

For the Christian Messenger.

Reasons for not answering Bro. Armstrong at length.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

Unquestionably I have a right to claim as much space for my replies to Bro. A. as he has occupied with his strictures. I do not, however, deem this needful, for the following reasons:—

1. It would manifestly be superfluous for me to refute the groundless charge of denying, or questioning, 'that God does bear long with His believing people.' Discerning readers need not be told, that my regarding the verb makrothunoo as not used to denote this—he does not maintain that it means this in Luke xviii. 7.—implies no denial of the sentiment itself, which I expressly affirmed at the commencement of my Exegesis, and have since repeated. Without any change of "tenses," God is always "long suffering" in affording opportunity to impenitent sinners to "come to repentance," and obtain "salvation" (2 Pet. iii. 9, 15).

2. As I have sustained the principle that instances not unfrequently occur in which a pronoun relates, not to an immediate antecedent, but to one more remote, or to one understood or implied, by numerous plain examples, and Bro. A. has said, "I admit the principle," I need not adduce more.

3. If any are so blinded by preconceived opinion as to be unable to see, that the "unjust judge," so long as he deferred avenging the widow, "without intending it," (Isa. x. 6, 7, Acts xiii. 27.) bear with her adversary, no arguments can convince them.

4. Intelligent readers will see from Bro. A's own statement, that he did define makrothunoo just as I "reported;" but that he has strangely misunderstood me. I did not intend to intimate that he supposed this word "contains the idea to avenge," but to delay with reference to avenging, or affording relief. So he now says of Deity, (C. M. May 1.) "What does he delay to do?—avenge his own elect."

5. But that this sense of the word can not be sustained by opposite examples, is clear from Bro. A's admission, that those of his view "produce only one witness," while he does not deny that I justly "claim nine or ten"—rather fifteen—in support of my view that in Luke xviii. 7, it means "to be patient," or "bear long." Arguments are not requisite to convince the impartial, that the testimony of my fifteen unexceptionable witnesses "outweighs" that of his one, which as I have shewn, on examination proves to be in favor of my view, and against his. I never regarded (antidikos) the widow's adversary, (Luke xviii. 3), as the antecedent to "them," (ver. 7.) otherwise than by implication,—she had one adversary, the elect have many adversaries. I have considered it as "understood or implied;" but Dr. Campbell and his adherents expressly maintain that tapeinos—without the article—an humble person, (Ecclus. xxxv. 17) is the actual antecedent to the word autois, them, ver. 18. Every learned and unbiased man who examines the subject, will perceive, that the rule produced from Stuart, relating to "a noun of multitude," utterly fails to sustain this view, as do also the texts cited from him, (James ii. 6, v. 6, 1 Pet. iv. 18), since none of them is similar. When the word "woman" is used to denote the female sex, (1 Tim. ii. 14, 15), it is a noun of multitude, and may naturally have a verb in the plural. In 1 John v. 16, the promise is extended, by the use of a participle, to those generally who "sin not unto death;" but the pronoun which refers directly to (adelphon) "brother," is in the singular (auto) "him;" and so confirms my view. (Bro. A. has here, "without intending it," produced a text that corroborates my Exegesis of Luke xviii. 7,— "He shall ask, and he—who? not the 'man' that asks, but God, the antecedent being understood—'Shall give him life.'") The learned reader who examines all the texts cited, will see, that, with all the help Bro. A. has received from an able friend who, evidently perceiving his need of help, has kindly afforded it, he "has been unable to adduce a singular instance in which an ordinary noun, or an adjective used as a noun, like tapeinos—no more "denoting a class" than does any other common adjective, and always elsewhere connected with a singular pronoun—in the singular, is followed by a plural Greek pronoun referring to it. Numerous plain examples of this are obviously requisite to establish a principle without which he can not reasonably claim "one witness." Every futile attempt made to meet my decisive objection against the only argument, or evidence, adduced by my opponent, furnishes additional presumptive proof that it can not be fairly met; and

consequently that my view of the subject is the correct one.

