

About the year 1842 he appears to have been engaged in the discharge of pastoral duties for both Churches. The records show that a considerable revival took place at this time. Of the persons baptized by him during this good work, 34 united with the first church, and 20 with the second. After the union of the two churches was happily effected, in the autumn of 1847, he was again employed in the pastoral office, to serve the united church.

About the year 1834 Brother S. spent some time on Long Island. His labors were blessed to the hopeful conversion of a considerable number of persons. Sixteen were baptized by him. A church, principally gathered through his ministry, was formed there on the 17th day of March, 1834. By request, he continued to labor on the Island for a season; and he was much esteemed and beloved by the people.

More recently he took the pastoral charge of the Baptist Church at Locke's Island; where likewise his faithful ministrations, truly Christian deportment, and agreeable manner, greatly endeared him to his brethren and the community.

Brother Stronach's gifts, however, were better adapted to missionary than to pastoral labors. His discourses, though sound and judicious, did not contain that variety which is requisite to secure the profitable attendance of stated hearers. He was quite unlike the preacher of whom it was shrewdly remarked, that when he was in the pulpit, he preached so well, that it seemed a pity he should ever come out of it; and when he was out of the pulpit he behaved so badly, that it was evidently a great pity that he should ever go into it again. On the contrary, our late justly esteemed brother's daily Christian walk gave weight and force to his public ministrations. As he was extensively known, and was universally regarded as a man of undiminished piety, and strict consistency of demeanor, his itinerant labors were highly acceptable and beneficial.

Not long before his decease he expressed to me regret that he had not kept a diary. As this was neglected, and he rarely communicated any accounts for publication, and very little intelligence has been received from abroad, it is not in my power to furnish so full a statement relative to his missionary labors, and their happy results, as is desirable. A few specimens must suffice.

The Christian Messenger (vol. ii. p. 166.) contains an account of six weeks service performed in the employment of the Domestic Missionary Board, in Kent and other parts of the county of Hants. It evinces fidelity and zeal in public preaching, and private visitation of families. In the autumn of the same year, while I was resident at Fredericton, N. B., as Principal of the Baptist Seminary there, I enjoyed a pleasant interview with him, and heard him preach an excellent sermon, on his return from an extensive tour up the River St. John.

There are likewise very gratifying accounts published in C. M. (vol. iii. N. S., p. 142, 190, &c.) of successful labors performed by him in destitute parts of the County of Halifax. His visits in Hammond's Plains, Margaret's Bay, &c., in the autumn of the year 1842, were evidently attended with salutary effects. When he visited these regions again the next spring, he was delighted to find that the impressions made had not been evanescent, but had continued and increased. At Margaret's Bay the work was extensive. I have heard Brother Stronach relate the following circumstance:—In an early stage of the principal revival here, at a meeting held in a private house, the mistress of the house became very deeply impressed with an awful sense of her lost and perilous condition. She earnestly entreated her son, who was not a professor of religion, to pray for her. Brother Stronach turned to the young man and said, "You had better pray for your mother." He complied with the request, and engaged in prayer with great earnestness. Very deep seriousness manifestly pervaded the assembly: and from that time the work extended with rapidity. During this tour Brother Stronach baptized 34 in the different neighbourhoods at Margaret's Bay; and a church was organized at Indian Harbor. He states that the first person whom he baptized there was brother Hovey, in the 64th year of his age, and that four of his sons and two of his daughters went forward with him in this ordinance. At Hammond's Plains there was a powerful work of grace. Twenty-four were baptized in one day; 12 by Brother Porter, and 12 by Brother Stronach. A Baptist church was organized there on the 30th day of April, 1843.

After a short interval he again visited the same places, and found the gracious work still progressing. His labors at this time, as on former occasions, were highly acceptable and beneficial. At Hammond's Plains he baptized 4, at Margaret's Bay 51, at Indian Harbor 3, and among the colored people of Preston 23. In his missionary tours in the County of Halifax in 1843, he immersed 127 professed believers in Christ. These appear to have been principally converted through his ministry.

