

# Christian Messenger.

A REPOSITORY OF RELIGIOUS, POLITICAL, AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

"Not slothful in business: fervent in spirit."

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## Poetry.

### To the Queen.

The following address, the production of one of the loyal hearts of Hants county, was presented to the Prince of Wales, at Windsor, by the hands of Lady Laura Phipps, daughter of the Earl of Mulgrave. We publish it by request.

Queen of the thousand Isles! whose fragile form,  
Midst the proud structures of our Father Land,  
Graces the throne which each subsiding storm  
That shakes the earth, assures us yet shall stand;  
Thy gentle voice, of mild yet firm command,  
Is heard in ev'ry clime, on ev'ry wave;  
Thy dazzling sceptre, like a fairy wand,  
Strikes off the shackles from the struggling slave  
And gathers, 'neath its rule, the great, the wise, the brave.

But yet, 'midst all the treasures that surround  
Thy Royal Halls, one bliss is still denied,—  
To know the true hearts at thy name that bound,  
Which ocean from thy presence must divide,  
Whose voices never swell the boisterous tide  
Of hourly homage that salutes thy ear;  
But yet, who cherish, with a Briton's pride,  
The name thy budding virtues taught them to revere.

How little deem'st thou of the scenes remote,  
In which one word, all other words above,  
Of earthly homage, seems to gaily float  
On every breeze, and sound through every grove—  
A spell to cheer, to animate, to move—  
To bid old age throw off the weight of years,  
To cherish thoughts of loyalty and love,  
To garner round the heart those hopes and fears  
Which, in our Western homes, VICTORIA'S name en-  
dears.

'Tis not that, on our soil, the measured tread,  
Of armed legions speak thy sovereign sway,  
'Tis not the hugh leviathans that spread  
Thy meteor flag above each noble bay,  
That bids the soul a forced obedience pay!  
(The despot's tribute from the trembling thrall)  
No! at our altars sturdy freemen pray  
That blessings on VICTORIA'S head may fall  
And happy household groups each pleasing trait re-  
call.

And gladly, with our country's choicest flowers,  
Thy Son and Heir Acadia's maidens greet,  
Who shared thy roof, and deigns to honor ours  
For moments rapturous, but alas, how fleet!  
And if in future times the thoughts be sweet  
To him, of humble scenes beyond the sea,  
When turning home his mother's smiles to meet,  
And mingle with the high born and the free—  
We'll long remember Him who best reflected Thee.

## Nova Scotia Church History.

For the Christian Messenger.

### The Baptists of Nova Scotia.

PERIOD III.

From A. D. 1800 to A. D. 1860.

LETTER XIX.

VISITS FROM AMERICAN MINISTERS.—LETTER FROM DANIEL MERRILL, ISAAC CASE'S LABOURS IN HANTS, KINGS, AND ANNAPOLIS COUNTIES.—AMOS ALLEN IN CUMBERLAND.

#### MY YOUNG FRIEND,

Several brethren from the United States visited Nova Scotia about this time, and greatly assisted the churches. The names of Isaac Case, Daniel Merrill, Henry Hale, and Amos Allen were long remembered by our brethren as faithful labourers for Christ. An extract or two from their letters will doubtless be acceptable to you.

Daniel Merrill writes thus to Edward Manning, from Sedgewick, Maine. His letter is dated Oct. 20th, 1808. Mr. Manning, it may be observed, had been seriously ill the preceding spring:—

"I hope you are not as yet in the heaven of heavens, but, with a thriving soul in a recruited body, in very active warfare for Zion's cause and King on earth. This is one reason why these lines have been written intentionally for your perusal. Another is, you have dared to set yourself as a mark for the enemies of the Lord to shoot at. A third is, because my expectation is that the Lord Jesus hath much labour for you to perform in his kingdom below, before you shall be called to court. A fourth is, that if by any means I might encourage you somewhat in the holy war. You may be assured that some of us in this region are called to very active service; but then we have great encouragement. Per-

haps Babylon never before trembled as she now does. Never were her friends called to such constant hard labour to keep her in tolerable plight, as at present. Were we half so zealous and unwearied and bold in seeking her destruction as they are in preserving her alive, I doubt whether she would not soon be cast as a great millstone into the depth of the sea, to rise no more at all.

"You have, dear Sir, so offended Babylon that you can expect from her no mercy. It is therefore expected that, depending wholly on the God of armies, your motto will be 'victory or death.'

"Of you I have heard considerably in times past, that you 'profited much in the Jews' religion.' How much more may we hope, since God hath converted you from the church-destroying error of the Man of sin! I know, dear brother, that without Jesus you can do no more than his primitive disciples, which was 'nothing.' But relying on Israel's God you may yet slay your thousands, yea, your ten thousands."

