

My dwelling conduces to pious meditations, family prayer three times a day, no confusion, no bustle, but all is order and cleanliness. Solemn thoughts are felt about the darkness around—purposing to distribute tracts among the people if possible.

Tuesday.—Spent my morning in writing and reading. May I have more love to souls, more faith, more unreserved surrender of my heart to Christ. The review of the past though humbling has a salutary influence in awakening gratitude in my heart that I am, I trust, as a brand plucked from the burning. Read Life of Cone.

Monday, June 8.—There is an exquisite pleasure in inhaling the first breath of morn, is my first thought on looking on the glorious panorama of nature's beauty before me. A sickly sentimentality insensibly creeps over the mind, even whilst gazing with fond admiration on the lovely scenes of this world, where we see a golden chain of divine sympathy leaving not even this fallen earth beyond its embrace. But the mind soon reverts to objects more important. What has been the results of Eleven services in as many days? with sundry talks, expoundings, and prayers, on the souls of this people. One is forcibly reminded that a forced culture of the inner life will not avail much, like hot-house plants, the growth is not healthy; and whilst toiling amidst may discouragements, the minister is more and more sensible of the importance of training, to unfold the interior life of God's people. Young men of Nova Scotia! without that preparation; aim not for that ephemeral reputation which consists in making excitements, but look for a far higher elevation—to feed the flock of God and to train the weak elements of a feeble piety.

Amidst many sad feelings, one thought cheers onward the toil-worn pilgrim, that the seed when sown, may spring up, and when watered by tears and prayers, will produce fruit in God's own time. Here is a vast field to make a bold onslaught on the bulwarks of Popery—not by controversy, but by preaching Christ and him crucified. Oh for the spirit and genius of a Luther, to cultivate the soil of Antigonish! but another week's labor is before me, and how little can we tell what results may follow, whether among the Ethiopians of Tracadie, or in the drawing-room of the more polished European. The soul enjoys an elevation of thought and feeling which cause the fairest prospects of this world to appear evanescent, as the short dream of the winter's night. From want of sympathy, the spirit of isolation may become at times insupportable, but when the child of God is in such circumstances, like the bird of Jove, which when the storms are raging round some Alpine summit, plumes his wings for a loftier flight, to gaze on the undazzling brightness of the orb of day—beholding the elemental strife beneath his feet,—so the tried Christian, pluming the wings of faith, must soar upward, to gaze upon the noon-day splendour of the Sun of Righteousness, looking down upon the petty turmoil of this passing world. I was converted alone, I was baptized alone, I am left alone, and presentiment tells me that I shall die alone. But though the spirit longs for congenial and kindred elements of thought and feeling in this world, all misconception and prejudice will be removed in the next.

For the Christian Messenger.

Home Missions.

To the Churches composing the Baptist Associations of Nova Scotia.

DEAR BRETHREN,

Your attention was called not long since, by Brother Bars and others, through the pages of the Christian Messenger, to the subject of Home Missions. Reference was made to the propriety of uniting the respective Boards of the three Associations into one Central Board, to be located at Halifax, or such other place as would be favourable to communication and co-operation with missionaries labouring in different parts of the Province.

It is not my design, in this letter, to advocate directly the claims of Home Missions, since this has already been done, and since they must be apparent to all. I would merely suggest the need of immediate action with a view to establish our Domestic Missions on a more permanent basis, that their operations may proceed in a more systematic and efficient manner. The organization of one Central Board would, I feel assured, contribute largely to these ends.

With reference to funds, I may here say that I will be one of one hundred to contribute twenty dollars, for one, or even two years; and from what has been said to me

by others who have expressed a willingness to do the same, I feel persuaded that the hundred persons might soon be found. Smaller contributions would of course be quite acceptable.

Hoping that this subject may receive the attention it demands, at the meetings of the Associations, now about to be held,

I am, dear Brethren,
Yours very truly,
AARON THORP.

Newton Centre, June 1, 1857.

