent the confusion, arising from having local and general boards, the separate provinces of which, could never be accurately defined.

3. It would comport more, with the essentially baptist doctrine of the independence of each church.

4. We believe all the business would be transacted, in a much more systematic, and energetic manner. Concentration, up to a certain point, is the life of our aggressive operations. At present, the small amounts that are contributed from year to year, seem to be almost frittered away, and much larger sums, that might be realized, are lost.

At some of the Associations, the Home-Missionary affairs seem forgotten, while a host of matters, important in themselves, but of secondary importance certainly, to us—take up all the time, till amid the hurry, and bustle, of the last few hours of the last day,—a few hasty measures are taken, but no report is presented; no speakers are secured; no resolutions rightly prepared; no arrangements made for one of those lively, soul-stirring meetings, which might so easily be held.

The next day, perhaps the new Board meets in a hurry, make in a hurry, a few appointments, and then adjourn to meet perhaps once or twice in the year.

Then we have, besides, these three or four other organizations, and agencies, the machinery of which, must be separately expensive. We have the French Mission, the Gaelic Mission, &c.; surely some plan might be adopted whereby, if necessary, all these could be placed permanently before the denomination, as objects of its benevolence.

Other considerations might be urged;—but in the meantime what is to be done?

Why, we have now imperfect as it may be, an organization for Domestic Missions, let us use that to the best advantage, until we have a better.

We have the same plan of operation, under which, our fathers in the churches were the means of accomplishing so much. Let us each ask ourselves whether a little more zeal, a little more earnestness, a little more benevolence would not accomplish wonders.*

If we all should take hold of this matter, as some churches in our body have done, we should not have to complain, year by year, of the inefficiency of our Home Missionary operations.

Yours &c.,

PASTOR.

For the Christian Messenger.

Marshall's Cove, Granville.

DEAR SIR,

It affords me much pleasure to snatch a spare half hour to relate, for the gratification of the numerous Christian readers of your valuable

* Not precisely—Until the division of the one general Association for the whole Province there was but one Board of Missions, which received and distributed the contributions of all the Churches.—Ed.

religious periodical,) a few hastily written particulars in connection with a pleasing scene I was privileged to witness at the above locality, a few days ago. A business engagement took me to the district referred to, on the day which had been set apart by the religious portion of the inhabitants, for the opening of a new Baptist Chapel, recently finished. Duty and inclination led me to turn aside and mingle with the large and respectable congregation which had assembled, and were already engaged in the devout service of the day.

When I entered I observed in the well arranged pulpit, a very respectable supply of ministers of the gospel, viz.—Rev. N. Vidito—Rev. J. Ring—Rev. J. Armstrong—and Rev. H. Archibald; with all of whom it has been my pleasure to be acquainted.

Immediately on entering, our attention was arrested and our ears charmed, with most delightful and harmonious sounds of sacred music, when the choir in the comfortably arranged gallery, arose to sing the praises of the Most High, "with the Spirit and with the understanding also." If one may speak for all, the minds of the whole congregation became soothed and charmed into a hallowed and prepared state for hearing the truths of the gospel which were presently to be enunciated from the sacred desk.

The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. N. Vidito, from a text admirably well chosen for the occasion. It was that most sublime exclamation of Solomon at the dedication of the ancient Temple, and recorded in 1 Kings, viii, 37. "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?"

The discourse was well framed, and delivered in Mr. V's usually forcible and energetic style.

The sermon was followed by appropriate addresses from two of the other ministering brethren, and the concluding prayer was offered by the third brother; when the service was concluded by a well chosen hymn of praise. Thus closed, what was to me, and I trust to all present, an edifying and interesting service. Another religious temple had been erected, dedicated, and solemnly set apart for the public worship of Almighty God. The edifice may be properly described as neat, substantially built, and well finished. And I can well imagine the hallowed pleasure of the brethren in the locality, on the reflection, that they have secured for themselves and their posterity, the privilege of a public sanctuary in that neighbourhood, where they may from time to time, meet for the worship of God. They have by their commendable zeal, added another to the already numerous ornaments of the county of Annapolis, which at the same time form a sure test of a wide spread religious sentiment pervading its population.

A PASSER BY.

Granville, Jan. 7, '56.

For the Christian Messenger.

To the Younger Members of our Baptist Churches.

