

ship. On the whole we feel bound to say 'Hitherto the Lord hath blessed us.' We are yet enjoying the highly appreciated labours of Elder James Parker."—Baptized 26.

CORNWALLIS FOURTH, or LONG POINT.—(Rev. D. Pineo, Pastor.)—"After a season of trial the Lord has been pleased to revive his work among us in blessing the faithful labours of his servants and the prayers of his people, so that the attention of many have been called to the concerns of religion, and the power of converting grace has been manifested among us. Backsliders have been reclaimed, and sinners converted. Our prayers and conference meetings are well attended and a good degree of union prevails."—Baptized 65.

UPPER FALMOUTH.—(Rev. Wm. Burton, Pastor.)—"But little alteration has taken place in this Church during the past year. They have enjoyed the services of Brother R. D. Porter part of the time, in connection with their pastor, and appreciate his labors." This is a very small Church in numerical strength, but its contributions to all benevolent objects may well put larger churches to shame. May the little one become a thousand.

GRANVILLE STREET, HALIFAX.—(Rev. D. Freeman, Pastor.)—"As a Church we have continued to enjoy unbroken harmony. Though conscious of great deficiency in our duty yet we trust that our sense of obligation to the Saviour has been in some measure quickened and our spirit of faith and prayer increased. Nor have the tokens of divine aid been wholly withheld from us."—Baptized 4.

NORTH CHURCH, HALIFAX.—(Rev. S. N. Bentley, Pastor.)—"At the date of our last epistle the Church was without an under-shepherd. Early in August our present pastor commenced his labors among us, and by the blessing of the great Shepherd and Bishop of souls we have frequently been 'led by the still waters and made to lie down in green pastures.' On the 14th of September it was our privilege to visit the baptismal waters. Subsequently there have been added by baptism—forty-one members. A Temperance Society has been formed in our Church which is already manifesting its meliorating effects."

HAMMOND'S PLAINS, FIRST.—(Rev. T. H. Porter, Pastor.)—"We were in a low and scattered state.—Thirty-five in number, and but few of these fit to belong to any Church, these few just waking up to a sense of consciousness. The work of gospel discipline went on until we were reduced to thirty, when our protracted meeting commenced. The Lord wonderfully blessed the co-operation of pastor and church in a glorious revival. We have the gospel faithfully preached to us half the time."—Baptized 42.

HANTSPOUR.—(Rev. Wm. Burton, Pastor.)—"Our pastor is laboring with us in the gospel with his accustomed zeal and energy and has had the happiness of seeing the cause of God prosper in his hands. A good degree of union exists. Since our last Association we have been bereft of our esteemed Brother, Deacon Peleg Holmes."—Baptized 8.

HORTON, FIRST.—(Rev. S. W. de Blois, Pastor.)—"Our prospects on the whole are more favorable than at the last Anniversary. Some who at that time were in a state of great darkness and coldness have been restored to fellowship and have taken their place amongst his people. A considerable accession has taken place by baptism; but we mourn the lack of interest in the cause which prevails in our church members, and that in the case of heads of families and others who should be pillars. We rejoice in the assistance our brethren at the Institution—especially Dr. Cramp—but we need more of the spirit of consecration—clearer views of christian responsibility."—Baptized 30.

SECOND HORTON CHURCH.—(Bro. Eliphalet Reid, Acting Pastor.)—"During the past year we have had to mourn our coldness and darkness yet we have not been without some tokens of the divine favor. Our Conference Meetings are regularly sustained in two sections of the Church. The labors of Bro. Reid have been very acceptable, and there are signs that they are not in vain in the Lord."—Baptized 5.

THIRD HORTON CHURCH.—(Rev. S. W. de Blois, Pastor.)—"This is a new Church organized in September last by forty-five members of the first Horton Church, obtaining dismissions for that purpose. Since our organization we have had abundant reason to believe that the Holy Spirit has owned and blessed the step we took in fear and much trembling. As the result of a series of meetings held in March last the number of our Church speedily doubled by the accession of a most interesting class of converts. We rejoice to know that since that time all of

these are walking in the truth, and the number of them is monthly increasing. Our church now numbers 120 members."—Baptized previous to Association 56, since the Association 4,—60.

