

She possessed the elements of a vigorous and superior mind, which under more favourable circumstances, would have attained to more than ordinary intelligence. Her sympathies were easily awakened in favor of the needy or suffering, and the homeless wanderer was never refused food or shelter from her hand. Dissimulation formed no part of her character. Her friendships were strong and lasting, and as usual with persons of strength of mind and decision of character, aversions were not unmarked. Her memory will be fondly cherished by her family, while gratitude to God shall flow for the gift of such a mother! The solemn occasion of her burial was improved by the Rev. N. Vidito, from the 19th verse of the 31st Psalm, "Oh how great is thy goodness which thou hast laid up for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!" - Communi- cated. Provincial Wesleyan please copy.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visits.

TO REV. J. E. BALCOM.

Many persons seem to think that christians have no right to any enjoyment of the good things of this life, and that we cannot consistently derive any pleasure from such sources. I am happy to say that our friends here have not fallen into any such heresy, but have manifested their belief to the contrary in the most marked manner. Our ladies who are never backward in any good cause having taken possession of brother Balcom's premises on Thursday evening last, furnished an ample repast for a household of people whose happy countenances shewed their pleased appreciation of the entertainment. After tea was disposed of the evening was pleasantly spent in listening to speeches profitable, interesting and amusing from Revs. J. Reid, G. F. Miles, and others, lay brethren. At the close a purse containing \$21 and articles of value to the amount of \$42, (in all \$63) were presented to brother Balcom. Since his coming among us, brother Balcom has well earned and enjoys the respect of all classes in the community and well deserves any testimonial which it is in our power to bestow.

Yours &c., ONE PRESENT.

Great Village, Feb. 15th, 1862.

N. B.—It might be properly stated here that a number of persons gave brother B. a day's teaming in the fall placing on his fields marsh mud to the value of \$24.

TO REV. S. W. DEBLOIS.

Dear Brother,—

I would like to acknowledge the kindness of members of my Church and congregation in Wolfville and Lower Horton, who paid me a donation visit on the 19th inst. A large company gathered at the parsonage, where, after discussing a substantial repast provided by those who know how to do such things in style, enjoying social intercourse, music &c., and listening to interesting speeches made by Revs. Dr. Cramp, F. Pickles (Wesleyan), T. A. Higgins and E. O. Read, our friends departed leaving ample tokens of their good will in money and money's worth.

STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS.

TO REV. N. VIDITOE.

We understand that the kind-hearted people who made a donation vi it to the Rev. Mr. Viditoe on the 12th instant, left with him about £21 in money, and about £10 worth of commodities useful in a family.—Bridgetown Register.

Other Donation Visits crowded out.

For the Christian Messenger.

The Letters of "A. C."

We have had several communications expressing strong disapprobation of the letters of A. C. We give below an extract or two.

Mr. Joseph D. Marsters of Kempst, Hants Co., says:

"While most people will grant that it is well to think as favourably of our American neighbours as their case will admit, yet all must deny that A. C. has any right to come out as the accuser of his people, and misrepresent them or magnify their faults. Many people around this shore have had ample opportunity to become well acquainted with our American neighbours, in regard to their feelings and doings towards both Nova Scotians and Englishmen.

The writer can well testify that there are some kindhearted and noble people among them—having with his family lived for a time amongst them, and admired their enterprising spirit, their institutions of learning and their wholesale benevolence in the support of every good cause. But still, for all that could be said in their praise, surely no one could but see and deplore their faults. For one to grow up under the common training there, from youth to the age of man, free from an unjust prejudice against England is morally impossible. It is not the lower classes of society only but all alike indulge in this wrong. The school boy learns it from his first spelling and reading book.

Their social and public gatherings, their 4th of July celebrations abound with the evil, and last but not least, their Pulpit discourses are very often tinctured with it, sometimes I have thought with much extravagance. I speak of that which I know and testify of what I have seen. Yet

with all their faults I love them still, and often do I sympathize and grieve for them in their sad affliction.

MR. EDITOR,—

In looking over the columns of your paper of Jan. 22nd, I observed a long letter, headed "Mason and Slidell," the writer of which appears to be, and I believe, even pretends to style himself a Nova Scotian.