Much depends on the young members of our churches. If our youth become devoted and self-denying christians, their influence will be felt in moulding the character of our churches; and in raising the standard of piety.

Many of our churches, it is true, have been blessed with revivals of religion during the past year; but still only a small portion of our congregations are christians. The standard of piety is low among us. How many cold and lifeless professors there are in our midst! How formal are our religious exercises, and with how little power is the preaching of the gospel attended. What is the cause of this? There is need of more holiness and devotedness everywhere. Our churches are slumbering under the influence of a chilling formality.

Our hearts should be moved while we think of the destitution which prevails in heathen lands. Six hundred millions of our fellows are yet in paganism. Four-fifths of the human race are yet unbelievers. Twenty millions of pagans are said to die annually. Eighteen hundred years have elapsed since a sacrifice was made for sinners; and how little has been done for the conversion of the world, in all that time. How fearful must be the responsibility which rests upon the christian. If the Gospel be not a dream or a fable: if we believe in the love of Christ, and are his children, we ought to feel more concern about our fellow sinners. Should not we, as dis-

ciples of Christ, be more willing to repay that debt of gratitude which we owe him. How little have we as christians—the bloodbought of Christ—done for him. We should arise to action. Who will break to these perishing millions the bread of life? This glorious work is entrusted to Christians. They plead for your labors, young brothers and sisters—for your prayers and sympathies.

You who are looking forward to the ministry, for Christ's sake be faithful. Look at the languishing condition of the churches in our Province, and in the world. The bright stars which have for a time shone so brilliantly, are sinking. May you, by the light of their lingering rays, follow on in the same path. The sainted Judson lies entombed in the mighty deep. Our once beloved Burpee sleeps under the shade of the magnolia. The rank grass grows on the graves of Fathers Dimock, Manning, and H. Harding; and the grave has just closed over the remains of the venerable Theodore Harding. One alone of these champions of the Cross remains—Father Crandal—and he is now nearing his last resting-place. May you be called to action by the memory of these departed worthies. May you see them beckoning to you from their heavenly mansion! O could they speak to us, how would they beseech us by the truths of the Gospel which were so dear to them, to be faithful. Seize then the standard of Immanuel which has fallen from their death grasp, and rush willingly to the thickest of the danger, and plant it on the citadel of our foe. Who will seize the standard and leap to posts of danger? Who among you is willing to die on the field? The enemy is a common enemy—the cause is a noble cause. Encourage one another, pray for and sympathize with each other; and league yourselves against the powers of darkness which are combined against you.

Persons talk of the present as different from early times. It is different as far as vital godliness is concerned, and worldliness and formality. Let humility and holiness be your aim, and not a desire to please the world. What is the world and all its treasures, its forms and fashions? Will you consider them worth a passing thought. No! while others seek the honors of station and the gains of merchandise, it is encouraging to think that some among our youth are seeking the paths of self-denial, and are consecrating themselves to God. You who are engaged in God's service should not slumber. What have you to do with sloth or self-indulgence?

And to our young sisters, may we not say: Are there none among you who will imitate the noble women who have been eminent in the cause of God? Why may not some of you go and do likewise? If your lot in life be low, your heavenly Father has placed you there especially for his glory. If wealth and comfort are yours, so much the greater is your duty to labor for God. Can you indulge in inactivity, and trifle away priceless moments? Rise to deeds of love and mercy! Remember while you enjoy the comforts of life, that around you on every side are some languishing children of sorrow. Go to them, feed them, clothe them, pluck the thorns from their bosoms. You may make their hearts sing for joy: the kindly smile which lights the pale and sunken cheek, will increase your own enjoyment. You may lead some wanderer to God. You may find some one whom a kind word of encouragement may bring forth to usefulness—some one who through your efforts and prayers may go forth from our own sequestered vales, and raise the church to action, and move the world. Care not what your more indolent and self-indulgent companions may say about you; but consider what God requires of you. Be encouraged—a noble heart never beats alone. A good woman with a resolute heart cannot live unknown or die unremembered.

May we all in this time of need present ourselves on the altar of God. No time is to be lost. What have we to do with trifling? If our days be many let us give them to God; if few, let them not pass unimproved.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mission to Barrington.

MR. EDITOR,

Having fulfilled the mission assigned me in the Township of Barrington, I feel it due the friends of our Home Mission, to lay before them some account of the labour thus expended. I thought it most advisable to spend as much of my time as possible, with, and in the vicinity of