[We regret that the above was not sent in time for publication before the meeting of the Western Association. It reached us on the 13th inst.—Ed. C. M.]

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JUNE 17, 1857.

Another long letter addressed "to the Editor of the Christian Messenger," and signed "INQUIRER" appeared in the Church Times of Saturday last. As the writer passes over the inconsistency of the Editor in not allowing our reply to his last to appear in his pages we shall not consider ourselves called upon to extend further courtesies to "a man in a mask." If he were really an "Inquirer" he might with more propriety make his enquiries of the Editor of the Church Times. We imagine, however, a more assuming title would be the more appropriate signature. "Inquirer" wishes to make it appear that the Apostles communicating the gifts of the Holy Spirit by laying on of hands, is a sufficient guarantee for Episcopal Confirmation. If he will prove to us that the Apostolic power is now vested in the ministers of the Episcopal or any other church, we will admit that the argument is valid. As to his statement that the "great error" (baptismal regeneration), "is rather a war of words, than of opposite opinions," we beg to differ from him most entirely. It may be very convenient to dispose of the matter in that way, but the legitimate consequences of such an "error" (or "war of words," if he prefers it), are of the most vital consequence to true religion. It is by some asserted that the Church of England and the Church of Rome are merely names, and that the former might very readily pass into the latter by the change of a word. We think, however, that there are very many in the Episcopal Church who would not consent to this view of the matter. As to the child being "now," (by baptism) "restored to God's favour" and thereby "the seed of future holiness" has been sown; we can only reply, What saith the Scripture?

Does this comport with his subsequent remarks, "that the Churchman does not regard either, (baptism or regeneration) as effecting a change of heart in an infant." If not, of what value are these seeds of grace?

"Inquirer" desires of us the information,—how we would bring little children, (infants), to Christ, according to his command in Mark x: 13-16, if not by baptism? We will ask him if when he goes to Christ in prayer for a blessing on his infant, and neglects no means of inculcating early lessons of piety, he does not more effectually bring his child to Him, than when bringing it to the clergyman for baptism?

"Inquirer" with singular modesty asks us to copy his letter into our pages. Nothing in it but its length, and our space being required for more important matter, prevents us from complying with the request; as we know not one of our readers who might not from its perusal be led to embrace more firmly and rejoice more fully in the simple but sublime truths of God's Word, when he sees to what an amount of credulity he is subjected when he leaves that foundation of true Christianity.

Temperance.

THE Prohibitionist for June gives us a full page of instances in which the ladies have taken the law in their own hands, and have either purchased and destroyed the contents of liquor shops or compelled the dealers to close their establishments. When the devastations of the great destroyer are seen in many family circles it is to be wondered at that the mothers and wives of those who are brought under the infernal spell, should combine to banish their great enemy? It may be thought somewhat beyond the province of woman, to go with the hatchet for the purpose of smashing bottles and knocking in the heads of rum casks, but where women have to choose between this and becoming the wives

of mothers of drunkards, drugged with the miserable poison that is given them in return for their hard earnings, it is scarcely to be wondered at. Where men do their duty there is no necessity for such combinations. Much of the beneficial influence of moral suasion is often lost by its not reaching those who need it most. Let the young men combine and speak out boldly and there will be no necessity for their mothers and sisters to appear on the battleground.

Whatever may be thought of those proceedings, there is a kind of violence such as the following well worthy the imitation of all good Temperance women as well as men:—

The ladies of Greenburgh, Indiana, have voted unanimously to appoint a committee of one hundred of their number to visit all the liquor shops in town, and try by "Kindness and affection to influence sellers to quit the business."