6. Sarcasm and burlesque require no reply. They are not argument; but recourse to them rather evinces the want of argument. If the word rendered "Though He bear long with them," mean, as Bro. A. maintains, that God "delays to avenge His elect," the Common Version does not convey the Saviour's meaning to ordinary readers. There was, therefore, by his own shewing, "need" of an "exegesis." Moreover if his view be accepted as right, it necessarily follows, that God does "bear long with" the adversaries of His people; and consequently that, in reference to the general import of the text, I am not wrong. Surely, then, my dear Brother had no "need" to occupy six columns of the Christian Messenger—considerably more than I have occupied with my exegesis and necessary replies to his strictures—"in combatting an exegesis"—differing only verbally from my own view.

With sincere good-will to all concerned,  
Yours, in Gospel bonds,  
CHARLES TUPPER.

Aylesford, May 9th, 1861.

For the Christian Messenger.

MESSRS. EDITORS,—

As my worthy Brother, Rev. Obed Parker, has resigned his pastoral charge, and designs to labor in other places, I request the insertion of the following documents, expressive of mutual confidence and esteem.

Yours, as ever,  
C. TUPPER.

Aylesford, May 9th, 1861.

Valedictory.

To the Rev. Obed Parker.

DEAR BROTHER,—As in the course of events you have resigned the important office, so long held by you amongst us, as our pastor, be assured it is with mingled emotions we address you on the occasion of your leaving us to labour in other portions of the Lord's vineyard. When we take a retrospective view of the connection which has so long and so happily existed between us, as minister and people, many pleasing reminiscences present themselves to our minds. When the Lord has revived us, and crowned your labour with success, we have been enabled to rejoice together, in the good of His chosen, when Zion's cords have been lengthened and her stakes strengthened. We find by reference to our records that during your pastorate there have been added to our numbers sixty-five by Baptism, seventeen by Letter, and six restored, total eighty-eight. To God be all the praise. The cause of Education, and of Temperance have shared your sympathies, and influence. Also the Sabbath School, and the abodes of the sick have not been neglected, but have shared your energy and attention.

The pleasing recollections of social intercourse with you, and your kind family, will long be cherished by many. And now Dear Brother in taking leave of you as our minister, we would send up our fervent aspirations to Him who has called you to labour in His vineyard, that your going may be ordered of the Lord, and that He may crown your future labours with His blessing and that Sister Parker yourself and family may share largely in the blessings that are promised to those that put their trust in Him, and that when the toils of life are o'er, we may all meet "where congregations ne'er break up, and Sabbaths never end."

Signed in behalf of the 1st Hillsburgh Church.  
WILLIAM DUNN.

Hillsburgh, Jan. 18th, 1861

Reply:

To the Baptist Church at Hillsburgh.

DEAR BRETHREN,—The address which you have presented me awakens in my heart thrilling emotions of no ordinary character.

During seven years spent amongst you as your minister, ties and associations have been formed, whose strength is only known to the Pastor's heart and many of which I find very hard to sever.

The tendering of my resignation to the church over which I have so long presided, was not an action of sudden impulse, but the result of long and prayerful deliberation, the Providence of which was clearly revealed to my mind when I was engaged as a Missionary in another field of labour.

You refer, in your address, to the prosperity that this portion of Zion's heritage has enjoyed whilst I have sojourned among you,—it is true there have been several revivals of religion during the past seven years, and many have been added to this church, who, I trust are of those that shall be saved,—but this blessed result is, I believe mainly attributable to the humble, united, prayerful energy of the church, under Divine influence,—and so far as I have been instrumental in this—to God be all the glory.

The cause of Education and of Temperance, in connection with religion, have, and I trust will ever possess, a large place in my affections; the Sabbath School and the chambers of the sick also claim the Pastor's prayers, his deepest sympathy and regard.

There have been many kind offices performed

by this church and community towards myself and family, which will be long cherished in my heart, with grateful remembrance.

