

# Christian Messenger.

A REPOSITORY OF RELIGIOUS, POLITICAL AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

"Not slothful in business: fervent in spirit."

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## Poetry.

### Looking to Jesus.

"He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He openeth not His mouth." Isaiah liii. 7.

O silent Lamb! for me Thou hast endured,  
Jesus, Thou holy, perfect, sinless One!  
Thy grief and bitter anguish have secured  
My soul's salvation when this race is run.  
Then, let me, to Thine image true,  
Thus meekly suffer, with the crown in view.

The narrow way that leads us up to Heaven,  
Must here through strife and tribulation lie;  
Then, on the thorny path may strength be given,  
This sinful flesh, O Lord, to crucify.  
Oh, take this feebleness away,  
And make me strong to meet each future day!

Here, daily crosses come to try our weakness,  
Here, every member must a burden bear;  
But, O my Saviour, if I take with meekness  
The cross appointed by thy love and care,  
Too great, too long, it will not be,  
For it is weighed and measured out by Thee.

So help me, Lord, thy holy will to suffer,  
And still a learner at Thy feet to be!  
Give faith and patience when the way is rougher,  
And at the end a joyful victory.  
Thus grief itself is changed to song,  
Ofttimes on earth, but evermore era long.

KARL HEINRICH VON BOGATZKI.

—From "Hymns from the land of Luther."

## Nova Scotia Church History.

For the Christian Messenger.

### The Baptists of Nova Scotia.

PERIOD VI.

From A. D. 1828 to A. D. 1838.

LETTER XLV.

EDUCATION SOCIETY'S EXPENDITURE DURING THIS PERIOD. MEASURES ADOPTED TO RAISE FUNDS. EXTRACTS FROM MR. McLEARN'S LETTERS WHILE ENGAGED IN HIS AGENCY.

#### My Young Friend,

The educational enterprise was engaged in with much ardour. Perhaps it was not expected that so great an outlay would be required. Our predecessors probably hoped that the new Institution would prove in a short time self-sustaining, and that nothing more than judicious superintendence and control would be called for. But when it was ascertained that in order to give permanence to the measure it would be necessary to purchase property and erect buildings, the call of duty was recognised and promptly obeyed. The enlightened views of the Executive Committee met with a liberal response, showing that the denomination reposed entire confidence in their judgment and discretion.

During the first ten years of the Education Society's history the sum of £7500, or thereabouts, was expended. This included the following items:—purchase of the farm, £550; erection of the Academy and Boarding House, £2400; salaries, £2500; agencies, £415; and various miscellaneous expenses, not necessary to be enumerated.

Application was made to the Legislature for an annual grant from the provincial revenue; but it was at first unsuccessful, owing partly to a collision between the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council, and partly to ecclesiastical prejudices. It was considered a dangerous thing to help Baptists to educate the people. At length, however, the obstructives gave way, not wishing, perhaps, to incur the displeasure of the Nova Scotian public, or to earn for themselves an inglorious reputation by hindering the progress of knowledge. The sum of £500 was granted to the Education Society in 1831, and £300 a year afterwards, with the exception of 1834, in which year the influence of bigotry was successfully exerted, and the vote negatived. The provincial grants amounted during this period to upwards of £2000. Nine hundred pounds were collected in the United States; about the same sum was received for tuition; between two and three hundred pounds were procured in England; two thousand pounds were contributed in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, chiefly in the former province. But a heavy debt

remained—the usual accompaniment of Baptist effort.

With reference to the provincial grant I may mention, that when application was made to the legislature for aid, it was considered right and just to submit to such inspection of proceedings or "supervisory power" as might be properly claimed by the Government. The following resolution was passed at the annual meeting of the Education Society, held with the Association in 1830:—

"The Managing Committee having stated in their Report, their proceedings relative to an application for a grant of Money from the Legislature, for the advancement of the objects of the Society;—

"It was Resolved by the Association and Board of Directors of the Education Society, That if at any time hereafter, any grant of money or allowance shall be made by the Legislature of this Province, towards the expenses or support of the Institution, or the establishment of the Academy at Horton, as it appears just and reasonable, that his Majesty's Government should in such case, have some supervisory power in the management of the Institution; then, and in that case, the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being, may from time to time, at his pleasure, inquire into the proceedings of the Society, and shall have power, if he shall see occasion, to call the managing Committee thereof to account, before himself and his Majesty's Council, of the said Province; and if after just inquiry had, they shall find that any of the said Committee have conducted the proceedings of the Society in a manner inconsistent with its professed objects; then in that case, that the Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Commander in Chief, with the advice of his Majesty's Council, may remove the officers or members found so offending, and may on that occasion, appoint in their place, an equal number of new members, provided they do not exceed in number one half of the whole Committee; and shall all be regular members of some Baptist Church in Nova Scotia, in connection with the Nova Scotia Baptist Association."

