

minutes. This precious time out of a short life is actually wasted.

Let us now consider the waste of money. Supposing one sixth of our population use 1 fig per week, at 2d. per fig, (and this is a low calculation,) we spend money enough to send more than 100 missionaries, at a salary of \$200 per annum, through our own Province or to the poor perishing heathen.

Think you then that God is pleased to see us sit at ease and whiff away our time while thousands of our brethren are enveloped in heathenish darkness?

What a hold must the use of tobacco have on the appetite when we repeatedly hear the expression "I would rather do without one of my meals than quit tobacco."

I am convinced that if we would do our duty to our neighbour, to our family, and to our God, we must forego the gratification.

My friend, do you live in a village or settlement so thinly inhabited, that you find it very difficult to support a minister of Christ to preach to you the everlasting gospel? Did you ever go with a subscription list for the purpose of raising a pastor's salary, and as you called on B. (who is a poor man,) you could hardly induce him to subscribe five dollars, at the same time knowing that he spends annually from six to eight dollars for tobacco; and after you had finished your tour and had realized little more than half the desired sum, did not the idea flash across your mind that this people who wish to have the gospel, actually waste for tobacco one half as much as would pay a good salary. Wherever you may be, my dear friend, if you wish to discontinue the use of tobacco, make up your mind to it, and then that unnatural craving, will, in a great measure, be quelled. Remember that you have a priceless talent, a life to improve.

G. J. R. Hammond's Plains, Nov. 3rd, 1856.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Churches and Ministers in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

DEAR BROTHER,

The accounts you have lately given of revivals in some of the churches are very cheering. It is to be hoped that these winter months, which afford much leisure to those who live in agricultural districts, will be duly improved by the churches. Quarterly meetings, I observe, are held in some parts of the Province. They are useful arrangements, and have often been greatly blessed, to ministers as well as to the people. The general adoption of such meetings is peculiarly desirable.

Next in importance to conversions, and the influence exerted on christian character, is the beneficial result of revivals in regard to the increase of labourers in the cause of the Saviour. Some of our best ministers have been the fruits of revival seasons.

Brother Wallace's recent letter pointed out the destitution of our Western shore. There is still greater destitution, probably, in the East. Not only are many Churches without Pastors, but there are also large districts unoccupied by evangelical labourers, where Baptist ministers would be warmly welcomed.

Our Convention consists of two hundred and sixteen Churches, but there are only one hundred and ten Pastors. I had thought that the deficiency was greater in New Brunswick than in Nova Scotia; the contrary, however, appears to be the case. There are one hundred and twenty-five churches in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, (eight of them are in P. E. I.) but only fifty-five Pastors. There are ninety-one Churches in New Brunswick, and they also have fifty-five Pastors.

Let us more earnestly seek the "Lord of the harvest" for his blessing. Then will the Churches be quickened, and the number of labourers increased.

Yours truly, J. M. CRAMP. Acadia College, Dec. 13th, 1856.

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from Rev. D. McKeen.

DEAR BROTHER, The readers of the Messenger will no doubt be pleased to hear that God has been of late most blessing the labours of Bro. DeMill. I think twenty-nine have been baptized in connection with the Amherst Church, since the Quarterly Meeting held there in October.

Brother DeMill, has also, lately baptized five persons at Black River, and organized a church of 20 members there. That locality was a

part of the field of labour, occupied by our late Brother J. E. Cogswell.

Next week we expect to go to Advocate Harbour, to assist the little church there in holding some meetings, at the time of the opening of their new Meeting-House. We expect also to open a new Chapel of our own, at the Little Fork, Maccan, on Tuesday the 30th inst.

We would like to say a few words about the Australian Mission did opportunity permit, and we could do it without offending minds that may be somewhat sensitive on this point. Union in action is always desirable, and we feel that it is especially so in an undertaking of this kind. As we live in the woods like some others of our brethren we would crave the indulgence of presenting a few inquiries with reference to this Mission, and perhaps some of our brethren in this Province or New Brunswick may favour us with satisfactory answers. We ask them is it wise under existing circumstances to commit the Baptists of these provinces to this undertaking? Does a question put and carried only by a small majority, furnish a very good evidence of a successful issue? Does there not want concert of action here, in the outset—and is this favourable? Do not the appeals that come to us from Australia present an unfavourable view of the subject? They say send us a first-rate man, of popular talents. Have we got him to spare? or send? Is not the cry that is coming from every part of our country, from little baptist churches that are all but dying out for want of care as importunate? These little churches would be glad to get ordinary men! And are gold-seekers and gold-worshippers any more promising for a missionary than many of the simple-hearted enquirers of our own country? If this is a wise movement we wish to be connected with it, but we cannot see that it is. We want to know what we are doing before we commit ourselves to it.

