

Prince Edward Island.

REV. D. McKEEN'S MISSION.

According to the request of the Board, I started on Wednesday the 15th July from Moncton, to perform the duties of the Mission assigned me. On Thursday evening I arrived at Bedeque, at the house of our esteemed Brother M. Ross, who is endeavouring to labor on amid a few encouragements and many discouragements. Found the Church here in a low state. I remained until the following Tuesday: visited a few families, preached four times, and attended the Sabbath School which I found to be very deficient of books.

On Tuesday I preached at Tryon, and again at the same place some time afterwards. Here the Baptists have no Sunday School, and the church is very low.

I proceeded thence to Dog River, where I fell in with Brother Hall, who is truly engaged body and soul in his Mission. It was my privilege to ride in his carriage and labor in conjunction with him while on the Island, as far as the separate duties of our Mission would permit. In the several sections of the North River church, viz., Long Creek, Dog River, Beals Settlement, and at North river, I preached nine times and visited a considerable number of families.

This church I have reason to think has been benefited by the visits of your missionaries. They have since engaged the Rev. C. I. Burnett as their Pastor, and we hope that both he and the people of his charge may be abundantly blessed. Preached three times in Charlottetown, and laboured privately in families. The church here is very low, and needs a large amount of judicious help, in order to rise again from present depression. Visited and preached twice at St. Peter's Road. Congregations good and attentive.

Preached once at Lot 49. In company with Brother Hall—went to Three Rivers, preached in the evening, and next morning started for East Point. Here we found the Baptist church in a depressed state, as are all our churches on the Island. Here your missionaries, in connection with the Pastor, Rev. John Shaw, commenced a series of meetings. Brother Hall left us on the ninth day of the meetings, at which time the evidences of revival became more favourable. Between that time and Monday afternoon, at which time I left, it seemed evident that the set time to favour this church had come. As sinners were weeping over their sins, and Christians humbled before God, we hope to hear of an ingathering of souls. Although urgently requested by Pastor and people to remain longer, appointments elsewhere on the Island, the state of my health, and necessity for me to return home, constrained me to leave. Perhaps I did wrong.

I arrived home on Thursday night, having been seven weeks engaged in the service of the Board. In looking over that time we cannot say much about success, only that our object was to endeavour to have a missionary heart, and to wait until the harvest time to reap. We sum up the amount of labor, as nearly as possible, in few words. Preached thirty-one sermons, attended, and took part in fourteen other meetings, and visited one hundred and three families, expounding or exhorting and praying in the most of them, travelling a good many miles besides. I here would unite my testimony, and thanks with others, for the proverbial kindness of the people, among whom I labored. Received in aid of the Mission: Island currency.

Table with 2 columns: Location, Amount. Rows include Bedeque Collection (£1 5 5), Tryon Collection (3 9), Dog River Coll. (1 11 5), North River Coll. (3 3 4), Cornwall Donation (10 2), North Point, Do. (12 3), Long Creek, Do. (5), West River, Do. (6 3), East Point, Collection (2 5 4), East Point, Donation (1 3 8), Subtracting 1-6 from Island Currency, gives in Nova Scotia Currency, received (£10 5 4).

LETTER FROM REV. W. HALL, To the Secretary of the Board of Domestic Missions of Nova Scotia,

DEAR BROTHER, I have been waiting for Brother McKeen's Report as he left the Island after labouring seven weeks before I sent any communication, but I write a few lines to let you know something about our interests here. Charlottetown has

extended a call to Rev. John Davis, so that important point will be occupied. He is well adapted to the field and I think will rally round him a large interest, he takes in St. Peter's road. Brother Burnett takes North River and Dog River,—that church has come up well. There is a revival state of feeling at East Point which is Brother Shaw's ground.

Charlottetown church will apply to the Boards of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, to assist in sustaining their minister as they are weak. I trust that you will respond to the application, I shall give a more detailed report of my mission after my return home, which will be after the 13th October, performing the three months mission.

The Island requires a missionary to go over the whole field, a man of diligent and missionary habits would be wholly sustained. There are many small interests which would increase with some labour. The churches on the Island with which we are identified, are Charlottetown, North River including Dog and West Rivers, St. Peter's road, Tryon, Bedeque, Cavendish, Lot 49, Belfast Grand River, Three Rivers, and East Point. Total number, eleven churches. If a minister could be obtained to give himself to the work of evangelizing on the Island, a vast impulse would be given to our interests.

I remain yours in Christ

W. HALL.

[In addition to the above we make the following extract from a letter received from Rev. C. I. Burnett.]

North River P. E. I., Oct. 3rd, 1857.