Did his sentiments emanate from one of those blustering Federalists one would not be surprised? I cannot believe that there is one true hearted Nova Scotian in this Province that would express such sentiments. A. C. says, am sorry for the nation of which I have the distinguished honor to form a unit, for—England with all thy faults I love thee still, and I can see thy follies too, and then goes on ridiculing the people of England, and of her colonies for expressing their opinions about the War in America.

Now, Mr. Editor, allow me to say, Is it any wonder that the people of England (and I may add of her colonies in America) would raise their voices against such high-handed villainous acts, as have been committed of late by those in authority in the Northern States of America.

If Wilkes acted without authority why did not the Cabinet at Washington renounce the act at once? Why were Mason and Slidell confined in a fort instead of being returned immediately to the protection of the British flag?—Because the Yankees conceived the idea that England would not rise. That they would be allowed to brag over the act, and to insult every Englishman that happened to come that way.

Why these insults that have been heaped upon England by the American press. Truly—well may those blusters shrink when Britain speaks and remember that their deserts may surely come. When the British Government sends a demand for the restitution of Mason and Slidell they go into hysterics, and imagine that they already hear the booming of the British cannon,—the recognition of the Southern Confederacy,—the blockade raised.—their seaboard cities shelled and in flames, and then they begin to say "If England is in earnest we will accede to her demands at once," and then Jonathan turns on his heel and whispers—"Wait until this War is over and we'll take Canada and whip England besides."

Now this is not extravagance but specimens of daily gasconade by the secular press of the Northern States, which professes to guide the public mind.

War with its horrors is to be dreaded, but I believe that there is not one truehearted Nova Scotian that would not raise hand (if need should be) to defend his country and save the Nation from dishonor.

A BRITISH SUBJECT.

Wallace Bay, Feb. 14th, 1862.

Religious Intelligence.

MISSIONARY LABOR.—The Rev. I. J. Skinner writes from Chester, Feb. 16th, 1862.—"The church have given me leave of absence for one month to be employed in Missionary labour in compliance with the request of the Home Missionary Board. I am about to leaving this morning for Sherbrook, where I expect to spend two weeks. The remaining two weeks at some future time.—Will report to the Board as requested."

NICTAUX.—The following is an extract from a letter of a friend at Bridgetown.

Bridgetown, Feb. 7th, 1862.—Dear brother.—A religious state of feeling of a deeply solemn and encouraging character, is at present prevailing at Nictaux.

Yesterday I saw 15 converts baptized by brother Parker, the pastor. An immense concourse of apparently interested spectators was present. Appearances indicate a large in-gathering to the church in that locality.

NEW ALBANY, Feb. 15th, 1862.—Mr. Editor, The little church in this place has had sore trials during the past year, (nor are we yet fully free from them) which has resulted in the exclusion of a number of its members on account of their embracing errors. Yet pained by the Lord God of Zion, he has not forgotten to be gracious to us, even us, wondrous in working, is our God—in a way least likely according to our finite view, has he been pleased to add to our number. Our Wesleyan friends held special services, which resulted in a general awakening renewing former awakenings, among our young people and others, and numbers found peace through the blood of the lamb. Our Baptist friends participated in the work of the Lord with sweet delight, rejoicing to see their children and neighbours becoming penitent—then rejoicing in redeeming grace and Dying Love through the quickening Spirit.

We then had some special services although without a minister of our own. We were kindly and timely visited by Elders Obed Parker, P. F. Murray, and George Armstrong, the former visited us twice, the latter three times—all rendering us invaluable service. Our special meetings have continued more or less from the beginning of the year up to this date. Yesterday seven convert were baptized by Elder Armstrong, and united with this church; the Lord's Supper was, also dispensed. Others have told their experience, and yet more have their faces Zionward. May the Lord carry on his work till our whole land shall be visited with revivals and conversions, and the Lord's will be done on earth as it is done in heaven.

Yours in truth and love, HOPEFUL.

KING'S COUNTY QUARTERLY MEETING.— Dear Brother,—By request I will give your readers a brief account of the above named meeting. It was divided into a Ministerial Conference and various Public Exercises. The Conference is composed of ordained Baptist Ministers and Licentiate in the County, others are admitted by invitation, the object being, consultation and advice, and mutual benefit.