The agencies undertaken for the object by the elder ministers and others were prosecuted with much vigour, and accomplished important results. In a pecuniary sense, they were generally successful; but that was not all; information was communicated—objections answered—difficulties removed—and the energies of the denomination combined in the support and advancement of the educational cause.

In the report for 1832 the Committee furnished the following statement:—

"The Rev. Edward Manning, having first exerted himself with other friends, and with considerable success, to obtain contributions in Cornwallis, the place of his residence, afterwards, at the request of your Committee, undertook a laborious agency through the western part of this province, during which he visited almost all the towns and settlements in course from Windsor to Yarmouth, endeavouring to excite an interest in favour of the objects of your society; and though much was not immediately subscribed, yet your Committee are persuaded they subsequently reaped the fruits of his exertions.

The Rev. Charles Tupper also visited various parts of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in the neighborhood of his residence, and was instrumental in bringing a considerable accession to your Society's funds.

"The Rev. Joseph Dimock, at Chester, Lunenburg, and Liverpool, obtained some subscriptions and donations.

"At Onslow and Truro, and the places adjacent, the Rev. James Munro, exerted himself with good effect for the interests of your Society. And in addition to the above agencies, the Rev. Messrs. Elder, in the County of Annapolis; Potter at Clements; Harris Harding at Yarmouth; McLearn at Rawdon and Windsor; W. B. Kinnear, Esq., at St. John, N. B. besides many other friends, are entitled to the warmest thanks of your Society, for their exertions to procure subscriptions and donations.

"In 1830 the Rev. Theodore Harding commenced a journey to the United States of America, as an Agent for your Society, but was taken seriously ill at St. John, New Brunswick, on his way, and was obliged to desist.

"Early in the spring of the same year, your Committee requested their Secretary, the Rev. Mr. Crawley, to undertake in Agency on behalf of the funds of your Society, in the United States, to which Mr. Crawley having consented, travelled in support of this object through a considerable portion of those States, visiting among other places, Providence, New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk, at all which places he obtained some contributions, and on his return spending a short time at New Haven, Hartford, Boston, and Salem, where some donations were also made. The amount of the contributions in the United States, transferred to this country, is £. 202: 11: 4, besides some books.

"At the close of his Agency in the United States of America, Mr. C. was requested to visit Great Britain on a similar errand, and accordingly set out on this voyage in December, 1831. In London, Edinburgh, Greenock, Liverpool, Reading, and some other places, the object met some countenance. But Mr. Crawley expresses himself exceedingly disappointed in the very limited measure of regard shewn your Society in the Mother Country. He had lamented the indisposition in many cases in the United States, to aid this distant work, but had anticipated that Great Britain, abounding so greatly in wealth, intelligence, and, as it is hoped, religious principle, would have sympathised with the urgent religious wants of her Colony. Mr. Crawley describes his labour as fatiguing and wearisome in the extreme, both to mind and body; but acknowledges that when the almost endless objects presented before the benevolence of the Christian public, both in England and America, are considered; the repeated drains made on their charities; the inferiority of this object to many others; and the great distance of the theatre of labour; the want of judgment in hoping for extensive aid is perhaps more to be censured than their seeming defect of liberality, and instances of kindness shewn demand peculiar gratitude. The amount collected in England was £233: 7: 6 sterling, which transferred to this country, and added to the former collection in America, has amounted to about £480 currency; in addition to which Mr. Crawley collected some hundred volumes of books, chiefly in Great Britain, of the value possibly of £.50 or £.60."

Next Year, the Rev. I. E. Bill undertook an agency in Cornwallis, Horton, and Wilmot, and "obtained subscriptions to the amount nearly of £212." Our late brother McLearn visited Halifax, Wilmot, Annapolis, Granville, St. John, Fredericton, and other parts of New Brunswick: he collected £295 in Nova Scotia, and £180 in New Brunswick.

In following years efficient aid was rendered in the same manner by the Revs. N. Vidito, W. Burton, G. Richardson, and other brethren.

