

grave? Such a position I think is repugnant to Christian truth.

In conclusion, I may remark that I did not say, in the letter referred to, that either of those rev. gentlemen were in the habit of taking a glass at weddings, &c., but prayed that God might forgive those who do.

JAMES A. STUBBERT.

Deerfield, December 15th, 1858.

For the Christian Messenger.

College Agency.

FINANCIAL SUCCESS.—PUPILS FOR THE ACADEMY.—SPLENDID MOUNTAIN SCENERY.—MISSIONARY WORK.

DEAR BROTHER,

My last on the progress of the agency was dated at River John, Nov. 6. Since then Cape Breton and the following places in Nova Scotia have been visited—Pictou, Guysborough, and Canso. The total sum collected is £83 4s. 8d. This includes £36 9s. 5d. principal, £24 6s. 3d. interest, and £22 8s. 11d. for current expenses.

Your readers may be interested to have some special statements about Cape Breton. The sums collected there amount in all to £44 18s. 2d., including £14 9s. 5d. principal, £16 19s. 3d. interest, and £13 9s. 6d. for expenses.

The subscriptions and interest still due are to be collected by the Local Agents, and forwarded to the treasurer of the College by June next—the end of the collegiate year.

Encouragement was also given that some ten pupils would be sent to the Academy the ensuing year. This is a favorable opportunity for urging all who have it in their power to educate the talent of the country, and the denomination.

The country traversed, especially in Cape Breton, is full of romantic interest. When gazing upon the rugged scenery of winter it required little effort of the imagination to paint it with the glowing warmth and beauty of summer.

A Prayer-meeting is now established at Barney's River, which I hope will be sustained upon the union principle. We have also commenced one here, which we designate by that cheering appellation, to be held alternately in the Village, at the harbour 7 miles down, and at the West River 4 miles south.

“Avenge, O Lord, thy slaughtered saints, whose bones lie scattered on the Alpine mountains cold.”

Time will not permit to speak of the large field for missionary effort. The church at North Sydney is now destitute of a pastor.

for a single month without loss, being the metropolitan church of the island, embracing within a circuit of eight miles as many preaching stations, with the ability to sustain a pastor, and aid the mission cause besides.

My course will next be to Isaac's Harbour, &c., Musquodoboit, Stewiacke, and Truro. Hoping that all the friends will be prepared for the Agent, I remain yours in the common cause,

D. FREEMAN.

Guysborough, Dec. 20, 1858.

P. S.—My address for some time will be in Truro.

For the Christian Messenger.

Home Mission, Sydney Co.

To the Secretary of the Home Missionary Society.

DEAR BROTHER BENTLEY,

As the friends of the missionary enterprise and of the interests of Zion generally are always desirous to hear the true state of our various fields of operation, I will embrace this opportunity to afford them a brief report of what is being done in this portion of God's moral vineyard.

Since I last wrote I have endeavoured faithfully to preach Christ and him crucified; and it hath pleased the divine Spirit, whose agency I continually seek, to dispose the hearts of a few to seek and obtain an interest in the great salvation.

A Prayer-meeting is now established at Barney's River, which I hope will be sustained upon the union principle. We have also commenced one here, which we designate by that cheering appellation, to be held alternately in the Village, at the harbour 7 miles down, and at the West River 4 miles south.

Yours in the Gospel,

Antigonish. A. F. PORTER.

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from the Rev. Samuel Boothby,

AGENT OF THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

DEAR SIR,

I have been travelling in your Province for several weeks past on an agency for the American and Foreign Bible Society, and wish to say for the information of the friends who have so generously contributed to its aid that I have obtained in different places the following sums, viz:—

- Windsor, £2 14s. 0d.; Newport, 10s. 3d.; Falmouth, £1 15s.; Hantsport, 5s.; Wolfville, £6 2s. 6d.; Canaan and N. Minas, £4 3s. 10d.; Cornwallis, £2 1s. 10d.; Billtown, £1 1s. 0d.; Berwick, £1 8s. 1d.; Aylesford, 18s. 1d.; Nictaux, £7 13s. 6d.; Lower Wilmet, £1; Bridgetown, 7s. 6d.; Western Asso., £7 13s. 10d.; Annapolis town, 2s. 6d.; Lower Granville, £1 14s. 9d.; Digby town, 12s. 6d.; Weymouth, 16s. 1d.; Sandy Cove, £3 15s.; Long Island, £4 12s. 6d.; Westport, £4 8s. 11d.; Yarmouth town, £20 8s. 8d.; Hebron, £2 5s.; Ohio, 6s. 6d.; Tusket, £1 13s. 9d.; Milton, Liverpool, £3; Liverpool, £9 16s. 3d.; Lock's Island, £4 1s. 4d.; Sable River, 11s. 7d.; Halifax Granville St., £7 18s. 11d.; North Ch. £6 7d.; Dartmouth, R. McLearn, £1; Onslow, £2 15s. 4d.; Truro, £4 4s. 10d.; Maccan, £1 5s.; Amherst, £4 13s. 1d.

