

For the Christian Messenger.

The St. Ann's Meeting-house.

MR. EDITOR,

In consequence of our first letter published in your columns, a letter has lately appeared in the Presbyterian Witness, signed, "a Trustee of St. Ann's church," contradicting certain statements made by us in defence of our lawful rights. We believe that we need not put ourselves to much trouble, making many remarks upon his statements, as they are scarcely worth noticing.

Having been conscious that his statements were both false and groundless, and well aware that people acquainted with us would give them but little or no credit, the writer has very naturally concealed his name.

The writer states that, "When the Rev. N. McLeod left this place he gave a deed of the church built for himself, and as his own property, to Trustees publicly appointed, and approved of by the congregation." This is false to some extent. The church was unquestionably built for the Rev. N. McLeod, but not as his own property; consequently he could not and did not deed it to Trustees; but so far as they would act in accordance with the views of the majority of the proprietors. The Rev. A. McIntosh was, undoubtedly, settled among us, and was admitted into the meeting-house by our consent; but this does not prove that we gave him or the Trustees the whole control of our property.

When the Rev. H. Ross first came to this place he certainly "preached in the fields and private houses." But that was when he was a perfect stranger to us, and long before we encouraged the Baptist Mission Board to sustain him in this field. But now, would it not be treating Mr. Ross, (a man who has deserved our respect and gratitude), with carelessness and indifference, if we did not provide him with better accommodations than "the fields and private houses." It is, therefore, wrong to charge Mr. Ross with "watching his time." He is as willing to "preach in the fields and private houses" even to-day, as he was when he first came among us. But why should he do it, so long as we have an empty meeting-house to accommodate him and the congregation? We only want it in Mr. McIntosh's absence, and that we must have; "notwithstanding what the writer and the rest of his party may say to the contrary."

"A meeting of Trustees was held and a resolution passed that no minister of any other denomination would be allowed to preach in the church without the consent of the minister settled here, and the majority of the Trustees."

At this meeting the Trustees disagreed among themselves, and some left before any resolution was passed; by reason that the rest of them were acting contrary to the desire of the majority of the proprietors, and their decision four years since.

A meeting of all the inhabitants of St. Ann's was lately called, and held on the 7th ult. The suspected writer appeared with a lawyer at his elbow, imagining that he could scare us from our rights, but he found out something different.

He also states that "they did not like to exercise the power which the law places in their hands." We would hereby notify him that he is at full liberty to exercise all the power he can muster. Nothing could be more false than to say that "a door was hacked to pieces." All the hacking that ever was done to any of the doors of the meeting-house referred to, was done by their party. The public may judge of the writer's character. He is always a coward who would write anonymously what he would not say over his own signature. Mr. Ross can well afford to smile at the insinuations thrown out at him by a person who has not dared to put his name to what he has written. When this anonymous writer shall unmask himself, and appear in his true colour, we shall be better prepared to prove that his charges sprung more from an imposing selfish bigotry and party spirit, than from any true zeal for the progression of the church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We would just state in conclusion, that Mr. Ross is very undeserving of the charges brought against him,—that he has laboured assiduously, perseveringly, and faithfully ever since he first came to this place.

HUGH McLEOD, JOHN MORRISON, Senr., RODERICK McLEOD.

St. Ann's, C. B., Oct. 12th, 1858.

[We deem it undesirable to continue this controversy especially as the communication in the Witness was anonymous. The writer will perceive that we have abbreviated the above. Being confined to the locality it would fail to interest our readers generally.—Ed. C. M.]

For the Christian Messenger.

The Appeal of the Missionary Union.

