

Agriculture.

Draining a Meadow.

I have a meadow in which the mud is about one and a half feet deep resting upon a thin stratum of clay, and under this is quicksand. Will an underground drain, laid with stone, be safe, or will it be likely to soon fill? The quantity of water discharged is considerable. How will it answer to plow in summer, put on a little sand or manure, and seed down?

S. H., March 1859.

REMARKS.—An underground drain made of stone will be quite likely to get filled up and become useless in the course of a few years. But properly drained, with tile or pipe, it will be among the best lands.

Summer plowing and seeding is a capital operation—but even that ought to succeed thorough draining.—N. E. Farmer.

Robins and Worms.

While so much is said and written in reference to the destructiveness of the robin, an Albany cultivator thus writes his opinion:—"The robins are so industrious to feed their young with the cut-worm, bugs and insects, so destructive to the garden, that I consider every robin's nest in or near my garden to be worth a dollar." Still another:—"A Vermont farmer says, 'If we would consult our real interest, as well as the finer feelings of our nature, it would be by defending the innocent robin from the attacks of both boys and men.' And in reference to the 'larger species' of grubs or muck-worm, he continues, 'Providence seems to have provided an antidote to this evil, in the common robin. This innocent and useful bird preys with peculiar avidity upon this species of worms. This fact may be ascertained by visiting a nest of young robins in the vicinity of a corn-field, when it will be perceived that they are fed lavishly upon this kind of worm.'"

CHANGING SEED POTATOES.—A neighbor, who has the very desirable habit of pocketing several hundred dollars annually from the proceeds of his potato crop, says he increases the yield from fifty to one hundred per cent. by procuring seed potatoes which grew on an entirely different soil fifteen or twenty miles distant.

KICKING COWS.—Hang a common draft chain over the back of the cow, just forward of the hips, when you go to milk, and I think you will have no more trouble.—Com. to N. E. Farmer.

LICE ON CALVES.—Give them flax seed; feed them half a pint at a time for two days, and the oil from it will drive the lice all off.—Genesee Farmer.

HYDROPHOBIA.—A man was cured of hydrophobia in Italy lately, by swallowing vinegar, in mistake for a medical potion. A physician at Padua heard of this, and tried the remedy on a patient; he gave him a pint of vinegar in the morning, another at noon, and a third at sunset, which cured him.

Temperance.

We copy the following from the Bristol Temperance Herald:—

ARRIVAL OF MR. J. A. DAVIDSON.

"Mr. Davidson has just arrived in England, and is now in Bristol. He has come over to this country with a view to give his experience as a reformed drunkard, and to do all he can to help forward the movement. He relies upon the friends of the cause to assist him in this object.

We have seen his testimonials from the Baptist Church at Onslow (of which he is a member), and the Order of the Sons of Temperance. Having also read many other recommendations of his character and abilities as a lecturer, we can have no hesitation in commending him to the friends of the cause wherever he may go, and trust that a kind Providence will open his path, facilitate his mission, and abundantly bless his labours."

THE TEMPERANCE LAW HONORED.—From a Home Missionary:

"A good work has been done here in the cause of Temperance. Our Prohibitory Law, that has so long been disregarded, has been thoroughly enforced. One trafficker, who was determined to resist the citizens in their efforts to enforce compliance with the law, has been compelled to suffer its penalty. After his first trial at court, in which he was convicted and fined, his lawyer, called from a neighboring town, stayed all night in our village, and the next day was seen intoxicated; and, according to a provision in the statute, was taken before a magistrate and made to testify where he obtained his liquor. And when it was found that his client furnished him with it, that client was mulcted in the sum specified for the second offence. And though all lenity has been shown to the obdurate trafficker, he has since been found guilty, and sentenced to pay \$100 and lie in the county jail three months. He is now reaping the fruits of his disobedience."—American Temperance Union.

Patrick Donnelly, a drunken vagabond, found wallowing in the mud of a street in St. Louis, was sent to prison for fifty days. He was formerly a prosperous baker in the city, worth \$100,000.—Am. paper.