At each Conference an Essay is read by one of the members, also the plan of a Sermon is submitted for friendly criticism. Various points of doctrine and Church polity are discussed in the most friendly manner, and frequently we have an Exegetical exercise. These Conferences are often deeply interesting, and in all cases highly beneficial. The public exercises are for preaching, Missionary and Educational meetings &c., and are designed to stimulate our Churches to renewed action and advance the kingdom of Christ, not only in our own County but throughout the world.

Our last meeting was held according to appointment at Wolfville. At the Ministerial Conference the following resolve was passed,

Resolved, That in receiving persons to membership who have belonged to other Churches of the same faith and order, and present letters of dismission, it is exceedingly desirable and important that in addition to the reception of such letters, measures be taken to obtain satisfactory evidence of the religious and moral standing of the persons so received.

The Missionary meeting on Tuesday evening the 11th, was of a very interesting nature, several warm addresses were delivered, the presence of Elder A. D. Thomson and his animating speech added much to the interest of the meeting, a good collection was taken at the close for the Home Mission. The next evening we had an Educational Meeting, when eloquent addresses were delivered by Dr. Cramp, Professor DeMill, Rev. A. D. Thomson, Prof. Higgins and others, which were listened to with deep interest. It was pleasing to hear from the Agent of the College that success was attending his efforts, and that the friends of Acadia seem determined to put the College on a permanent basis. May the most sanguine hopes be speedily realised.

Yours &c.

E. O. READ, Sec'y.

Gaspereaux, Feb. 20th, 1862.

WEST YARMOUTH.—After nearly three years of hard toil, surrounded by many difficulties, the Lord has been pleased to smile upon our efforts. A refreshing season is now being enjoyed by us; in the which those who have long borne the burden and heat of the day, are reaping with joy the fruits of their toil,—the sluggish are quickened,—wanderers have returned to the church. Some who have long walked about Zion have entered her gates,—some poor careless sinners have been constrained to cry for mercy to Him who so freely extends it to the guilty penitent.

Signs of this work has been noticed among us for a few months past. Its progress appeared more fully when the church was engaged in a series of meetings, which commenced on the 9th inst., in which we were assisted by brethren Goucher, Normondy and Stubbert.

Last Sabbath I had the privilege of baptizing eight believers, among them was the eldest daughter of brother Normondy, whose heart is greatly encouraged, in the work to which God has called him, by this token of the divine favor to his family. That our young sister may be a faithful and successful laborer in the French Mission, let all the godly pray.

I expect to baptize again next Sabbath.

Yours truly,

JOS. H. SAUNDERS.

Hebron, Feb. 20th, 1862.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, Feb. 18th.

Hon. Prov. Sec. reported a joint Address of Condolence to Her Majesty; adopted.

Also laid on the table certain correspondence, relating to the Gold Fields. Also, the official report from Mr. Fairbanks, Inspector of Mines.

Hon. Prov. Sec'y stated in reply to a question asked on the previous day by the hon. member from Cumberland, that the fee charged for passports was \$2. Since October the fee had been remitted to half the amount \$1.

Dr. Tupper considered the fee exacted was altogether illegal.

After further remarks on the subject, a motion abolishing the charge was passed unanimously.

Dr. Tupper called attention to the necessity of bringing forward measures as soon as possible, in order to expedite the business. He hoped that the measure relating to the Gold Mines, and the Public Accounts, would soon be ready for the consideration of the House.

Hon. Provincial Secretary said that he quite appreciated the desire of the hon. gentleman to advance the public business; but he had thought that it would be discourteous to the House if he brought forward the Gold Bill without first laying on the table all the papers connected with the past policy of the government.

Hon. Financial Secretary stated that the Public Accounts would be ready this session earlier than usual. In New Brunswick, the financial year ends on the first of October, and so it should be in this Province.

Mr Robertson introduced a bill relating to Executive and Legislative Disabilities.

Mr. Esson presented a petition from the Sessions of the County of Halifax relative to taxation for the support of lunatics in the asylum.

Hon. P. ov. Sec'y thought it not creditable that the county of Halifax should ask to be relieved from supporting a few unfortunate lunatics.

