

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Baptist Churches in Prince Edward Island.

It is matter of regret that several of the P. E. Island Churches sent no letter to the late meeting of the Eastern Association.

As we have been requested to make what use seemed desirable of the letter from the EAST POINT CHURCH, sent on too late to reach Portau-pique, we make a few extracts, which, we believe, will interest many of our readers.

In addressing the Association the letter says:—"Duty towards God and you, dear brethren, binds us to acknowledge with gratitude the blessing of Almighty God on the labors of our Missionaries here last summer."

"Our Sabbath School is in a healthy state. Number in attendance from 45 to 50. Teachers 4. Volumes in Library 250."

"We bind ourselves to no certain sum but we pray that the Lord of the harvest would send forth laborers into the field, and we look to you, dear brethren, as means in his hands to send hither, and we will do our endeavours to sustain them and the cause."

In behalf of the Church, ALEXANDER FRASER, Clerk."

The fraternal relationship existing between our Churches in P. E. Island and Eastern Nova Scotia, although subject to some interference in consequence of the distance between them, yet we believe is cherished with a warm degree of interest by many brethren in the Central and Western parts of the Province as well as in the Eastern. The appointment of the next Annual Session at Pugwash will afford a better opportunity of attendance, and we doubt not a large representation from the Island will embrace the opportunity of being present.

The letter from the THREE RIVERS CHURCH is also sent on to us with a request to insert as much as we think proper in the "Minutes." We would inform the writer that we are not at liberty to insert anything in the Minutes. We have only to print them as supplied by the Clerk of the Association, consequently no monies or statistics can appear in them except as they are sent through that medium. The letter closes with the following remarks:—"We would be glad to see some of our brethren in the ministry from our Board sent this year again, and we will do our best to sustain them."

"We send you our mite towards Home Missions, please accept of it for that purpose. Enclose you twenty shillings, Nova Scotia Currency."

We have handed this sum and £2 8s. 4d. from the East Point church; also 20s. from the Preston church, (sent with their letter too late) to J. Whitman, Esq., the Treasurer of the Home Missionary Society.

For the Christian Messenger.

A Hebrew Song for English Singers.

DEAR BROTHER,

As you have already ventured to introduce Latin, French, and even Greek, into your columns, I conclude you will not close them against a short portion of Hebrew. The following is the Psalm from which that splendid old tune, "Old Hundred," derives its name: a tune which will, in all probability, endure as long as tunes are used by mortals. This sublime "Song of Praise," just as they sang it in the Jewish Temple, with the accompaniments of "organs" and "loud sounding cymbals," consists of twelve lines, several of which contain just eight syllables, rhyming occasionally at the close. The "titles" are, in the Hebrew, embodied with the Psalms, and form a constituent part of them. Some of the lines of the "Hundredth" contain more than eight syllables, and three of them contain just seven each. But it can be easily sung in any Long Metre tune, there being no difficulty in singing either one syllable to two notes, or two or more syllables to one note. I have, in the following, divided the words into syllables, and spelled them, not according to the usual method of spelling Hebrew words with Roman letters, but, as nearly as possible, according to the pronunciation. Let the reader pronounce each syllable exactly as if it were an English word. It will not require any great stretch of imagination to consider some of them as being really English words, such, for instance, as, more, awe, coo, lo! door, oven, key, law, has, saw, thaw, hill, ho! In the three cases in which one syllable must be sung to two notes, I have written the syllable

in SMALL CAPITALS; when two or more must be sung to one note, I have indicated this by not separating them, and by writing them in italics. I have interlined a literal translation, placing the English of each word just over the Hebrew, so that persons unacquainted with the language in which Moses and David wrote, in which God spake from Mount Sinai, and in which Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the Prophets spoke, and prayed and sang, may not only pronounce the words of that language correctly but also know their meaning.

The curious will not only be interested in the fact that the Hebrew suits well to the tune of "Old Hundred," but they will notice farther that a literal prosy translation into English can be sung to the same tune. I will only add that I long to see a translation into English of the whole book of Psalms, by a person competent to the task. That individual, allow me to suggest to all and singular who are in the present day every where clamoring for Revision, will possess, whenever the Lord shall have fitted him for the task, three special qualifications, the lack of either of which must render any man incompetent to the task:—First, he must be pious, and his piety must be of the purest, highest kind. Secondly, he must be thoroughly learned in the Hebrew language and in all Oriental literature. And thirdly, he must be a poet, and a poet of the highest order. We don't ask for verse—we deprecate flat, prosy, doggerel. We care comparatively little about measure or rhyme. But we do ask, and we have a right to ask, for poetry. Any thing else is not a translation but a caricature. Let both the thoughts and the dress compare with those of the original. No one would dream of setting any person, not a poet, to translate Homer or Virgil. No one else can translate properly "Job," or "David," or "Isaiah." I need not say that my interlineation is not intended as an illustration.

Yours truly, S. T. RAND.

THE HUNDRETH PSALM.