From an exchange paper we learn, that the M. W. Scribe's Report shows an increase in the membership of the Order of more than ten thousand—the largest gain being in Massachusetts. Nova Scotia stands fifth on the list of those Grand Division jurisdictions that have had large accessions to their numbers.—Abstainer.

SETTLING DAY.—This question of Prohibition demands and must obtain in our day earnest consideration, both from ministers of the gospel and ministers of state. It cannot be settled by such crude common places as "do not enforce morality by pains and penalties," or "let every man do what he likes with his own." God in his providence is compelling men to go deeper in than these superficial fallacies. Although we in our indolence would let the question alone, it will not let us alone. Your refined, comfortable, Christian gentleman would sit in his easy chair, and let the outside world alone, but an ignorant, drunken, naked multitude are clustering around his door, and the grim, haggard, hungry giant will burst open the door soon and fixing his fiery eye-balls on society that has neglected him, will seize him by the beard and say, "Pay me what thou owest." It is time this community should look at its accounts. The settling day may come upon us suddenly.—Rev. W. Arnot, B. A.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

MRS. SARAH DIXON,

Widow of the late Mr. James Dixon, died, at Onslow, on the 24th day of February, 1859, aged 80 years.

Sister Dixon had been early taught, by the Spirit of God, the importance of obtaining the salvation, which is by faith in Christ, but did not make a public profession of religion until September, 1856, when she united with the Baptist Church of Onslow. She was a devoted and exemplary Christian, and having fulfilled her time and finished her work on earth, her Lord called her home to cease from toil and enter into rest. After an illness of some six weeks, she fell asleep in the arms of her Saviour, leaving a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn the absence of one much esteemed. A large concourse of people attended the funeral, and a discourse, founded on Micah ii. 10, was delivered by the writer, after which they committed to the dust the mortal remains of the departed one, there to remain until the resurrection of the just.—Com. by Rev. B. Scott.

MRS. WILLIAM SPROWLE,

Died at Clarence, May 4th, in the 55th year of her age. For many years her health had been very delicate. During the past winter the whole family—six in number—had been afflicted with fever, over whom she watched and to whom she ministered with the tenderest care. About three weeks before her death, Diadama, her eldest daughter at home, was taken to her rest above. It was hoped that her health would soon be restored, but a few days before her death she was suddenly prostrated, and death unexpectedly came to her release.

She had been a professor of religion for about 27 years. Her uniform and consistent Christian conduct had won for her the love and esteem of all who knew her. In her family, in the neighbourhood and in the church she was as the light and salt of the earth. The church has lost in her and her dear daughter, two valuable members. Her family and friends have experienced a sad bereavement. It is ours to weep and lament, but theirs to behold, with open face, the glory of the Lamb.—Com. by Rev. N. Vidito.

Paradise, May 30th, 1859.

SARAH MORSE,

Second daughter of Martin and Susannah Morse, died at Paradise, May 15th, in the 15th year of her age. She was naturally all that parents could desire in a child—most kind, affectionate and loving. In taste and judgment beyond her age. The joy and comfort of the family circle and the only daughter at home, her loss is therefore sorely felt. When first led to entertain fears of her recovery, she felt herself without God and without hope, but shortly after was led to apprehend the Saviour as all her salvation and all her desire. A few clouds passed over her soul, but the most of the time the sunshine of heaven beamed bright in her view.—lb.

MRS. SUSAN WOODWORTH.

Died, at Canning, Cornwallis, May 5th, '59, Susan, wife of Levi Woodworth, and daughter of the late Deacon William Eaton, in the 45th year of her age.

Our departed sister was a member of the 1st Baptist Church, Cornwallis, for more than thirty years. Beloved in her family and in the Church; esteemed and respected by all who enjoyed her society, her departure leaves a blank not easily filled. Her illness was long and painful, but borne in entire submission to God's Will. As the end drew near, faith and hope strengthened, in the prospect of the rest remaining for the people of God. A sorrowing husband and seven children mourn a beloved wife and mother, but with the comforting assurance that she rests with God.—Com. by Rev. A. S. Hunt.

