

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from Prince Edward Island.

DEAR BROTHER,

It would afford me much pleasure were it in my power to give you an account of the work of the Lord on this Island, in the same degree as you are enjoying it in different parts of Nova Scotia. But that happiness for the present is denied me, although even here we have some tokens of good.

During the months of July, August, and October the friends of the North and Dog River church kindly permitted me to visit brother Ross, and the church at Bedeque. We had some very solemn and interesting services.—Bro. Ross had the pleasure of baptizing two individuals, and receiving them into the church.

The friends in Bedeque have erected a building for divine worship, which they expect to complete in the course of the summer,—and it certainly reflects great credit on them as a body. It is, also, an ornament to their neat and thriving village.

In the month of November, according to appointment, I visited the friends at Uigg and Three Rivers. My esteemed brethren, McLeod and Shaw and friends, showed me every mark of Christian kindness. I preached at Uigg on Wednesday and Friday evenings, and the following Sabbath at Three Rivers, and notwithstanding the weather had set in stormy and cold, the congregations were good.

In the month of December it was my happiness to administer the rite of believer's baptism to the eldest son and the only daughter of the late Mr. W. Bain (Deacon.) The morning was cloudy, and we had to break the ice for the occasion; but the youthful disciples heeded it not. Many friends came from a distance to the scene. In the afternoon I attempted to preach from John xvii. 24. In the presence of a large and deeply affected audience, I gave to the brother and sister the right hand of fellowship.

In the month of Feb'y. brethren Shaw and Ross paid a visit to these parts, and laboured among our Gaelic brethren. Brother Ross returned with brother Shaw and spent two Sabbaths with his people at East Point. On his return homeward he kindly tarried with us over Sabbath, and preached two very impressive sermons. Amidst discouragement, still there is reason to hope that brighter and better days await the church on this island. My health has been on the decline this winter. In the month of January our respected Brother Davis paid me a visit, and kindly consented to preach to our people. Our esteemed brother is laboring with the church in town, and also at St. Peter's Road and Lot 49. I believe his labors are appreciated by the people.

Trusting that our churches may enjoy much of "the presence of Him who dwelt in the bush," and that ministers and people may imitate more of their Divine Master's spirit,

Yours in affectionate regards,

C. I. B.

North River, P. E. I., March 29th, '59.

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from Rev. Wm. Chipman.

THE REVIVAL IN CORNWALLIS.—PROTRACTED MEETINGS—TIMELY COUNSELS—THE COMING ELECTIONS.

DEAR EDITOR,

The work of the Lord, as we trust, has still progressed in this district since the time of my last communicating to you, especially on the Black Rock Mountain (so called), where a series of meetings was commenced on the 12th of March last. On the following Sabbath fifteen were baptized there. The meetings were continued there until the next Friday evening, when Conference was held in the Valley; but, in consequence of a heavy rain, roads and weather being unfavourable, there was a small attendance. The series of meetings was still continued on the Mountain, and the next Sabbath, the 3rd of April, there were nine more baptized there, and, on the following Sabbath, five more in the Valley,—making, in addition to the 77 before reported, one hundred and six baptized in nine successive Sabbaths, with but one intermission. There has been also a number more added by letter, in addition to those formerly noticed. In all these large additions, we have much cause of thankfulness to God, and of great rejoicing: yet we rejoice with trembling. The temptations which surround every professor of religion are great, and without much watchfulness and prayer, and an humble trust in the Lord in the diligent attention to all the means of grace, how liable such are to be led astray,