DEAR BROTHER,

"I hope you will not construe my silence into neglect, I can assure you my thoughts have frequently turned towards you with a desire to serve the interests of the "Messenger;" but afflictive circumstances have prevented me.

"I perceive you noticed my taking charge of the North and Dog River church, and after severe indisposition the greater part of the summer, I am happy to inform you, this month past I have resumed my labors. It is a matter of considerable satisfaction that the call was unanimous. I heartily hope the great head of the church will bless my labours among the people."

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from Brantford, C. W.

AGRICULTURAL FAIR AND CATTLE SHOW.

I promised in my last to notice the Provincial Exhibition of Upper Canada—now being held in this town. This is the season for the Annual Fairs—nearly every township, county, and province has its annual Fair. The Lower Canadian Fair opened at Montreal, the day I left that city. As I expected to visit the Upper Canadian Fair, which I was informed would be superior in every respect, I did not remain; but hastened on.

The Fair opened auspiciously on Tuesday morning. The Agricultural, Horticultural, Mechanical and Artistical productions of the province were brought on the ground in great variety. The place selected was on a hill overlooking the town—affording a splendid view of the town and surrounding country—and comprising a large tract of land sufficient for all purposes in connection with the Fair. Ample provision and systematic arrangement were made for all articles brought for exhibition.

The grounds were not open to the public until Wednesday at 12 o'clock noon. Every article was then in its appropriate place, ready for inspection. I do not think myself competent to criticize, and I will merely remark:—

There were but few entries of blood Horses, but those exhibited were superior animals. Pairs and single carriage horses were driven round a circle. Some of them were admirably matched, and very handsome. Single horses showed to the best advantage as they were driven round rapidly. Cattle stands had places assigned respectively for Durhams, Devons, Herefords, Ayrshires, and Galways. Prizes were awarded to each class separately. There was one pair of twin oxen six years old, that attracted most attention, from ladies as well as gentlemen, by their enormous size. Their colour is red and white, spotted, are well proportioned and active. One weighs 3,600 lbs.—the other 3,500 lbs. They have gained 1,400 lbs. since the first of the year. The owner intends to make them weigh four tons and then send them to England. They are said to be the largest oxen in the world.

The sheep I consider of excellent quality. The Leicester, Cotsmolds, Cheviots, Southdowns, and Merinos, were respectively represented. There were a good many Pigs of fair quality, but none extraordinary, the largest weighing only 1,015. A large place was fitted up for poultry which appeared well filled.

The Floral Hall contained quite a variety—one part having vegetables, fruit, flowers, &c. Another had musical instruments, cabinet work, manufacture in leather and furs, &c. Mathematical and philosophical apparatus, maps, paintings, drawings, &c., and ladies' fancy work. There were four entrances and four doors of egress—a continual crowd passed through at so rapid a rate, that things curious and beautiful could only receive a passed glance. In another building were grains, butter, cheese, (one weighing 1,250 lbs.)—also carriages, small agricultural implements and various mechanical inventions.

On the field was an improved steam engine, a portable steam (circular) saw mill, which cuts up logs at a remarkably rapid rate. I think this a valuable invention, and could be used to profit in the manufacture of spruce deals—the slabs furnish fuel—and there is not much expense in working it. Thrashing, mowing and reaping machines, with their makers explaining the peculiar advantages of their improvements. I took only a general and partial view on Wednesday afternoon, expecting to examine minutely yesterday—but as it rained incessantly the whole day, I concluded it was better to enjoy good company at the "Kerby House", than to get wet on the Fair grounds where every thing must necessarily show to disadvantage.

There was one outside tent containing a show of itself, or rather of herself. A young lady of sixteen summers, from Connecticut, was exhibited, who weighs 628 lbs. Her face, hands and feet are not much larger than ordinary. Her arm at the shoulder is extremely large, and gradually becomes smaller to quite a respectable sized wrist and hand.

Thursday was to have been the great day. A great banquet was to be held; American and Canadian celebrities were to be present, and all the people were to be there, but all were doomed to disappointment. The heavy rains were indeed a trying "dispensation," and notwithstanding many used the privilege of British subjects, to express their opinion respecting the weather—down it came, rain, rain, rain—when all but a most determined class of farmers were driven to the shelter of the booths, the crush was more violent than on the preceding day. Crinoline utterly gave way, and with it female patience, still thousands after thousands persisted in perambulating between Canadian productions, and deluding themselves with the idea that they were seeing the show.

