

For the Christian Messenger.

Mark 9. 41.

DEAR BROTHER, I know not but that some persons may consider me ungrateful, as no public acknowledgment of "donation visits" made my family, last fall, by the churches of Digby, second Hillsburgh, and Digby Joggins was tendered. Should this be so, I beg to assure them that ingratitude has nothing to do with the apparent neglect. My sole reasons for the omission being, first, an unconquerable aversion to writing anything for the public eye; and second I had considered that the object to be attained in giving publicity to "donation visits," had long since been secured; and third and lastly, I was perfectly satisfied that my esteemed friends and Brethren, were not anxious to have their munificence published to the world—that sufficient reward was enjoyed in relieving the wants of an ensnared servant of Christ, easing his mind from oppressive care, and cheering him in his loneliness by that which is more valuable than gold—brotherly sympathy. These kind demonstrations, amounting to about £20, together with the products of our garden, kept us from debt and made us very comfortable, during the storms of winter. Not very long since, just as the inquiry was beginning to arise in ones mind, "What shall, &c."—I received by the hand of Capt. Pinkney the sum of £67s. 6d., from some of my valued friends of Yarmouth, who have not ceased to remember me with each returning year since our first acquaintance. By last mail I received the enclosed which, I send you for publication.

Hantsport, March 29, 1857.

DEAR BROTHER CUNNINGHAM,

Many of the people of God, doubtless much regret the loss of your health, by which providential arrangement you have been led to resign your pastoral relation with your church, your Brethren in general sympathise with you. I had a dream about you last week, that part of it which was most impressive to me, I will here relate—I dreamed that a ministering Brother, came to me, and asked me to aid Br. C., as he had need, I said I would but had no funds on hand, but told him to advance to Br. C., and when funds came I would repay it. He said "he would," and I awoke, and lo, it was a dream—but I felt and thought much about it. I soon found what was my duty in the case; not that I put much stress on dreams, but they may be a means of guide to or revive a recollection of written duty. I at once applied to the Upper Falmouth and Hantsport Churches, with Brother Rand's aid—the results are given in the notes below, which you will please accept as a free-will-offering at the hand of those churches, and believe me ever yours.

Table with 2 columns: Location, Amount. Falmouth, £1 4 1; Hantsport, 1 15 11; Total, £3 0 0.

I beg to tender my warmest acknowledgements to my very kind friends in general, and to my anonymous friend in particular. May his future dreams be always pleasant. It would be gratifying to possess his name; but the Omniscient who knows it, will I trust acknowledge his kindness, though done to one of the least, as having been done to Himself. In closing, I would just say for the information of my friends, that my health is gradually improving with returning spring. In addition to their liberality, let my dear Brethren remember their prayers, their much obliged but unworthy brother, R. W. CUNNINGHAM. Rose Cottage, April 8, 1857.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation visit at Newport.

MR. EDITOR, The Church in Newport, having concluded in December last, to make a Donation visit to the Rev. Mr. Bancroft, made the necessary arrangements to meet at his residence at Woodville, on Wednesday, Jan'y. 7th, 1857. A snow-storm commenced on Tuesday, and on Wednesday the roads were almost impassable, the general feeling was that there would be few if any who would turn out,—some however felt home supposing it would be necessary to make arrangements for another day. The first efforts had to break the roads from the different localities, and in some instances where they would not turn out of the road, tramping and snowing was found necessary. The old adage was however made good, that, "where there is a will there is a way"—for notwithstanding the discouragements, the result was, that sixty-one persons gave their attendance. It was soon ascertained that the Ladies had come well prepared to discharge their duties, and were treated if possible, better than on previous occasions. After which, William Chambers, Esq., M. P. P., was called to the

chair, and Francis Parker, Esq., of Walton, presented the Donations, amounting to £23 3s. 3d., which were gratefully acknowledged. Messrs. W. Chambers, A. Masters, and O. Dimock, addressed the meeting in an effective manner, which was followed by a reply on the part of Mr. B., that was touchingly appropriate. The meeting ended with singing and prayer.

