

Christian Messenger.

A REPOSITORY OF RELIGIOUS, POLITICAL AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

"Not slothful in business: fervent in spirit."

NEW SERIES.
Vol. VI....No. 21.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 1861.

WHOLE SERIES.
Vol. XXV....No. 21.

Poetry.

The Night and the Morning.

BY REV. H. DONAR.

To dream a troubled dream, and then awaken
To the soft gladness of a sunny sky;
To dream ourselves alone, unloved, forsaken,
And then to wake 'mid smiles, and love, and joy;
To look at evening on the storm's rude motion,
The cloudy tumult of the fretted deep;
And then at day-burst upon that same ocean
Soothed to the stillness of its stillest sleep;
So runs our course—so tells the church her story.
So to the end shall it be ever told;
Brief shame on earth, but after shame the glory
That wanes not, dies not, never waves or ebb.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

United States Correspondence.

DEAR BROTHER,—

I have recently returned from a trip to Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, and, surrounded as I have been with circumstances of intense and thrilling interest, you will hardly expect a calm and quiet letter.—You are well aware of the proceedings in this country, and the madness which rules the hour in all the Southern and Slaveholding States, because they are thus distanced in the race for prosperity and power, and have lost the influence, offices and emoluments of government, which they had controlled and wielded for 80 years—consequently they have forsaken their loyalty and allegiance, and plunged into the abyss of Secession—they will either rule or ruin—I attended the Convention at Richmond and listened to exciting debates—about half the Delegates were calm and dignified and in favor of the Union, the rest were Secessionists rampant and violent in their language and measures, and the Union Men were cowed down and brow-beaten.—The principal tactics of the disunionists everywhere are abuse and violence and the results are very sad for the peace of society.—One day while in Richmond Daniel of the "Examiner" foully slandered Marmaduke Johnston, the Union delegate for the city.—Next morning Johnston went down to his office and cowed him, D. threatened a challenge, when J. told him "if he sent one he would cowhide him every time he met him," pistols were drawn, but they were separated.—There was much excitement in consequence, and several brawls around town by parties taking different sides.—In some sections there is a perfect "Reign of Terror."—News came to Richmond by telegraph on the 12th April of the bombardment of Fort Sumpter by the forces of Charleston. It threw the town into a blaze of excitement, they yelled with demoniac joy, and a day or two afterwards the Convention passed the Act of Secession in secret by a small majority, a number of Union Men having collapsed. The 13th I went down to Norfolk and was several times with others assailed in the cars, because we were Northern Men. I deliberately charged my revolver, that they should not molest me with impunity. Twice I had to caution parties against assailing me, as I should defer to my "bosom friend," as an ultimatum.—They found I was not to be intimidated, and sought other prey. They never assail you only in packs, like cowards. A quiet New York gentleman in the same train was badly maltreated, after arriving at the Hotel, (which I avoided) for Union sentiments. At Norfolk things were worse than at Richmond, and I hastened through my business and left for Baltimore the same night by boat.

Next day, 14th, the Sabbath, Baltimore seemed turned out *en masse*, and thronged the news-stands, and Hotels, for the latest despatches from Charleston. The papers were all day issuing "Extras," as the news came in. In the forenoon Dr. Fuller gave a powerful discourse on the duty of Christians in this emergency, and in favor of the Union. In the afternoon near 500 sat down together in the same church at the Lord's table. It was a solemn and impressive occasion. About a dozen received the hand of fellowship, who had come in by baptism and letter during the

month. I was in Baltimore 4 days, and saw the Secession *furor* and mob-law in the city of "Plug Uglies," and monuments,—a more treacherous and murderous rabble exists nowhere. They only wait an opportunity to exhibit their fiendish purposes. Yet these wretches are encouraged by the rebel politicians. On the 17th some disunionists hoisted a flag and fired cannon on Federal Hill for the fall of Sumter. A crowd of mechanics turned out, dispersed them, tore their flag in tatters, and threw their cannon into the dock.