After what has been said on this subject, it is right that something more be added. It never has appeared that the Missionary Union were unwilling that other bodies should send missionaries to labour in unoccupied fields. Other denominations have long looked with interest on the Burman Mission, and no doubt have sometimes wished that they had representatives in that field. But it is well known that they have regarded the work there as committed by Providence in a special manner to the Baptists of America, and have frequently disclaimed the intention of sending missionaries there so long as the American Baptists prosecute their mission with efficiency. It might seem more proper that a body connected with the same denomination as the Union, should send men into the field occupied by them. But it is evident that men pursuing missionary labour alongside of each other would work more harmoniously under one system than under different systems. If there is a difference in the general policy regulating the labours of such men, or if a different rate of expense is adopted for them it will give rise to comparisons unpleasant for all parties. The reason of the decision of the Missionary Union in declining to have a Missionary of another Board associated with one of theirs, must be evident and satisfactory. When the Baptists of Nova Scotia are ready to undertake an independent mission, we can find places enough destitute of the gospel, where we can employ our benevolence without "entering on another man's line of things made ready to our hands."

Published documents show that it was brother Crawley's decided choice to go out under the direction of the Missionary Union. Whatever we may think of the wisdom of this choice, we must concede to him the privilege we all should claim in like circumstances. The Nova Scotia Board cannot expect to control brother C. while they are not responsible for his support. But if £500 have been paid into the treasury of the Missionary Union within two years, why have not twenty life-members of the Society been constituted from the ministry of our churches? The Baptists of Nova Scotia can have as direct control of the Missionary Union as the Baptists of New York or Maine. Surely they ought to be satisfied with such terms.

If brother Crawley needs a new house no doubt the Missionary Union will provide him one in some way. But he is from Nova Scotia and has many warm friends here. The Executive Committee judged that as Philadelphia Baptists had just become responsible for the support of their old friend, Dr. Binney, who is to leave soon for Burmah, and as the Boston churches might be supposed to respond more readily to an appeal made in behalf of brother Thomas, who went from the midst of them, so the Baptists of Nova Scotia would be prompted to this benevolent work by the impulses of pious friendship. Whatever "faith" that Committee have had in us undoubtedly has been faith in this element of christian character; and we think the event will show that their confidence has not been misplaced. The writer is one more ready to respond to the appeal. We all lament that the Missionary feeling is at so low an ebb with us; but we shall not revive it by mourning over our present state, but by doing the first work given to us. We may expect that when this shall be performed with a right spirit, the Lord will have something more for us to do.

JUSTUS.

The following extract from a sermon called "Wilkinson's Merchant Royall," preached 150 years ago, is not inapplicable at the present time.

"But of all qualities a woman must not have one quality of a ship, and that is too much rigging. Oh! what a wonder it is to see a ship under sail, with her tacklings and her masts, and her tops, and her top gallants, with her upper decks, and her nether decks, and so bedeck with her streamers, flags, and ensigns, and I know not what; yea, but a world of wonders it is to see a woman, created in God's image, so miscreant oftentimes and deformed with her French and Spanish, and her foolish fashions, that he that made her, when he looks upon her, shall hardly know her, with her plumes, her fannes, and a silken vizard, with a ruffe like a saile, yea, a ruffe like a rainbow, with a feather in her cap, like a flag in her top, to tell, I think, which way the winds will blow."

Many of the brightest virtues are like stars—there must be night or they cannot shine. Without suffering there can be no fortitude, no compassion, no sympathy.

Religious Intelligence.

[From American Papers.]

We see it stated by one of the Methodist journals, that from what has already been heard from the Conference, it may be safely calculated that more than one hundred thousand converts have been gathered into that Church during the past year.

The Boston Recorder says that "while but about one in ten of the converts under the Methodist system prove to be permanent members of the church, there are not usually, under Calvinistic ministrations, more than one in ten that fail of doing so."

A church in New-Bedford wished to raise \$250 for the Sabbath School Library. At the morning service on Sunday, they appointed one of the influential brethren to fix upon a plan. In the intermission he took his pencil and marked against every brother's name the sum which he thought he ought to give. At the close of the afternoon service he read the list, stating that if any one had been assessed too much, or not enough, he must speak. Suffice it to say, silence prevailed in the assembly, and in fifteen minutes the sum was raised.