Many persons who were not present were disappointed,—and some thought we should have put it off till another day. Some of which, as a proof of their sincerity, afterwards forwarded their donations, raising the amount to £30 5s., of which sum, £22 5s. was in cash. In addition to which, on the 11th of March, ten loads of good wood was hauled to the door, and two more that was placed by the way-side, has since been added, making in all twelve loads.

And I would here note in reference to last year, that another party had shown their goodwill in March 1856, when a like quantity of wood was presented, which was not acknowledged in the notice given of last year's donations.

Yours truly, ISAIAH DIMOCK.

Newport, March 20th, '57.

For the Christian Messenger.

Missionary Tour.

DEAR BROTHER,

I have spent eleven weeks in the service of the Western Association Missionary Board. I spent two weeks in Argyle. The state of religion is very low here, in consequence of old difficulties. There is no influence so injurious to the cause of God as a want of union. A Church united will prosper, disunited it cannot.

I spent three weeks in Publico. You have heard from this place by Brother Tabor's letter. I baptized two persons here, and received one that had been baptized. I spent three weeks in Barrington, and baptized one. The Church here is united and prospering. I spent three weeks in Wood's Harbour, and baptized six and ordained a Deacon. This is part of Barrington church. Brother Kempton has been labouring in these regions for some time with good acceptance. There is great need of an ordained Minister of the right stamp in these parts. I returned to my people in Beaver River, the 1st of March. There has been a great many very sudden deaths amongst the children in this place. The church here began a series of meetings on the 14th March, and continued them for fifteen days and evenings. Our ministering brethren in the township being so much engaged at the time we had no ministerial aid except Brother Reid, who came and preached twice to us very acceptably. I tried to preach twice a day, the people of God prayed and exhorted and the Lord was present to bless. We have baptized twenty-six and received three, previously baptized. May the Lord continue to bless his word in the salvation of souls until "all shall know him."

Yours truly, THOMAS DELONG.

Beaver River, March 26th, '57.

For the Christian Messenger.

Singing Schools in Cornwallis.

MR. EDITOR,

During the past winter we have had the pleasure of receiving instruction in Sacred Music from Mr. J. F. Miles, of Milton, Queen's Co., long known as a most efficient Teacher.

A fitting opportunity has been afforded the public of judging of his success, by a combined Public Concert of his three classes in the Wesleyan Chapel, Canning.

The exercises consisted of an appropriate selection of Vocal Music. It was acknowledged by competent judges to reflect much credit on both Teacher and the taught. The singing was interspersed with addresses of deep interest by Rev. Messrs. Taylor and Hunt.

At the close, the following resolutions were unanimously responded to.

Resolved.—That amid the regrets we feel at closing our pleasing relations with Mr. Miles, we have an earnest appreciation of the high order of his ability as a teacher of Vocal Music, and the success that has attended his course of instruction.

Resolved further.—That we are bound in grateful remembrance to Mr. Miles for the kindness and solicitude for our advancement that have marked his intercourse with us. And in parting, we wish him a happy re-union with his family, and every gift in the beneficence of a kind Providence.

Hoping that parties may overlook any liberty I have taken with their names.

Let me remain sincerely yours,

AN OBSERVER.

Cornwallis, April 11th, '57.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visit at New Albany.

MR. EDITOR,

According to arrangement a number of friends from this place, Nictaux, Beals Mountain, &c., assembled at my residence on the afternoon of the 17th inst. Notwithstanding the badness of the roads (which prevented some from attending) about sixty were present. Kindly feelings produced cheerful countenances and added to the interest of the occasion. As evening approached arrangements were made for tea, a bountiful supply of the good things of this life were provided. The meeting was afterwards called to order, when a chairman was appointed, and one of the brethren with an appropriate address presented me, in behalf of the company, with a purse containing £5 8s. 1 1/2d. in cash, and a list of articles for family use, in all valued at over twelve pounds. Though feeble in health I endeavoured to reply as well as I could.