For the Christian Messenger.

Canada Correspondence.

BAPTISTS IN CANADA.

MR. EDITOR,

A few facts concerning the introduction, progress and present position of the Baptists in Canada may be interesting to your readers.

1. *Introduction.*—The Baptists here came from the Lower Provinces, Great Britain and Ireland, and from the United States, and they also sprung up spontaneously over the land wherever the Bible was carefully studied.—None of the churches can be traced back much beyond 60 years. In the eastern part of the Province, the first Baptist Church of which we have any record was formed in Caldwell's Manor, by the Rev. E. Andrews, of Vermont, in 1794, and it was afterwards presided over by Mr. Marsh, who died in 1842 in Whithy, C. W. This church is not now in existence. The eastern section of the Province is indebted to visits of missionaries from a Society, of which the late Dr. Sharp, of Boston, was Secretary, and also from the Vermont Baptist State Convention. In the same year (1794) the first Church in the western section of the Province was formed, under Elders Hamilton and Turner, at Thurlow, and Elder Miner, who commenced his labours about the same year in Prince Edward's District. Thro' this region there flourished once many churches in Rawdon, Sidney, Cramahe, Murray, &c.; but these have, chiefly through emigration westward and other causes, languished for years. Brother Finch, from New Brunswick, commenced his labours in Charlotteville, and in 1804 a church was there formed, over which he was ordained pastor. This has been the joyful mother of churches. Soon after this the church in Beausville was formed, under the missionary labours of Elders Coval and Warren, from the Shaftesbury Association, Vermont. From this church a number of others have arisen.

The Baptists were the first Anti-Roman-Catholic missionaries to Canada, as they were the first missionaries to the heathen, and it is to be regretted that the history of their trials and labours are so little known. It will be seen that the first Baptist missionaries to Canada were from the United States and the Lower Provinces; and the doctrines and discipline which they introduced have been thus far perpetuated in this country.

2. *The progress of the Baptists.*—It is difficult to speak with confidence on this point, from the want of correct statistics in former times. In 1829 there were only 964 Baptist Communicants known to reside west of the Grand River; now there are over 7,000,—that is, they have more than doubled every ten years for the last 30 years. It is a well attested fact that the Baptists of Canada have increased during the last fifteen years more rapidly than during any equal period in their history. In 1828 there were in Upper Canada, (the Baptists in Lower Canada were, at that time, very few, and would not materially have altered the following figures,) 145 ministers, 1435 communicants, and 5740 regular hearers. Now there are not fewer than 190 ministers, 13,200 communicants, and 60,000 adherents,—that is, in 30 years, the ministers have multiplied over four-fold, the communicants over nine-fold, and the adherents over ten-fold. During the past year the statistics of the associated churches in the eight Associations, reported in Canada, indicate an actual gain of over 13 per cent. of the whole membership by baptism. The aggregate membership of the eight Canadian Associations is 11,525: of these 1384 were baptized last year,—the nett gain is 1217. These facts call for devout gratitude to God for his goodness to us, and they should stimulate us to greater zeal and fidelity for the future, seeing our labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Besides these, who are Regular or Strict Baptists, there are about 300 Open Communion Baptists, who are connected with the Canada Baptist Union. Though they have some able and devoted ministers, they are not increasing, but rather decreasing, as there are now fewer churches and members than they had 15 years ago.

The Free Will Baptists have 32 churches and 1335 communicants,—about half of these are west of Toronto.