We do not wish to trouble you or your readers with long letters, but we must say that we view this whole affair in much the same light as your able correspondent of Amherst. We want some one to inform us of the probable expense of this Mission. As for ourselves we look upon it as one of the most expensive and unpromising missions that we could undertake, and one for which we are altogether unprepared, at least it would appear so from their appeal. We think that the Mission would prove a failure—or else draw heavily on the poor to favour the rich, or completely undermine our Home undertakings, and kill out the last flickering of the Foreign Missionary spirit in our churches.

Yours in the Gospel, D. McKEEN.

For the Christian Messenger.

MISSIONS.

Home, Foreign, and Australian.

SYDNEY, C. B., Dec. 9th, '56.

MR. EDITOR,

In the Messenger of Nov. 26th, I perceive a letter from Rev. E. B. DeMill, in reference to the proposed Mission to Australia, which I consider worthy of the careful attention of the Baptists of Nova Scotia. Since reading it I have conversed with some brothers (both lay and clerical) on the subject, and find they coincide with the views entertained by Bro. DeMill. In that letter he speaks of the want of Missionary labour in Cape Breton, and the Eastern section of Nova Scotia. I imagine that our brethren at the Westward, are in a great degree unacquainted with the spiritual want of these places. They cannot probably, favoured as they are with Gospel ordinances, and Sabbath and Sanctuary privileges in such profusion,—realize—that a few hundred miles away there exists large tracts of country, and a large and beautiful Island thickly settled, in many parts of which the preaching of the "Everlasting Gospel," if not a "strange thing," is a rare occurrence. If they knew that thousands of immortal beings at their very doors, subjects of the same government, and speaking the same language, were perishing for want of spiritual food, while a small proportion of their surplus wealth, would suffice to send the living preacher among them, able at once to tell them in their own language, the unsearchable riches of Christ, without having to expend the best years of his life, and a large amount of money, in learning a strange tongue—no doubt they would at once plan the way, and provide the means to send the Gospel to the "poor Heathen" at home.

I am very far from condemning, or even censuring those who have projected, and con-

tributed to the Australian Mission. It is an evidence that they have "the love of God shed abroad in their hearts," and overflowing to their fellow man, leading them to active self-denying efforts for their salvation. Still I have respect for the old adage, that "charity begins at home," though it should not end there. (Besides, it must be patent to every one who gives it a moment's thought, that the same amount of money will go four times as far in sustaining Home Missions, as if devoted to the Mission in Australia.) I believe that we should first seek the salvation of those most closely connected, and endeared to us—then that of our neighbors and fellow-citizens—then that of our countrymen—and then look abroad and do what we can for those who live in Pagan lands, earnestly praying for the promised day, when "the knowledge and the Glory of God shall fill the whole Earth." I am afraid Mr. Editor, that the Baptists of Nova Scotia have not come up to their duty in the matter of Home Missions. A great deal remains to be done, in the way of systematic, and continuous, energetic, Missionary operations, in all Eastern Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, and P. E. Island, and would I kindly remind the friends of the Foreign Mission—of the words of our Saviour on one occasion—"This should ye have done, and not left the other undone."

Are not our own countrymen entitled to the first place, in our prayers—our efforts, and our contributions? The Apostles were commissioned to "begin at Jerusalem." Let us imitate them.

I may here remark that the more we do for the spiritual welfare of those around us, the more warmly will our feelings be enlisted in behalf of those who "Sit in darkness," while at the same time, by the Divine blessing on our efforts, we will be embuing the hearts of others with the same feelings; so that in the end we shall find every effort and contribution for Home Missions, will really tend in their results, to the upbuilding, and sustaining of the Foreign Mission enterprise.

I am not acquainted with the condition of P. E. Island, but with respect to Eastern Nova Scotia, and Cape Breton, I am convinced from many years personal observation, that the half of their destitution in spiritual things, has not been told you—that, Baptists in the Western sections of the Province, can have no adequate idea of the large field, which, in this Island alone, remains unoccupied, and almost unvisited by the heralds of the Cross; of the thousands, and tens of thousands, who seldom, if ever, hear a Gospel Sermon, or see a Gospel Minister; and so far as Baptists are concerned, I fear it will remain so, unless some more decided, energetic, and systematic plan of Home Missions be adopted, than heretofore, both in the collection of funds, and the maintenance of the Mission.

