Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger

Letters to a Young Preacher.

LETTER IX. PUNCTUALITY TO APPOINTMENTS

MY DEAR BROTHER,-

Punctuality is of great importance in every department of life. The want of it occasions an immense loss of precious time; and deranges business of every kind. Remissness with reference to fulfilling appointments, as well as other engagements, is a prevalent evil. A general reformation in this respect is exceedingly needful. then proceed according to your promise. It would be attended with numerous happy effects.

The ministers of religion should be especially "ready to every good work." Their example may do much toward effecting this necessary reform. It is to be feared, however, that in some instances the remiss course adopted by us has contributed to the increase and extension of this evil. We are, indeed, frequently placed in circumstances of strong temptation to delay. It is not pleasant to preach to the walls; nor to be interrupted by the coming in of persons during the delivery of a sermon. When therefore the time arrives for the commencement of public worship, we may think it advisable to wait till more of the congregation shall be assembled.

It ought to be duly considered, however, that the preacher who adopts this course once, will ployed, I thought perhaps a glance at what I be naturally expected to continue it. The have considered would be for the interest of the people will consequently come later and later Township of Windsor, would not be unintereststill. In this way I have known preachers to ing to many of your readers. In case the fall into a habit of delaying till they would not Government should extend the line of railway usually commence within a full hour past the towards Victoria Beach it will require a bridge time at which they had promised to commence, across the Avon. If so, why not build an the mission here, for the year 1860. "if the Lord will." In such cases it would have Aboiteau, which will answer the purpose, and In your last letter to me you intimate that seemed more suitable for them to say, "if the enclose, and cause to be made, not less than two your Board are thinking seriously of sending a

most tardy of the people will." beneficial rebuke for delinquency of this kind. acre, besides save an annual expense, of the the American Baptist Missionary Union could I had made an appointment for a meeting in a within diked land, as now enclosed. The flats not otherwise than rejoice in the prospect of a private house, on a week day, at 6 o'clock, P.M. of the river and banks of the Avon for miles in re-inforcement to the Burmese Mission, sent by Punctual to the time, I was present, and ready length, with the salt marsh outside, would be a Baptist Society. whether that Society be in to proceed. A few people were assembled, but converted into excellent land, worth as computhe British Provinces or elsewhere. The case more were expected; and I waited for them. ted six [sixty ?-Ed. C. M.,] thousand pounds is surely a very plain one. Burmah, British space of time, an eccentric old gentleman re- the amount of two thousand, making in all by peratively needs, twice as many missionaries as marked, "I do wish people would learn to the building of the said Aboiteau, eight thousand. are now within its borders.

but it has been profitably remembered.

influence.

In those country places where the people have way would help to fill up the Aboiteau. no common standard of time, it may be requisite | I could easily give more arguments in favor of how cordially we shall give them every assistto make a little allowance for diversity in keep- said scheme, but must close knowing I have oc- ance in our power, I need not repeat. ing it. A preacher should have the time as cord cupied already too much of your valuable that he should in no ordinary case, delay over Hoping some person may take up the idea and Mission, of course I shall make over to him at fifteen minutes. Let the people be aware of his bring the subject more fully before the Govern-once half of my native preachers, as he will constant punctuality, and they will probably be ment should they continue the railway eastward. divide my parish with me. induced to be punctual. If there be cases of incurable remissness, punctuality will shew its hatefulness, and put others upon their guard.

These remarks apply also to all who lead in religious meetings, Sabbath Schools, &c. Every person, indeed, should invariably make timely arrangements so as to be present, unavoidable hindrances excepted, precisely at the time appointed.

ought to be careful to avoid contracting debts. lege up to that date; and that unless provision would, therefore, earnestly entreat you to be in- which they stand so vitally related. variably punctual in all things.

injury to your health. Never neglect one, unless Providence manifestly prevent. Be always al and elicit from them a golden response. careful to be at the place in due season; and

May divine assistance be afforded you in this, as well as in any other part of your duty! Yours, as ever,

CHARLES TUPPER. Tremont, Aylesford, March 20, 1861.

ERRATA.—Letter vi. C. M., March 6th, p 77th, par. 7th, for "become, read became; 9th, for "when," read where. Letter vii. Mar. 20th, prayers. p. 93rd, par. 8th, for "honored," read learned.

For the Christian Messenger.

