

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

New Testaments for the European Contending Armies.

We have just received the following letter, with the copy of letter from Mr. Oncken below, and the appeal founded upon it. We commend it to the Christian benevolence of our readers. No pleading is required from us. The facts themselves are the most powerful appeal.

AMERICAN BIBLE UNION ROOMS,
350 Broome-st., New York, June 1st, '59.

Dear Brother,—With anxious hearts, we send you the enclosed proposition. We know you will be glad to insert it in your paper at once. But, will you not also make it effective by the persuasions of your own powerful pleading? While kings supply their armies with the sword of Death, let us send to them the sword of the Spirit—the Word of Life. By a united and spontaneous effort this work can be done. Will you not be foremost in leading the Lord's people on the cause. You remember what God accomplished in the Crimean war, by means of Scripture circulation.

Yours in love and truth,
Wm. H. WYCKOFF, Cor. Sec.
C. A. BUCKBEE, Asst. Treasurer.

THE WAR IN EUROPE.

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND TESTAMENTS FOR THE ARMIES.

Just as we were putting the last article into the printer's hands the steamer from Europe brought the following from Brother Oncken, addressed to the American Bible Union:—

Hamburg, May 14, 1859.

My heart bleeds at the fact that because our highly favored American brethren are doing so little, at present, for the spread of God's holy word in Central Europe, we are now losing the most inviting opportunities of supplying the large armies with the New Testament.

ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND TESTAMENTS in different languages ought to be at our disposal during the ensuing summer. In Germany alone we shall have an army of more than six hundred thousand men in a few weeks. Oh that God would move the hearts of all who can give, to come forth to the help of the Lord against the mighty at this critical position of Europe.

Yours in the Lord,
J. G. ONCKEN.

These One Hundred Thousand Testaments can easily be furnished. Let us do it. One dollar will supply more than five copies. One Dollar from each person who hears this cry for the Bread of Life, will furnish the means needed to send these ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND NEW TESTAMENTS to the unhappy soldiers ere they perish, or become scattered again. No time is to be lost. The whole sum can be raised, and the presses set in motion in less than one month, if every brother and sister, and every friend of the Bible, who hears this cry for the Bread of Life, immediately on receiving this statement, will send one dollar each.

"Work while the day lasts."

The Bible Union will keep a separate account of all monies received for this object, and publish the names of all the donors in full, in connection with its next Quarterly publication. Will not each father and mother see that the names of all the members of their families appear in this list?

The friends who were present at the Bible Rooms, on the receipt of Bro. Oncken's letter, started the work immediately on reading it, by contributing each for himself and for the members of their respective families One Dollar each, thus making the beginning.

We beg you, then, the very moment you read this, to do likewise. Mail your donation for this object at once. Then get your neighbors to follow your example, and the work will be done.

"What thou doest, do quickly."

Enclose your donation, addressed to

C. A. BUCKBEE, Ass't. Treasurer,
American Bible Union, 350 Broome-st., New York.

For the Christian Messenger.

Margaret's Bay.

MR. EDITOR,

A dark cloud at present seems to hang over the prospects of the people here, in regard to the fishery. For the two last seasons, mackerel fishing may be said, when compared with former summers, to have entirely failed. Yet, I am informed by the people that, during the early part of the spring, every thing seemed to unite in auguring this as a lucky year for the fishermen of Margaret's Bay. They told me that the year in which a general election occurred had always been noted among them as a great one for mackerel; therefore, they looked upon the last election as the antecedent of great prosperity. But, alas! this, like many other signs, in which some people seem to repose so much confidence, has, as yet, been a failure.

The first run of mackerel has already passed, but at such a great distance from the land that scarcely any have been taken by the people here. There is yet another run to come. Many think that they will take a different course from the first, and strike into the Bay. Others say the second run generally follow in the path of the first. Should it be so this season, the inhabitants of Margaret's Bay will receive a blow, the effects of which will be felt for many years to come.

The failure in the fishery for the last two seasons has caused two very beneficial effects. First, it has taught the people the great necessity of economy in the day of prosperity. This is a lesson, the learning of which seems somewhat difficult to that large class of persons engaged in the honorable business of fishing. Secondly, it has compelled them to pay more attention to the cultivation and improvement of their farms. While fish were plenty, farming, with but few exceptions, was almost entirely neglected; but, now, every person who has a piece of land is anxious, during Spring, to put all the seed he can into the ground.

I have looked with a degree of pleasure upon the above effects of the failure in the fishery; but there is another good effect which I have desired it might produce upon the people of this locality, namely, the bringing of them nearer to God. "O that men would consider in the day of adversity."

In accordance with the appointment of the Board, I began laboring here May 15th, since then I have preached almost every day, besides going from house to house, distributing tracts and trying to persuade men "to prepare to meet their God." On the Sabbaths my congregations are large and, to all appearance, solemn; but the weekly meetings are not so largely attended. Many of the men leave their homes on Monday morning, for the purpose of fishing in different parts, and do not return again till Saturday. This makes our meetings during the week small, and hence diminishes the interest. But I trust God will not let me labor in vain. I spent last week in preaching and visiting among the people of Black Point: here I found two persons seeking Christ. May the Lord lead them in the way everlasting.