The following instance is given of "A Judge executing Justice":—

"Most of these summary proceedings have been by women; behold a judge executing the search, seizure, and destruction clause. The case of Judge Wright, of Logansport, Indiana, is thus told by the Ohio Crusader:—

The proprietor of a drinking saloon gave liquor to a minor son of the Judge, together with another little boy, and they both were made drunk. The Judge's wrath was aroused, and he went with an axe, on Sunday morning, and made a general smash up of the goods and effects of the grog-seller, especially his large stock of mean liquor. Afterwards put on his best suit and went to meeting as usual. We admire that kind of judicial pluck. We would not wonder if he had a very quiet conscience, and enjoyed religion on that Lord's day. Unless our moral sense is terribly perverted, the Judge did right in the sight of God, angels, and good men. His was not an act of "mob violence." God has given us rights and instincts which human governments cannot abridge or destroy. One of these is the defence of our children. We regret that parents do not generally feel a greater weight of responsibility resting upon them to assert and maintain their God-given rights."

The efforts of the Sons of Temperance in the City are deserving of much credit. A series of four page tracts is being published by them. They are admirably adapted for gratuitous distribution, and cannot fail to do good. The heading, "Leaves for the way-side," nicely describes their character.

No. 1 is an Address to heads of families in the province of Nova Scotia, by the Rev. Dr. Cramp.

No. 2 is The Home, by J. S. Thompson.

No. 3 is The Giant Evil: How shall we deal with it?

No. 4. Should the friends of Temperance exert their political rights in support of their principles?

Acadia College Anniversary.

[We were disappointed in not receiving the following notice previous to our last week's issue. It did not reach us till the 13th inst.]

At eleven o'clock, A. M., the procession left the College for the Meeting House, in the following order:—

- Academy Pupils.
Mr. Hartt, Principal of the Academy, and Mr. Moser, his Assistant.
College Students.
Resident Graduates.
The Professors.
Governors and friends.

After prayer by the Rev. G. Armstrong, A. M., Orations were delivered by under-graduates.

THE POWER OF TRUTH, Henry Vaughan, St. Martin's, N. B.

JUDSON COMPARED WITH XAVIER, Edward M. Saunders, Aylesford.

THE EDUCATIONAL ELEMENT OF ORATORY, Robt. L. Weatherbe, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

THE IMAGINATION,—ITS MIGHT AND ITS MARVELS, Charles H. Corey, New Canaan, N. B.

THE CHRISTIAN HERO IN AFRICA, Robert D. Porter, Cornwallis.

The Rev. S. W. deBlois, A. M., then introduced Mr. Thomas A. Higgins, A. B., who graduated in 1854, to receive the degree of A. M.; and Mr. Robert D. Porter, who has just completed his College Course, to receive the degree of A. B. These degrees were conferred in the usual manner by Dr. Cramp, Chairman of Faculty.

Mr. Higgins has also completed his theological course, and has accepted an invitation to visit the church at Liverpool. His valedictory address, which followed next, was listened to with much interest. There were appropriate and touching allusions to various incidents in his College life, and "Farewell" was pronounced under strong emotion.

The Chairman then announced that the Governors had that morning conferred, by unanimous vote, the honorary degree of Doctor in Divinity on the Rev. Charles Tupper. Dr. Tupper addressed the meeting in strains of encouragement. The Rev. W. Chipman pronounced the benediction, and the proceedings closed.

The Quarterly Examinations took place on the preceding Tuesday and Wednesday. On Tuesday, the Classes were examined in Geometry,

Horace, Virgil's Georgics, Xenophon, and Nautical Astronomy.—On Wednesday, in Mechanics, Homer, Geology, Logic, and Juvenal.

The Classes in the Theological Institute were examined on Thursday. The examination comprised the following particulars:—Senior Class, Theology, and Ecclesiastical History; Hebrew Class, part of the prophecy of Joel: Junior Class, Theology.

Mr. Robert D. Porter has completed his Theological studies, and is about to take charge of a Mission to Dartmouth and its neighbourhood, under the auspices of the brethren at Halifax.—Communicated.

The Theatre and its adjuncts.

A Public Meeting was held in the Division Room, Temperance Hall, on Saturday evening last, for the purpose of considering the evils to which Halifax is shortly to be exposed by the establishment of a permanent theatre and drinking saloon; and the best means to be used to avert those evils.