The meeting in North street, Boston, under the care of Father Mason, has been held, without any interruption, for two hundred and eight days. Some very marked cases of conversion have occurred within a very short time. The meeting is held from 11 o'clock, A. M., to 1 P. M. The first hour is spent in prayer, with occasionally a verse sung, and the remaining time is devoted to remarks, interspersed with short prayers. The good which has been accomplished, under God, in that locality is beyond all human calculation.

The Rev. P. E. Green, Methodist preacher in charge of the Warren County Circuit, was shot at Montalbon last week, by a man named Fisher. The wound is supposed to be mortal. Fisher has fled. All we could hear of the cause of the shooting was, that Fisher's wife had joined the church lately, and Fisher meeting Mr. Green, abused him terribly, and finally pulled out a pistol and shot him.

The morning prayer-meetings at the Old South Chapel, Boston, were never more interesting than they have been the past week. The state of the meeting is such as is common in times when God pours out his Spirit. There is a general expectation among God's people, that the revival is, the present season, to progress with increased power.

Colonial & Foreign News.

Prince Edward Island.

The Protector thinks a railroad should be built on that island. "A line should stretch from Southport to Georgetown from which steam communication with Halifax and eventually with Sydney and St. John's, N. F., should be opened; another line should run north to Summerside to connect this City with New Brunswick. This would be a work for which our government might well borrow money, and for which the people should be willing to pay taxes."

F. N. Gisborne, Esq., arrived here on Friday from Newfid. We learn from Mr. Gisborne that he is now here on business connected with the subject of laying another Atlantic Telegraph Cable between Europe and America, the terminus on this side the water to be Halifax.—Islander.

John McNeill, Esq., has been dismissed from the office of Visitor or Inspector of Schools in P. E. Island, and Robert Blake Irving, Esq., appointed in his place.

A young man named Richard Rollings, aged 27, was drowned at North Rustico on Monday, the 11th ult., by the upsetting of a boat. Wm. McNeill, who was with him, had a narrow escape of the same fate.

New Brunswick.

POSTAL DELINQUENCIES.—A committee from the Chamber of Commerce waited upon the Post Master General, during a recent visit to this City, for the purpose of making enquiries regarding the irregularity of the St. John Mails. The grievances were fully discussed in a kindly tone, and the impression made upon the committee by the remarks of the Chief Officer was, that more care would be taken in future, and that the causes of complaint would be promptly removed. We hope for the honor of the Government and for the benefit of all concerned that such will be the case.—Ch. Visitor.

On Friday, the 1st of October, the Lord Bishop of Fredericton, assisted by the Rev. Dr. Jarvis and seven of the clergy, consecrated the new Church in Sackville, by the name of St. Paul's. The Church is a Gothic building, 90 feet long by 27 wide, and will accommodate 350 people.—The sittings are all free. The east window is a memorial window of the late Mrs. Botsford, presented by the Hon. Judge Botsford. The west window is a memorial window of the late Hon. W. Crane, presented by his heirs. The organ was purchased by the ladies from the proceeds of a bazaar held in Sackville last autumn.—St. John Church Witness.

THE EVENING HERALD is the title of a paper lately started in St. John, N. B., by Mr. Edward Willis, formerly of Halifax.

Two men, named Patrick Gleason and Michael Walsh, were drowned in attempting to come through the Falls at St. John, on Friday last.

Canada.

INSURANCE.—A reduction of 20 per cent. in the rate of insuring real estate in Quebec and Montreal has been agreed to by the English Companies.

ARRIVAL OF GENERAL WILLIAMS AT TORONTO.—On Saturday morning Sir William Fenwick Williams, Bart., K. C. B., arrived in this city from Hamilton, and was received at the station by Captain Retalack, Military Secretary and other gentlemen. He then left for the Government House. After paying his respects to His Excellency, he visited the principal public buildings and other objects of interest in the city. He leaves for Hamilton this morning, where he will be entertained by the citizens at a public banquet. On Tuesday he will again become the guest of the Governor General, and will stop amongst us a few days, when he intends proceeding on a tour through Lower Canada.—Toronto Globe, Oct. 18.