I have been much encouraged since entering upon this mission, in beholding those in my congregation who, it is said, were never known before to visit a Baptist meeting.

The week after next I purpose going to Tan-cook: the people there, I am told, are mostly at home during summer. My heart's desire and prayer to God is, that my visit may be blessed to that people.

Yours in Christian bonds,

S. BELL.
Margaret's Bay, June 4th, 1859.

For the Christian Messenger.

New Meeting-house at Bass River, Londonderry.

DEAR BROTHER,

Many of your readers are interested in the welfare of Zion. I deem it my duty to inform them of the Lord's great goodness towards us in this place. On the last Sabbath in May, in Upper Economy, we dedicated to the worship of God a large, neat, commodious Meeting-house, which reflects great credit upon those who built it and upon the contractor, Bro. John F. Crow, who I believe is a loser to a considerable amount.

On the day of opening, we were much favored in many respects.—The weather was fine, the sun shone forth delightfully, and all the objects of nature seemed gay and cheerful. We had the privilege of baptizing in the Bay, before the services commenced, a beloved young sister who thus consecrated herself to her Redeemer. It was a solemn season. All seemed interested, whilst some wept and showed their desire to walk in the same path. The first sermon was preached by our beloved Brother, Elder D. W. C. Dimock, from Ezekiel xlviii. 35.—"The name of that city from that day shall be 'The Lord is there.'" The discourse was very appropriate and encouraging, not only rich in gospel truths and deep in Christian experience, but expressive of abundant enjoyment of the Lord's presence in the gospel dispensation. In the afternoon Brother Elder Maynard Parker preached from 2 Corinthians iv. 6. His discourse was also good—full of excellent matter and very instructive. Elder Samuel Thompson gave the closing exhortation with good effect. Our dear brother spoke with much faithfulness and love. I rejoice that we have such spiritually-minded godly ministers in the denomination. It was a day much to be remembered. Truly, we could say, the Lord was there. May the Lord again send his Spirit amongst us, and make bare his holy arm in the conversion of multitudes of our dear fellow-sinners. Sickness is prevailing here at present. Many are suffering much from scarlet fever.

I remain, dear brother, yours sincerely,
JAMES REID.
Bass River, Londonderry, June 3rd, '59.

For the Christian Messenger.

Horton Academy.

MR. EDITOR,

We have just completed another scholastic year at Horton Academy. It is highly gratifying to be able to state that the pupils in attendance during the past year have very generally distinguished themselves for close application, thoroughness, and propriety of conduct.

My highly esteemed friend and coadjutor, Mr. Weatherbe, whose ability, as an instructor, all connected with Horton Institutions, and especially the young gentlemen who composed his classes, have acknowledged and appreciated, is about to leave Nova Scotia to pursue his professional studies.

I am happy to announce that Mr. Weatherbe's place will be supplied by Mr. D. F. Higgins, A. B., whose reputation as a scholar, and experience as a teacher will make his appointment a matter of gratification to the friends of the Academy.

The next Term will commence on the 20th of July.

The Boarding-house was never more satisfactorily conducted. Arrangements have been made to accommodate a number of lads, not exceeding twelve years of age, in the family of the Principal.

The importance of largely increasing the attendance at the Academy will, it is hoped, be deeply felt by every Baptist in Nova Scotia. All are kindly and earnestly solicited to coöperate in the endeavour to augment the usefulness of the Institution, by bringing a much larger number under its influence.

May we not confidently anticipate a large increase of young men on the 20th of July next? It will be highly advantageous for all who think of entering the Academy to commence in July, and continue, if possible, throughout the year.

J. W. HARTT.

June 6th, 1859.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mission in Shelburne.

DEAR EDITOR,

For the last five weeks I have been performing missionary work in this county, and have witnessed some very encouraging indications. In Shelburne town our Methodist brethren have enjoyed a gracious revival of religion. Many souls have been hopefully converted in the meetings during the latter part of the winter and spring. They kindly consented to allow me to preach in their chapel two Sabbath mornings, in the absence of their own minister. Baptist sentiments are taking hold on the minds of the people here to a certain extent. I have baptized three in town. The people flocked in crowds to witness the administration of the ordinance. Much excitement prevails on account of many beginning to conclude that immersion is the only baptism authorized in Scripture. Hundreds saw those baptized on a profession of their faith, who never witnessed the administration of the ordinance before, and the sight has carried conviction of its divine appointment to many.

We want a Baptist Meeting-house in town. Will any of our friends who are able, in the wealthy Baptist churches of Nova Scotia help us in this good work? Last Sabbath I preached in the Court House, which is not convenient for the purpose. It was crowded, and about as many went away for the want of seats as obtained them.—Now is the time that a house should be built here for Baptist preaching. It should not be deferred.

At Sandy Point the work of God is also progressing: I baptized three there, and Brother Delong baptized one the Sabbath before I came. Four persons who formerly belonged to the Free Will order, have also united with the Baptist Church there during my stay.

