

## Agriculture.

## The Harvest prospects.

The HAY CROP has been pretty well secured in many parts of the Province. On the whole, we believe, it will be at least an average, and perhaps it may be called an abundant crop. The western counties in particular have a very large yield, and it is got in, we believe, in good condition. In the northern counties—Cumberland, Colchester, &c., it is but little more than half an average. The long droughts and the injury done to the roots by frost has made the crop in some few parts so thin that it will hardly pay for mowing.

FRUIT will be somewhat deficient. Apples about an average. After so large a supply last season it will not be expected that another large yield will follow. Cherries are abundant in Annapolis Co. They have been exported principally to St. John, N. B. Some few boxes to Halifax.

POTATOES appear at present healthy and abundant. The large quantity raised last year enabled some to hold them back for the spring market. The consequence has been that they have been sold at the wharves during the past two or three weeks at 1s. per bushel.

The WHEAT crop throughout the United States, Canada and Nova Scotia is such that the year has already been termed, "The year of plenty." A correspondent of the New York Tribune, from Michigan, says:—"Our wheat crop is harvested; it is by far the largest crop ever raised in Michigan; the berry is large and plump; and, as a general thing, will weigh over sixty pounds to the bushel." Some wheat was cut in Niagara, C. W., as early as the 7th ult. How much reason have we for humility and gratitude. "Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and his wonderful works to the children of men."

## Raise Fruit and eat it.

This is a fruit country. Nearly all farmers may raise their own fruit. Strawberries, raspberries, currants and gooseberries grow or will grow almost everywhere. They can be canned, and so preserved the whole year. Apples, pears, peaches, cherries, can be raised on most farms. There is no good reason why fruit should not be as plenty as corn or wheat.

This is a bilious country—that is, the people who live here are especially liable to bilious diseases. There is, perhaps, no better preventative of bilious diseases, than the constant use of fruit as a part of the diet. It corrects the acids and juices of the stomach, and assists digestion. It keeps the bowels properly active, and prevents that sluggishness and torpidity, which promote bilious derangements. Fruit, to do its best office in the diet, should be cooked and eaten as a part of the regular meal. Thus used, how delicious it is! How it adds to the pleasure of a meal to have it enriched with so delicate and agreeable an article of diet! And how chaste and elevating is the tendency of such a diet, compared with one of solid meat and bread. So it is. The best diet is really the pleasantest. Therefore let fruit grow on all our farms, and adorn, and make pleasant all our tables.—Valley Farmer.

## Potash--Sand--Phosphorus.

No vines can produce fruit without potash. Dye-woods and all color-giving plants owe their vivid dyes to potash. Without it we cannot have a mess of peas. Where it exists in a natural state in the soil, there we find leguminous plants growing wild, and in such places only we find wild grapes. All the cereals require potash, phosphate of magnesia and silica, which is dissolvable in a solution of potash. It is this dissolved sand that forms the hard coat of stalks, and gives them the strength to stand up against the blasts of wind and rain while ripening. It is this substance that gives bamboos their strength, and beards of grain and blades of grass their cutting sharpness. No cereal ever came to perfection in a soil devoid of potash, silica, phosphate of lime, carbonic acid and nitrogen.—Maine Farmer.

HEN MANURE.—The excreta of birds of all kinds is valuable as manure, and, if properly used, will invariably pay for the pains-taking. Lime, ashes or other alkalies, should never be mixed with hen manure; such treatment throws out the ammonia, and forms other compounds of lessened value. When dry muck, charcoal dust, woods-earth, or other cheap divisor, can be procured, compost hen manure with it, and it wetted with dilute sulphuric acid, so much the better; this will fix the ammonia as a sulphate, which is soluble, but not volatile, like the carbonate of ammonia. No farmer can afford to sell his hen manure to morocco dressers, even at four times the usual market price.—Working Farmer.

SALT AND ASHES FOR COWS.—On turning my cows to pasture, in the spring, I provide several small tubs, and having fixed them firmly in the soil to prevent them being overturned, put into each tub one quart of salt and three quarts of sifted wood-ashes, previously well mixed by stirring. The cows partake freely of this mixture. It prevents injury from the sudden change from dry to green food, and has, besides, a most invigorating effect upon the general system. Some assert that salt should be given only as often as once a week, as its more frequent use would be injurious. But when supplied in this way, no apprehension need be entertained.