The meeting was then addressed by Elder W. G. Parker from Nictaux. He spoke of his interest in these meetings, the good they were adapted to effect, in relieving the minister's wants, in showing an appreciation of his labours, and especially as manifesting christian sympathy, which the minister of Christ of all men in the world feels the need, and knows how to appreciate, in the face of opposition, and the frowns of an ungodly world. He also spoke of his connection with this Church and place some fourteen years ago, his attachment to them and interest in their welfare. He touchingly referred to the fathers and mothers who had since then left the church militant and joined the host above. He spoke of the present generation, and of the youth and children in their midst, with a prophecy that this church should yet increase.

I cannot give anything like a correct outline of the whole address, suffice it to say that it was interesting and instructive throughout. Another address followed, and Bro. P. supplicated the throne of Divine Mercy. Singing and conversation followed for a time when the company began to disperse, happy in renewing old acquaintance and forming new ones, and with a consciousness of having done right.

J. C. PLUMB.

New Albany, March 23rd, 1857.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

JAMES SOLEY.

The subject of this memoir was born in the lower village of Truro, on the 18th of June, 1800. He became united in marriage to Mary second daughter of Mr. Charles Hill of Economy, to which place he shortly afterwards removed.

Brother Soley in his youthful days was carefully instructed in the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church, and was in sentiment a Presbyterian; but as he often stated, both in public and private, at that time was a stranger to the covenant of promise, without hope, without God, and ignorant of that freedom wherewith Christ maketh his people free.

How mysterious are the ways of God in bringing home his wandering sheep to his fold. During the sickness of their first child they were visited by the Presbyterian Minister then residing there, who rebuked them for not doing their duty to their child, in having him baptized as they called it, leaving the impression upon the mind of Brother Soley, if the child died without baptism it would be lost, and that he must bear the blame. This threw him into great distress, but neither his prayers nor his tears availed. The child died. In the meantime Brother S. became much disturbed. It drove him to his Bible, and that, as it invariably does, pointed him to "the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world," and in believing on Him he found peace. That blessed Saviour who had thus set the prisoner free, said to him "follow thou me." This led him to examine the subject of baptism, and by a prayerful search of Matthew, 3rd chapter, as also the first chapter of Mark, with many other passages in holy writ; he was baptized by Elder Munro. A Baptist Church was organized in Lower Economy, and Brother Soley was ordained Deacon, which office he filled as near the direction given by the great Apostle of the Gentiles to Timothy, as any we ever knew. Notwithstanding the distress caused by an asthmatic cough, and other diseases of a serious nature, our Brother continued to labour until the winter of 1856. He endured great bodily suffering, which he bore with christian fortitude and pious resignation to the will of God. His conversation was in Heaven; and the only earthly care upon his mind, was to finish the Baptist Meeting House in Lower Economy, which he laboured hard to complete; but to a house not made with hands he was to go, and he looked forward with ardent desire "to depart and be with Christ which was far better." Notwithstanding, it pleased the Lord yet partially to raise him up until the 25th of September last. He selected Philippians, i. 22, as the foundation of a discourse, on the day of his interment.—Communicated by Rev. Samuel Thompson.

MR. WILLIAM WILEY,

Died, at New Albany, on the 2nd of Feb'y., 1857. He was admitted out-pensioner of Chelsea Hospital, August 26th, 1819, from the 98th Regt. When about 42 years of age, having served in the army 15 years, he was discharged by disbandment, at 7d. per day, on condition that he reside in Nova Scotia. Soon after he became a resident of Dalhousie, in the County of Annapolis. In 1842 he was united in marriage to the Widow Snell. In the Autumn of 1846 it pleased God to visit this place with a gracious revival of religion, under the faithful labours of Elder W. C. Rideout. Bro. Wiley was among the number who became interested. At first the evidences of his conversion were not so clear as to satisfy the church fully. After nearly a year had passed he was baptized and received into church fellowship, and has proved an upright, consistent christian, and we trust he now sleeps in Jesus.

