

But the word was spoken,  
Vain was human skill,  
Life's brittle thread is broken,  
And thou art cold and still.

Ah! how little dreamed they,  
Who heard thy passing sigh,  
Of the scenes of glory bursting  
On thy vision, from the sky.

Could they now behold thee,  
Mid the ransomed throng,  
Mingling thy sweet accents  
With Redemption's song,

Gladly would they yield thee  
To the Lord most high,  
Who in mercy took thee  
To lure them to the sky.

Patience—weeping parents,  
'Twas Love that dealt the blow,  
God, in tender mercy,  
Laid your treasure low.

And the tender flower,  
Transplanted by His love,  
Blooms in fadeless bowers,  
Beautiful, above.

Blessed Sanctifier,  
Comforter divine,  
Soothe the grief-bowed mourners,—  
That sweet work is Thine.

From this first great sorrow  
May streams of gladness flow;  
To their soul's salvation,  
Sanctify the blow.

May they, when life's ended,  
Its joys and sorrows o'er,  
Pass through the pearly portals,  
And live to die no more.

J. B.

Lower Steviacke, Nov. 17, 1862.

MRS. ELIZABETH MORTON.

Died at Wilmot, on Saturday, the 8th of November, after a long illness, Elizabeth, third wife of Mr. Frederick Morton, of Wilmot, aged 71 years.

Mrs. Morton never made a profession of religion, but, while in health, she gave some evidence that she had been with Jesus; and before she died, as a further token of her attachment to the Saviour, she bequeathed, of her little property, £3 to the French Mission, a cause in which she had always felt a deep interest. From the nature of her disease,—a general nervous debility,—her mind never seemed to be clear; but her surviving friends still trust that "at evening time it was light."

An appropriate sermon was preached on the occasion by the Rev. Willard G. Parker, from Luke x. 41, 42.

At present when the Macedonian cry, even from many parts of our own province, meets only the monotonous reply, "no funds," surely many who know that their Redeemer liveth, and to whom God has given more liberally than to her, will take example from our departed friend, and when they leave their substance to posterity will remember GOD'S part.

May the time hasten when more dying Davids shall be found, and in the "deeds" and "wills" of christians, practical acknowledgements shall be given. "We are not our own." 1 Chron. xxix. 2, 3, 14.

The above mentioned £3 was forwarded to the Treasurer of the French Mission Board, which he will please acknowledge through the Messenger, when received.—Communicated.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visit.

TO REV. BENJAMIN SCOTT.

Mr. Editor,—

I wish to acknowledge the kindness of a number of our friends who made us a donation visit on the evening of the 27th ult. Though the evening was stormy a large company made their appearance at our cottage, bringing with them ample preparation to entertain all present upon the occasion; besides which \$10.00 in cash and \$41.00 in useful articles were, in behalf of the friends, presented by Brother John King with a suitable address, to which the writer responded. The evening was agreeably spent while the company was entertained with speeches and interludes of music, and concluded with prayer.

This is the second donation visit made us since we settled in Onslow. The first took place some three years ago. Such tokens of good-will to a Pastor assure him that he has the sympathy and confidence of his people, and are a motive to encourage him while persevering in his laborious and responsible office. It is now about four years and a half since I commenced laboring in this place; since which we have been favored with two Revivals; the former in the North River Branch, and the latter in the Onslow Section of the Church. Some sixty members have been added. "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy and for thy truth's sake."