In the year 1844 Brother S. itinerated through the same localities, and extended his labors to Musquodoboit Harbor, where he baptized 5 disciples, and formed them, with other Baptists there into a church. He also devoted some time to the good of the people at Jeddore, and at Lawrencetown. At the close of this tour he remarks: "During the time that I have labored in the County of Halifax as a missionary for the last two years, I have baptized above 140 persons and organized 4 churches."

The brief and imperfect outlines of Brother Stronach's labors now given, clearly evince that God was pleased to confer distinguished honor on his ministry, by rendering it highly useful in the conversion of sinners and the edification of believers.

After the commencement of my pastorate

with the church of Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot, July 1, 1851, he invariably manifested a cheerful readiness to afford me all the assistance in his power. Entire harmony always existed between us. Indeed, I am not aware that he ever had a quarrel with any person. In all our intercourse I do not recollect hearing him say a word against any one; nor do I remember an instance in which I have known an individual to speak against him. I may add, so guarded was he in the use of his tongue, that I have no recollection of hearing him utter an imprudent expression. How greatly would the interests of true religion be promoted, were all the professed ministers of Christ—with all professors of piety—to imitate this excellent example.

For several years before Brother Stronach's decease he was evidently becoming enfeebled. In the autumn of the year 1857, on a Sabbath afternoon, as he was walking home, after having preached in Melvern Square, he was observed to totter, and presently to fall. General paralysis, of which some symptoms had previously appeared, now became manifest. After this he was never able to preach. He gradually declined, until he became unable to go abroad. While, however, the outward man was perishing, the inward man was renewed day by day. Even when extreme bodily infirmity at times rendered him incapable of conversing understandingly on temporal matters, his mind appeared unclouded in reference to religious subjects. He remained calm, submissive, and cheerful, relying firmly on his beloved Redeemer, in the prospect of approaching dissolution. Just before his departure one of his sons told him that he thought he was dying. "Then," said he, "I shall soon be at home." Thus sustained by the power of sovereign grace, did this servant of Christ close his truly Christian course on the 25th day of November, 1858, at the age of 66 years.

The text on which a funeral sermon was preached by the pastor on this occasion, was justly regarded by the community as peculiarly appropriate. It was Psalm xxxvii. 37: "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace."

For the Christian Messenger.

Valedictory Addresses to the Rev. A. H. Munro.

FROM THE CHURCH AT DIGBY.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,

We painfully regret that the relation subsisting between you and us for the last two years, is now dissolved; and that you are now about to enter on another field of labor in your Divine Master's service.

Since you have been the Pastor of our little Church we have had our trials and our difficulties, but we have also held sweet communion with you in the house of God, as well as in our social and domestic circles. Our attachment to you, formed upon your first visit to Digby, has continued to increase till the present hour. Your ministrations in the pulpit have been instructive, edifying and evangelical, and have tended to confirm us in the doctrines of the Gospel, and incite us to the practice of those high and holy duties that devolve upon the disciples of Jesus Christ. Long will it be ere we forget the religious ordinances and privileges which we have enjoyed during your pastorate over us. In your fidelity, zeal, and capacity, our confidence has never been shaken; and at all times, and under all the trying circumstances through which we have passed, we have found you to be a vigilant and faithful servant of Jesus Christ, fervent and humble, as well as untiring in your "labors of love."

And now that you are about to leave us, we beg leave to assure you, that we shall continue to pray that your future career in the ministry, wherever your lot may be cast, may be brightened with the smiles of Divine approbation, and that many souls, led to the cross through your instrumentality, may be "stars in the crown of your rejoicing."

While we assure you of our christian love and attachment, we also beg that you will say to Mrs. Munro that she has a large place in our affections, and that we shall continue to pray that she may enjoy every domestic, social and religious blessing.

Adieu, dear Pastor; and when kneeling at a throne of Grace, perhaps when far away, remember us.

