

the way of salvation. That is God's plea. Nature proves the existence and power of God; but the Gospel alone shows how man—sinful and depraved—can be justified before God, and yet God be just, and the law honoured in the highest degree. "It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." But "how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard;—and how shall they hear without a preacher;—and how shall they preach except they be sent?" Yes, brethren, this is it;—God must send them and the Church must send them. We believe in agencies—God's and man's—as being necessary in effecting the glorious work for which the Gospel was designed and given; the former originating directly and controlling; the latter limited, substantiate, and dependent. The Church is called in her sphere to act for God; and when she prays and works as she ought in the spirit of Christ, God will abundantly supply ministers made by himself, and fitted for the work. Over six hundred millions of human beings have no Gospel—they are perishing;—what are we doing for them? Are we doing our duty? No indeed. We are not doing all we can to send them the bread of Life—the medicine which alone can heal the nations.

Remember too, dear brethren, sisters, and friends, that it is a *privilege* to be employed either personally in making known the Saviour of men, or aiding those who are thus engaged. Next to enjoying the love of Christ ourselves, there is no greater privilege than that of communicating to others the glad tidings of the grace of God. This privilege is *ours*, if we will. God has in the Foreign Missionary enterprise given us a lever that can reach to the ends of the earth, and elevate sinners out of the ignorance, idolatry, corruption and death, in which they are.—And what a blessed privilege it is that the poorest and weakest Christian may by its means operate upon men thus situated, so as by God's blessing to "turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God." Why should any who love God wish to be excused from a work so glorious and heavenly? Can such love be worthy of his approval? Is it worthy of our own? But not the heathen alone are blessed by Foreign Missions. We in our homes—in our churches—and in our several departments of Christian labour may be blessed. He who goes to the heathen and in the spirit and bowels of Jesus Christ labours to bring them to God, is honoured and blessed beyond the ordinary mass of believers;—he stands in the front rank. He who to support the Foreign Missions contributes of his means, not niggardly and stintedly, as though he felt he was losing his money, and would rather not give if he could decently avoid it, but cheerfully and bountifully enjoys a rich and precious blessing—he has the smiles of the Saviour, and the witness of the Holy Spirit. Why should not every church member act in such a way as to receive largely the blessings which the Foreign Missionary work may bring even to us? "He that watereth, shall be watered also himself."

Then again we have abundant encouragement to labour in this work from the good already effected by means of Foreign Missions. It is impossible to estimate it. The Baptists have had high honour put upon them by God in this work; their missionaries have been and are valiant and foremost in the ranks of the evangelistic host of God's elect messengers to the heathen. Our Churches, too, in these Provinces have sent forth a missionary from among them to carry the Gospel to the benighted children of Burmah, and though his course was short it was not without fruit. Souls were converted to God by his labours, and one of the three native preachers sustained by the Convention—*Moung The Nau*—first heard the Gospel, brother Crawley tells us, from the lips of brother Burpe, and was undoubtedly converted through his instrumentality; and he truly adds—"your sacrifice and labour of love was not in vain." It is a great mistake to suppose Bro. Burpe's mission a failure.

Let us glance a moment, dear brethren, at our opportunities and facilities for reaching the heathen. For some years past we have had no direct connexion with the Foreign Mission field—we had no missionary sustained by ourselves and dependent on us, and perhaps it is on this account, in part at least, that the zeal and contributions of some have been so greatly diminished. But now we can have the most direct connexion with the Foreign Missionary work in a way highly satisfactory, and, we may hope, efficient, by means of native preachers—men taught by the Spirit of God, and willing to spend their days in telling their benighted countrymen of the love of Jesus. We do not

undervalue the labours of the missionaries sent out by the churches; their presence and work is essential, and perhaps will be for years to come; but heathendom will never be evangelized except by an adequate force of native preachers—born of God and called by him to the work. These are the men to move and stir the native mind;—the testimony of such men must tell on their hearers. Three such preachers we now have in the field—*Ko Oung Bau*, *Moung Shong*, and Bro. Burpe's convert, may I not say our convert—*Moung The Nau*. Two others of similar spirit Bro. Crawley hopes to engage; and the number may be increased. It is our duty to feed and clothe their families, while they are preaching the Gospel to their idolatrous and benighted countrymen. Then the female school lately opened by sister Crawley promises to be of great use, and is worthy of support. Our sisters especially ought to feel a deep interest in this matter, and ought to exert themselves to sustain an institution that may, under God, prove the means of rescuing many a young native female from the corruption, degradation, and horrors to which they are exposed in the midst of heathenism.

