

nothing to do with it. The time which it claims for general instruction has been properly occupied: it demands no more. A Denominational Institution, not being Denominational in its School arrangements, may therefore receive State aid; but if the sectarian and the scholastic instruction be interwoven, the Denomination has no right to look to the State. Its own voluntary benevolence must provide the necessary support, and that support will be cheerfully given if a due value be set on religious education.

I think, Sir, that these views will be regarded as sound by all true Baptists. It will be admitted, I trust, that they harmonise with our non-establishment principles. We must carefully guard those principles.

Yours truly,
A PRIMITIVE BAPTIST.
February 16, 1858.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visit at Bedeque, P.E.I.

DEAR BROTHER,
You will confer a favor upon some of your much attached friends by inserting in your valuable periodical the account of the above named visit.

On Tuesday, the 26th inst., a goodly number of the members of the Baptist Church and congregation of Bedeque and its environs, including a respectable sprinkling of Wesleyan and Presbyterian friends, made Elder Malcolm Ross a social visit, giving him, in the mean time, a tangible proof of their good-will towards himself and family. It was truly pleasing and interesting to see, at an early hour, sleigh after sleigh, containing precious selections of the good things of this life with their happy occupants, wending their way to the Parsonage house, where each and all were cordially received. After friendly greetings and kind enquiries respecting each others happiness, the ladies proceeded in their usual felicitous manner upon such joyous occasions to furnish the company—near forty persons—with an excellent tea. It is, indeed, the opinion of the writer that the Bedeque ladies stand second to none in getting up sumptuous entertainments whenever laudable objects such as building Meeting-houses, Manses, &c., demand them.

It may not be amiss to remark, that, notwithstanding Donation Visits are so general with you in Nova Scotia, it is the breaking of the ice with us on this Island, to have one got up after this fashion; but the writer is fully persuaded that if our people at large could realize the mutual happiness and benefit resulting from such social gatherings they would become as general among us as elsewhere.

Tea being over John R. Gardiner, Esqr., Chairman, made some very appropriate remarks respecting the object of the meeting, and was followed by brother Lydstone with a suitable address in behalf of the party, lastly the Pastor replied in a manner fully indicating that he and his partner heartily appreciated the special kindness of their friends, after which he gave out, and the company joined in singing,

"God is the fountain, whence
Ten thousand blessings flow;
To him, my life, my health, and friends,
And every good, I owe."

And concluded with prayer; but still the company lingered, the influence of Christian harmony and union was felt, and hopes cherished that this visit might prove the dawn of the "good time coming." Finally, the company separated, leaving in possession of the inmates of the Parsonage money and goods to the amount of twenty-four pounds.

Yours, fraternally,
A PARTICIPATOR.
Bedeque, January 29th, 1858.

Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mission to Boulardrie, C.B.

TO THE BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY BOARD.

Dear Brethren.—Having received an appointment from the Baptist Board of Nova Scotia, as a Missionary to Boulardrie Island, I was allowed one month by the order of your worthy Agent, Rev. Wm. Burton, of Hantsport, while on his agency on this Island. The place of labour was optional. The people were so busy gathering in their harvest that meetings could only be properly kept on Sabbath days. I therefore deemed it prudent to come home until the harvest was over. I was eleven days between Baddeck and Big Glen. I then went on to Boulardrie, on the 7th of Dec., and spent six weeks and three days through the Island, and served the Board two months. I had four stations. On the other side of the great Bras d'or there resides twenty-five families to whom the hearing of the gospel is almost wholly denied for nearly half the year, owing to the strong current and blocks of ice which present a barrier to their crossing. I passed over on a fair day, and spent one week with them at two different stations. I went through several houses, visiting the sick and the old, reading and praying with them. I then returned and reoccupied the three stations on the north side of Boulardrie, preaching at them successively. When parting with them some of the people said publicly to me "For God's sake look upon us and do not forget us." A great deal of spiritual darkness prevails on this Island. As far as I could learn they do not expect to receive any succour from any other source save from our Board. Brethren in the Lord, take courage, and let not a corner of the land be without your representative. If our brethren in the ministry be faithful to the souls of men, faithful to the gospel, faithful to their own

vows, faithful to the Lord Jesus, by and by we shall occupy all lands. The word of God says, "All flesh shall see the salvation of God." Hasten it, oh God, in thy appointed time!