TO DRY CURRANTS FOR DESSERT.—Have a basin of water, and dissolve in it a sufficient quantity of gum-arabic to make it rather thick; have also a plateful of the best loaf sugar pounded and sifted; dip bunches of ripe, red currants into the gum-arabic solution, and then roll them well in the sugar; lay them separately on a dish to dry in the sun. They are very pretty for dessert, to be eaten immediately; if kept, care must be taken that the bunches do not touch, and the process should be repeated by rolling them in sugar for several days successively.

A New York paper says:—Our Nova Scotia friends must be more than human if they learn without the least symptom of regret that good potatoes have lately been selling here at fifty or sixty cents a bushel, owing to the very large yield. We fear this price will shut our market to them.

## Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

## Circular Letter.

TO THE CHURCHES OF THE EASTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Dear Brethren,

In this annual letter we commend to your consideration, the Educational interests, connected with us as a denomination.

It is not deemed necessary to occupy much space in insisting upon the importance of Education in general. Every thing in the history of the past,—every thing connected with the present passing events—and all the anticipated future disclose its importance, and urge upon us its necessity.

Every thing in the outer world, the progress in the arts and science, the revelations of history, the proximity of nations to each other, through the influence of science that are locally distant, every thing around us may impress us with the importance of knowledge.

And if we look within, the soul is formed for the attainment of knowledge, and every thing there,—its desires, its aspirations and its capabilities,—declare what inspiration infallibly teaches:—that for the "soul to be without knowledge is not good."

But the proper results of mind are no more to be looked for without study, long and patient investigation and training, than the fruits of the earth without the cultivation of the soil.

Not however, as intimated, to the importance of knowledge in general, which will be so readily admitted by all, is the subject of this letter devoted, but to that aspect of it which was the original design, and is the still cherished desire of the Baptist body, in the founding and carrying forward of our Educational Institutions at Horton, namely, its religious aspect, to impart instruction under the influence of true religion. Not barely admitting the truth of christianity, but its power illustrated, its truths warm from the word of God, dwelling deep in the heart, to become the prevailing and controlling thing of life. A religious educational institution is not where a merely theoretical religion, or denominational creed is the burden of its christianity, but where the vital and energizing power of godliness, is the prevailing influence—the cherished and desired boon, where a sound conversion, a real and experimental piety is the felt necessity of the soul—is the prevailing conviction of those engaged in imparting instruction.

Of the importance of this feature in the character of our educational institutions, and of those who have charge of them, it is to be hoped that Baptists will never lose sight. Ceasing to cherish the real religious element, we fail to carry out the design which originated them, and whatever increase of funds or of students, and outer success there may be, without this, we shall be shorn of our strength, and "Ichabod" shall be written on their walls. The religious, is therefore the most important element—in the estimation of those who are engaged in conducting them, it must be considered second to no other, and the more deeply this conviction is embedded, the more permanently fixed in the mind, the more it influences and controls, the more powerful of success will be our institutions.

Is this the character of our educational institutions? Is the religious element cherished and fostered there? Is vital christianity, real living piety, and sound conversion the underlying feeling of those connected with them? If so, judging from the word of God, "those that honor me I will honor," we may expect to find evidences of God's power, illustrations of God's grace, instances of conversion of those who may from time to time, there receive instruction and mental training.

With gratitude to our Heavenly Father, we can refer to these testimonies, and to the power and grace of God. Some of us can remember as matters of blessed experience, when the influence of the Holy Spirit, wrought powerfully among the students, when under the conviction of its guilt, the mind, awestricken trembled with fear, and bowed in penitence, fell before the throne of mercy, where students and professors together offered up to their Father in heaven, the earnest pleadings of souls stirred to their very depths.

Answers to these pleadings were realized, the captive liberated and brought into the liberty of the glorious gospel, made free by the Son of God, bore testimony that God was there. The strongest evidence of the divine approbation therefore has been given. It would be interesting and a source of holy joy, to be able to have all the instances of conversion to God of students, while there engaged in those studies they hoped would fit them for life's work, that would be to them a source of gain or personal emolument, but who under the sanctifying influence of the Holy Spirit, were led to consecrate themselves to the service of God. Many a parent's heart has been made to leap for joy at the news of the hopeful conversion of some wayward son. Many a mother's heart has bounded with grateful praise, at the news of the return to God of the child of her many prayers.

These are the institutions, Dear Brethren, committed to your fostering care, these, over which the influence of heaven has been hovering, are committed to you, to us all. They have claims upon you. In a truly noble manner have these claims, as they have appealed to your benevolence, your contributions, from time to time been met. They still appeal to you. And still as in the past, we trust they shall meet with success. In-

creasing usefulness, will cause a greater outlay, and expenditure of monies. It is so in every department of labor.