3. *The present state of the Denomination* is encouraging. The body is united in great principles from one end of the province to the other. We have two missionary organizations, for the East, and West, working harmoniously together. An Educational Institute is to be established at Woodstock, C. W. for both sexes, and also for the education of young men for the Christian Ministry. The late Deacon Beam, of Beausville, has left all his property, with a trifling

exception, to Trustees for the advantage of the denomination, and his property is valued at £7,000 or £8,000. It is the intention of the Trustees to endow the Principal of the Institute, and thus, when the building is all paid for, it will be self supporting. Our weekly organ, which by the bye is your nameake, the *Christian Messenger*, is to be removed on the first of July next, to Toronto, C. W., and will be under the able charge of Dr. Fyfe, and we expect it will then be greatly improved in every way, and be a worthy exponent of our views and practices. Dr. Fyfe presides over a large and active church in Toronto, and is doing a great work in Canada—by his efforts on behalf of all our institutions and societies. In Montreal we have been lately favored by obtaining for Pastor the Rev. John Goadby, an Englishman who was once a Missionary in Orissa, India, but for the last 20 years has been in the United States. The recognition service took place on Thursday, the 26th May last, when, the Rev. J. B. Bonar, American Presbyterian, read the Scriptures and prayed; the Rev. Dr. Shailer, of Portland, Maine, preached on "Effectiveness in Preaching," which consisted greatly in proclaiming the truth as it is in Jesus,—forming clear perception of that truth and expressing it in plain but forcible language: in having something to say and saying it, and also feeling the power of the truth in the preacher's own heart. No eloquence nor clearness can compensate for the lack of intense feeling in the speaker. The Rev. Dr. Fyfe, of Toronto, C. W., addressed the pastor, and welcomed him as a fellow-laborer to Canada. He spoke of the importance of enforcing the truth with respect to the sinfulness of human nature, and of the only way to obtain salvation through Christ crucified, and repressing the spirit of fault-finding as much as possible,—that grumbling was not a Christian institution. The Rev. J. Dempsey, of St. Andrews, C. E., addressed a few feeling and appropriate words to the church which had received from God a great gift in an able and faithful pastor: reminding them that they ought to make a good use of this blessing,—that they must not expect perfection in their pastor,—that he was a man with human sympathies and feelings,—that they should sustain him and enforce his preaching by a holy and consistent life, and by their active exertions in works of benevolence,—that they should be jealous of his reputation, and preserve his feelings from being wounded. The whole exercises were interesting and impressive."

Mr. Goadby is an able and devoted preacher of the Gospel, and he is likely to be useful. The congregation has greatly increased, and we hope soon to remove to a more public place and better building.

On the 25th day of May last the first annual meeting of the Canada Baptist Missionary Convention was held in this city, when an encouraging report of its operations for the past year was read. Seven missionaries have been employed—some for eight months, some four and some two. Within the past eight months our church, which had lost its visibility, has been gathered together and revived: two new churches have been formed, twenty-four persons have been baptized, over \$1000 expended, and the foundation laid for greater usefulness in time to come. The worthy President of the Society wholly supports one missionary in the eastern townships and has offered to support another in the Johnston Association. We are desirous of obtaining a suitable labourer for this field—a man of piety, energy and talent. Brother D. O. Parker, of Nova Scotia, has been labouring very successfully up the Ottawa, under the auspices of this Society, and we would be happy to have more Nova Scotians of like talent and piety.

We have not been so homogeneous, and consequently harmonious, a body as you have been in the Lower Provinces. We have had our differences and troubles, especially on the Communion question, but these are being all settled. Those who cannot work with the great body are allowed to work alone without any molestation or dispute on the part of their brethren, and therefore a better feeling prevails. The regular Baptists are quietly, but energetically, pushing ahead their missionary and other enterprises, and the principles of the body are spreading rapidly—everywhere Baptist preachers are received with favor and are welcomed to the townships and villages of our extending country. We only require more of the right stamp. We hope the Lord of the harvest will send us them to cultivate this wide and growing field.

G. B. M.

Montreal, June 8th, 1859.

DEATH FROM JOY.—The wife of a sea captain in England lately died from joy, in consequence of the return of her husband after an absence of seven years.