"It is, in my judgment, high time for true Israelites to bestir themselves. Every mighty man of valour should have his sword upon his thigh, and every officer should be on the alert, at his post.

"One thing is certain, the enemy have received a serious check. They are alarmed, discomfited, and their disorder bespeaks fear. Pray encourage your brethren to two things:—one, that they displease not God, by trusting to an arm of flesh; the other, that they leave no stone unturned, but attack the enemy, with heavenly weapons, in every direction."

Some passages from a communication sent by Isaac Case to the Massachusetts Baptist Missionary Magazine may be given. The letter is dated May 18th 1808.

"On the 4th of December, 1807, in company with brother Henry Hale, I entered on board of a schooner at Eastport, bound to Nova Scotia, and was favoured with a quick and pleasant passage. On the 5th day, at evening, we arrived at Parrsborough. Lord's day morning, December 6th, being uncomfortable on board the vessel, we went on shore to a public house. We had not been there long before E. Hatchford Esq. came in and invited us to his house, and treated us very kindly. As they were destitute of a minister, a small society met to read church service; but as Providence had cast us in with them, they invited us to preach, which we attempted; both in the day and evening. I trust some of these people are truly pious. The next day we crossed the Basin of Minas and landed at Horton. Here we were kindly received by Elder Theodore Harding, who is the minister of this place. His church consists of about two hundred and fifty members, but some of them belong in the neighbouring towns. He gave us a pleasing account of a revival of religion in that part of the Lord's vineyard. The next day we visited a number of families, with whom we prayed and sang praise to God. They rejoiced much that God had sent us to visit them. I preached in the evening to a crowded and attentive assembly. The next evening brother Hale preached a very weighty and alarming discourse, from Rev. vi. 17. The next evening I preached again; and on Friday, Dec. 11., I went through the woods, about twelve miles, to Falmouth. Here they have no settled minister. Religion hath been at a very low ebb, and iniquity hath greatly abounded. Some time last September a reformation began, and prevailed very rapidly, until it spread through a considerable part of the town. There have been about thirty baptized. I preached several times with them, and I can say our meetings were delightful seasons; for I believe the Lord was with us.

"From this place I crossed over to Windsor. This is a considerable village, but the people in general appear to be sunken in darkness and stupidity about their great and eternal interests. But of late some few backsliding christians have been waked up, and two or three young persons have professed to have experienced a change. I cannot but hope the Lord has a blessing in store for this people. If I am not deceived, I found some assistance in praying for as well as preaching to them."

"On Saturday, 28th of December, I went to Cornwallis. This is a very pleasant place,

and in some respects exceeds any country town I was ever in. It extends about thirty miles in length and ten in breadth, and contains 5000 inhabitants. Among these there is a great number of pious people, who some years past were formed into a church upon the open communion plan. We may say this with propriety, for they were not agreed either in faith or practice. Having advrtd to Mr. Manning's change of sentiments and the establishment of the Baptist church, Mr. Case proceeds:—"As the situation of this people called for assistance, and it being difficult in the winter season to cross the wide bay to visit the most destitute, the people with brother Manning were very urgent that I should tarry with them some time. I consented, upon his engaging to spend as much time on a mission among the destitute as I spent with them. Here I tarried about five weeks, preaching night and day in different parts of the town, the people flocking to hear the word. I attended a number of conference meetings, to hear the experience of the young converts. These were delightful seasons. It was difficult for me to get to rest before midnight, which was almost too much for my feeble frame. I baptized five persons and administered the Lord's supper twice in this place."

"On the first day of February I left Cornwallis and went towards Annapolis. I spent about a week in the town of Wilnot. Here I found a number of pious people, well established in the truth, who were very glad of the visit. I preached seven sermons to them, two of which were on funeral occasions. From this I went to the upper part of Granville and Annapolis. Here brother Chipman resides; but he preaches in three towns, which are very extensive. He has indeed much labour on his hands. As he earnestly desired my assistance, I tarried with him about ten days, and preached nine times, but was laid by, by reason of sickness, three days of the time.

"I went from this place to the lower part of Granville; here I found a kind and attentive people, with whom I spent a week, and preached six times. They complained of being low in religion. I did not wonder that they were, for I found that family worship was greatly neglected. Brother James Manning is their minister; he is a good, honest man. May the dew of immortal grace fall on their dear souls, that they may report and do their first works. I took my leave of them and returned to Cornwallis, where I tarried eight days, and preached in different parts of the town, and also attended a conference meeting, and heard several relate their experience—baptized four, and broke bread to the church, and then departed.