Yours truly,

B. SCOTT.

Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

REVIVAL AT HAMMOND'S PLAINS.—Rev. R. R. Philp writes, Dec. 11th:—"When I accepted the pastoral charge of the 1st Hammond's Plains Baptist Church, there was but little manifestation of spiritual life, little sign of reaping in due season. For some months we had to walk by faith. The bread, however, was not long cast upon the waters, till the tide ebbed and the tender blade sprang up. The church wrestled with God and prevailed. When the set-time to favour Zion arrives, in which God intends to manifest his saving power, he disposes Christians to pray, and with increasing anxiety to pray on till the blessing is received. The first observable instance which we had of the good work now in progress, was in our Conference meeting the first day of November. A young woman became greatly distressed on account of her sin. After a short time, in answer to earnest secret prayer, she found peace in believing in Jesus. A few days afterwards, four more joyfully testified of their trust in the Saviour. Faith increased, hope brightened. The efficacy of prayer began to be known, and felt, and seen. It soon became known in the community that sinners were turning from the error of their ways. The congregation greatly increased. The Master's presence was recognised and his call heard. The number of humble, loving, joyful converts increased. They could appropriate to themselves the language of the Psalmist,—"The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold of me; I found trouble and sorrow. Then called I upon the name of the Lord; O Lord, I beseech thee, deliver my soul. Gracious is the Lord and righteous; yea, our God is merciful. The Lord preserveth the simple; I was brought low and he helped me!"

The awakening from the sleep of sin, feeling its exceeding sinfulness, the dawning light of the Sun of Righteousness upon the soul, carried on by the life-giving influence of the Spirit of God, was, in the Plains, a calm, gradual process. Nine have been baptized, two have been restored, three are received for baptism, and the work still continues."

Hammond's Plains, Dec. 11, 1862.

WILMOT.—One of our correspondents writes:—"Religiously, our mountains are yet cold and bleak, and our valleys dry. Many, I believe, are praying for a revival of God's work. Many seem to be partially awakening to the fact that a revival is needed. The day of Humiliation and Prayer was observed in several of our churches, but I am sorry to say, not all. At the Pine Grove Baptist Church, where I met with the worshippers on that day, a good feeling seemed to be manifested, and we would fain hope, no uncertain token of better days. A collection was taken on behalf of the suffering operatives in Lancashire. Other efforts are also being put forth by way of subscription on the same behalf, and we have reason to believe from the success which has thus far attended those efforts, that some, at least, do recognize the Divine authority. "He that giveth to the poor lengtheneth to the Lord."

The subject of Temperance seems also to be engaging the attention of this community of late. By the cooperation of ministering brethren in the community, a somewhat flourishing society has been lately organized numbering about 55 members, some of whom have been gathered from the ranks of the enemy, or perhaps more properly, the unfortunate. May they continue to show fruits of repentance. Let love be the banner of Temperance—not rancor—and under it we shall conquer. Love must be the leaven of this hated world. A pleasing feature of this Temperance Society—to my mind—was the triad of Clergymen in the Chair, the offices of President, and Vice-Presidents being filled respectively by Rev. Dr. Robertson, Episcopal, Rev. J. Black, Wesleyan, and Rev. W. H. Porter, Baptist, all of Wilmot. Surely it must be pleasing to those ministers of mercy, without any separating wall to meet upon a common platform, in promotion of a common good. Several interesting meetings of the Society have been held, but especially the one at Farmington which was chiefly occupied by the Rev. Dr. Robertson, in a Lecture at the same time interesting and instructive, and forcible in argument and appeal. The next Lecture is to be delivered by the Rev. Mr. Black.

We hope that the fire of Temperance kindled by the friends of Wilmot may not be suffered to grow dim, but that many may kindle new torches by their blaze until coldness and gloom in the cause shall be dissipated, and light and warmth shall prevail.

The Week of Prayer is anticipated with pleasure and hope. May it indeed be a week of prayer, true, and prevailing.

PORTAUPIQUE.—Rev. Jas. Reid writes from Bass River, Dec. 2, 1862:—"Dear Brother,—As a number of the readers of your excellent paper take a great interest in the welfare of Zion, I am glad to inform them that the Lord has again revived his cause in this place. About a month ago, we held a series of religious meetings for the purpose of refreshing the people of

God, and awakening others to a sense of their lost condition. Previous to this, for a considerable time, sincere and fervent prayer had been offered up, that the Lord would be mindful of us and bless us. Our beloved ministering brethren from the neighbouring churches, came to us in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ: Their ministrations were attended with the demonstration of the Holy Spirit and with power. Believers in Christ were greatly strengthened and comforted; many were awakened to a sense of their guilt and danger, and a few entertain a hope that the Lord has forgiven their sins, and given them to taste of his love. Twelve have been baptized, and have begun to walk in the narrow way. There are a few others who, we hope, will soon be enabled to confess the Saviour's name. Whilst we desire to thank the Lord for this gracious token of his love, we would still sincerely pray that he would be mindful of us and bless us."