But to your sympathies and your prayers do we commend these institutions. There is danger of our becoming isolated in our feelings, from the fact of our not being immediately engaged in conducting them. This should not be the case. Heaven has shown an interest in them, the divine benediction has been given, and your sympathies should not, we think be withheld.

For these we would earnestly ask your prayers. Often by our fathers in the ministry has this request been made—and often too have we listened to their earnest supplications on behalf of these institutions. God heard their petitions—and though the "fathers" have passed away from among us, the influence of their prayers have not. Answers to them are still seen, and their supplications are being yet answered. Let us pray for them, that more and more largely the divine influence may rest upon them.

For the Christian Messenger.

## Obituary Notices.

MRS. LUCY PORTER,

Wife of Mr. Abraham Porter, of Cornwallis, and daughter of the late Mr. Randal Hsley and Phebe his wife, died May 25, 1859, in the 59th year of her age, leaving behind her a large circle of near relatives to mourn over their loss.

Some seventeen years since, the subject of this brief sketch was awakened to a sense of her imminent danger through the instrumentality of the Gospel preached at her dwelling house, on the North Mountain, by the writer of this notice, and his subsequent conversation with her, and not long after this through the sovereign agency of the Divine Spirit, she found peace in believing in Jesus, and "joy unspeakable and full of glory." Some time afterwards she made a public profession of her faith in Christ, was buried with Christ in baptism, and was received into the Third Cornwallis Baptist Church, where she continued in fellowship until removed to the Church triumphant. During the period of her pilgrimage here, she learned by experience the force of her dear Redeemer's own words, John xvi. 33: "These things have I spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation, but be of good cheer—I have overcome the world;" also, the words of the Holy Apostle 1 Peter iv., 12, 13: "Beloved think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you as though some strange thing happened unto you; but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad with exceeding joy;" and also Rev. vii. 14: "And he said unto me, these are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." Her last illness was very short. She was somewhat indisposed on Sabbath the 15th of May, and died on the 25th. The writer enjoyed the privilege of visiting her on Sabbath, 22nd, in company with the Rev. Jas. Parker, who is the pastor of the Church of which she was a member. She was happy in the prospect of the full enjoyment of resting forever with Christ.

Three things might be noticed in connection with the above. One is, a special encouragement to ministers to labor faithfully for God under all their discouragements, as the knowledge of the instrumentality used in the conversion of the deceased was unknown to him whom God was pleased thus to honor, however unworthy, until the Sabbath before her death. Eternity alone will reveal the sequel of the success attending the labors of every faithful laborer in God's vineyard. Another is, the encouragement afforded to every lost soul, especially those advanced in life, to believe in Christ for salvation, and not to give way to despondency. And lastly, the great advantage of the possession and enjoyment of the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ amid all the conflicting tribulations of this life, and the support it affords in the hour of death, and the full enjoyment of a blissful eternity with Christ in Heaven. At the dying request of the deceased the writer (in company with dear brother Parker, who was afflicted with bronchitis) preached from Phil. i. 23: "Having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better."—Communicated by particular request by Rev. W. Chipman.

Pleasant Valley, Cornwallis, July 27, 1859.

ARUMENTA DORMA CROWE.

The pale messenger, Death, has visited our neighborhood, and taken from the tender embrace of kind parents a promising, blooming youth, Aramenta Dorma Crowe, aged 11 years, daughter of John F. and Rachel Ann Crowe. She was taken with scarlet fever on Wednesday, the 1st of June, and on the 4th she was numbered with the silent dead. From the very first her disease assumed a deathly appearance. Her kind physician was in almost immediate attendance; but it soon appeared evident that human skill could not stay the fatal disease. It is a comforting thought to know and to feel that an All wise and ever-merciful God does not willingly afflict the children of men, but has promised to bind up the broken heart and heal the wounded spirit.

Our dear brother and sister have been called to endure a heavy bereavement, but, through the saving grace of God, they have been enabled to feel that God's mercies are mingled with his judgments; and notwithstanding death has deprived them of one of their beloved children, yet they have felt the sustaining hand of Jesus in this greatest of earthly bereavements. She never, even in the most extreme pain, was heard to murmur; but bore her sufferings with patience and resignation, often expressing an entire dependence on the finished work of her Saviour and resignation to his will. Being asked by a friend if she felt willing to give up all worldly pleasure, her kind parents, affectionate brothers and sisters, her youthful associates and every comfort of an earthly nature for her Saviour, her answer was very decided and impressive, she said that she had no desire to live; that Jesus was kind to her on a bed of suffering. To her mother who yearned over her with all the tenderness of a fond parent, she said she would soon be