FINANCIAL PROSPECTS OF CANADA.—From the returns of revenue so far received during the present year, it is evident that the net revenue for 1858 will not exceed, at the utmost, \$3,000,000. It is even more certain that the public expenses will be rather over than under \$7,000,000. There can then be no question about the amount of the deficiency to be provided. And how?—There may be a question as to the best means of raising the \$4,000,000, to meet the deficiency.—There is no question but that the amount must be raised.—Hamilton Times.

United States.

WHAT A STEAM FIRE ENGINE CAN DO.—They have a steam fire engine at Cincinnati, called the "Citizens' Gift," which is said to be fast and strong. One of the papers states that at a recent fire, the company attached to the machine hitched two horses, ran two squares, laid out 350 feet of hose, and put water on the fire in four minutes from the first tap of the alarm bell. The same paper adds: "This is no more than she has often done. She may be called the champion of the world; she never was beaten. She plays through 14 nozzle, 290 feet horizontally."

CONVICTED OF MURDER.—Portland, Oct. 22.—The trial of John A. Holmes, late master of the ship Theresa, for the murder of George W. Chadwick, seaman, which has occupied the U. S. Circuit Court in this city for several days, was concluded to-day, the jury rendering a verdict of Guilty.

FUNNY FINANCIAL OPERATION: \$5,000 IN GOLD TURNED INTO COPPER.—In the Supreme Court at Boston a very funny Bank suit now attracts attention. The parties are the Market vs. the Granite Bank of Boston. This curious case grows out of a remarkable occurrence in the year 1856. A bag, supposed to contain \$5,000 in gold, had passed through sundry banks in State street without suspicion, until at last, at the Exchange, it was weighed found deficient, and opened, when, instead of gold, a bag of cents was brought to light. The Exchange at once sent it back to the Market, from whom it was received. The Market redeemed it and sent it to the Granite, from whom, as they allege, it came to them. This, however, the Granite denied, and hence the suit of the Market to recover. Where the transmutation took place was never discovered. Four prominent lawyers are engaged in the case.

The October Election in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Iowa, has resulted in the success, generally, of Republicans—opposition to the present administration. The election in Minnesota shows a slight Republican gain.

The election in Kansas was for Members of the Territorial Legislature, and resulted in the success of the Free State party.

Forty-nine of the camels belonging to the United States are now at Campe Verde, sixty miles from San Antonio. Only one of those imported has died, while ten have been added by birth. These young American born camels thrive well, and promise to grow up equal in all respects to those imported.

A writer in the Troy Budget says that one dollar's worth of sulphur thrown upon the fire in the fore-castle, would have saved the Austria and her living precious cargo.

MEXICO.—A despatch, dated at Washington, Oct. 16, says that information had been received in that city to the effect that General Casanova, commanding the forces at Guadalajara, had been defeated in the vicinity of that city by Degollado. Casanova lost, out of one thousand men, eight hundred in killed, wounded and disbanded, besides his artillery and ammunition.

CALIFORNIA.—The Star of the West arrived at New York on Friday, 15th ult., with \$1,322,005 in gold, from San Francisco. The Indians are becoming very troublesome in the northern part of the State, particularly in the vicinity of Humboldt Bay, where they had recently murdered and robbed a number of travellers.

FRASER RIVER, Sept. 16th.—No fall of the water is reported. The Indians continue to molest the miners, and have murdered several individuals, and attacked various parties. From Port Townsend we learn that the United States Indian Agent had been seized by the savages, and had, it was feared, been put to death.

BOSTON YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The ladies of Boston propose to hold a Fair during Christmas week, for the benefit of the Association. Ladies in the interior are requested to gather, if possible, immediately, autumn leaves and mosses for decoration, and for the manufacture of rustic baskets, vases, &c. &c.