Addresses were delivered by several gentlemen, who, while they did not lose sight of the arguments often used in support of dramatic performances, yet shewed clearly that the immorality and vice invariably associated with the theatre, and especially when accompanied with places for drinking, were a sufficient reason for alarm, and should induce all good citizens to discourage them. A memorial to His Worship the Mayor and City Council was adopted.

We think there could not be a more appropriate situation for the theatre than the one chosen—next door to the Work-house, the Poor-house, and the Jail. If the records of poverty and crime could but be exhibited fully and fairly, we hesitate not to express the opinion that many of the future inmates of these institutions would be able distinctly to trace their course from the exhibitions, exposures and imitations of human nature, on the stage of the theatre, to the deplorable experience of its consequences in their full development as seen in themselves.

It may be well for heads of families and young men in particular to mark well the contiguity of the buildings, and be warned in time of the steps which lead from one to the other.

The only safety in this as in the practice of sobriety, is in Total Abstinence.

NEW SCOTTISH LAY PREACHER.—A. M. Brownlow North is causing much excitement in Edinburg and other towns in Scotland, by his pathetic preaching in the several pulpits in those cities he visits. He was till recently quite a man of fashion, and even now dresses in a style very different from that usual in the pulpit. He addresses his audience in the most impassioned and powerful, yet simple manner, that his hearers become deeply affected many even to tears. Wherever he preaches, crowds go to hear him, and often hundreds are unable to obtain admission.

The settlement of the Central American question between England and the U. S. is still encompassed with some difficulties. There seems, however, a mutual disposition at present to avoid all further causes of excitement, and we trust before long an amicable and satisfactory adjustment of all the points at issue will take place. Our new Ambassador, Lord Napier, seems to have been well received at Washington, and bids fair to be fit for his business. The Authorities at Washington have finally resolved to take summary means to reduce the Mormons in Utah to submission to the general Government, and 2500 troops under Gen. Harney are ordered thither. The outrage of all laws, human and Divine, the expulsion of the U. S. Judges and Officials by force, and the unbridled exercise of power by the Mormon Despot, Brigham Young, has rendered it impossible any longer to submit to his defiance of all superior control. We believe this impious and licentious imposture would very shortly come to an end, if left to itself—but for the sake of society at large it is not right that such an entire disregard of all the sanctions of morality and religion should go unpunished.

Much interest will be felt in the new news from China. A large Naval and Military force will have arrived at Canton, and not improbably some decisive stroke, ere now, may have been struck on the part of the allied British and French forces. In the mean time, Lord Elgin, the British Plenipotentiary, is on his way to open negotiations at Peking with that Semi-barbarian Power. The Insurgents still hold possession of some of the most important parts of the Empire, and it is by no means unlikely that they may eventually change, not only the Manchoo Tartar Dynasty, but the whole system of the social, civil and religious economy of China. That such mea-

be the case ev cannot but ho hope may be v The Insurgents which is larg truth, and h by fanaticism is great reaso success would of the pure G millions of (Ch Gene Fore A Pition is CHIEF JUSTICE the infliction of accompanying 17. The reat t Saint Jan is a bor on e 230 2500 a (e— John me 275 pence. The prey by John Ayon Barringtonste H. D. Fro, Thousand for W. A. Jh last, the pro House," in 11750. LAKEPLA erty called Hon. T. N. fax and va ssembled up The real e finally kno of the firm dealers, for other perso afterwards good prices The Chr acke is to the 1st A M. P. P. The F painting n the P Dartmouth twenty-one Club. T Brien, do painted f ing, color the spirit are right about to years tui have a st the fine e him retu artist.— An ac and stro Institute pected f city. J. W. lege, M at Wia scientifi MELA jr, whi yester ceiving him in himself body v of an l exerti efforts Freen of ag young be nu The Princ a few A on th four O capti one were the far ber a r aric an A be F ei