

# Christian Messenger.

A REPOSITORY OF RELIGIOUS, POLITICAL AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

"Not slothful in business: fervent in spirit."

NEW SERIES.  
VOL. VII. .... No. 21.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1862.

WHOLE SERIES.  
VOL. XXVI. .... No. 21.

## Poetry.

For the Christian Messenger.

### Victory.

But thanks be to God which giveth us the victory  
through our Lord Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. xv. 57.

Pilgrims journeying on the road,  
That leads to Heaven, to peace and God,  
What joy and happiness 'twill be,  
When you have gained the victory.

But on that road a host of foes,  
Will strive your journey to oppose,  
Fight you must, and manfully,  
If you would gain the victory.

Yes, fight you must, for ever fight,  
Oppose the wrong, maintain the right,  
Burst Satan's chains of slavery,  
If you would gain a victory.

Then fight for truth and conquer sin,  
And joy and Heavenly peace you'll win,  
For those the glorious truth makes free,  
Fail not to gain the victory.

Such at the close of life can sing,  
O monster Death, Where is thy sting?  
Now from the power of sin sets free,  
O Grave, Where is thy victory?

Then God has promised to bestow,  
A crown on every conquerer's brow,  
Stand at his throne to bow the knee,  
And wave a palm of victory.

While from ten thousand harps they sing,  
Worthy the Lamb, once slain, now king,  
All honour, power, and glory be,  
To him who gains us victory.

Maidland.

J. B.

## Nova Scotia Church History.

For the Christian Messenger.

### The Baptists of Nova Scotia.

PERIOD VII.

From A. D. 1838 to A. D. 1850.

LETTER LIX.

FOREIGN MISSIONS. DEPARTURE OF MR. BURPE.  
HIS PROCEEDINGS. HIS RETURN. DALHOUSIE COL-  
LEGE. MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE EDUCATION  
SOCIETY. THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE. CHARTER RE-  
FUSED. THE COLLEGE OPENED. ISAAC CHIPMAN'S  
APPOINTMENT.

My Young Friend,

The proceedings of the denomination in re-  
lation to the Foreign Missionary enterprise  
have been briefly alluded to. They are suc-  
cinctly narrated in the Report of the Com-  
mittee of the Nova Scotia Baptist Foreign  
Missionary Society, presented at Amherst  
during the session of the Association in 1845.  
Some extracts follow:

"At the Association which was held at  
Chester, in 1837 as will be well remembered  
by not a few in this Assembly, a new era in  
the history of the churches appeared to open.  
The subject of Foreign Missions was present-  
ed before the brethren then met, and solemnly  
enforced. A holy and divine influence seem-  
ed to fill the place, and many of us have em-  
bodied in our memories and our hearts the  
thrilling fervor with which our beloved and  
lamented brother Miles pleaded for the perish-  
ing heathen.

"It was at once resolved that we would,  
with the blessing of God, seek at least one  
Missionary for some field in the heathen  
world, and afford him such previous prepara-  
tion in the way of study as our circumstances  
would permit. The constitution of a society  
was then adopted, and our messenger to the  
Association in the sister Province of New  
Brunswick was instructed to request the  
brethren there to co-operate with us in this  
new effort—a measure, of the success of  
which the presence of our brother Miles and  
his deep interest in the cause gave an un-  
doubted pledge.

"The churches in New Brunswick heartily  
acquiesced; they formed a society to operate  
in harmony with ours, and means were taken  
to discover some beloved brother whose heart,  
under divine grace, yearned over the souls of  
the benighted millions of idolaters.

"It was not long before our beloved brother,  
Rev. Richard Burpe, then pastor of a  
church in New Brunswick, proposed himself

for the work and was accepted, and thus our  
sister province justly claims the honour of  
furnishing the first Foreign Missionary.

"Mr. Burpe repaired to Horton; pursued  
in the College under the united societies of  
of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, a course  
of preparatory study, and graduated, in June  
1844, with the entire satisfaction of his In-  
structors in his diligence as a student, and in  
the consistent piety of his Christian char-  
acter.

"The quiet and regular occupation of a  
course of collegiate Education furnishing very  
little variety of incident, no extended report  
seemed called for from year to year, and ac-  
cordingly, as already mentioned, none has been  
formally presented to the Society until the  
present time."

"Much anxious enquiry has, from the com-  
mencement of our undertaking, engaged the  
committees of both societies in regard to the  
proper field for our missionary efforts. The  
peculiar interest which had already been  
awakened in regard to the Burman Mission  
naturally turned their thoughts thither. One  
of the excellent American Missionaries labour-  
ing in that field, the Rev. Mr. Mason, was  
personally known to some of the members of  
this Committee, and from him a communica-  
tion was received congratulating himself and  
us on our undertaking, and warmly recom-  
mending the Karens; in Burmah, as a  
people who presented a peculiar claim to  
our sympathies.