At Jordan River the little church is holding on its way. They have their Meeting-house up and boarded in. The carpenters are going on with it as far as their means will allow. The money subscribed for this building is now wanted, and more will yet be needed for its completion.

I have now been ten weeks in Shelburne during the past year, including five weeks spent here last summer. During this time I have baptized nine and received into the church the four above mentioned.

Yours fraternally,

A. W. BARSS.
Shelburne, June 5th, 1859.

N. B.—I have received and accepted a call to the pastorate of the Ragged Island Church. All letters and papers for me should henceforth be directed to Locke's Island. A. W. B.

Life's pleasures, if not abused, will be new every morning and fresh every evening.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notice.

MRS. SARAH BROWN,

Wife of William V. Brown, and daughter of the Rev. P. F. Murray. Mrs. Brown became converted when 13 years of age, and was baptized by the Rev. J. Chase. She continued a worthy member of the church for eight years, until the destroying hand of disease marked her for the tomb, at the age of 21. Her sickness, which lasted about two months, was borne with Christian resignation. She remained calm and peaceful to the last, and, on the 23th ult., fell asleep in Jesus. She died as she lived, praising her Redeemer. A sermon was preached by the writer, from Acts vii. 59, to a large and attentive congregation, all of whom seemed to mourn her loss and sympathize with their minister in his affliction.—Communicated by Rev. J. A. Moor.

Religious Intelligence.

GRANVILLE.—REV. James Spencer, under date June 2nd, 1859, writes:—

"The friends of the Redeemer will be glad to know that while the Lord is so generally reviving his cause in our churches, we are not entirely passed by. In a portion of my field of labor I have recently been engaged holding extra meetings, which have resulted in the hopeful conversion of upwards of twenty souls: eighteen of whom have already been baptized."

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN TURKEY.—A refreshing evidence of what may be done for the protection of religious liberty in Turkey, under the new laws, by firmness and fidelity in the official representatives of Christian nations, is afforded in the rescue of a Greek priest, who had been sent in chains to Mount Athos for preaching evangelical doctrines to the conversion of a large portion of his parish. Mount Athos is the great prison-house of the Greek Patriarch, where he sends ecclesiastical offenders for safe keeping, and when once a man is carried there, nobody knows what will become of him. The whole mountain is in the hands of the Greek ecclesiastics, and by concession of the Turkish Government, no Turkish police is allowed to be there. To this horrible place the newly-awakened and enlightened priest was hurried away by a private road. No time was lost by the Protestants of his village in communicating with their friends in Broosa. Mr. Sandison, the British consul, went to the Pasha forthwith and procured a writ of *habeas corpus*, as it would be called in other countries, to take the priest wherever found, and bring him to Broosa. Providentially the officers reached Ghemlik just before the steamer was to leave, and found the priest on board. At Broosa, his case was examined before the proper authorities, and he was set at liberty! He returned to his own village, accompanied by one of the Broosa Protestants, who was to remain to instruct all who might come to inquire into the way of salvation through Jesus Christ alone.—N. Y. Examiner.

RELIGION IN FRANCE.—A correspondent of the *News of the Churches* says:—

"It is often believed that we have here thirty-five million Catholics; it would be nearer the truth to say that we have thirty-five million infidels. If I wished to give a more exact statement, I would say that one section of the population is infidel, the other deistical. In one section of the deistical there is one large party which expects nothing after this life, and another party who hope for a future existence; but all those who believe in this future existence are persuaded that they themselves will be happy. The idea of eternal condemnation is completely absent; in every case no person thinks he has deserved it. The type of the French Catholic in our day, is somewhat of the following: 'I believe neither in the Pope nor the mass; I believe in one God, the Creator; perhaps there is also a future life; but in any case I am neither a murderer nor a thief; I am therefore certain not to be condemned to eternal punishment.'

The literary men and the Government, having no faith in the Romish system, look upon it as the most convenient bribe to hold the people, and therefore support it against all attacks from without. He fears that few among the clergy themselves have any profounder convictions."

THE POPE A DECEIVER.—Mr. Bigelow writes from Naples to the *New York Post* that the dying monarch (King Bomba) is the less disposed to make suitable preparations for the succession because he thinks he is going to recover. The Pope has sent him an account of an interview he had recently with the deceased wife of the king, who told him that she had made intercession with the Virgin Mary, and received from her most satisfactory assurances of her husband's restoration to health. This intelligence, together with some *reliques* of St. Januarius and other saints, which are said to possess important medical influence with the sick, which the Pope has also forwarded to him, and upon which he lies all the time, have given him a faith in his ultimate recovery which nothing can shake. Can it be that Pius Nino is so utterly forsaken as to his understanding? He is rather a deceiver than a demented. Poor old man!—W. & R.

TAKING POSSESSION OF A DANCING HALL.—A gentleman from Boston states that the Baptists had made application for leave to hold a prayer-meeting in a noted dancing-hall. Leave was granted, and the prayer-meetings commenced. The first person converted was the wife of the proprietor of the hall. Then some of the dancers were converted. Then many who frequented the hall. And now, said he, the dancing has been discontinued, and the prayer-meeting has taken full possession.