INDIAN HARBOR.—(Without a pastor.)—"No letter has been received from this Church. Rev. J. C. Hurd labored there for some time and gathered a small Church, which increased under his ministrations. It is a village wholly inhabited by fishermen—a most interesting class of our people. We extract from the letter of 1856 as follows:—"We thank our God for his kindness to usward, that by His mercy we have been kept from that sin of contention which is so contagious in these days, and whose touch is as death to every noble principle of the soul. There has, however, been no addition to this Church during the past year, but rather a declension one being set aside."

JEDDORE.—(Without a pastor.)—"We have had our troubles and our conflicts, we have had also some seasons of spiritual enjoyment, and are still encouraged to trust in the Lord and press forward. We are refreshed occasionally by the visits of missionaries who have preached to us the glorious gospel of Christ, but we feel assured that we should enjoy a greater degree of prosperity if we could have stated preaching. This, however, we cannot expect until our means for the support of the ministry are more abundant than at present."

KEMPT.—(Rev. B. Vaughan, Pastor.)—"As a Church we deplore our unfaithfulness and want of love and zeal for God, yet we have much reason to be thankful for the unspeakable privileges of the preached gospel. Brethren pray for us."—Baptized 3.

LAHAVE.—(Rev. Bennett Taylor, Pastor.)—"We thank Almighty God that it is as well with us as it is—that we have continued union. We mourn over the lowness of Christ's religion. Our prayer meetings are more largely attended than heretofore."

LAWRENCETOWN, County of Halifax.—(Without a pastor.)—"This Church is in a very low condition, for four years no report had been received and it was about to be dropped from the Minutes when Bro. Burton engaged to visit and report its state, which visit resulted in bringing them together. They say, "We still desire to renew our sentiments and connection with your Association, and feel happy to know that you still care and feel for us. We wish missionary labor."

LUNENBURGH, N. W.—(Bro. David G. Shaw, Acting Pastor.)—"We have to confess to much of the Laodicean Spirit among us; we wish we could write more encouragingly and speak of a larger increase, but we thank God for present circumstances. One willing convert has lately been baptized, and we trust there are others enquiring the way to Zion with their faces thitherward."

NEW GERMANY.—(Without a pastor.)—"We, as a Church, are wading through a scene of darkness and trial: the enemy has been permitted to some extent to make inroads among us and destroy our peace; yet though cast down we are not utterly forsaken, we feel able in some degree to trust in that promise, that when the enemy comes in like a flood the Lord will lift up a standard against him. We have no stated preaching."

NEW CORNWALL.—(Rev. I. J. Skinner, Pastor.)—"Our prayer and social meetings have been well sustained, and the brethren and sisters generally have been ready to engage therein. Although our number has not been enlarged by baptism, yet we believe that united prayers of the Church have been offered earnestly for the conversion of souls, which God will answer in his own due time."

NEWPORT.—(Rev'ds. George Dimock and Jeremiah Bancroft, Pastors.)—"We are still blessed with the means of grace and have had some seasons of encouragement. During the past year we trust some souls have been hopefully converted unto God."—Baptized 5.

PRESTON.—(Without a pastor.)—"This is a small Church of colored brethren and sisters in the County of Halifax. "In all our troubles and trials the Lord has been good to us. We send our love to all the brethren, hoping that they will pray for us."

RAWDON.—(Rev. B. Vaughan, Pastor.)—"Within the year past we have been made to feel that God has not forgotten to be gracious. In the plenitude of his mercy he has scattered the cloud of darkness which has for a long time been hanging over us, precious souls have been brought to bow to the sceptre of Prince Immanuel. Our number has been increased, and we, as a Church, with few exceptions, have been made to

sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus."—Baptized 20.

SACKVILLE, N. S.—(Rev. T. H. Porter, Pastor.)—"Although it has not been our happiness to rejoice in a special Revival the past year, yet we can rejoice in honorable accessions to our numerical and moral strength."—Baptized 8.