An Aboiteau across the River Avon.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

SIR,—Having a little time on hand unem-

speak the truth. A man to appoint a meeting Nor is this all the good it would effect : what a The English Baptists, with a mistaken courteat 6 o'clock, and then not to begin it till 7 !" I splendid site for mills to manufacture the plaster sy, have agreed to consider Burmah as peculiarsequently not very ready to take them; but this mills for every purpose required, which could be and consequently have not a single missionary was two broad to be misunderstood. The force for water or Steam as deemed most expedient. here. of the rebuke was felt, and the service presently The dam would hold safely all timber and logs, If the Union had now, or if there was a proscommenced. It must be confessed that it did not rafted or otherwise placed above it. The Spring pect that they soon would have, in Burmah a produce a constant due regard to punctuality; and fall freshets would bring down much of number of missionaries, even approximately adevaluable logs and timber from the several quate to the demand, then I would say, by all As a regard for veracity evidently requires streams which flows into the Avon. A small sum means send your labourer to some other field. every preacher to fulfil his appointments, which of money would clear out any obstructions in the But I have shown that such is not the case. are promises, with punctuality, so likewise justice rivers so as to allow logs to come down from a And when it is remembered that, from the first, to punctual attendance demands it. To oblige long distance. The bottom of the river is very Burmah has been the one field in which your these to wait for the dilatory, is manifestly an hard, and a good foundation could be had to churches have ever been most interested. Surely act of injustice. It is punishing the innocent for build on, the lower and upper points could be there need be no hesitation for a moment in the delinquency of the guilty. Moreover, it built with square timber like the present piers sending your missionaries to this country. But presents a strong inducement to those who are filled with stone and brush, leaving a space in it may be said that I, being one of you, and accustomed to come in season, to delay, and so the centre to be filled up with clay or earth, having come from your midst, am not qualified fall into the pernicious habit of being late. In made solid to prevent leakage, and as many to give unbiassed advice in this matter.

Windsor, April 8th, 1861.

For the Christian Messenger.

Acadia College.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,-

The friends of Acadia College are doubtless Now, my dear young brother, though this aware that Institution is at this moment in Letter has especial reference to punctuality in perilous circumstances. At a meeting of the may not be amiss to offer a few remarks with re- found that £350 will be needed on the first of account of the Mission, for the year that has just for her mother. She often with much feeling

ference to it in other respects. A preacher June to meet the current expenses of the Col-He should never do it without a moral certainty be made to increase the present annual income of being able to meet his engagements. When while the Endowment Fund is reaching the made, they should, without fail, be punctually necessary amount, consequences of the most fulfilled. Delinquences in ministers impair their disastrous kind must follow to our Institutions of usefulness, and injure the cause of God. I learning, and to our Denominational work, to

A committee was appointed at the meeting of With regard to appointments for preaching which I have spoken, to devise some scheme for I would advise you not to undertake more than raising the amount needed for the present year. you can reasonably hope to accomplish without And it is hoped that such scheme, when proposed to the Churches, will meet with their approv-

Permit me to reiterate the suggestions so frequently thrown out by our College Agent and others, that Collections be taken up in all the churches towards meeting the salary of the Theological Professor. Would it not be well for the churches to make these collections on the first Lord's day in May, or at least before the June Anniversary? And let us not fail to remember the "child of Providence" in our

I have several things to say about Acadia College, which, with your permission, I will say in future numbers of your paper.

> Yours truly, D. M. WELTON.

For the Christian Messenger. Our Foreign Mission.

LETTER FROM REV. A. R. R. CRAWLEY. TO

My Dear Dr. Tupper,-My last date to you was, I think, New Year's Day. I now herewith send you something in the shape of a Report of

thousand acres of salt Marsh and river flats, which missionary or missionaries to Burmah. In my In the early part of my ministry I received a would be worth, when made, thirty pounds per reply to that letter I remarked that I conceived After we had sat in silence for a considerable the inside proprietors would receive benefit to Burmah, needs, at the lowest calculation, im-

was never accustomed to deal in hints, and con- to be sent to the United States, and saw and other ly the Mission field of their American brethren,

this case the misconduct of the preacher exerts sluices or gate-ways could be built in as desired. Let me, then, refer you to the Missionary a deleterious influence upon his hearers in I may be wrong as to the quantity of lands | Magazine, (the organ of the Union) No. for general. In the one class it fosters remissness, &c., as I have guessed at it; but I am inside as November, 1860, page 387. Under the heading and in the other produces it. This baleful con- regards the value. Much of the dike land here "Mengyee-who will preach there?" read the tagion naturally spreads. It is liable to be is worth sixty pounds per acre. The present sentence commencing "will not our brethren in transmitted to succeeding generations. The bridge could been closed in it. It would be a great Nova Scotia, &c. You see there that I'm not harm, therefore, that may result from a wrong advantage to have the privilege of the Bridge alone in my opinion. Observe also that the course pursued by an individual, is incalculable. in erecting the Aboiteau. I would be glad to see authorities at the Mission Rooms, Boston, have Consequently every man ought to set his face it accomplished, knowing it is quite feasible endorsed the views of Bro. Thomas by publishdeterminedly against the prevalent dilatoriness, with competent engineers and plenty of means. ing them. I trust, therefore, your Board will and earnestly to endeavour to promote punctual. The front would form one entire wharf for ves- feel that there is no difficulty whatever in the ity in all respects, both by his example and his sels to lay at, for every purpose required. The way of their sending missionaries to Burmah dirt from the contemplated cuttings for the Rail- just as soon as they are prepared to do so. With what delight we shall welcome them, and

If your missionary comes to any part of the rect as possible; and then I would recommend columns. I have merely hinted at the subject. country within the limits of the Henthadah

> May the God of Missions fire the church with holy zeal in this work.