"I found on my return to this place that there was an increasing attention; several had been converted and baptized in my absence. It brought to my recollection that when I was here before, at a lecture on the mountain, I was uncommonly straitened and confused in my ideas, so that I was much mortified and confused with my performance; but it pleased God, who will stain the pride of man, and have all the glory of saving sinners, to set home the broken discourse to the awakening of one that hath since been baptized.

"This people have treated me, a poor stranger, with great friendship and kindness. I found my heart much knit to them in the bonds of the gospel, which made it hard parting with them. May the best of blessings attend them! After I parted with them I preached in Horton, Falmouth, and Windsor. In this last-mentioned town God is carrying on a gracious work. Several have been hopefully converted since I was here in the first of the winter, and many still flock to hear the word. I also hear of a late revival at Cobiquid, and in the town of Rawdon, places that I could not conveniently visit; but I left brother Hale behind, to visit them. There is a great call for ministerial labours in this province. Religious people, especially ministers of the gospel, are here treated with great respect by all classes, both high and low, young and old.

"I wrote to brother Burton of Halifax, and desired him to inform the governor that we were come into the province to preach the gospel. He made the communication, and His Excellency ordered brother Burton to write

to us, and inform us that we were welcome to the province, and to preach and practise, according to our sentiments, only to be careful to conduct and demean ourselves according to the laws of the province, as long as we were in it. Mr. Burton told his Excellency that we were men of good character, and had charge from our society not to meddle with politics. We have met with no real opposition. We were indeed called before two magistrates, who examined us, and read their laws to us, but used us very civilly and let us go." [Sir George Provost was Lieutenant Governor at that time.]

A journal kept by Amos Allen, contains the following statements:—

"January 5, 1809, rode to Nappan river, and attended two meetings. The people were solemnly affected.

"Saturday, 7th, rode to Amherst and spent the Lord's day. In this place my soul was happy in preaching the word. The minds of the people were arrested,—saints spake of the goodness of God.

"Monday, 9th, visited from house to house; preached in the evening to a crowded assembly from Ezek. xviii. 4.

"Tuesday, 10th, rode ten miles to Maccan river. Here I preached three times, and visited from house to house.

"On Thursday evening, after meeting, a certain man, knowing my appointment on Friday evening, asked me to visit his little neighbourhood, of five families, it being but a small distance from the route I was travelling. It was agreed I should be there the next morning at eleven o'clock. At my arrival found them all together at the place appointed. It was told them that the devil was coming that day, and they must be altogether. They were thoughtless creatures. I conversed with them, and then preached from Heb. ii. 3. It was a season of God's power, equal to any thing I ever saw. They were all in tears. My soul was filled with a sense of God and the value of immortal souls. After conversing with them I rode seven miles to my appointment for the evening. A Scotch girl, who attended the meeting in the day time, travelled through the snow seven miles that she might be at the evening lecture. She was greatly distressed. The assembly was large. With much freedom I spoke unto them the things concerning the Kingdom of God.

"Saturday, 14th, rode eight miles to Amherst to a prayer meeting. The Scotch girl was still present, and now almost in despair, exclaiming against herself. 'I thought,' said she, 'I was doing well; but O! what a wretch! O! my heart! my heart! I am gone for ever!'

"On the Lord's day I preached three times, and the place was solemn and awful. God was manifestly there.

"Monday, 16th, visited. At noon was sent for to visit the Scotch girl. Her distress was great. I preached in the evening. The people were solemn.

"Tuesday, rode eight miles and preached in the evening.

"Wednesday, rode to Sackville and preached in the evening. Visited from house to house, and preached evenings. Here is a church in a backslidden state, but begins to think it is time to return.

"Saturday, rode to Amherst; attended a conference in the evening. Here was the poor Scotch girl rejoicing in the Lord. A number of others related what God had done for their souls.

"Lord's day, 22nd, brother Ansley preached to a crowded assembly, and then administered the christian the Apostolic baptism. It was a season to be remembered. I spent this week travelling and preaching up Maccan river, and also visited the above-mentioned five families, and preached twice to them. Here was displayed unusual grace; the Father was manifestly drawing almost every soul to Jesus. A little girl, between nine and ten years of age, after having been under pungent conviction of sin for three days and nights, with little or no sleep, importuned her father, to pray for her. He said, 'I cannot.' After repeating her request several times without succeeding, she said, 'I must pray for myself.' By the bedside she knelt down and for half an hour pleaded with the Lord for mercy. Whilst she was supplicating mercy, the Lord heard, sent delivering grace, and set