Little more than a year ago he got badly chilled from the effects of which he never fully recovered. In the deep suffering he was then called to endure he spoke of the sins of his past life, and wondered at the long forbearance of God, that he had not been cut down in the midst of his long course of rebellion against his holy laws. He, however, partially recovered, and not more than ten minutes before his death he was at his neighbour's house on business, had just returned home, and spoke a few words to Mrs. Wiley when he fell upon the floor speechless, and in a moment more he was a lifeless corpse. Oh how frail is this life—in the morning man groweth up, in the evening he is cut down and withereth.

The solemn occasion of his death was improved by Bro. J. C. Plumb, from Eccles. vi. 6. "Do not all go to one place?"—Com. by Asaph Whitman.

New Albany, March 19th, 1857.

MRS. SARAH CHUTE, AND HER HUSBAND, MR. DANIEL CHUTE.

The former died Jan. 12th, 1857, aged 81 years, the latter, five days after,—on the 17th of the same month—aged 84 years, leaving a large family of children, grand-children, and other relatives.

They experienced religion in Granville, under the Rev. Henry Allen, and joined the Baptist Church in that place under the care of the Rev. Thomas H. Chipman, 56 years since. They then moved to Clements, and were among those who organized the first Baptist Church in Clements, Annapolis Co. Bro. C. was chosen deacon of the said church, and with his wife remained respected members until they were called to join the church triumphant.

Sister Chute's departure was very sudden; when her husband was informed of her deliverance he replied, "I wish I could go." On being asked what he wanted, he said, "nothing but the eternal God." Their relatives have not to mourn as those without hope, but as those who have parted but for a season.

The solemn occasion was improved by the writer from Hebrews vi. 17-18.

I remain dear Brother, yours truly. Clements, Feb. 11, '57. AARON COGSWELL.

Provincial Parliament.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TUESDAY, April 7.

Hon. Mr. Tobin, by command of his Excellency, laid on the table of the house copies of correspondence between the Provincial Government and the British Government, relative to the Mines and Minerals.

REMOVAL OF HON. MR. MCCULLY FROM THE RAILWAY BOARD.

Hon. Mr. McCully—I beg leave to bring under the notice of this house and the country a matter affecting myself personally, and my position as a public individual. To be perfectly in order, before I sit down, sir, I shall conclude with a motion. Yesterday, after the adjournment of this house, I received a letter from the Provincial Secretary, which I shall take the liberty to read. [The hon. gentlemen then read the following letter:]

Provincial Secretary's Office, Halifax, April 6, 1857.

SIR,—I am commanded by the Lieutenant Governor to acquaint you that it is intended to appoint the Hon. James McNab to the office of Chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners, in the place of the Hon. Joseph Howe, resigned. As in the terms of the act authorizing the construction of Provincial Railways (17 Vic., chap. 1, sec. 4) "not more than one of the Railway Commissioners can at any time hold a seat in each branch of the Legislature," I am further commanded to intimate to you that the appointment which it is proposed to make will necessarily involve your retirement from the Railway Board.

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES TUPPER.

To the Hon. Jonathan McCully. To this letter I immediately forwarded the following reply:

HALIFAX, April 7, 1857.

SIR,—Your letter of the 6th inst., informing me of the intention of his Excellency the Lieut. Governor to appoint the Hon. James McNab to the office of Chairman of the Board of Railway Commissioners, in the place of the Hon. Joseph Howe, containing reference to the act 17 Vic., and intimating the personal consequences to myself individually which such an appointment will involve, has been received.

I have the honor to remain, sir,

Your obedient servant,

JONATHAN MCCULLY.

The Hon. Chas. Tupper, Prov'l Secretary.