The Governor pro tem was received officially at the Town Hall instead of on the grounds as proposed. The banquet as to numbers was a failure. Ex. Gov. Hunt of New York was the only American celebrity present. Several members of the Canadian government were in attendance, and good speeches were made. Every thing during the day apparently partook of the gloominess of the weather, yet it was supposed that over twenty thousand persons were on the grounds during the day.

To-day, the weather is favourable, and the ground by now quite hard. Every effort is made by the Association to make compensation to-day, for the disappointment yesterday, but as "clearing out time" is so near at hand, the anxiety is to get home.

Seven Amateur Bands contended for prizes of £25 and £15, awarded to the best and second best performers. The playing was very good, Galt Band took the first. I shall have something to say about the Town of Galt (where I have spent part of my time) in a future letter.

There was much contention between rival towns for the Fair in 1858. Toronto and Guelph offered £1,500, and Niagara also bid high—but Toronto had the most influence, and next year the Provincial Fair will be held in that city.

Some persons had their pockets picked, but there was not so general an abstraction of cash as at the fair two years ago, when Townshend and his horde were a terror to money holders.

Great efforts were made at Brantford to afford accommodations for all visitors. The Kerby House made provision for two thousand persons, but, as their charge was a dollar a day higher than other Hotels agreed to charge—their beds were not all occupied.

The rush to the cars to and from Brantford during the four days, was extraordinary—the platforms would not contain the crowds waiting for the trains, the track was invaded, the cars were filled as soon as they came in sight. The crowds literally swarmed on the cars, occupying platform and steps, and the only wonder was that the cow-catcher of the engine was not occupied by the gentle public. One train was so long and heavy that three Locomotives attached to it; could only go at the rate of two miles an hour—and at one rise part of the passengers had to get off and walk.

WILL.

For the Christian Messenger. LIST of persons, &c., to whom copies of the Constitution of the Nova Scotia Home Missionary Society were sent:

Table with 2 columns: Name, COPIES. Lists names like Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, Onslow (35), Rev. J. Whidden, Antigonish (9), Rev. M. Parker, Westchester (9), Rev. Jas. Reid, Great Village (15), etc.

To be continued.

European & Foreign News.

THE HAMBURG CONFERENCE OF BAPTIST CHURCHES.

[From the London Freeman]

HAMBURG, Sept. 2.

The sittings of the Fourth Triennial Conference of the Union on Continental Baptist Churches commenced this morning, at the early hour of eight, in the place of worship belonging to the church here. The decorations, prepared by some of the sisters, were very elegant, and quite in German style. They consisted of wreaths and garlands, prettily arranged over the pulpit, and surrounding an angel, who held in one hand the olive branch of peace, and in the other a trumpet, in token of the proclamation of the everlasting gospel. Above was the motto, "Friede sie mit euch" (Peace be with you). Other garlands decorated the front of the gallery and the pillar supporting it.

Mr. Oncken gave the opening address, of which the following is a summary:—

"My beloved fellow-labourers in the spread of Christ's kingdom—gathered from all parts of Germany, from Sweden, Denmark, and Switzerland.—First allow me to present to you the salutation of peace from your sister church here—'Friede sie mit euch'—and, secondly, let me welcome you, in the name of the Hamburg Church, to our family circles and to our homes. Be heartily welcome, not only as the children of God, but as the delegates of the churches, and as being engaged in the most important work that can fall to the lot of man. We consider it as the greatest honour with which this church could be blest, now, for the fourth time, to welcome you in our midst. As we have been blest in past conferences, so may we be also in this. We hope the Lord has brought you together that you may have more strength, more courage, more faith, given to you, and that then, when the time—the sorrowful time—shall come that we must part, we shall, rejoicing in the Lord, go again to the work we have undertaken. We are met to enjoy spiritual refreshing from the presence of the Lord. Let us be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might, and let us know that we are nothing, and can do nothing, and that He must give us everything. Let us walk in more simplicity and single-mindedness, and remember that we must not take one step without having a clear 'Thus saith the Lord' before us. I dare not attempt to glance over our past history—my strength will not allow it. May others do so who have more strength. Oh! what has God done for us—for me, a poor sinner—that he should have kept us all this time in spite of all the attacks of Satan! How many have heard the gospel preached! How many hundreds and thousands have been baptized in his name! What a wonder that God has still kept our ranks unbroken! Satan has done much to try and break the glorious chain, but Jesus has watched over us, and kept us together. We still stand on the apostolic foundation—may we be preserved upon it!"

The report of the three years was read, by which it appeared that 3,601 believers had been baptized during that time—the clear increase being 2,215—and 21 new churches had been formed. The number of members in all the churches on the 1st of January, 1857, was 6,833. Mr. Oncken was then chosen president, after