- A PSALM OF PRAISE. Shout joyfully Miz-more leth-o-dhaw. Haw-reeng-oo Unto Jehovah, all the earth. Lab-ho-vaw, kol haw-awe-rets: Serre ye Jehovah with gladness Iv-dhoo eth-yeho-vaw b-s-im-haw Come before him with-shouts-of-joy. Bo-oo lef-awe-nawv bir-naw-naw. Know that Jehovah he is God! Deng-oo key Yeho-vaw hoo Elo-heem: He made us and-not we-ourseles. Hoo awe-saw-noo vel-o enach-noo. His-people and-flock of-his-pasture: Am-mo vets-own mar-e-thove: Enter his-gates with-thanksgiving. Bo-oo sheng-awe-ravv beth-o-dhaw. His-dwelling, with-a-song-of-praise: Hets-a-ro-thawv bith-hill-LAW: Give-thanks-to-him, bless-ye his name: Ho-dhoo-low, baw-reck-coo shen-o: For good is Jehovah eternal his grace Key-tove Yeho-vaw lengohom has-do: And forever and ever is his truth. Veng-adh-door vawdoor em-oo-naw-tho.

For the Christian Messenger.

Boston Correspondence.

LETTER FROM REV. W. HOBBS.—INDEPENDENCE DAY. Boston, July 8th, 1858.

DEAR BROTHER,

In my last I stated that the village at Niagara Falls had greatly increased in extent since I last visited it. It now contains about three thousand inhabitants—perhaps as many as one third are foreigners, engaged upon the hydraulic canal, now building across the lower part of the town from the Lake, to make the water available for manufacturing purposes. This town has four Protestant churches—Baptist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, and Methodist. The Baptist Church is but recently organized or but a few years at most. They have a neat and tasteful chapel, and appear a united and happy people. Signs of improvement are going on in other departments. The ferry-house which was burnt last year is replaced by a most admirable stone building, with improvements for raising the cars up and down. From this, as you proceeded west, the facilities for the travelling comfort are greatly increased, he can, if he chooses, avail himself of a night's rest in the Patent Sleeping-car, constructed by Woodruff. It is like ordinary cars, except that the seats are fixed so that two face each other, and each pair of seats are separated by a narrow partition, extending from top to bottom. At night they are converted into a bedstead, as spacious as a large sized double bed. Thus in the place of every two seats is made sleeping accommodations for four persons, as elegant and convenient as those in any steamboat cabin. The car is in charge of a very polite and obliging conductor, who is all

attention to his patrons, and receives for his services and use of the car an extra fee of fifty cents per night from each passenger. Those who occupy this car are not disturbed by the general Conductor, nor by the calling out of the names of the stations during the night. On the whole there is a very marked improvement in the method of travelling on very many accounts, especially safety and speed. We travelled over 12 hundred miles in less than five days, not the slightest accident occurring, for which we ought to be very thankful.

The eighty-second Anniversary of the National Independence of these States was celebrated in this City on Monday, the 5th,—the fourth falling on Sunday. The general arrangement was something like the following:—Ringing of bells of the various churches for half-an-hour at sunrise, noon, and sunset, salutes also at the same hours from the Common, Central Square, and various other places, decorations of City hall and Faneuil hall, and flags displayed from various public buildings, music—grand public military concert on the common—one hour, city procession at 10 o'clock, services at Music hall, voluntary band, chant, prayer, original ode by Howard M. Ticknor, Esq., reading of the Declaration of Independence, hail Columbia, oration, star spangled banner, next followed the city dinner. The twelfth regular toast was given by the Hon. Joseph Howe, who made a very complimentary response. The first declaration called down vociferous applause. It was merely complimentary. He then asked the company not to judge England of the present day as the England of 1776. The spirit of liberty, he said, is rapidly progressing in the Mother Country, and we should never be ashamed to own her. A regular toast was given "To the Queen of Great Britain." Mr. Howe replied. He said he had hardly expected to hear the health of the Queen drunk with such enthusiasm in the old Faneuil Hall. He had supposed that the two wars between England and America had so embittered the people of the United States that nothing but hatred was felt for England and her institutions. He wished that he could present Queen Victoria to the citizens of Boston. (Cheers.) You might not, he said, like her as a Queen, but you could not help loving her as a woman, possessed as she is with all the accomplishments and virtues of a mother. My father was born in Boston, and served his time in the City as a printer. When the war of the revolution commenced he was just twenty-one years of age, and from the house top at the North end witnessed the battle of Bunker's hill and the burning of Charleston, he was driven from the town like hundreds of others. Fortune led him to Nova Scotia, where he had raised up a family of children, perhaps not quite as good patriots as those present in the hall, but equally as sincere lovers of liberty. After an amusing allusion to the circumstance of the crinoline of the ladies of Boston compared with those of Halifax, in which he said that a Boston lady looked like an angel peeping from a white cloud, and conceeded to the women of Boston more ample dimensions than those of his own city, the band played "God save the Queen." The company remained standing during its performance. Then followed the exercises of Tremont Temple. After the introductory music on the organ, the Rev. Mr. Chandler Robbins offered up a fervent prayer, then an Ode, the reading of the declaration, and at 12 precisely the Hon. Rufus Choate was introduced as the orator of the day. At 3 o'clock the three Balloons ascended from the Commons, amidst thousands of spectators. The grand Regatta at 5 o'clock. But the climax was the fire works on the Common, Signal Rockets from sunset till 9 o'clock. Review of Independence,—the motto Independence, in large letters of Azure fire, musketry, and a great variety of aerial works, including shells of various calibre, together with batteries of candles, discharges of mines, explosions, and flights of rockets, illustrative of the turmoil and dread alarm of war consequent on America's Declaration for Liberty. This continued for about 20 minutes, during which time were fired one hundred and twenty or thirty shells of various calibre, with 17 flights of rockets, together with mines, maroons, &c. The effect was most grand, particularly the large shells with the heavy reports and immediate discharge of myriads of stars, of all the various hues, together with streamers, serpents, &c., produced a most startling and beautiful effect, a discharge of Courantines traversed a line several hundred feet in length.