But, alas! old Adam and old habits have too much hold of men's hearts. There is too much intoxication prevailing in Boulardrie. Let the ministers of the gospel preach righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, and Felix of our day will tremble, even as he did of old.

I cannot say of a surety that any new conversions have taken place, yet the field is open for us. I have conversed with several people, both Gaelic and English. They would like very much to see Brother Burton next summer.

I was glad to learn from the last C. M. that the great African explorer, Dr. Livingstone, is a native of the far-famed island of Ulva. In that Island my father was born; in that Island I was born myself, in that Island I was born again. May God have the glory, is the prayer of your Brother and servant,

RONALD MACDONALD.
Margaree, C.B., Jan'y. 29th, 1858.

P. S. Received from C. McLeod, Big Glen, ls. 3d.; Donald Maclean, Esqr., Baddeck, 2s. 6d.; John Ross, Margaree, ls. 3d.; a friend at do., ls. 3d.; Mrs. Rachel Maclean, L. B., ls. 3d.; Mrs. Christina Maclean, do., 3s. 1½d.; donation at Big Bank, 15s. 3½d.; collection at Mr. David Corbett's, 15s. 7½d.; donations from Hector Macneal and C. Dolphin, 2s. 6d., and Allan Maclean, Kelly Cove, ls. 3d.—Total, £2 5s. 2½d.

I spoke to two or three of the schoolmasters and others on the subject of Sabbath Schools; one of the number is teaching at Little Bras d'or, where there are seven or eight members of our own denomination.

For the Christian Messenger.

Amherst Shore, N. S., and Point de Bute, N. B.

EXTRACT OF LETTER FROM MR. JOHN S. LOW:

Dear Brother.—Some time in June last our esteemed Brother, Elder David Lawson, removed from Lower Stewiacke to Amherst, where he labored a part of his time under the direction of the Home Missionary Board. We succeeded in getting him to labor here one fourth of his time. We are now enabled to say he hath "not shunned to declare unto us the whole counsel of God." His faithfulness as a preacher of the gospel, in visiting from house to house, admonishing sinners to repent and comforting such of God's children as are cast down, together with the closest attention to all his engagements, have given him a place in our hearts, which we trust, will never be vacated. As the effects of his preaching here the children of God have been revived, and fifteen persons, many of whom are in youth, have followed the Saviour in the ordinance of baptism.

Our esteemed Brother is also spending half of his time with the Church in Point de Bute, N.B. Owing to his indefatigable labors the Church has been united: they are now walking in gospel order, and what is, if possible, more encouraging, 19 persons have professed faith in Christ, and have been added to the Church. Many tokens of the esteem in which he is held have been given, among them are such as the presentation of a watch and a fur coat.

Amherst Shore, Feb'y. 11th, 1858.

Isaac's Harbour, East.

DEAR BROTHER,

Your readers have received some account of the revival at Isaac's Harbour from the pen of Brother Hall, and it would be superfluous for me to write; but as it is in my circuit I may be allowed to add a few further particulars. The good work of the Lord is still advancing: I have baptized eight willing converts since Brothers Hall and Hurd left there, and expect to administer that rite again soon. There have been fifteen baptized since the revival commenced. The persons baptized, with a few exceptions, are from among the youth of the Harbour and connected with the Sabbath School. This must give not a little encouragement to all Sabbath School teachers to continue their efforts in that department of Christian labour, for I believe where a Sabbath School is properly conducted that God will not fail to follow it with a blessing. It is well known that Sabbath School instruction is one effectual way of preaching the gospel to the youth, and let it be effectually tried in every place and a blessing will follow.

Dear Brethren, pray that the good work may spread East and West of this sea-beaten shore until many more shall be brought to own their Lord and Saviour.

Yours, in the best of bonds,
HENRY EAGLES.
St. Mary's, February 6th, 1858.

For the Christian Messenger.

Revival at Gaspereaux.

DEAR BROTHER,

Revival intelligence must always be interesting, and should always be profitable to those who "love Mount Zion well."