> > Faithfully yours, A. R. R. CRAWLEY.

Henthada, Jan. 17, 1861.

REPORT.

Henthada, Jan. 16, 1860.

My Dear Dr. Tupper,-The beginning of a new year reminds me that it is time to send you

closed. As all my papers were lost in the recent fire, I am unable to refer to my copy of the report sent you for the year 1859. There has not, however, been any very material, or rather observable change in the state of the Mission

The number of native preachers at present employed, is six, stationed as follows:

Ko Eing........at....... Henthada. Ko Chokeat...... Donabew. Moung Long...... Itinerant. Moung Wike do. Moung Kyawat...... Tounglongzoo. Moung Yan Gin...at......Taingdaw.

Accompanied, generally, with one or more of the assistants, I have made long preaching tours among the villages, and more than the usual amount of time has been spent in this most profitable way of preaching the Gospel to the people in their own homes. Several excursions in different parts of the district have also been made by some of the preachers accompanied by me. The impression received in all my intercourse with the people is ever the same, namely that labor for the Burmeese is not in vain. It is true our labor may be that of sowers mainly. The abundant harvest may not be brought home in our day. But the faithful laborer shall assuredly enjoy from time to time signs and promise of a better day. That surely is a hopeful mission-field, where the preacher finds, in every village he enters, numbers to listen to his message and ask for books to enable them to understand more perfectly the things they have heard. And such is this field. The following figures will show the state of the churches connected with

Baptized during the year,4 Whole number at present,......25 of whom,-

5 are from the Taingdau Church. 6 " " Tounglongzoo" 12 " " Henthada "

the remaining 2, an assistant and his wife, are stationed at Donabew.

During the last season the assistants were instructed in Genesis, Exodus, Romans and Hebrews, and in History, Geography, and Natural

Philosophy. A few words are necessary respecting the projected girl's school. It is impossible now to fix a time when this enterprise will be mitiated. The late disastrous fire destroyed our chapel, which it was intended should be used as a school room. Various considerations make it necessary to delay re-erecting mission buildings. Still let it not be supposed that there is other than a very earnnest purpose to begin this enter; rise just as soon as possible. We look mainly to the churches in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P. E. Island for support of this School. It rests with them to say whether this much needed means of grace shall be sustained or not.

Let none be discouraged on account of the small number of converts. This mission has been established six years. More than 30 converts from heathenism have been baptised. Of that number 4 have died in the firm hope of Heaven. Others have removed to places within the dimits of otheir missions. There remain 25 christian men and women, who, by their holy lives are shedding no feeble light upon the surrounding darkness. Only let us have faith, "only be strong and of good courage" and God

ARTHUR R. R. CRAWLEY.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visit.

TO REV. S. W. DEBLOIS.

Dear Sir,-I beg leave to acknowledge the kindness of friends in Wolfville and vicinity, members of my Church and others who paid us a donation visit on the evening of the 20th of

Excellent speeches were made by Dr. Cramp, Rev. T. Angwin, Rev. E. O. Read and Rev. T. A. Higgins. The gifts in mency twenty-five pounds, and substantials to the amount of twelve bounds more, were cordially presented and vorthily appreciated by
Yours very truly,

S. W. DEBLOIS.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

IDA MAY ELDERKIN.

Ida May, second daughter of Jeptha and Nancy Elderkin was born Aug. 30th, 1856, died March 26th, 1861, aged four years and nearly seven months.

I desire to write these few lines in the testimony that God's Spirit often works in a mysterious yet unmistakable manner even upon very young minds. How young we dare not say, but enough is revealed for our encouragement in the blessed and holy duty of training our infants for Heaven. On a bright day last summer as her mother was standing in the open air enjoying nature in its simple beauty, with this lovely child by her side. She said " Mamma I do not want to stay here." Her mother was struck by the remark, and thinking that she desired to make some earthly visit, said "where do you want to go, Ida?" She looked up and replied "I want to go to Heaven, Manima."

During her illness which was protracted and severe she often spoke of death and Heaven and always with pleasure. Death, to her infant for presentation to your Foreign Missionary amind was some kind messenger waiting to bear fulfilling appointments for public worship, yet it | Board of Governors held on the 3rd inst. it was Board, and through them to the churches, some there is beard of Governors held on the 3rd inst. it was Board, and through them to the churches, some the said she would watch