Signed, in behalf of the Church, ALEX. ROSS, Deacon, W. L. BENT, Clerk.

Digby, Dec. 10th, 1859.

REPLY:

To the Members of the Digby and Digby Joggins Baptist Churches:

DEAR BRETHREN AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

Few men could receive, unmoved, the address which you have presented. It has touched my inmost soul. The pain of our parting is mutual and deep, for the incidents of the past have knit very closely together our hearts. My decision to resign the charge which I had held for two years, was arrived at with undiminished es-

teem and affection for you. Fortunate, indeed, shall I be, if in my new field of labor, I find others to replace in full the sincere piety, unmitigated kindness, and enduring friendship of those whose sentiments are embodied in your address. Such hallowed associations as these, are among the most precious of the earthly rewards of the christian minister. I cannot think that we shall ever cease to remember each other with strong affection, or cease to pray for each other with earnest fervor.

Mrs. Munro unites with me in thanking you for your kind adieu, which harmonize so well with the many loving deeds of the past.

I remain your Brother in Christ, A. H. MUNRO.

Digby, Dec. 10, 1859.

FROM THE "HOPE" DIVISION, SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

WORTHY BROTHER,

As you are about leaving this Division of the Sons of Temperance, of which you have been a worthy member, we cannot allow this opportunity to pass without expressing our sincere regret at your removal from amongst us. Your absence will long be regretted, and we fear your seat in the Division-room will not soon be filled.

But at the same time we believe that it is duty to God, whom you serve for the good of souls, which has induced you to remove. We assure you that your labor has been appreciated by us. Your residence being so far from the Division Room has prevented your attendance as often as we have desired, but we believe your heart is in the work in which we are engaged.

Brother, we wish you every success wherever your lot may be cast, although we cannot find words to express to you our sincere regret at your removal from amongst us.

Finally Brother, may the blessing of Heaven descend for ever upon you and your amiable companion and family, and may the great Patriarch above direct you to that Haven of rest, where love and harmony shall reign forever.

On behalf of the Hope Division, No. 154, Sons of Temperance.

MILES C. WOODMAN, JAMES M. AYMAR, JOHN NICHOLS, Committee.

Division Room, Grand Joggins, December 12th, 1859.

REPLY.

To the Members of Hope Division, No. 154, Sons of Temperance.

BRETHREN,

While among you I endeavoured to promote the cause of Temperance as far as my other duties and abilities permitted. In my new field of labour I intend to adopt the same course. What we want is, the intelligent, earnest, patient agitation of the question persevered in till such an amount of public opinion is created in favour of our principles, that legal enactment will follow as a matter of course. In aiming at this consummation, we must cultivate a christian spirit; firmness with forbearance; resolution without bitterness. All rashness and personality will only retard the movement. Acting in harmony with these convictions and placing our trust in Him whose word teaches us not to be weary in well doing—in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

On behalf of Mrs. Munro and myself, I most sincerely thank you for your kind address.

I remain, yours most truly, A. H. MUNRO.

Halifax, Jan. 6th, 1860.

Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Evangelization of Seamen.

DEAR BROTHER,

The following letter was from a son of the American Consul of this port. It will be read with interest by those who pray for the tempest-tossed mariner.

GLASGOW, Nov. 14th, 1859.

Reverend Sir,—Knowing the interest you take in that class of men whose business is on the great waters, I thought you would be pleased to hear from me, especially as I can communicate glad tidings. I am now in a Brig called the "Lois." We sailed from St. John, N. B. 30th of September, bound for this port. We experienced several tremendous gales, but through the mercy of Him who ruleth the winds and the waves, we weathered them without the loss of even a rope yarn.

Our crew were picked up and shipped from the Boarding houses in St. John, and I expected to have a hard set to deal with. But, Sir, judge of my astonishment when going forward one evening, to call them on deck to put on more sail, I found them on their knees, while one of their number was devoutly offering up

a prayer to Almighty God. Surely, said I to myself, the prayers of Mr. Harris are being answered. While, Sir, this is the state of affairs on board this ship, as for myself, while liable to sin every moment, yet great is my faith in that God who has borne me safely through many a storm, and whose arm is mighty to save to the utmost all that call upon him in spirit and in truth. Truly, Sir, the good time is coming when the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto God.