and thereby have their own peace destroyed. They are also in danger not only of lessening their own spirituality of mind, and, consequently, their usefulness in promoting the cause of God, but also of bringing a reproach upon the cause which they profess to love. The Apostle Peter, on a momentous occasion, neglected the command of his divine Saviour to "watch and pray," then he followed afar off, and then denied Him, and bitter tears and godly sorrow was the result. Shall I further say that I have no design in this of making any insinuations in opposition to the holding of a series of meetings, and putting forth every Christian effort in accordance with God's Word, for the upbuilding of the Church of Christ, and instrumentally saving immortal souls, dead in trespasses and in sins. No;—I fully believe in such efforts, where prudence and propriety governs; but I do say that it has always appeared strange to me, that members of Christian churches are so much governed by certain impulses, instead of uniformly conforming to the revealed will and ways of God. When such remove from the bounds of the Church with which they are connected into a locality where there is another Church of the same faith and order, they should not remain there for years without uniting with that Church, but should show themselves ready to every good word and work; and not wait, as it were, to be impulsively influenced to move in the right direction, or until every thing connected with that Church is just as they would have it. Those also who have entertained hope in Christ, however feeble such hope is, who reside in such locality, should also follow in the same course. Surely Christians should feel their obligations to honour Christ in his own appointed ways, at all times and in all circumstances, and thereby aim at God's glory. "The willing and the obedient shall eat the good of the land," and "The path of the just is as the shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day," while the "backslider in heart is filled with his own way," and "The way of transgressors is hard." It is well, however, that any scriptural means will finally bring such to the discharge of their duty to God, to the Church of Christ, and to themselves.

I dare not further enlarge on this subject at this time, but only observe that I doubt not but there still will be some further additions made to this Church notwithstanding such very large accessions have been recently made, (several candidates for baptism have been received, not yet baptized, and some others are known to have entertained hope in Christ,) more especially if this Church continues their united efforts with those of their laborious and successful pastor as heretofore. It is God's cause, and it must prosper in his own appointed way, for the Lord has promised "to reward those who diligently seek him," and to pour out his Spirit to bless and sanctify his own means of grace. What a rich blessing to fully believe in his divine promises, and faithfully to rely upon the fulfilment of them, in the exact way in which he has marked out for his children.—"In keeping the commandments of the Lord there is a great reward." "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

Shall I further add that we dread the coming Election of Members for the House of Assembly. The question may be asked—Why? The answer is at hand,—it is on account of the sad influences that too much prevail over the minds of men. In promoting the object in view—the party spirit, the bitterness, the strife that is called into exercise is such, that there is great danger of professors of religion giving way too much to their natural propensities, that not only their spirituality of mind is greatly lessened, but their union one with another is violated, and they are liable also to dishonour their profession, and bring a reproach upon the cause of God. Not necessarily so, if all would act as rational men, and calmly exercise their own franchise. Instead of this, however, such is the bitter spirit that usually prevails at such seasons that not only families and natural friends are divided and made hostile to each other, but for want of due consideration and watchfulness it often seriously and unhappily affects the Church of Christ. O that the Lord may mercifully interpose, and at least, shall I say, so influence his own children that they may exemplify their Christian character, that thereby "their moderation may be known unto all men."

Yours, in faithfulness and love,

WILLIAM CHIPMAN.

Pleasant Valley, April 11th, 1859.

I will answer for it, the longer you read the Bible, the more you will like it; it will grow sweeter and sweeter; and the more you get into the spirit of it, the more you will get into the spirit of Christ.—*Romains.*

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notice.

DONALD CAMPBELL.

At Montague River, Prince Edward Island, on the 19th inst., Donald Campbell, Schoolmaster, an ornament to society, and a member, a consistent member of the Associating Baptist Church at Three Rivers. In his life, loving and beloved; in his death precious; and now with Him on whom by faith, with assured confidence, he leaned whilst passing over Jordan. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them." The deceased was a native of Isla, in Argyleshire, Scotland, Great Britain, aged 59 years and six months.

Yours in Christ,
JOHN SHAW.

Montague River, March 23rd, 1859.

Religious Intelligence.