SHERBROOKE, EAST.—(Without a pastor.)—"We rejoice to hear of revivals of religion in other places. We pray that the cloud of mercy may thicken and spread and hover over our little vine and some mercy drops descend among us."

SHERBROOKE, WEST.—(No pastor.)—"During the past year very little of interest has transpired among us, yet God has let some mercy drops fall upon us."

ST. MARGARET'S BAY.—"We have reason to bless God that a brighter day has dawned upon us, after a long time of gloom and sadness differences among brethren have been removed, backsliders reclaimed and sinners converted to God, while others are enquiring the way to Zion. We enjoyed a visit from Rev. T. H. Porter, who baptized 11 converts, ordained two Deacons, and set in order the things that were wanting among us. We are very anxious to secure the stated ministry among us, and hope the Lord will send some one in the fulness of the gospel; we will endeavour to sustain him."

WATERVILLE, Hants County.—This is a new and feeble Church, of which, at present, we can say but little, owing to the short time that has elapsed since its organization. May the Lord add to its number."

WINDSOR.—(Rev. D. M. Welton, Pastor. Ordained since the meeting of the Association)—"The blessing of God we trust has attended the labors of Rev. J. E. Balcom among us the past year. Although no special movement has resulted, yet the faithful exhibition of truth will we trust have an abiding result."

We have thus endeavoured to present the more prominent facts, leaving out, of course in every letter, much of a local character, and in many instances presenting a short summary of the contents of the letters.

There are but few churches comparatively in this Association that are without stated labor; but we think that in many instances churches which now enjoy a pastor's labor only a part of the time, might, by some little more self-sacrifice and increased liberality, secure the services of a pastor all the time amongst them.

In view of the contents of these letters, however, brethren, we may well say, "The Lord has helped us," and adopt the encouragement of the Psalmist, "Wait on the Lord and be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thy heart. Wait, I say, on the Lord."

S. W. DEBLOIS, Secretary.

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from Port Medway.

SABBATH SCHOOL FESTIVAL, &c.

DEAR BROTHER,

The melancholy news of the death of sister Skinner reached us last week, which cast a gloom over this community, and especially those with whom she had been so lately connected in christian fellowship. We oftentimes met her at the conference and communion table, and at the house of God, and on those occasions we frequently heard her speaking of the goodness of God who had done so much for her, and recommending the Saviour to others as altogether lovely. Her christian piety had gained in this church a strong attachment, which was evidently manifested on a conference occasion before she left. May God sustain Bro. S. under this heavy bereavement.

Bro. Robert R. Philp has accepted a call from this church and commenced his labours here. May they prove a blessing to him and this people.

Truly yours,  
Z. P. ARMSTRONG.

East Port Medway,  
September 15th, 1857.

P. S.—I would beg to add that there was a Sabbath School Festival given yesterday afternoon, at Portmedway. At one o'clock about 150 children, with their parents Teachers and other persons numbering about 300, met at the Baptist Chapel. The Choir sang several pieces selected for that purpose. Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Higgins of Liverpool. Appropriate addresses given by the Rev. Mr. Gaskill, the Rev. Mr. Philp and the Rev. Mr. Higgins. After which the children and congregation repaired to the ground of Mrs. Mortimer where the tables were supplied with every thing necessary. After the children spending an hour or two in amusement they repaired again to the Chapel and were dismissed by their minister. Every thing passed off pleasantly and gave satisfaction to all concerned.

Z. P. A.

NEWS SUMMARY.

FOREIGN & DOMESTIC.

New Brunswick.

HORSE-RACING.—Our City Government is considered by some of our contemporaries very far from perfection, and we have no reason to suppose the authorities impeccable, yet we congratulate our fellow-citizens that they were spared the infliction of horse-racing when permission was sought for the use of the Common for that purpose. The recent experience of the citizens of St. John, N. B., sufficiently indicates the tendencies of that amusement, although it may be countenanced by the nobility and even Prelates of the State Church.