It seems to me, Sir, as I look through the dim future, that I see the prophecy fulfilled which says, "They shall not teach every man his neighbor, know the Lord, for all shall know him from the least to the greatest."

My respects to your family, and my love to my parents if you see them. Please write to me at New York, care of Thomas James, Esq., No. 6, South Street.

We expect to leave here about the first of next month.

Yours affectionately, A. W. BALKAM.

To Rev. E. N. Harris, Yarmouth.

I subjoin an extract from another letter, addressed to a member of my Church, (Brother Nathan Butler) from New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16, 1859.

Dear Sir,—I have had the pleasure of meeting with your son, G. W., in the course of my missionary labors in this city. He called on me several times at my office, for religious instruction, and while in port has attended all our meetings regularly. I think your son has made a full surrender of his heart to Christ. He wished me to let you know the good news. He has just sailed for California, from whence he will write to you himself. Allow me to rejoice with you in the mercy and grace of God, bestowed upon your son, in his conversion, and to hope you may have a happy meeting in this world; if not, a more joyful one in the world to come.

I remain yours in the best of bonds, JOSEPH W. GARDNER, Miss. Port Society.

PORT MEDWAY.—The Rev. R. R. Philp writes Dec. 29th:—"I spent a very happy Christmas-day this year. It was my privilege on that day to bury with their Lord in baptism four humble believers."

Colonial & Foreign News.

New Brunswick.

SMALL POX.—The Intelligencer, (St. John.) says: This loathsome disease is still very prevalent in this city, and we see no likelihood of its being diminished for some time to come. We think it will now take its course, and the quarantining of houses, at that stage of its progress, is utterly useless—or worse. It is important that all persons be vaccinated.

The Temperance Hall, in Carleton, N. B., was destroyed by fire on the night of the 28th. ult.

A gentleman at Woodstock, received a \$4 bill lately, on the back of which was written—"London, January 16, 1837. Beware of gambling, for I well know its vices. This is the last of \$4000 my poor father left me on his death-bed, with these words—'my son lead an honest and virtuous life.' Instead of obeying, I visited a gambling hell. O God, before this meets the eye of a stranger, I shall end my miserable life. My hand trembles too much to write more." Take this advice.

The Fredericton Reporter says that the whole country is lumber mad at present. Enormous quantities of goods are supplied to the lumber men, which it is thought will not be paid for; and it is anticipated that a glut of wood and a dearth of agricultural produce will follow the present excitement.

United States.

CONGRESS has thus far failed to elect a Speaker. The members appear to be making legislation a jest rather than a serious business. The New York Chronicle says:—The proceedings were diversified on Monday by a variety of remarks and motions of a jocose and humorous intent, with which a long speech from Mr. Smith of Virginia was interrupted, Mr. Smith lending dramatic aid, by quaffing successive potations of egg-nogg, while on his feet, to the edification of himself and the amusement of the galleries.

A motion has been made in the Senate in favour of the purchase of Cuba.

UNION saving Meetings have been held in various places with more or less enthusiasm. Washington City, Williamsburgh, Brooklyn, Newark, etc., have been thus honored. Henry Ward Beecher is delivering his lecture on "How to save the Union." After a careful medical examination he finds that all the organs of the Union are sound, and attributes its slight indisposition to the fact that it "has eaten too many politicians, and they set hard on its stomach."

A monster cannon for the Government has been cast at Pittsburgh, Pa., under the superintendence of Lieut. Rodman, and was a complete success. It weighed over thirty-five tons, and is called the Floyd.

Small-pox is unusually prevalent in Boston and its neighbourhood. The weekly report shows that deaths from this loathsome disease are of daily occurrence.