REVIVALS IN WALES.—A letter from Aberystwyth says:—"We are blessed with such a revival in this neighbourhood at present, the like of which we never witnessed before. What would you say to see a hundred inquirers before the Baptist church, at Talybont? Seventeen were baptized last week, and scores more are to follow. There are a hundred and upward inquirers in connection with the Baptist Church in Aberystwyth; in connection with the Calvinistic Methodists, 300 and upwards." The Independents, and Wesleyans, and the Established Church, all enjoy the same gracious and refreshing influence. It is not by tens or by scores, but by hundreds, that converts are numbered with us. The revival has spread through the whole county of Cardiganshire."

EPISCOPAL FREE CHURCH.—The members and seatholders forming the congregation of St. George's Temporary Church, Tufnell-park, Holloway, held a meeting on Thursday evening, March 17th, to consider what steps should be taken consequent on the refusal of the incumbent of the district to nominate to the ministry of St. George's the Rev. Henry Hampton, for whose use the building had been erected. Various resolutions were then passed, among others—"That the present state of the ecclesiastical law is not only oppressive but opposed to the intelligence of the age, and requires amendment to enable a congregation to exercise some voice in the nomination or appointment of their minister." "That the necessity has arisen for a Free Church of England, whereby the wishes of a congregation in the appointment of a minister may be legally attained without any departure from the forms of the Book of Common Prayer." Another resolution appointed certain trustees, and authorized the said trustees "to register the building known as St. George's Temporary Church, Tufnell-park, pursuant to the 18th and 19th Victoria, cap. 81, as a 'Free Church of England.'" It was emphatically dwelt upon by more than one speaker that no departure was intended from the principles and teaching of the Church of England, and that her forms and liturgy would be used in the same order and method as they were in the Established Church.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—The question of the admission of Dissenters into the pulpits of the Established Church of Scotland has come under consideration in Aberdeen. During the revival services in that city, Mr. Brownlow North, Mr. Gordon, of Park-hill, Mr. McDonald Grant, of Arndilly, and other lay-preachers, were received into the pulpits of the Established Churches and Free Churches, and preached to crowded congregations. In the parish church of Greyfriars, Mr. Reginald Ratcliffe, of Liverpool, addressed for a succession of evenings large numbers, chiefly of young persons, the Rev. Mr. Smith, the minister of the church, usually presiding. At a recent meeting of the Presbytery, Dr. Paul gave notice of a motion to the effect, that unless Mr. Smith and others, who were assumed to have broken their ordination vows in admitting Dissenters into their pulpits, should repent and promise amendment, they would be dealt with according to the laws of the Church. Mr. Smith at once declared that he was perfectly ready to defend himself; but two other clergymen, Mr. Dewar and Mr. Wilson, implicated in the charge, stated that they were not aware that they had been acting in opposition to the Book of Discipline and Acts of Assembly when they received lay-preachers, and would take care and not so offend again.

ROMANISM.—It is rumoured that the Court of Rome has concluded a concordat with Portugal, by which the former secures to itself the right of nomination to all bishoprics in the kingdom.

The republic of Uruguay have expelled the Jesuits, which body had overstepped their sacred mission and created discord, suspicion, and ill-will among families and private individuals; and what is remarkably strange in the step taken is, that the present Government, which has driven the Jesuits out of the country, is the same that introduced them a short time ago.

The arrival of the Neapolitan exiles in this country has excited some alarm in the Church. The M. P. for Dundalk, the champion of Rome, has already warned the members of the Church against the use which may be made of those men.

PROTESTANTISM IN FRANCE.—"You will be happy to bear," says a Protestant, writing from Lyons, "that we have had an increase of fifty members during the past year, most of whom were formerly Romanists."

United States.

NEW YORK.—The *Chronicle* thinks the Baptist denomination in New York city is more flourishing at present than at any former period. We have now more churches, and more men of talent and promise. Our houses of worship are in a better condition, and the prospect is that we shall soon add others to the number in some of the most eligible sites. We say these things from no promptings of self-flattery, but that our brethren abroad may understand the grace bestowed upon us, and join in our notes of praise to Him who giveth us all these good things so richly to enjoy. In the interior and western parts of the State, revivals are reported.