LIVERPOOL.—Rev. James Parker writes under date Dec. 6th, 1862:—"Dear Brother,—I am now in Liverpool, where I have been supplying the Baptist pulpit for the last three Sabbaths, and expect to remain until next week and then return home. I had the privilege last Sabbath of baptizing two believers, both heads of families. The congregation is large and very attentive."

"The Church has invited Rev. E. N. Harris to the pastorate, and expect him to enter on his work immediately on his return from England. The Church at Milton is vacant, Brother R. D. Porter having felt it to be his duty to resign his charge as pastor. There is a good opening at Milton for a man of experience and wisdom."

DIGBY NECK.—Rev. J. C. Morse writes on the 6th inst:—"I have baptized fourteen since the Revival commenced, seven of whom were baptized last Lord's day. The good work is still progressing."

New Brunswick.

Rev. W. Hall writes from St. John, Dec. 5th, 1862.—My dear Mr. Editor:—"To get my work through the Press will cost me nearly £100, and I have no means of my own, I must rely on the subscription lists to pay. I would like to get out 500 copies. But it may not be the will of God that this effort of mine is to succeed, I will make it a matter of Prayer. As I came up from Long Island I preached six Sermons for Bro. Morse. The word was accompanied with great power, and a great Revival has followed where there has been a spiritual dearth for many years. To God be all the glory.

Brethren Randall and Spencer are assisting. I have been here five Lord's days, and two at Fredericton. The congregation is becoming very large in Germain St. Church, where I have preached, and things are looking more favourable.

American and Foreign News.

Latest from the States!

[From Telegrams to Morning and Evening papers.]

DEC. 8th, 1862.—Four inches of snow and everything frozen up at head-quarters of the Army of the Potomac on Saturday.—Ice formed in Potomac and Acquia Creek.—Seven transports and two iron clads sailed from Fortress Monroe on Friday, destination unknown.—Tremendous three days gale at Aspinwall, wrecking British brig Bolivar and steamship Asia.—Panama Railroad submerged.—General Butler has extended his confiscation order to all Louisiana west of the Mississippi, except parishes of New Orleans, St. Bernard, and Plaquemine.

DEC. 11.—Green, the pretended bearer of peace propositions from President Davis, is pronounced an imposter.—Gen. McClellan has testified in McDowell's court martial that the President assumed the responsibility of change of destination of McDowell's corps, and that the army of the Potomac would have been able to take Richmond with its co-operation. President Lincoln has sent orders for the execution of thirty-nine Sioux Indians.—Senator Rice of Minnesota has introduced a joint resolution forfeiting the lands granted to Sioux, and providing for their removal.—The House has passed the Senate bill, admitting Western Virginia as a State by 96 to 55.—The position of the French at Vera Cruz and Orizaba is represented as very critical. They have no fodder for cattle, no fresh food for the troops who are suffering from dysentery.—The force at Jalapa is cut off from supplies. The Mexicans are actively fortifying Puebla and Mexico.—

DEC. 12.—Yesterday afternoon one hundred and seventy-six guns from the Federal forces played on the city of Fredericksburg. One hundred Federal volunteers crossed over the Rappahannock River in boats, capturing one hundred prisoners. Two bridges have been finished, crossing the River, and the Federal troops have commenced crossing, driving the Confederates from the City back to the Forts. About

forty houses in the city of Fredericksburg have been burned. The Am. ship T. B. Wales, destroyed by the Alabama, belonged to Boston, had a cargo valued at one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Capt. Semmes says this is the twenty-seventh vessel destroyed by her.—Another Confederate steamer, probably the Oneto, is reported to be cruising in the Gulf of Mexico, under the command Capt. Maffitt.—The Federal loss in the battle near Fayetteville, Arkansas was one thousand men, that of the Confederates two thousand.