Mr. McLearn commenced an agency in the United States in July, 1835. He began in the State of Maine, and spent nearly a year in travelling from State to State, as far as Georgia. His collections amounted to near £700. Some extracts from letters written by him during this journey may be here introduced.

"I find many things to admire in this country. The efficient class of preachers perform an inconceivable amount of labour for the Lord. One of the most active here, I believe, performs as much for Christ as four or five amongst us. I find we have been half asleep all our lives, while the good folks here have been labouring to do a good work for the Lord of Hosts. The same enterprising and active principle prevails among men of the world, and among religious men in worldly things. There is in this country much more self denial to aid benevolent objects than in our province.—Some men conscientiously refuse to add to their property for the benefit of their families, and labour hard to have the means of bestowing large sums for such purposes. I mention one as a specimen of many:—A young man, in poor health, who has a family depending on his business, a stone-cutter by occupation, who employs workmen, gives annually two hundred dollars to the cause of Christ; he resolves that he will never reserve more property for himself or family than will pay the common demands in connection with his business."

"If the Jews were required to pray in the case

of Haman's conspiracy, so should the Nova Scotia Baptists pray for me now. Do pray for my success, in private, in the family, and in the public congregation. Nothing, I am convinced, but prayer, can accomplish the work before me. The Baptists of Maine are injuring themselves by want of harmony. Let the Baptists of Nova Scotia remain united, and they will do wonders in the cause of God."

"I was very glad to hear that the Lord's good work continues to prosper with you. May it never cease until the last sinner in Halifax is converted to God! I believe there is no necessity for a declension in any church; and the guilt must be charged on the churches, where the work does not prosper. God is willing to bless if you pray for his blessings with holy fervour. I am happy to hear that some other Churches are a little revived. O that Nova Scotia may yet blossom as the rose, and flourish as the garden of the Lord!"

Philadelphia. I never begged among so cordial a class of brethren. They have never learnt to give largely, but nature and grace have taught them to give cheerfully. This place, you are aware, abounds with Quakers. They are the most cheerful and happy people I have ever known. I have been introduced to them by Dr. Harding, and have received from them more personal attention and kindness than from any other class in this country. You may tell all my friends who enquire for me that I am a stranger and sojourner as the ancient fathers were. I have nothing on earth to call my own, and may without much difficulty cross over Jordan, when my Lord shall call for me. If my work were ended on earth, I desire heaven, and would go there sooner than to Nova Scotia, though I love my friends so well. I believe, however, that I shall see you all again, and contribute my weak efforts with you all, in promoting the interests of our Redeemer's kingdom."

"March 9, 1836. I attended Congress for several days, and heard some popular speakers in the Senate, but I was not successful in hearing their very best men. The subject of debate in Congress is the all-absorbing topic of slavery. It is truly a question which threatens convulsions to this government." Twenty-five years have passed away since these words were written, and now the "convulsions" have come. He must be a bold prophet who will venture to predict when they will cease. They will most likely continue till "the oppressed go free."

"Charleston, April 13. I find the good people of Charleston very cordial, both to me and my object. I never approached a congregation in soliciting with more fear and trembling, and never found a more cordial response. It is a pleasure to go round and receive their money, I am encouraged to go a little farther, and do the best I can."

"Boston, June 1. The Secretary of the Baptist Education Society informs me that five young men may be sustained at Horton from their funds. I hope you will in your report acknowledge their kindness. In the State of Maine I travelled extensively, preached frequently, and was received cordially, but my collections in most places were extremely small. In Massachusetts I found the churches engaged in so many good objects, and so pressed by agents for various institutions in their own country, that they could not, to any great extent, patronise ours. Our thanks are due to C. L. Roberts, of New York, and Messrs. Kellys, for their liberal donations. I did not succeed so well at New York as I anticipated. With the exception of the names already mentioned, I received but a few trifling sums; and from the richest church in our Denomination in the Union I have scarcely a name. The loss of property by the great fire was an apology for withholding; but that devastation improved the circumstances of more persons than it injured. In Philadelphia I was cordially received, and my plea for Horton was rather successful. As I proceeded southward, I found increasing friendship, hospitality, and benevolence. The Southern people are the most cordial and warm hearted that I ever knew. I collected about a hundred dollars per week during my stay at the South, and had I remained for six months I believe my success would have been equal. They give with cheerfulness, having previously to my calling on them made up