BOSTON.—*Tremont Temple.*—We hear of the continued advance of the work of revival in the Tremont Temple congregation. Another company (eleven in all) followed their Lord in a public profession last Sabbath, being baptized by their pastor, Rev. I. S. Kallach. Rev. Mr. Earle has left the city temporarily to visit his family in New York State, but will return; we learn, to resume his labors next week. Meanwhile, Rev. Mr. Foljamba, of East Boston, who had joined in co-operative effort here, is summoned to his own field by the increased interest manifest among his people. We hope to make record of richer blessings yet in store.

PHILADELPHIA.—Sansom St. church, one of the most spacious in the city, is very crowded every day at noon. The meetings at other places are equally well sustained.

Several very interesting cases of conversion have occurred within the last week. Among others, the following. An elderly gentleman from the South, coming here on business, promised his wife before leaving home, that he would attend the Sansom St. prayer meeting. He did so, and the first day became deeply sensible of his sinful and dangerous condition. So evident was his distress, that on the close of the meeting some brethren accosted him. Next day, he asked the prayers of the meeting, and has now seemed to find peace in believing.

REV. H. W. BEECHER'S CHURCH.—The recent annual pew letting in the Plymouth church, Brooklyn, realized in round number \$25,000, over \$12,000 of which were in premiums paid for the choice of seats. There remain nearly four hundred members of the church without a place in their house of worship.

For the Christian Messenger.

New Brunswick.

NEWCASTLE, MIRAMICHI.—Extract of letter from Rev. Isaiah Wallace, dated April 4th, 1859:

"Since July last, I have been labouring in this town and vicinity with encouraging success, and our prospects are still hopeful. The Baptists are few in number in this northern section of the Province, and we have many discouragements to encounter; but relying upon the omnipotency of Truth, under the influence of the Divine Spirit, we hope 'the little one shall become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation.' Twenty-nine have already been baptized, and the number I expect will soon be considerably increased.

"I feel a deep interest in my Nova Scotia brethren, especially those with whom I was associated in study in Acadia College. It cheers my heart and stimulates me to renewed effort to hear of their success in the blessed work of preaching Christ, to which we were then looking forward. This is a gracious year for our churches in both Provinces.

"Brother Crawley's success in his missionary labours in the East must be gratifying to his personal friends as well as to the friends of Foreign Missions generally.

"I doubt not the friends of the Australian Mission who contributed to its funds some two years ago have been pleased with the appropriation of those funds to forward missionary work under Bro. Crawley's supervision.

"Hoping to see you at the Anniversary of Acadia College in June next,

I remain, dear brother,

Yours, in Christian love,

ISA. WALLACE."

* AMHERST.—Extract of letter from Rev. J. E. Balcom, dated April 8th:—

"Our prospects, as a Church, are quite encouraging. Four weeks ago last Sabbath, I baptized three believers, and last Sabbath, seven more,—seven of the ten are heads of families. The members of the Church are walking in love, and praying for the prosperity of Zion. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! Every week the *Christian Messenger* brings us the joyful intelligence of sinners being saved by the grace of God. Christians have reason to thank God and take courage.

Wishing you much success,

I am, yours, in Christian love,

J. E. BALCOM."

BRIDGEWATER.—Dear Brother,—We are enjoying evident tokens of Divine favour. The Church has been revived—wanderers restored—and sinners converted.

On Lord's day, 20th ult., I had the pleasure of baptizing ten believers in Christ, at a place about six miles below the bridge, known as the Corkum Neighbourhood.

Three have been received for baptism in Chelsea, and many more in different localities are anxiously inquiring for salvation. Bro. Hard baptized in Chester last Lord's day. The Lord is doing a work there also. May the good work continue and spread till all shall be brought in. Yours truly,
I. J. SKINNER.

April 7th, 1859.