The Second Horton Church of Gaspereaux has lately enjoyed a reviving influence. The night had been long and gloomy. Not many months ago the services of God's house were carelessly attended. In the Valley no Prayer-meeting was sustained, and the Conference seemed little more than a name. Now, one may well exclaim—"What hath God wrought!" His sanctuary is now not unfrequently filled with attentive hearers, the Church is much revived, some who had wandered have returned, a weekly Prayer-meeting is kept up, and since November last twenty have been added to the Church by bap-

tism. "This is the Lord's doing, it is marvellous in our eyes."

Brother Read, who was recently ordained as their Pastor, is living in the affections of his people. His labors have been largely blessed. His prospects are now very encouraging. Indeed, both on the neighboring Mountain and in the Valley, "the fields are white already to harvest."

Gaspereaux Valley is beautiful in its natural scenery, but oh how much more delightful when vocal with the praises of God. May the Lord hasten that time.

Yours truly,
A FRIEND OF ZION.

For the Christian Messenger.

Revivals in Cumberland County.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

The Rev. E. F. Foshay has been laboring almost indefatigably and to good acceptance for the last 18 months with the churches in this place and Pugwash, where he resides. They have had a series of meetings during the last two or three weeks,—assistance was rendered by other ministering brethren,—the Church in that place (Pugwash) seems to be quite alive,—the meetings are numerous attended, and many are asking "What shall we do to be saved." Last Lord's-day four young willing converts separated themselves from the world by being buried with their Lord by baptism, and four the Sabbath previous. May they never weary in well-doing, and additions be made to the Church daily of such as shall be saved.

DANIEL LAMONT.
Goose River, February 10th, 1858.

[A subsequent communication from the same writer gives us the following acceptable information. We have been obliged to abridge considerably our correspondent's letter.—Ed. C.M.]

Baptism at Pugwash.

Nine converts went forward last Lord's-day in the path of obedience. Before the appointed hour the bank of the river was thronged with an anxious crowd, waiting to witness the performance of this sacred rite. Throughout the entire assembly there was manifested great solemnity and interest. It must be useful to all church members to witness the baptism of believers. At such a sight experienced Christians revive the impressions they had when they first gave themselves to the Lord. Young Christians too must rejoice to receive companions like themselves to the brotherhood of the saints. Many desire privately to acknowledge allegiance to Christ, while hesitating publicly to confess him; but He says, "He that hath my commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me."

Goose River, Feb'y. 15th, 1858.

For the Christian Messenger.

Extract of Letter from Rev. Bennet Taylor.

DEAR BROTHER,

I am at present in Bridgewater attending a series of meetings, and expect other brethren from the westward shortly to assist in this great work. We already have had a refreshing season from the presence of the Lord, and have good reason to believe that the Holy Spirit will be more abundantly poured out upon us, and the vine which our Heavenly Father has planted here be watered with the dew of his rich and free grace. Brethren, pray for us.

Yours, in Gospel bonds,
BENNET TAYLOR.
Bridgewater, February 8th, 1858.

We have also heard of a large addition to the Church at Stewiacke,—20 or 30 persons were baptized during the past two or three weeks. We hope to hear particulars next week.

REVIVALS IN THE UNITED STATES.—The New York Examiner gives account of the number of conversions reported from the several States during the past two weeks, making a total of 7,300 souls. This makes over 20,000 in five weeks. Nova Scotia is given, and the reports of our own columns brought into the list.

At the Pastor's Monthly Conference, held on Monday, the 8th, reports were brought in of 208 additions to the churches in New York.

Provincial Parliament.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

FRIDAY, Feb. 12, 1858.

A committee was appointed to prepare an Address of congratulation to His Excellency The Right Honorable the Earl of Mulgrave, on his assuming the Government of this province.

Hon. Mr. Tobin by command laid on the table of the house, the Report of the Chairman of the Board of Works for the year 1857, together with papers referring to the Penitentiary, Public Buildings &c.

Lunatic Asylum.—It appears that £8313 19 8 were expended on this building during the past year, of which £306 13 9, was incurred in consequence of a defect in the foundation wall, it having been built in some places with loose rubble stone, and not at all in accordance with the Contract. It seems that the building and grounds have already cost £21,331 2 6, and that a further sum of £14,284 (including £5000 for the erection of a wing for violent patients) will be required to put the Institution and grounds in thorough order.

Light Houses.—There are 40 Light Houses under the control of the Government of Nova Scotia. The salaries of the Keepers vary from £60 to £100 per annum, £60 being generally paid when no light is kept during the Winter months, and £100 where the light is maintained throughout the year.