On the 18th, I went to Washington—which seemed like a vast Military Camp.—Soldiers and raw recruits were parading the streets and mounted couriers going at greatest speed back and forth to the outposts, and making more fuss for the sake of show than comporting with the dignity or importance of the occasion. For though there were many threats, there was no possibility of an immediate attack on the city, of any significance, and several regiments were pouring towards the Capital. That afternoon the cars were filled with Northerners flying from the South and at Baltimore some Pennsylvania troops were stoned by the mob as they passed through the city to Washington, without much interference by the police. The next morning the 19th a few of the Massachusetts Regiment (after nearly all had passed) were attacked by the populace; a cowardly assault on the last car, after they had torn up the rails. And not until several of them were shot by the mob, and knocked down with bolts of iron and paving stones, did the Mayor tell them to "defend themselves"—some in the advance then fired upon their assailants, when a dozen fell dead and many were wounded. The mob then retreated, and the balance of the troops passed through. During the *melee* a car containing the Band of the Regiment, was attacked by the fiends with a storm of missiles. Many were seriously injured—presently a man pushed through the crowd and speaking friendly told them to follow him to a place of safety which they did, pursued by many till they turned up an alley into the house of a notorious courtizan. This woman, seeing their perilous condition, had sent the man to offer them shelter.—As the last man entered her door he was knocked stiff with a paving stone, when the Amazon bolted her doors, and picked him up and carried him to his comrades. She then assured them they were safe—put away their broken instruments, dressed their wounds, fed them and procured for them old garments, that they might sally out in disguise to look after their friends. They found two lying dead in the depot, and learned that others were sent to the hospitals. This woman reminds one of Rahab. Her name is Anne Manley.

But in regard to the murderous onslaught on peaceable troops on the way, at the call of their country, to defence of the national Capital there awaits a terrible retribution. But Anne Manley will be protected. The same day 19th, Governor Hicks sent a gang to cut down the telegraph and burn the bridges on the railroad to Philadelphia, and we had to return by way of Harrisburg. Shortly after the R. R. Bridges on that line near Baltimore were also burnt—and all communication with the North cut off—I found the people of Pennsylvania exasperated and had Governor Curtin permitted 50,000 would have rushed upon Baltimore and cacked the city and laid it in ashes. I never saw a people so indignant and determined—but they are a law abiding people. The next day some 2000 Pennsylvanians accompanied by Sherman's battery, started for Washington *via* Baltimore, but had to encamp at Sykesville, as the bridge there had been burnt. The Baltimoreans were in great terror, some fleeing in all directions, fearing the city was to be destroyed—and Governor Hicks, the traitor, hastened to Washington, to the President, who consented to order the troops back to Harrisburg to come via Philadelphia, and not to pass through Baltimore. The whole North felt humiliated by this concession to rebels, and murmured against the false position, till now the watchword is "through Baltimore, or die!" the gathering hosts of enraged patriots will open a highway, through that ill-starred city or raze it to its foundations.

One could hardly imagine the enthusiasm of Pennsylvania, as they poured into the town from mountain and valley, by every stage and

train, to manifest their devotion to the Union, by wiping out the insults offered to the Stars and Stripes, by the rebels. Their flag floats on every building, and every breast is decorated with Union badges, rosettes and cockades. I could not suppress my tears at the tender partings of fathers, brothers, and sons, and the blessings invoked upon them as they stepped into the cars, and took their leave of all they loved, to serve their country in its day and hour of danger. On every hand the women, too, forgetful of self-sacrifice, were nobly offering their services as nurses or aids in the camp. But when I arrived in New York, all that I had seen in Pennsylvania faded away before the enthusiasm and magnificence of military display and ardor which met me at every step. The entire city, with its forests of masts, was decked in its gayest costume. I could hardly see, through the streets for the banners that flaunted from every conceivable position, and from ropes across the streets. Over 300 flags were counted on one square opening on Broadway. They float from staves, steeples, house-tops, doors and windows. They decorate all the public buildings, and miniature flags are fixed to horses, carts, cabs, and omnibusses,—and not to have a national emblem is to be suspected of coolness to the nation in this most trying hour. The Red, White and Blue are so acceptable, you can find them blended with every ornament, and mingling in every dress. The ladies are exhausting their ingenuity to give them new combinations. A young lady, married the other day to an officer in Washington, was dressed in Turkish costume of red, white, and blue. New York is so crowded with soldiers and volunteers, that they had to build barracks in the parks to accommodate them, till ready to leave. Regiments are departing for Washington and other posts every day—to be on hand for the coming conflict.

Immediately on the secession of Virginia, Gov. Letcher dispatched 5000 Troops to seize the Government workshops, arsenal and stores at Harper's Ferry. But the handful of U. S. Marines (some 45) in charge of the place, got word just in time to fire the whole and escape (with loss of 2 men killed) across the long bridge and over the mountains to Pennsylvania. There were 15,000 stand of new improved U. S. arms destroyed, beside immense property of other sorts. Governor L. also sunk vessels in Norfolk harbor, to prevent the escape of ships, ammunitions, arms and stores at the Navy Yard. But those in command got out one "man-of-war" and one steam frigate only, and set fire to and sunk all the rest, including those being built, and blowing up the dry dock, causing the destruction of property estimated at fifty millions of dollars (\$50,000,000), to prevent their falling into the hands of the rebels, and thus the traitors were check-mated again. The rebels in every State have seized or stolen every particle of Government property they can lay their hands on, and are also sending out privateers or pirates, to rake the high seas of Northern commerce. Two of these have been taken by U. S. vessels, with others bearing arms and provisions to the enemy, and the crews imprisoned. In one case the captain was hung at the yard arm, where he still dangles as a warning to others; some have been shot. So you perceive the South are getting a taste of the feast to which we were invited.