So you see that the Baptists of Nova Scotia still feel an interest in the Bible cause, and are willing to labour for its success.

I desire here also to express my unfeigned gratitude to those dear brethren and friends who have so kindly cared for me and aided me in my work. The kindness thus manifested has begotten in my heart a love for and confidence in them, that will not, I trust, be easily erased.

But while I have been pleased with these things I have seen others that pained my heart. As I have visited your families, and stood in your sanctuaries, and seen many, especially of the young, who, as we have reason to fear, are without hope and without God in the world, my heart has been pained and I have wept over them, and tried to carry their case to God.

This visit among you has been a rich blessing to my own soul, and one I shall long remember with gratitude to the Giver of all our mercies. As we leave you, we can but cast a longing look back over those pleasant enjoyments, and carry sweet remembrances of them with us on our pilgrimage.

Your brother in Christ,

Halifax, Dec., 1858. SAMUEL BOOTHBY.

Letter from Fraser River Gold Diggings.

Dear Brother Selden.—I have been permitted to copy the following letter, with a few changes in the orthography, for the Messenger.

Guysborough Bay Dec. 15, 1858.

MR. JOHN EHLER,—

“Dear Father,—I will let you know some little news about Fraser River. This is from your son David, one that has caused you many an hour of uneasiness since I left home.

“Dear father, I suppose you have heard a great deal of talk about this country and its gold. But I will tell you the truth, it is a hard country for a man to come to.

“But I must tell you what it costs us for grub. We have to pay 16 dollars a hundred weight for flour, 50 cents a pound for baking, 40 cents for coffee, 1 1/2 dollars for tea, and one dollar a pound for butter, and other things accordingly.

Remember me to all of my brothers and sisters, and sisters in law, and neighbours. And my most humble blessings to you my dear old loving father.

“From your affectionate son,
“DAVID S. EHLER.”

Colonial & Foreign News.

New Brunswick.

AN Exhibition was given at the BAPTIST SEMINARY at FREDRICKTON, on Friday 17th. The recitations and dialogues are spoken of as well selected and delivered with much effect.

A man named Jackson, who had been engaged as night watchman by Walker & Co., and occasionally acted as assistant policeman at St. John, was killed in a quarrel on Saturday the 18th inst., begun under the influence of intoxication.

Bradley and Keenan, with whom deceased was quarrelling, are in custody under the charge of manslaughter.

The HIGH TIDES on Wednesday last did considerable injury to flour and other property in the stores on the South Market Wharf, St. John.

The railroad is open to Hammond River, and doing a large amount of business.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—A young woman, named Mary Jane Lewis, belonging to Fort Lawrence, who had been to the grist mills in Sackville, was returning on Wednesday last, when the tide (which had risen so high as to cross the dykes and inundate the main road near Cole's Island), swept the punt off and capsized it, holding the poor girl fast beneath it, who was drowned before any efficient aid reached her.

DESTRUCTION OF GRAND FALLS BRIDGE.—On Saturday last the people of Fredericton were thunderstruck to learn, by telegraph from Grand Falls, that the Bridge at that place had fallen in. This was an elegant, and supposed to be a substantial structure, raised by Mr. Tomlinson. It had only been completed some two or three weeks, and on the day it was forcibly thrown open to the public several heavily laden sleds passed over it, and hundreds of people, besides sleighs, sleds, &c., stood near the centre of the Bridge while an address was presented to the Builder. The strength of the Bridge was then severely tested, but it stood firm as a rock, and yet within so short a time it gave way beneath the weight of two horses, one sled, and two men. Of course at this distance we cannot judge of the cause, but should suppose it to be the contraction of the iron girders by this low atmosphere.

The following account of the catastrophe was received from F. E. Beckwith, Esq., by a gentleman in this city:—

“We have had a dreadful accident here this morning. Our Bridge, which has been only a short time finished, broke down.

“Mr. Tomlinson's team of two horses and sled, accompanied by two of his hired men—Denis Hughes and—Simpson—were crossing a short time after daylight, when about the middle of the bridge they felt it giving way; they left the sled and ran back, but too late, as it all went down in a body. The men fell on the rocks, close to this side, clear of the water; fall about 150 feet. The horses were over and went down into the river; no vestige of them has yet been discovered; they must have drifted under the ice, which had broken across the eddy, a short distance below the bridge.

“No other persons were on the bridge at the time; and an half hour or more must have elapsed before people went to the spot. The men were discovered on the rocks; one of them making signs; he was after a time hauled up by ropes; he is badly hurt—leg broken, and also collar bone. It is doubtful if he can recover.

Grand Falls, December 18, 1858.
We sincerely sympathize with the people of Grand Falls, as the want of a bridge there has long been severely felt. We also sympathize with Mr. Tomlinson. A telegraph despatch received yesterday announces that one of the men, Simpson, is dead.—Fredericton Head Quarters.