Sable Island.—The cost of this Establishment for the past year including supplies for the present winter amounted to £1367 13 14.

Hon. Mr. Bell.—When the building of a Lunatic Asylum in this Province was first discussed in the Legislature, I stated that I thought the sum proposed to be voted was altogether inadequate. It is now ascertained that my views were correct. As to defects in the work, of course I was not competent to decide upon Carpenter or Mason work, but I employed a person who was recommended to me by high authority as being qualified for the work, and I can testify that he was at least an industrious man. This, however, I will say, that if you employ a second Mechanic or a second Engineer to examine the work of a former one, it would be strange indeed if he did not find some fault with the work of the person first employed.

Hon. Mr. McCully.—I take it for granted, from the Report of the Chairman of the Board of Works which has just been read, that the Contractor is responsible for all defects in the work at the Asylum, and as the Government generally retain 10 per cent. on the value of the work done, the Province will not probably suffer after all. My hon. friend who has just sat down, doubtless feels a deep interest in this matter, but we all know that even in the building of our own dwellings, it is impossible to avoid some little defects. Indeed where the Contractors themselves are faithful, their subordinates are not always so, and the work is slighted without the knowledge of the principals.

Hon. Receiver General.—I think little good will be effected by a premature discussion of these unsettled questions. It is impossible to determine exactly who is to blame, until we have full information on the matter. It may be that we shall be unable to settle the question until we have had a decision of the Supreme Court. It is all very well for the hon. and learned member to say that the contractor is bound here; but, as I before remarked, the matter is yet undecided.

The report of the Commissioners appointed to examine the work is in course of preparation, and will be submitted here in a few days with other papers which will elucidate the whole matter.

Hon. Mr. McCully.—May I ask the Receiver General to lay on the table, at the same time, the contract, and all the correspondence relative to it?

Hon. Mr. Fairbank.—I visited the Lunatic Asylum some months ago, and found the foundation laid bare, and in a very bad condition. The alterations which have been made have been most effective in remedying these defects.

Usury Laws.—Hon. Mr. McCully introduced a Bill to amend Chapter 82 of the Revised Statutes "Of Interest." Its object is the repeal of the law which vitiates any contract by which more than 6 per cent interest is charged for the use of money.

Hon. Mr. McCully also introduced a Bill for the better protection of the Estates and Rights of married women. Every day's experience convinced him more and more of the necessity of some such Bill.

Bankrupt Law.—Hon. Mr. McCully said—I also beg leave to bring forward a Bill relative to bankruptcy. The circumstances of this country at the present time are such, that I am fully warranted in bringing this Bill under the notice of this house. Some measure of this kind is absolutely necessary. Leave was granted.

Railway Expenditure.—Hon. Mr. Almon.—As I see the Hon. Receiver General in his place, I should like to ask a question of the Government. I observe by the Railway Act of 1853 the expenditure on our Provincial Railway is limited to £200,000. By the Acts of 1854, under which we are now acting, and which virtually repealed I think the Act of 1853, although the expenditure per annum is limited to £200,000, there is no limit to the gross sum which may be expended for our Railway. It is important for the welfare of the Province and for its credit abroad that parties should know to what extent the revenues may be pledged. I should like to know whether the Government intend to bring forward a measure relative to it.

Hon. Receiver General.—As the account of the Receiver General will shortly be laid before the house, it is unnecessary to recount the same which have been advanced for railway purposes. I may, however, state that the gross amount expended on the Railways is £750,000. I may also say that the Railway Acts which passed the other house by a large majority, and this house by a small majority, contemplate no cessation in the expenditure until lines of Railway have been constructed to Victoria Beach on the one hand, and to the borders of New Brunswick on the other. I think the placing of some check to this expenditure has become a very grave question for the consideration of the whole people of Nova Scotia, and I think a great service will be done to the country if the hon. member introduces his proposed measure.

School Bill.—Hon. Mr. McCully.—I would like to ask whether the government intend to introduce any Bill on the subject of Common School Education.

Hon. Receiver General.—The subject of education has been under the consideration of the government but I am not prepared to say whether any Bill in relation to it will be introduced or not. If any alteration in the present law is decided on by the government, I shall lose no time in informing this house of it.