Mr. Tobin said that the hon. Provincial Secretary had better look to the position now occupied by his own constituents before he fund fault with the sessions of the County of Halifax.

Hon. Prov. Secretary said that as the representative of the people of Hants he had long foreborne pressing them, and had given them every opportunity of stating their case. He had been waited upon in the morning by the High Sheriff of the County who said that a crowd had assembled at Windsor, and a sort of intimidation was brought to bear against any person who would come forward to purchase property that had been seized in satisfaction for Railway taxes. He (Mr. H.) had told the Sheriff that he was answerable that the law be amply carried out and vindicated. My own constituents, concluded the hon. gentleman, must learn to obey the law, and obey it they shall, if the town of Windsor is razed to its very foundations, I would not give my constituents anything else than the equal measure of justice.

Mr. Churchill understood that the people of Windsor had been encouraged by the example of Halifax.

Mr. Esson said the people of Windsor must be under a great mistake. The people of Halifax have paid every sixpence of the Railway Damages. The £100,000 is another matter.

Hon. Mr. Johnston—The hon. member will remember that the people of Windsor are not entitled to any of the profits of the railway.—(Laughter.)

The discussion was terminated by the Speaker, observing that there was no motion before the House.

The Bill introduced by Dr. Tupper, to authorize the taking of evidence under oath by the Chairmen of Committees, under resolution of the House, was taken up.

The Prc. v Secretary said that he had his doubts as to the necessity of such a measure.

Hon. J. W. Johnston spoke in favor of the bill.

Dr. Tupper said that it was his wish that the measure should become law as soon as possible in order that it might come into operation during the present session. He had followed the practice of a sister colony who in many practical matters was a little in advance of ourselves. He had so guarded the bill—indeed, unnecessarily, in the opinion of the hon. member for Annapolis—as to allow it to go into operation only when a majority of the House considered it necessary. He could not but suppose that this fact would be satisfactory to gentlemen opposite. To suppose the Lieut. Governor should now appoint a member of the House to an important office, how could they test the validity of his claim to a? They could not petition, they could not proceed under the Grenville Act; and in such a case, a bill like the one before the House would be absolutely necessary to ensure a proper investigation of the matter.

Hon. Atty Gen'l said that in England, no such law had existed. Parliamentary investigations had been made for six hundred years without such power being given to committees, and he thought, unless some urgent reason could be shown for the passage of the bill, it ought not to pass.

Hon. Mr. Johnston thought it would be found, on investigation, that special authority had often been given in Parliament for the administration of the oath to witnesses summoned to testify before Committees, though there might be no general law giving such power. But, however that might be, they were to consider the subject as it affected their particular situation in this country. They stood in a different position from England, and must accommodate themselves to their peculiar circumstances. The debate was adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 19th.

After petitions had been presented and some local bills had been introduced by several members,

Hon. Prov. Secy. laid on the table the Annual Report of the Superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane. He stated that the Report advocates the enlargement of the building, and added that the government would not, under present circumstances, consent to the suggestion.

It appears that there were 95 patients in the Hospital on the 1st January, 1862, that during the past year 60 have been admitted and 38 discharged, and that there are 117 now resident in the Institution. The number under treatment during the past year was 155. It further appears that according to the Census of 1861, there are 340 insane persons in the province, or rather more than 1 in every 1000 of the population, of whom 223 remain without the advantages of Hospital care.

Mr. CALDWELL presented two petitions from Cape Breton, demanding a change in the Licence Law—they were read and laid on the table.

Hon. Prov. Secy. presented a memorial from W. Forbes, of Pictou, in favour of established a fog whistle at the Gut of Canso. The hon. gentleman advocated the establishment of such a whistle at the mouth of Halifax harbor and other points of the coast; they would render, in his opinion, navigation far more secure.

Mr. Esson presented a petition from merchants of Halifax, praying for the removal of the duty on Muntz metals used in ship building. Discussion took place on the propriety of remitting the duty.

Mr. Harrington and other members spoke on the subsidy allowed to steam communication between this province and P. E. Island, and advocated such an appropriation as would give this Province control of the line independent of the P. E. I. government.

Mr. J. McDonald made an inquiry of the government relative to the Railway to Pictou. It was of the deepest importance to the people of