Consider again, dear brethren, the Church has all the material means necessary to evangelize the nations—the wealth that is required is possessed by those who are called by the sacred name of Christ. Oh what thousands and millions of pounds in the hands of those who profess to love Jesus are diverted from their rightful object! How little of the Church's wealth is used for the glory of God—the maintenance and spread of the Gospel among the nations—in the work of converting and saving sinners from death! Some churches and individuals who could materially help the cause have neglected to do so; and others who have given might have greatly increased their contributions had they obeyed the dictates of a vigorous faith and an enlightened zeal. There are few among us who could not contribute something to send the Gospel to the heathen;—why should not every one contribute a proper and *honest* proportion of his labour or his gains to serve Christ in the Foreign Mission field? God can abundantly furnish all the spiritual appliances necessary for the enlightenment and salvation of the heathen. Let prayer be offered particularly for the success and enlargement of Foreign Missions. Labourers are needed; let us beseech the Lord of the harvest to send them forth to gather in the precious harvest over which heaven will rejoice. The *Monthly Concert of Prayer* for the heathen ought to be immediately revived in those churches where it has been suffered to decline, and introduced into those churches where it had not been observed. Believing, earnest, united prayer is essential to the complete success of missions. Why not have such prayer in every church? If we pray aright, we will *act* aright. Let us remember our beloved and worthy friends who have gone from among us to preach Christ to the Burmese—Bro. and sister Crawley, and also our native preachers, and the other servants of our Master labouring in the Foreign field.

Brethren and sisters do your duty to the heathen; remember what you owe to Christ and his Gospel; consecrate yourselves wholly to Him and his cause; pray for the heathen, and contribute liberally to send them the Gospel. Let my brethren in the ministry present the matter to their churches and congregations, and urge them to sustain a cause so precious to Christ, so glorious to the Church, and so essential to the enlargement and salvation of the world.

The Convention at its late session recommended to the churches that a collection in behalf of our Foreign Missionary operations be taken as soon after the receipt of this address as the brethren shall think most proper. Will it be done? Ministers, deacons, and brethren let not the matter fail. Some desire the opportunity to give. Let not the present depression in business, and the scarcity of money be considered as an excuse. We need depressions in order to try our faith and love; and scarcity of money will not be without its use, if notwithstanding our poverty we give the more abundantly. If you give now when the pressure for the want of money is so extensively felt, Christ will take it more kind of you, and you will have the comfort and satisfaction of having done something to forward a cause originated and sustained by the Saviour, and destined to triumph; and you may expect the riches of his grace to abound to you in all wisdom and prudence.

In behalf of the Convention,
Your brother in the hope of the Gospel,
GEORGE ARMSTRONG.
Bridgetown, Oct. 1st., 1858.

For the Christian Messenger.

College Agency.

Your readers will wish to know the progress of the agency in which I am engaged in behalf of Acadia College. I left Wolfville on the 10th of September on a tour to the eastward. Since then I have visited Rawdon, Parrsborough, West Brook, Little Forks, Maccan, River Hebert, Minudie, Amherst, Little River, George River, and Pugwash. Being bound next to P. E. Island, and not finding a vessel in Pugwash going thither, I had engaged an open boat to cross in. But seeing no prospect of a fair wind, and being warned of the danger of venturing over the Gulf in a small boat at this season, I determined on taking the steamer at Pictou, where I now am. If the Lord will, I leave to-night, and shall probably be on the Island two or three weeks.

As to the possibility of raising money—taking Rawdon, Amherst, and Pugwash, it is bad, worse, worst. I, however, succeeded in renewing old notes, and collecting £5 10s. of principal. £18 14s. 6d. interest, £7 13s. 4d. for current expenses. In all £30 7s. 10. Besides this the most of the subscribers agree to pay what they can this autumn to the Local Agents, Elders Stevens in Rawdon, and Balcom in Amherst will receive monies from West Brook, Minudie &c., and Bro. Foshay in Pugwash, Goose River, and Little River. I might also request the friends in various parts to pay monies to the pastors or Local Agents, to be forwarded to the treasurer as early as possible, as the liabilities of the first quarter will be due the last of November. At that time we need £250 to pay teachers' salaries, and the first installment of £100 on the £300 borrowed. All persons paying monies will please take receipts and preserve them. This will be the more necessary, as I suppose the original notes will be kept in the hands of the treasurer, to be endorsed when the payments are received by him. Hence also Local Agents will be kind enough when they forward monies to send therewith a particular statement of the names of the donors. Also money letters by mail should be registered. Though currency is now scarce, yet this should be a consolation, that the tide is low, and if the ship is stuck on a flat, it is destined shortly to float again, and where the keel is deeply imbedded, the wave of prosperity will again dash over and efface the deep furrow.