A fearful picture is drawn of the doings of Rum and rioting on that occasion, by a contemporary:—

"HORSE RACING, RUM, AND ROWDYISM.—These generally go together. A startling illustration was given last Monday of this fact, on what is called the race ground on the flats. Thousands had assembled to see a horse race; owing, it is said, to the uneven state of the roads, there was no race; but there was plenty of rum, a usual accompaniment of gaming of all sorts, and, as might be expected, the passions of men were fired by the sparkling bowl. Then came a general melee. Some say Orangeism and Romanism came in contact, and that occasioned the strife. This may have had some influence—but RUM, RUM was the prime instigation in this quarrel. This was the moving spirit; maddened with this accursed demon, men were prepared for any deed of violence which Satan might suggest. Hence the free use of clubs, and other deadly weapons. It is said two men were nearly killed. Rumsellers manufacture rows, rows result in murder, murder sends the murderer and his bleeding victim to an ignominious grave, and to an eternal hell. Oh! ye manufacturers of crime, ponder your footsteps, they are taking hold of damnation. Stay, stay your hand before you take the final plunge, and go, with your crimson guilt, to the bar of an incensed Deity.

"But, it is said, "the horse race is lawful," and so is liquor dealing lawful in the eyes of man, but neither is lawful in the sight of God. His law is opposed to the punishment of innocent beasts for the gratification of depraved man, and his law pronounces a solemn woe upon him that putteth the bottle to his neighbour's mouth. The laws of unholiness are one thing, and the laws of a holy God are another. If we must have circuses and horse racing, we must have rum selling and rum drinking, and if we have these ungodly practices, ROWDYISM, FIGHTING, MURDER, DEATH, and HELL will follow in the train. From all these crying abominations, O God save our City, the land, the world!—Visitor.

FIRES.

On Wednesday morning last, about 5 o'clock, the foundry, forming a portion of the Carleton iron works, was discovered in a blaze, and in a short space of time, the premises, consisting of two large buildings, in which were located a foundry, machine shop, blacksmith's shop, moulding loft &c., were entirely consumed. Four dwelling houses, two of them owned by Mr. James Armstrong, and the other by Messrs. George Clark and John Preston, contiguous to the iron works, were destroyed; also, a blacksmith's shop in the rear of the foundry. Estimated loss upwards of £2,000.—New Brunswicker.

ANOTHER FIRE.—ABOUT FORTY HOUSES BURNED, ESTIMATED LOSS £15,000.—Yesterday morning about 1 o'clock the alarm was again rung, and the illuminated skies showed that Portland was this time the scene of the conflagration. The fire first appeared on the premises of a man of the name of Dawson, who kept a boarding house a few doors above Mr. Smith's shipbuilding yard on the Main street, side next the river. By the time the engines reached the spot, this, and a house on either side of it, were in flames but few of the people in the vicinity seemed to realize the danger that existed. Unfortunately the tide at the time was out, and through the apathy or nigardliness of its leading inhabitants Portland is not yet provided with water mains. The engines therefore could do no good but by three of them connecting their hose together, and thus pumping the water for a long distance, and as this required a unity of action which there seemed no one present capable of commanding the flames were allowed to proceed unmolested with their work of destruction. The conflagration went on without hindrance consuming the whole range of houses up to Ordnance corner, and the street leading to Rankin's wharf, and back to the next street behind Main st., thus destroying two entire blocks of closely inhabited buildings. It also at one place crossed Main street and consumed four wooden and one large brick house. After the tide rose the engines made every exertion possible to put the fire out, but loud complaints were made of want of co-operation on the part both of the authorities and people generally of Portland.—Courier.

The St. Andrew's Standard says:— Another new locomotive arrived here on Saturday last from Portland, U. S., for the New Brunswick and Canada Railway Company. In our next we hope to be able to announce that three locomotives are engaged on our line. Our Woodstock friends would rejoice to witness the activity on the works on this end—indeed we might say, midway between St. Andrews and Woodstock. "There's a good time coming."