"In returning our attention, however, to  
any part of the Burmese provinces—a field  
already occupied so largely by the American  
Baptist missionaries, courtesy and prudence  
demanded that the matter should be laid be-  
fore the Board of the American Society at  
Boston; and a correspondence with them was  
accordingly commenced; and the Committee  
are happy to take this opportunity of grace-  
fully acknowledging the promptness, as well  
as Christian sympathy and courtesy, with  
which the Board at Boston and its respected  
Secretaries have met the wishes of this Com-  
mittee, and have done every thing in their  
power to facilitate their views."

"It was desirable that some portion of the  
field of labour in India should be selected,  
sufficiently distant from the existing stations  
to present to the view of our churches the  
labours of their missionary in full effect, as  
separate from those of any other. This was  
needed in order that we might, in this coun-  
try, enjoy the whole influence of a foreign  
mission, as a means of awakening and keep-  
ing alive an interest at home.—To enable the  
Committee to make such selection, the Secre-  
taries of the Board at Boston furnished the  
Committee with minute statements of various  
stations within the field of their operations,  
but not actually occupied by themselves, from  
amongst which, it was supposed, we might  
choose an eligible situation. After carefully  
examining these, however, the Committee, per-  
ceiving that there were many particulars to  
be weighed, of which they, at the distance of  
so many thousand miles, could hardly be com-  
petent judges, determined to refer the final  
decision to Mr. Burpe himself after arriving  
on the ground, and consulting with the mis-  
sionaries already labouring in that country.

Mr. Burpe was solemnly set apart for the  
work by public services held at Horton and  
Halifax, which were occasions of deep inter-  
est. He left Halifax, accompanied by  
Mrs. Burpe, April 20, 1845. After an un-  
expected detention at Boston, where they had  
the opportunity of acquiring much valuable  
information relative to missionary labour,  
they sailed on the 4th of June, in the  
"Woodside," and reached the destined port  
in safety.

On their arrival in Burmah Mr. and Mrs.  
Burpe proceeded to Akyab, agreeably to ad-  
vice and recommendation given them at Bos-  
ton, and commenced immediately the study of  
the Burmese language. The scene of their  
labours was for some time undetermined. At  
first it seemed desirable to attempt a mission  
among the Kemees, a tribe resident on the  
banks of the Kaladan river, about four days  
journey from Akyab. Mr. Burpe obtained  
liberal contributions from the British Com-  
missioner and other officers at Akyab, to-  
wards the erection of a school-house. That  
object was accomplished, and the school went  
into operation, under the management of a  
native teacher. The missionary "was much

delighted with the earnestness manifested by  
the boys to learn to read." Circumstances  
occurred, however, which induced Mr. Burpe  
to listen to a suggestion—from the American  
Missionaries, that he should be stationed at  
Mergui, and undertake a mission to the Kar-  
ens. He reached that place early in April,  
1847, and immediately began to prepare for  
the work by studying the Karen language.  
The progress of his labours was thus recorded  
in the Report of the Committee for 1848:—

"From a private letter from Mrs. Burpe,  
which the Committee were permitted to see,  
they learned, early in the winter, that encour-  
agement was felt in the school of the Mission  
from favourable appearances of seriousness in  
the minds of several of the children. The  
Society are aware that an important branch  
of missionary labour consists in school teaching.  
The Karens of the villages in the neighbour-  
hood of Mergui, or upon the banks of the  
Tenasserim river, which discharges itself into  
the sea near that place, being sensible, to  
some extent, of the advantages which educa-  
tion offers, permit their children to attend a  
school in the city during a portion of the  
year, and a part of the labours of Mr. Burpe  
consists in exciting attention to this impor-  
tant subject on the minds of the Karens when  
he visits the jungle. At other times these  
children form part of his hearers in the city,  
or become objects of special attention in the  
school, which has also the advantage of being  
under the direction of a pious native teacher.

"At the last accounts received from  
Mergui, for which the Committee again  
refer to a private letter from Mrs. Burpe,  
the hopes which had been entertained in  
respect to Karen pupils had been realised.  
Mr. Burpe had again visited the jungle, and  
had enjoyed the high satisfaction of baptizing  
as many as ten young persons of Karen ori-  
gin, pupils of the school in Mergui, and the  
first fruits of his missionary labours. What  
greatly enhanced the interest of the scene of  
this solemn dedication of immortal souls to  
God, was the circumstance that these youths  
were all of them children of converted par-  
ents, who, with one exception, were all pre-  
sent at their baptism.

"Our missionaries seldom write without  
reference to the exceeding kindness and affec-  
tionate attachment of the Karen converts,  
who watch with deep interest every visit of  
the missionary, and are always ready on his  
arrival, with their little presents of fowls, or  
fruit, or rice, as tokens of their love.

"It is a high satisfaction, and doubtless  
will be so regarded by the society, to learn  
that Mr. Burpe has so far mastered the diffi-  
culties of the native language of the country  
as to commence, to some extent, public ser-  
vices among the people. He had already, at  
the time of the most recent accounts, prayed  
with the natives in their own tongue, and was  
expecting soon to attempt public preaching.  
In more private and shorter addresses he, of  
course, had previously attempted to extend  
his usefulness; and Mrs. Burpe was also  
hoping very soon to be able to conduct social  
worship amongst her female attendants and  
such other native females to whom she could  
obtain access."