In traversing the abovenamed places I have been more than ever impressed with the great agricultural resources of our beautiful Province. I have seen some uplands which have been cropped 25 years without manure, and still in good heart. Lots of such land can be got in the North part of Cumberland, Colchester, and Pictou Counties, in its wild state, at the low price of one pound an acre. The route through which I came is an unbroken surface, with nothing anywhere to impede the plough. It is probably inferior to Upper Canada and New York State, only in one respect, the raising of wheat, and in all other respects superior. Strange that our young men should prefer the yellow fever of California, the ague of Illinois, the grasshoppers of Minnesota, and convicts of Botany Bay to their own rich soil, healthy climate, and congenial society. What a pity that the sons of our soil, with strong hands and many hearts, would not rally, rank and file along the line of our proposed national railway, and not allow land speculators to flock in and enrich the few at the expense of the many. Young men of Nova Scotia visit the localities and see for yourselves. Visit the North parts of Hants and Cumberland, and if you do not see a bright prospect of maintaining a wife and children by honest industry, then I am mistaken.

Where I have been our ministers are struggling manfully with the hosts of sin. I left Bro. Foshay at Pugwash, holding meetings every night. Have we not reason to hope that the coming winter of relaxation from bodily toil will be marked by much effort, and many blessings in all our churches, and that a revival of religion may spread through all the land. We have much to hope and nothing to fear from such a work of grace, even in College matters. This is one proof of the goodness of our cause, that when the hearts of the people are filled with the Spirit of God, they sustain our educational enterprise, and when the Saviour wishes to shew us a token of special favour he pours out his spirit upon our institution at Horton.

Will the *Christian Visitor* be kind enough to copy, at least the financial statements of this communication, as it will interest many in those parts.

D. FREEMAN, Financial Agent
of Acadia College.
Pictou, Oct. 8th, 1858.

For the Christian Messenger.

Tea Meeting at Walton.

MR. EDITOR,

You are, doubtless, aware that the few baptists and their friends are building a baptist Meeting-house at Walton, Hants Co. It was deemed necessary to finish the exterior as nearly as possible this Autumn, but from the scarcity of money some failed of paying in their subscriptions at present. It was therefore resolved to get up a Tea Meeting to realize funds to meet the most pressing demands and further the building. But twelve days notice only, were given, when it came off on the 28th ult., quite satisfactory, notwithstanding a deep laid plot to defeat its object, by an opposition party. Some £16 were raised as the result of the meeting, and all present were greatly delighted.

About forty ladies and gentlemen attended from Newport, who manifested great interest in the undertaking, and offered to do anything in their power towards getting up a Bazaar, to be held next Summer, for the chapel. The Tea meeting was held in the new Chapel, which is 33 x 48 ft. The ground floor is rough boarded, and the roof in course of shingling. It is hoped the friends will continue to take a deep interest in the above object, as it is a very important mission station.

WALTON.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visit at Pereaux, Cornwallis.

According to previous arrangements, a number of brethren and friends located at Canard, Habitant, and Pereaux, met at the house of my esteemed friend, Mr. Jahiel Pineo, on Friday the 5th of March last, for the purpose of making me a donation visit. The roads were extremely bad, and the weather foul, which prevented many from attending. We were addressed by the Rev. A. S. Hunt, in his usual good humour and instructive style; also by Deacon Joshua Ellis, who in behalf of the company, handed to the writer the amount of their very liberal donation. A reply was made by the writer. Such a visit I did not expect, as I had only laboured amongst them a few months. Surely it bespeaks their liberality. May heaven grant the donors that blessing which maketh rich, and addeth no sorrow. One reason why I did not acknowledge this visit sooner was, I was informed that several wealthy brethren residing in Canard and Habitant, who were prevented from attending at the time by the circumstances alluded to above, would certainly hand in their donation afterwards, as indeed some did. I will, however, wait no longer, lest those who have given should think me altogether ungrateful.

ROBERT S. MORTON.

Victoria Road, Wilmot, Oct. 1st. '58.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

JAMES FOSTER.

Died, at Port Medway, July 22nd, James, son of James and Barbara Foster, in the 23rd year of his age.

Our young brother made a profession of religion, and was baptised by the Rev. H. Angell, about three years ago. His life corresponded with his profession. During his illness, which was severe and protracted, not a complaining word was uttered by him, nor any mark of an uneasy discontented mind seen in him. "He patiently endured, as seeing Him who is invisible."

The funeral services were conducted by the pastor, assisted by Elder Sullivan—*Communicated by Rev. R. R. Philp*.

WILLIAM PORTER,

Son of Stephen and Ruby Porter, was born in Cornwallis, where he spent the early part of his life. His mind was early impressed with the importance of divine things, he fled for refuge to that Saviour "who gave himself a ransom for many," and upon this "sure foundation" he built his hopes of immortality. He was baptised by the Rev. A. Stronach. Some years after he removed to Port Medway, and united with the Baptist Church in this place, of which he remained a worthy member until his death, which took place on the morning of September 1st, in the 40th year of his age. During his illness, he assured the writer that though he had not felt all that peace and joy which he had so often experienced, yet he felt that God was his "Rock," and that he had a well grounded hope through the Redeemer of "entering into rest."

The funeral occasion was improved by a sermon from the Rev. T. A. Higgins.—*Id.*