Southern troops are centering at Richmond for an onslaught on the capital, and the President sent word that if they moved "one step toward the capital, he would descend upon Virginia—"at every point."—The Northern Armies then would cross the borders, and from the mountains of Pennsylvania there would be such an avalanche as would sweep the state, and reduce every town and city to ashes. I do not under-estimate the skill and courage of Southern troops—they are well drilled and disciplined by a life long practice, and fight desperately to the last man on the battle field—and I expect the North will get some severe rebuffs, for their foes have the best instructed generals and officers. But in overwhelming numbers, in stamina and endurance, and in a righteous cause, the North have a great advantage. They have the ships, the materials and the supplies, they have also the sympathy of the world against Slavery—which is now aiming to destroy this fair fabric of freedom. The North have also

the "Star Spangled Banner" the "Meteor Flag" with its prestige to cheer them on to new laurels. They have all the essentials, with a good credit abroad to make speedy work with treason and rebellion—while in all these matters the South are wretchedly deficient. Their whole coast is blockaded (or will soon be) from the Delaware to the Rio Grande. Then resources all shut out, and the provisions from the great west cut off by the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. Thus being now short of food, with heavy debts and no credit they are ill-prepared with any thing but treason, bombast and insolence to stand a siege, and will be "subjugated" or crushed out as with the besom of destruction. This I read in the vigor and determination of the masses of the North who are yet scarcely waked up to the magnitude of their position and responsibilities before the world. The great West (to which I go in a day or two) is all ablaze with patriotic fire and will pay good interest for the insults they have received. Besides, there will be civil war in Maryland, Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky if they persist, for the Union Men in those states already resist secession and will divide them. Forts Monroe, McHenry, and Pickens, are fully reinforced and safe, commanding the principal strategic points on the coast, without which secession is a failure. I took 19 batteries and 10,000 troops to reduce Sumter which lost not a man, while the rebels lost 200, or 300 though they swore "there was nobody hurt."

Jeff. Davis, his War-Secretary Walker, and other leading traitors declared publicly that they would whip the North, and plant their flag on the Capitol, on Independence Hall Philadelphia, and on Faneuil Hall, Boston,—with other like boastings,—but now in view of the unanimity and uprising at the North, are hauling in their horns, and after all their stealing and siezing of arsenals, Mints, Forts, Ships, treasures and men, and cruelly sacrificing defenceless people who differed with them, now say, they "only ask for peace and to be let alone" and that they never intended any harm." Such flimsy hypocrisy will deceive no one, nor weigh a feather in the eyes of European powers to whom they appeal. If they are sincere let them restore that they have stolen, and redress the wrongs they have committed, and come down on their marrow bones for mercy—or let them abscond to parts unknown—or they will hang high as Haman.

The President recently said to the Maryland commissioners, who told him their State would raise 75,000 men to resist the passage of his troops, that "he supposed there was room enough in Maryland to bury 75,000"—and such is his determination with every opposing state—and to-day we hear that Maryland is for the Union, and desires the troops to resume their way through Baltimore, guaranteeing every privilege, and will rebuild roads, bridges and telegraphs at their own expense &c. But the Government mistrusts them, and is now marching an army on Baltimore from four points, viz. Harrisburg, Perysville, Annapolis and Washington, to occupy the City, and will pursue a vigorous policy.

I have hurriedly sketched some of our existing difficulties, and their ominous portents, and you may deem me sanguine of results, but I have had opportunities to study this divided people from Maine to Mexico, and such you will find is the "Shadow on the Wall."

There are other besides political aspects which have perhaps a deeper shade—these are the moral results and influences of this fraternal strife on the destinies of millions in this and other lands.

Sunday, May 5th. We have had a very interesting season in our little church recently.—The Lord has poured out his Spirit upon it and many have been gathered into His fold. Six were baptized to day by Brother Clark, our beloved pastor. Two years ago we commenced our little interest in an upper room, over a store, where we still worship, assisted by the Home Mission Board. We organized in June last with 47 members, some of whom were converted among us. We number now 140 members, over 50 of whom have been received by baptism and letter since January—we are grateful for special mercies and can say from our hearts "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."