Can not some of our aged and experienced brothers suggest some plan that will meet the exigencies of the case? Some plan that will meet the approval of our Churches, and ensure, under God, the attainment of the end sought—the conversion of the thousands around us, who are perishing for the lack of knowledge. Might it not be well to adopt the method pursued by a sister Denomination, and let each and every church hold an Annual Missionary Meeting, taking proper care and pains to make them interesting, and then not only to take up a collection, but, ask every person present, for a subscription, to be collected before a given day, by persons appointed for the purpose.

I am convinced, that, if some such method were adopted, we would raise ten times the amount for missionary purposes we now do. Allow me to make another suggestion for your readers to ponder over, viz., the propriety and necessity of establishing a mission in each important central position of the missionary field, and sustaining a missionary there until it become self-sustaining, the missionary, meanwhile, to perform as much labour as possible, in the adjacent villages and settlements, at regular stated periods; system and order, being indispensable, if we would accomplish much.

I also consider it indispensable to the success of our missionary enterprise, that it be under the control and guidance of one Board, or governing power, and not under several. As a denomination also, we need more unity of action, more system and method in carrying out our plans and purposes. Our churches are almost too independent of each other, and of all outward control or counsel. This probably is an evil in some degree inseparable from our form of church government; but surely where we are united in thought and feeling, we shall be able to devise some way for that unity of

effort, which always has produced, and always will produce great and important results.

I had intended to say a word on another subject, lately brought to my notice by an esteemed brother, viz., our denominational literature, or rather, our want of it, but neither my time, nor probably your space will permit of my doing so at present.

The above thoughts and suggestions, have been hurriedly penned, (amid the distractions of business,) in the hope that they may set some of your readers, first to thinking, and then to writing, who are better qualified to handle the subject as its importance demands, than is

C. H. H.

For the Christian Messenger.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

"Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season."—Job. v. 26.

ABEL WHELOCK

DIED, on the 30th of August, at Wilmot, Annapolis Co., in the 80th year of his age.

Brother Wheelock became deeply concerned about his soul in his youthful days, and was led to Christ for pardon and obtained forgiveness at the foot of the cross. About 50 years ago he was baptized by the Rev. T. H. Chipman, and united with the Baptist church at Nictaux.

He lived to see nearly all those who were members of the church, when he united with the people of God, pass away to their eternal reward.

Religion with our brother was "the one thing needful," at all times and in all places, at home and abroad. He always endeavoured to be at his post. Prayer was an essential part of the arrangements of his house. The family altar being once erected was continued till death. The prayer and conference meetings could testify of his zeal in the cause of his Master. The public assembly of the saints was his delight. He often bore his testimony to the truth of the gospel, and invited his fellow-men to taste and see that the Lord is good.

Our brother had the satisfaction of seeing all his children profess religion and unite with the church of Jesus Christ, a number of his grandchildren also gladdened his heart by walking in the steps of their fathers, for these he often prayed.

An unshaken confidence in the Saviour continued with him during his last sickness and did not leave him at the hour of death.

A large number of the inhabitants of all ages attended at his funeral, thus showing the great esteem in which he was held. The Rev. C. Tupper was present on that occasion, and took part in the exercises. He gave a very interesting account of his first acquaintance with our departed brother. A sermon was preached by the pastor, Rev. W. G. Parker, from Job. xix. 25, the text chosen by brother Wheelock before his death.

Our brother has left an aged partner, 8 children, 41 grand-children, 8 great-grand-children, and a large circle of friends to mourn his departure. They mourn, however, not as those without hope. May they all be sustained by the grace of God and at last meet him in heaven, where parting will be forever unknown.

Nictaux.

CHARLOTTE DOLLIVER.

DIED, at Halifax, October 25th, Charlotte, wife of Elisha Dolliver, Jr., Deacon of the Free Christian Church, of Port Medway, in the 33rd year of her age. Mrs. D. was the third daughter of Mr. Leonard Rynard, of Broad Cove.

From childhood she was the subject of serious impressions. When about 19 years of age she made a profession of religion and joined with the Methodists of that place and lived a consistent member up to the time of her removal. After her marriage she moved to East Port Medway, where she resided until her death. She was of an amiable disposition and lived a life of faith on the Living Word. In all her trials she fled thither, and found an unfailing support. Her religion made her happy. It produced few raptures but many seasons of calm elevated enjoyment. To these she would revert and taste their goodness over again like David, when he said, "Thy statutes have been my songs in the house of my pilgrimage."

About three years ago she was seized with a disease which terminated in death. A few weeks before her death she lost her eye sight and became nearly or quite blind. She left home for Halifax, accompanied by her husband and a young lady, for the purpose of procuring the most skillful medical advice. Immediately after her arrival she underwent a painful surgical operation.

Four or five days had not more than passed