

Be Short.

We remember seeing a dozen years since in prominent letters over the study door of a most useful pastor—who served the same church a quarter of a century, and who has now gone to his reward—the words: "Be Short." How much, it occurred to us, is comprehended in those monosyllables, and how much meaning in placing them there. Long calls, inquisitive and tedious conversation, had frittered away too many valuable moments of a life that was not to be long, its possessor having died before he reached the age of fifty years. Yet there is scarcely a lesson which men in general are so slow to learn as this one: BE SHORT. The railroad and telegraph are doing somewhat to educate the people, and yet the tedium that "drags its slow length along," is still the impediment, we had almost said the vice of multitudes. "BE SHORT: are two words which give the greatest satisfaction in argument, in conversation, in writing, in visiting, in almost everything. They redeem time, that all-comprehending and all-meaning something we call our own, on the right and saving use of which depends the wonders of good we may do and the treasures we may lay up for the long needs of eternity. All our losses and perils here spring from the disease and abuse of time. Our minutes here, relative to duration and importance, are more to be considered than ages of eternity."—W. & R.

A Valuable Spirit.

A Mr. C. W. Cathcart writes to the Spiritual Telegraph, from Laporte county, Ind., detailing the following instance of power. He says:

"During the last harvest a whirlwind blew off the straw hat of one of my hands. My attention was attracted to it, as, seated on my reaping-machine, I rounded the corner next to him. The hat was forty rods off, and I should think nearly, if not quite 300 feet high. I called in a loud voice, 'King, (the familiar name of our presiding spirit), bring that man his hat.' The man instantly stopped perfectly still. The hat whirled around, came back and dropped precisely in his hands. He was so surprised that he did not shut his fingers upon it, when it fell to the ground on his feet; and he picked it up without moving an inch from his position, which he had held immovably from the time I called. The man was no Spiritualist. I called out without reflection, and can only say that I did not do so wantonly. This curious affair was witnessed by at least eight sedate witnesses, but few of whom were crazy Spiritualists."

A few spirits like the above would find profitable employment in this city on a windy day.—N. Y. paper.

The London Punch, tells some home truths in summing up the "sweet uses of adversity." This is the catalogue:

- You wear out your old clothes.
You are not troubled with many visitors.
You are exonerated from making calls.
Crossing sweepers do not molest you.
Bored do not bore you.
Spongers do not haunt your table.
Tax gatherers hurry past your door.
Itinerant bands do not play opposite your window.
You avoid the nuisance of serving on juries.
You are not persecuted to stand god-father.
No one thinks of presenting you with a testimonial.
No tradesman irritates you by asking, "Is there any other little article to-day, sir?"
Begging-letter-writers leave you alone.
Imposters know it is useless to bleed you.
You practise temperance.
You swallow infinitely less poison than others.
Flatterers do not shoot their rubbish into your ears.
You are saved many a debt, many a deception, many a headache.

And lastly if you have a true friend in the world, you are sure, in a very short space of time to learn it?

MARRIAGE.—Marriage was in the world before sin, and is in all ages of the world, the greatest and most effective antidote against sin. Here is the proper scene of piety and patience, of the duty of parents and the charity of relatives, here kindness is spread abroad, and love is united and made firm as a centre. Marriage hath in it less of beauty but more safety, than the single life; it hath more care but less danger; it is more merry and more sad; it is fuller of sorrows and fuller of joys; it lies under more burdens, but is supported by all the love and charity, and those burdens are delightful. Marriage is the mother of the world, and preserves kingdoms, and fills cities, and churches and Heaven itself.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

The approaching Convention.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

The Baptist Convention of these Provinces is to meet at Yarmouth, on Saturday, August 22nd, at 2, P. M.

To all who are acquainted with the affairs of the denomination it must be apparent, that matters of grave importance will demand the deliberate consideration of the body at this session. In reference to our educational interests a decisive course must be adopted. This is manifestly an object of no small moment. Besides the discussion of other important subjects, our Foreign Missionary operations will require to be carefully considered, in order that judicious action may be taken.

It is obvious, therefore, that a full attendance of delegates from all these Provinces is highly requisite. If brethren suffer obstacles that are not absolutely insurmountable to keep them away, very injurious consequences may be anticipated—to be followed by unavailing regrets. So evidently do present exigencies require the combined wisdom, prudence, and energy of the body, that it is manifest every reasonable sacrifice should be made with alacrity, in order to afford any measure of assistance.

The delegates will need much of the spirit of their divine Master. The utterance of an unkind or imprudent word, is always liable to do harm; but on such an occasion it is peculiarly injurious. Consequently every thing of the kind should be most cautiously avoided.