The next was the battle of Bunker Hill and burning of Charleston. This was an immense scenic battle-piece, giving a vivid illustration of the struggle for liberty. The scene opens by exhibiting a view of Charleston, with Breed's

and Bunker's Hill, and the redoubts and earth-works thrown up by the Americans during the night. The foreground represented Copp's hill fortified and occupied by the English with the wharves and shipping of Boston. King Georges's fleet is seen laying at anchor in Charles and Mystic rivers. The discovery by the English of the American's works on Breed's hill, is the signal for attack and commencement of the battle. The silence was broken by the rumble of drums, and trumpets call to arms. The fortress of Copp's hill opens fire on the Americans at Charleston. The shipping moves towards the town, boats leave freighted with the King's troops, their landing is covered by guns from the ships. Soon the rattle of musketry and roar of artillery announce America's massive will to sunder the chains of paternal tyranny, as the Yankees call it. The guns of the shipping and floating batteries are responded to from Reed's and Bunker's hills, and the progress of the British is marked by conflagrations in the town. A momentary silence ensues. Warren has fallen, and the avenging arm of freedom nerves for the final struggle. The Artillery, the death-rattle of the musketry, and crash of falling ruins, denote the hard-contested fight. The conflagration spreads: Charleston smolders in ashes and lays in devastation, and the first battle is lost to the Americans.

The next display was the Liberty Cap, representing the United States, placed opposite to and 600 feet from a crown representing England. The proposed first Telegram, "On earth Peace, Good-will towards men," which was hailed with thundering guns and flights of rockets arching the whole. The letters and emblems were burning about fifteen minutes, during which time there was kept up an incessant firing of shells, rockets, mines, flights of torbillions. During this exhibition there was fired, at intervals, rockets of various kinds, including the meteor and towering rockets, and upwards of five hundred shells, forming the largest display and most life-like ever exhibited in the United States, as I am credibly informed, and must have cost a very large sum, as the paintings and ships were nearly as large as life, and by the light of the conflagration appeared equally so, covering several acres of ground. Notwithstanding such crowds of people, the best of order was observed, and very few accidents occurred.

I forgot to add, the Children's Celebration formed a most delightful part of the City's observance of the day. In the public gardens 26 swings, 2 fly-rounds, a large whirligig, Kites, &c, &c., were brought into requisition. 25,000 tickets were given out. This was a Sabbath School Picnic.

W. HOBBS.

For the Christian Messenger.

Memorial of Rev. R. W. Cunningham.

[The following should have followed the Memorial of Rev. R. W. Cunningham in our last, but was accidentally omitted.—Ed. C. M.]

Those who formerly sat under the ministry of the late Rev. R. W. Cunningham, and many who have heard of his faithful labours during years of uninterrupted sufferings, will learn with pleasure that it is proposed to erect an appropriate tomb stone over his remains. For this object there has already been collected

At the funeral, £4 5 0
Clements Church, 1 0 0
£5 5 0

Those churches or individuals who wish to avail themselves of an opportunity for giving expression to their esteem for this useful servant of Christ can remit their contributions to Rev. A. H. Munro, Digby.

For the Christian Messenger.

Support of Ministers.

Onslow, July 4th, 1858.

MESSRS. EDITORS, The following letter, having been presented to the Ministers and Messengers of the Eastern Baptist Association, was referred to a Committee, which reported, that it should be printed in the Christian Messenger; I have therefore, by request, transcribed, and now transfer it, that you may in accordance with the aforesaid report, please to give it a place, that it may elicit a full and free discussion.

Respectfully yours, THOS. SOLEY.

Onslow, July 2nd, 1858.

TO THE MINISTERS AND MESSENGERS, &c.: Dear Brethren,—For some time past a subject of great importance has rested with weight upon my mind, and I have thought proper to