And now dear Brethren, as I bid you farewell, I beg to assure you that, however distant I may hereafter be from you in person, or in whatever part of my Father's vineyard I may be called to labour, you will always retain an affectionate place in my memory.

May it please the great Shepherd to give wisdom and meekness, strength and piety to old and young; so that you may grow in grace and under Divine influence, like shocks of corn may you ripen for the Master's granary above,—that at the last great day we may cast our crowns at his feet, and say, "not unto us, not unto us, but to Thy name who hath redeemed us, be all the Glory for ever and ever."

Yours in the bonds of the Gospel,  
OBED PARKER.

Hillsburgh, June 21st, 1861.

HOME MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

MONTHLY MEETING OF HOME MISSIONARY BOARD.

Members present at the meeting on Monday May 6th.

Rev. A. H. Munro, in the Chair.  
Rev. W. H. Humphrey, Brethren J. Whitman, S. Selden, W. L. Evans, and R. N. Beckwith.

Communications received during the past month:

From Rev. M. A. Bigelow, Brethren Abel Parker, Benj. Spencer, and P. R. Foster.

Amount of funds in the Treasury - - \$51 10  
Liabilities of the Board about - - - - 403-70

Received by the Treasurer during the month.

From Jacob Layton, Musquodoboit \$4 00  
" J. W. Burs, Wolfville - - 20 00  
" 2nd Cornwallis Church - - 24 00  
" Windsor Ch. (omitted before) 6 01  
" John Bew - - - - - 2 00

Several applications for appointments to mission work were received, but from want of funds the Board were unable to entertain them. The Board respectfully request insertion of the following note received with the above-named sum from 2nd Cornwallis Church.

Berwick, April 10th, 1861.

DEAR BROTHER,—I have noticed the repeated and urgent calls from the Home Missionary Board in the Messenger, to sustain the Missionaries and free the board from their present liabilities. The last report from them shows that there has been but little attention paid to the requests of the Board. I am of the opinion that the ministers and leading members of the Churches have been remiss in this great matter of sending the Gospel to the destitute.

We presented the subject to our people and they readily responded to it, and with a little exertion we collected (\$24), twenty-four dollars in one section of the Church, which amount please find enclosed.

Yours in Christian Bonds,  
ABEL PARKER.

R. N. BECKWITH,  
Sec. H. M. Board.

April 9th, 1861.

Religious Intelligence.

HALIFAX.—Baptismal services have been held in the city recently. On Lord's-day, the 5th, in Granville Street Church, and on the 12th in the North Baptist Church.

WINDSOR.—We learn, by a letter dated 11th inst., to a friend in Halifax, that quite a revival is being enjoyed in the Baptist Church. Seven were baptized on Sunday, the 5th, and it was expected that a similar service would be held on last Lord's-day.

CHESTER.—Rev. I. J. Skinner writes, May 6th, 1861:—"Last Lord's day was one of unusual interest in Chester. At ten o'clock we visited the water side, when, in the presence of a host of people, nine hopefully converted persons followed their Lord in baptism. At eleven the house was filled to overflowing, to attend the morning service, after which, about one hundred and ten church members sat down to the Lord's Supper. It was indeed a solemn and deeply affecting scene.

Our meetings are continued this week at the Basin. We hope the good work will not stop. Our help is in God. The work and the power are His, and to Him be the glory."

New Brunswick.

NEWCASTLE, MIRAMICHI.—A letter from Brother Wm. Gremley informs us that "the cause we love is cheering. Our beloved brother James Hickson has been labouring in this Northern field since last July, and is much esteemed. He intends to return to Nova Scotia about September. We do not know who will succeed him. We hope the good Shepherd will provide for the little one in this region. Dear Messenger, do you know of a good brother who would be willing to come over and help us?"

"Our Union Prayer Meeting has been kept up

these two years without any intermission, and is very well attended. Our congregations are good and we have a good Meeting-house in Newcastle. The Missionary Board has been very liberal, and we trust our dear friends in St. John will continue to assist us.