When various subjects are presented before large numbers of men, accustomed to think for themselves, it is not to be imagined that all will immediately form the same opinion on every point. In all cases wherein diverse views are found to exist, those who deem it proper to state the reasons which determine their judgments, should do so with modesty and courtesy. When a subject has been fully discussed, and a vote taken, the minority ought to acquiesce cheerfully, and to unite heartily with the majority in carrying the resolution adopted into effect.

If it be thought that in any transactions past either individuals, or collective bodies, have erred, such supposed error should not be made the subject of censorious remark. Every good man is conscious that he himself designs to do right. He ought, then, to give full credit to each of his brethren for purity of intention. Aware of his own liability to err, he should be lenient with reference to the errors of others. Instead of indulging in such animadversions as may tend to excite dissention, let all unitedly strive to introduce, and carry forward, such prudent measures as may be reasonably expected, under the circumstances in which we are now placed, to have the most salutary effect.

The delegates should make arrangements to continue together till the business shall have been deliberately and fully transacted. We are usually in two much haste. In some instances time is unnecessarily devoted to matters that do not belong peculiarly to the Convention. Devotional exercises are often too much curtailed. In these particulars there is evidently room for improvement.

Fervent prayer should be perseveringly offered by all, whether they meet in Convention or not, that Divine guidance may be afforded, and that judicious measures may be invariably adopted, so that God may be honoured, and the interests of truth and godliness promoted.

Yours in Gospel bonds,

C. TUPPER.

Tremont, Aylesford, July 15th, 1857.

For the Christian Messenger.

Eastern N. B. Baptist Association.

MY DEAR MR. EDITOR,

As our welcome Visitor from time to time, gives us some account of your annual gatherings at the different Associations in Nova Scotia. So we wish your "Messenger," to bear to its numerous readers tidings of good, from our province.

The Eastern N. B. Baptist Association, met at Moncton on Saturday, July 11th, at 3 P. M.

The old Meeting-house was full to overflowing. The Ministers and Messengers enjoyed a precious season in social conference. Nearly three hours were spent in this interesting and profitable exercise. Many hearts were comforted and hopes strengthened. The Association was organized by the choice of the Rev. James Newcomb as Moderator. The Committees were then appointed.

On Lord's-day, the various places of worship were well supplied by the Ministers of Christ,

who attended to their appointments with pleasure, and profit to their hearers. Our Wesleyan friends kindly opened for us their commodious house. Some of the Ministers spent the day at Shediac, others in out-stations a few miles from the city. We had a religious service in the street at the close of day. A number of brethren engaged in the exercises of the meeting. Some estimated our congregation at upwards of a thousand. A more quiet or orderly meeting I seldom attended. On Monday, (in the absence of the Brother appointed to preach the Introductory sermon) Father Crandall addressed us. Though aged, he is strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

After this the letters from the Churches were read. It was cheering to hear how the Lord had blessed the labours of his Servants, and so many had been added by baptism. Three new churches were received. In the evening we had a Missionary meeting and also preaching in the street, more numerous than the preceding one.

On Tuesday the reports were chiefly presented, and the subjects of them all pretty fully discussed. The session closed at 5 P. M. A large congregation was addressed in the street that evening, by Brother Thompson.

I trust great good will result from the efforts put forth to save souls in that interesting and thriving City.

Yours truly,

G. F. M.

July 18th, '57.

For the Christian Messenger.

Ordination of the Rev. T. Keillor.

We have been prevented by unavoidable circumstances, from sending a notice of the ordination of Brother Thomas Keillor.

On Monday the 22nd of June, the Pastors of Maccan, Amherst, Pugwash and Sackville Churches, in accordance with an invitation from Advocate Harbor church, met to proceed thither for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of the proposed ordination. We arrived at Parsboro' on Monday evening, and in accordance with notice previously given, held a religious service in the Presbyterian meeting-house.

The next morning we left for Advocate Harbor, distant about 30 miles from Parsboro'. The day was very fine, and the drive was on the whole a pleasant one. The scenery on this road is perfectly magnificent, unrivalled in Nova Scotia, but the constant succession of lofty hills over which one must climb, was rather unfavorable to a perfect enjoyment of the beauties which nature lavished around us.

On Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock the delegates who had been sent to the council, met in the little Baptist meeting-house. The council was then organized. The Rev. Geo. F. Miles being chosen as Moderator, the Rev. E. B. DeMill, as Clerk. It was found that there were Delegates from four churches, Maccan, Amherst, Pugwash, and Sackville, were each represented by their respective pastors. We were sorry to perceive that there were no lay-brethren from any of these churches.