Evening.—The army of the Potomac reported in full possession of Fredericksburg. All quiet in that vicinity.—Nothing received since Gen. Grant's South west army captured twelve hundred prisoners while pursuing Pemberton's forces. French Government have no idea of prosecuting propositions of mediation further.—No propositions, in any form, have been received from Confederates by President Lincoln or any member of Cabinet.

DEC. 13.—Yesterday at two o'clock the Confederates opened from the first ridge of the hills—the fire of the main fort being directed upon the city filled with Federal troops.—Their fire only increased the destruction of the city; all the prominent buildings, including the church, being riddled.—The guns on the left opened on the Federals moving obliquely down the river, but did little damage.—The Federal advance was within a mile of Mattapeny Creek, the left resting on the Rappahannock in force.—The Confederates are reported to have two strong lines of batteries from one mile to two miles in the rear of the city.

DEC. 15.—New York telegrams of Saturday last announce that Hampton's Confederates cavalry yesterday morning captured Dumfries between Fredericksburg and Washington, and cut the telegraph wires, occasioning a lack of information from that quarter.

Yesterday General Sigel's advance attacked Hampton and restored the interrupted communication. Battle is progressing.

Evening.—In Saturday's fight the 98 New York regiment charged on a battery on the left, but were forced to retire after a severe struggle. Gradually the fight extended—cannonading terrific.

Enemy occupying woods and hills driven back a mile and a half.

Battle severe along the whole line, with much loss on both sides.

At night each army held its first position except a slight advance of Federals' left.

During the night, the Confederates strengthened their position considerably. Supposed they have two hundred thousand. Jackson commands the right, Longstreet the centre, and Lee and Stuart the left.

No fighting yesterday. Burnside reported saying he has sufficient force.

Southern papers announce important Federal movement in Eastern North Carolina. Twelve regiments left Newbern. Five gunboats and two transports ascended Chowan River. Ten thousand land force moving from Suffolk—supposed destination Weldon.

Sixteen seamen are said to have recently deserted from H. M. S. Ariadne in New York.

The President's Message, 9,196 words, was telegraphed from Washington to New York in one hour and thirty-five minutes, the greatest telegraphic feat on record.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune says that the most general comment on the message is, "that it is especially remarkable for what it omits, more than what it contains."

The steamships Persia and City of Washington left New-York last week for Liverpool, the former with 114 passengers and \$548,267 in specie; the latter had 37 cabin passengers, besides a number in the steerage, and took out \$926,820 in specie.

CONNECTICUT.—The Democrats have carried Hartford by 224 clear majority, on the first selectmen, and 400 majority on the collector. The entire Democratic ticket is elected for the first time for over 20 years! Norwich, too has gone Democratic by a large majority.

The New York Herald has had thirty-correspondents in the several departments of naval and military operation, each provided with a horse, field glass and campaign equipage. It has launched three boats to overhaul naval vessels, and has established a courier system that defies the interference of Government or the mutations of steam; wind and tide.

A SINGULAR PRESENTIMENT.—Mr. Tainlo, whose sudden death occurred in Hartford last Saturday evening, had indulged through the week a belief that he should live but a few days, and that his departure would be sudden. In pursuance of this idea he visited the cemetery with a member of his family, selected the place and gave direction relative to his burial. In addition to this he made sundry gifts and disposed of some of his personal property.—New Haven Journal.

ADVANCED PRICES.—The markets in the U. States indicate a very serious advance in all the necessities of life. Some articles have risen 100 per cent since this time last year, fuel, paper and stationery in particular. Provisions generally have increased from 20 to 50 per cent. House-rent and fruit are exceptions to this and are probably cheaper than they were. The notion that the war was really no permanent injury to the country because carried on without borrowing foreign capital is pretty well exploded. The people will learn when too late that war is an unmitigated evil.