"The cause in connection with our people is prospering in the Bay of Chaleur. Brethren Blakeney and Crandal are at the good work, and God is blessing their labors in that large field."

We are happy to learn that the good work in Carleton still continues. The Rev. I. Wallace baptized three on Sunday, two in Carleton and one at Grand Bay. The Rev. S. Robinson also baptized two in the city on the same day.—Watchesman.

A recent letter from Rev. L. H. Marshall informs us that eleven persons have been added to the Hopewell Church under his care this spring, 8 by baptism and 3 by letter. Our Beloved brother has been the pastor of the Hopewell Church for 7 or 8 years, and he thinks it now in a much better state than when he first entered upon that field.—N. B. B. & Visitor.

American News.

Latest from the States!

Our exchanges from New York and Boston are all filled with war items. The religious press and also the pulpit both North and South take up the great question which is agitating the country. Those of the North in no doubtful language declare for the Union and down with the rebels, whilst those of the South are no less severe in their denunciation of the North. We might make selections from their contents and give these more reliable accounts, but as we desire to give the latest news we are obliged to take from the telegrams of a later date, such portions as we have reason to believe are correct. It has frequently been the case that the despatches of one day shew that those of the preceding were quite untrue.

The loss of property destroyed at the Norfolk navy yard, to prevent its falling into the hand of the Southern rebels, is estimated at \$10,000,000.

On the 6th it was said that Gen. B. F., Butler had 5000 men at the Relay House [nine miles from Baltimore] ready to march through Baltimore, at all hazards, to clear the way for the Massachusetts 6th Regiment. All the trains for the West were searched by him.

WASHINGTON, May 7.—General Cook who commands the military forces of Virginia, has orders for the occupation of the banks of the Potomac, his own station being opposite the City of Washington, having military connection with the Commandant at Harper's Ferry, and at Fredericksburg, in Virginia. The General adds that the Capital has never been threatened, as it is outside the limits of Virginia; and he concludes with a threat of open war, if a single Northern soldier sets foot in Virginia, or pollutes with his tread, "The Grave of Washington."

May 8th.—Gen. Scott has ordered the immediate concentration of Northern troops at Washington.

40,000 men will be there in three days. The Governor of Kentucky, in his message to the Legislature, calls upon the State to secede. It has been ascertained that General Beauregard was, without doubt, killed at Fort Sumner, and hundreds of men. (This is doubted by many).

NEW YORK, May 9. Troops concentrating at various points, but the Government plans are kept secret.

Government, it is expected, will make an attack upon Harper's Ferry at an early day. Troops will march through Baltimore to-morrow.

Latest despatches say it is rumored at Washington that the Southerners advance guard is marching on Alexandria, 7 miles below Washington. Lincoln doubts the truth of it.

BOSTON, May 11.—The Federal troops at St. Louis, Missouri, have captured eight hundred Missouri rebels who were commanded by General Frost. Their surrender is stated to have been entirely unconditional.

After the surrender several persons from amongst the large crowd present threw rocks and other missiles, and fired pistols at the Federal troops, whereupon two companies of the latter fired, killing over twenty individuals, and wounding many others.

The excitement at St. Louis in consequence of this state of things was most intense. Thirty thousand troops are now at Washington.

Winn's famous steam gun was captured yesterday, by the Massachusetts Guard while being forwarded to the rebels.

Offensive movements of the Federal Troops in the state of Virginia against the Secessionists is hourly expected.

The Great Eastern had arrived. She is now below New York. She left Milford Haven on the 1st May.

HISTORICAL COINCIDENCE.—The first blood in the course of the Revolution was shed by Massachusetts on the 19th of April; the first blood in this war was shed by Massachusetts, at Baltimore, on the 19th of April. No augury was ever observed with a more solemn awe in the temples of Republican Rome. It tells with a subtle but mighty effect on the public sentiment