The hopes which these statements encour-  
aged were soon disappointed. Mr. Burpe's  
health gave way, and pulmonary symptoms  
appeared. He reluctantly left Mergui and  
returned to Akyab; whence, in the summer of  
1849, he made a voyage to Singapore, under  
the physician's advice, trusting that it would  
prove conducive to the restoration of his  
strength. That expectation was not realised.  
His recovery was pronounced hopeless if he  
remained in Burmah. Relinquishment of  
the mission was the unavoidable consequence,  
the Committee having failed to secure the  
services of another missionary, as had been  
originally contemplated. Mr. and Mrs.  
Burpe and their family returned by way of  
England, and landed in Nova Scotia, May  
17, 1850. Thus it pleased God to frustrate,  
for a time, the designs of Nova Scotia Bap-  
tists in regard to the foreign field.

Education now claims our attention. I  
have shewn, in previous letters, that the de-  
sign of establishing a higher Institution had  
been long entertained. Probably it would  
not have been carried into effect so soon had  
not circumstances occurred which impelled  
the denomination to action. Dalhousie Col-  
lege, Halifax, founded and endowed by Lord

Dalhousie, by an appropriation of public  
money which had been placed at his discre-  
tion by the Imperial government, had not yet  
been brought into operation, although a com-  
modious building had been erected for its use.  
At the opening of the year 1838 the govern-  
ment signified their intention to appoint Pro-  
fessors, and advertisements were issued, in-  
viting candidates to make application.  
Among them was the Rev. E. A. Crawley  
(now Dr. Crawley), who had been advised to  
place himself among the applicants, and had  
received such assurance of support as led  
him to expect an immediate appointment.  
Contrary to expectation, however, Mr. Craw-  
ley's application was rejected, although his  
superior qualifications were acknowledged,  
and he was informed that his rejection rested  
solely on denominational grounds. He was  
not a member of the Kirk of Scotland! So  
outrageous a decision aroused indignant feel-  
ings everywhere. In four letters on "Dal-  
housie College, published in the *Nova Scoti-  
an*," Mr. Crawley powerfully exposed the  
iniquity of the proceeding, shewing that the  
governors of the College had overstepped the  
bounds of propriety and fairness by affixing  
a sectarian character to the Institution, and  
that a College founded by public money should  
be a College for the people, and not for a  
party. Mr. Crawley then proceeded to ad-  
dress the Baptist denomination, in three let-  
ters, published in the *Nova Scotian* and  
*Christian Messenger*, calling upon them to  
consider the position in which they were now  
placed, and to take such steps as enlightened  
zeal and pious manliness might dictate. The  
response was prompt and hearty. Mr. Craw-  
ley's first letter appeared in the *Christian  
Messenger* on the 26th of October. On the  
15th of the following month a special meet-  
ing of the Nova Scotia Baptist Education  
Society was held at Horton, at which, after  
an interesting and animated discussion, the  
following resolutions were passed:—

"Resolved, That it is highly desirable that  
this Society should now follow up the original  
design in its institution, by furnishing the  
means of a more extended Education, and for  
this purpose it is proper and expedient to es-  
tablish and support a College, in addition to  
the Academy, that by means of the two es-  
tablishments a complete course of Instruction  
may be afforded, and the young men educated  
at the Academy be under no inducement to  
seek in a foreign country the advantages of a  
Collegiate Education.

"Resolved, That in the opinion of this  
meeting a sum not exceeding £750 per  
annum, will be adequate to support the Col-  
lege with two Professors, and the Academy  
with two Teachers. And that the amount  
necessary to accomplish this undertaking, be-  
yond the Provincial grant and the tuition  
fees, would be cheerfully met by the Deno-  
mination for objects so important, and there-  
fore recommend the immediate adoption of  
the measure; and also the collection of the  
sum of £100 for the purpose of providing for  
the present, a few articles of Philosophical  
apparatus.

"Resolved, That the managing Committee  
be directed to take all necessary steps for  
carrying into effect these Resolutions, and to  
make all suitable arrangements connected with  
the collection and receiving of subscriptions,  
and the organizing the Institutions; and that  
they apply to the Legislature at their next  
Session, for an Act of Incorporation giving  
to the College under the name of the Queen's  
College the power of conferring Degrees and  
other Collegiate privileges, and also to solicit  
an increase in the usual Provincial Grant for  
aiding the present object.

"Resolved, That a permanent Agent be ap-  
pointed, to obtain collections and subscrip-  
tions for these objects under the denomination  
of a Financial Secretary to the Education  
Society.

"Resolved, That the Rev. Mr. Bill be re-  
quested to accept this office, and that the  
managing Committee confer by letter or other-  
wise with him and his Church on the subject.

"Resolved, That the Committee publish a  
statement addressed to the friends of the So-  
ciety, setting forth the views under which this  
meeting has adopted the foregoing resolutions  
and soliciting their concurrence.

"Resolved, That the Committee also com-  
municate this Resolution to the Baptist Edu-  
cation Society of New Brunswick and request