The candidate for ordination then presented his certificate of church membership, and his license to preach. After the vote of the Church relating to his ordination had been read, he retired. It was not deemed necessary to subject him on this occasion to an examination in doctrinal, and experimental theology, as the members of the council had become acquainted with his views from previous interviews with him. After the candidate had withdrawn, the propriety of his ordination was discussed. It was at length resolved to proceed.

A sermon was preached in the afternoon by Bro. Foshay, and the ordination service took place in the evening. A sermon appropriate to the occasion, was preached by the Rev. George Miles. The candidate then gave an account of his religious experience, his call to the ministry and his views on christian doctrines, and ordinances. The ordination prayer was made by the Rev. D. McKen. The right hand of fellowship was then given by the Rev. George Miles, the charge to the young pastor by the Rev. E. B. DeMill, and the charge to the Church by the Rev. E. Foshay.

The church at Advocate Harbor, is as yet quite small, but we trust it will thrive and grow. It was blessed with a revival during the last winter, so that Brother Keillor commences his pastoral work under happy auspices.

WALK CIRCUMSPECTLY.—We should walk through life as through the Swiss mountains, where a hasty word may bring down an avalanche.

For the Christian Messenger

Valedictory Address

From the West Yarmouth Church, to the Rev. W. G. Goucher.

DEAR SIR:

It is with feelings of no ordinary nature, that we address you at this time, when we remember the many Sabbaths and Sanctuary services we have enjoyed together in the house of God; as well as the sorrows and toils we have shared, which are so well calculated to bind pastor and church together in love. Under your labors we have witnessed the conversion of sinners amongst us; the Church too has been built up in the gospel faith. During the four years you have laboured amongst us, your labors have been, we believe, appreciated by all. We deeply regret your health having failed you so that you can not remain our pastor. But God's ways are not our ways, "He is too wise to err and too good to be unkind," and will ever rule all things for good to those that love Him.

We shall never forget the Conference when you made known to us that you could not continue to labor with us—and the deep sympathy that was felt on that occasion for you and yours, and the regret expressed by all present, that we should be separated as pastor and people.

And now dear Elder Goucher, our prayer is that your health may be speedily restored, that you may be long spared to proclaim salvation to lost sinners. Remember that wherever you go our prayers shall go with you. Farewell.

In behalf of the Church.

DEACON NELSON CORNING, JOHN ROSE, JOHN KILLAM, Clerk.

Presented, July 5, 1857.

REPLY.

To the West Yarmouth Church.

DEAR BRETHREN,

Your affectionate address has moved my spirit.

I know it is not an address merely got up for the occasion. But I receive it as a true expression of the sentiment and feeling that have been gaining existence and strength during the four years that we have been associated as pastor and people. It is truly gratifying to a Minister of the Gospel to know, that his labors are appreciated by the people of his charge. It is also encouraging as well as humbling to know that God accepts his labors and blesses them to the conversion of sinners. It is also comforting to him to witness the people walking together in love, and striving together for the faith of the gospel. These sources of strength have all been open to me during my labors with you. I have not been left to work alone. You have wrought harmoniously with me, and whatever good has been accomplished under my ministrations I desire to ascribe it all to the grace of God. Give Him all the glory.

"Oh! to Grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be."

The attachment you express is reciprocal, and under such circumstances it is hard to part. Be assured, dear Brethren that only the state of my health has caused me to decide to leave you. Your sympathy for me in my afflictions and interest expressed for my general welfare in the future, I appreciate, and I desire to thank you for the more substantial manner in which you have made it known to me, as also for all the kindness shown myself and family. My leave of you is only in body. I shall continue to thank of you and the portion of my life spent amongst you, and my prayers shall be for your prosperity. May the Lord provide for you a pastor whose connection with you shall be as pleasant as mine has been, and who will be much more useful in building up the Redeemer's Kingdom in this region. Farewell.

W. G. GOUCHER.

TEMPERATURE OF THE INTERIOR OF THE EARTH.—There is the direct evidence of the internal heat of the globe derived from the increase of temperature in descending from the surface. It has been determined by numerous carefully conducted experiments in deep mines that at a depth of a hundred feet variations of the seasons on the surface cease to be felt, and that the heat increases on an average about 1° of Fahrenheit's thermometer for every 60 feet of depth. The temperature of water from deep Artesian wells confirm the evidence derived from mines. The water of the Artesian well at Grenelle, near Paris, which is 1794 English feet in depth, is 81° when the temperature at the surface is 61°. Assuming therefore, that the same increase of heat continues in descending, it is easy by computation to determine at what depth the heat of boiling water would be obtained; and Mr. Philips conceives that the temperature at lower depths augments in an increasing ratio. Calculating the increase, however, at the rate of 1° in 60 feet, it may be estimated that at the depth below the surface of only seven miles substance must be red hot.