

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Letters to a Young Preacher.

LETTER XXIX. PUBLIC READING OF THE SCRIPTURES.

My Dear Brother,—

As the sacred Scriptures are the only source whence the knowledge of spiritual things is to be derived, a spiritual teacher obviously ought to study them with great diligence and constancy.

It may be suggested, that as copies of the inspired writings had then to be written out by hand, and were consequently scarce, there is not now the same necessity for reading them in public, since the people in general possess them, and they can peruse them at home.

The most suitable time for the reading of the Scriptures appears to be just before prayer. In the former exercise God speaks to us; in the latter we speak to Him.

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable." Some parts, however, are peculiarly interesting and instructive to us. In general these should be selected for public reading.

Every person ought to peruse every part of the Bible. There are, however, words and expressions occurring in Translations of it, which are not suitable to be read in promiscuous assemblies.

Owing to the difference of idioms, lapse of time, distance of place, diversity of customs, and numerous other circumstances, some expressions in the Scriptures are obscure to ordinary readers.

occasionally offer a few remarks, by way of elucidation, on any obscure passages that may occur in the course of public reading.

May you, my dear young Brother, possess the wisdom and discretion requisite to enable you to discharge this duty, with all others, in a profitable manner!

Yours in gospel bonds, CHARLES TUPPER, Sec'y. Tremont, Aylesford, Feb. 19th, 1862.

ERRATA.—In C. M., Feb. 19, Letter xxviii, page 69 line 9, "Rabbinical" should have been spelt Rabbinical. Feb. 12th, Letter xxvii, paragraph 3rd, after the word "decision" should be a full stop.

[The error above referred to, which we much regret, we find, arose from the omission of a line of the manuscript.—ED. C. M.]

For the Christian Messenger.

The Physical Education of our Students.

No. 1.

MR. EDITOR,—

The friends of the Institutions of learning at Horton, whatever may be their anxiety respecting financial matters, seem to regard with real satisfaction, their internal proficiency.

Our students may boast of their intellectual and moral standing, but they have little cause to boast of manly vigor and strong limbs.

A great mistake lies at the bottom of all this,—in some we are sorry to say a mistake in the theory as well as the practice, but in most a mistake in the practice alone.

It would be little to the credit of our schools could we not say, the majority of the Students know better. They know enough of Cicero to have learnt that he only is a whole man who has a healthy mind in a healthy body.

The ocean of knowledge newly opened to his gaze looks so boundless, its waters are so sweet, that there seems little else to desire.

finds on every page of his book, engage his mind, when the glow of exercise should be mantling his cheek.

Then again the opinion of people outside stimulates ambition for mental, almost to the exclusion of physical, attainments. Men will call the Student an orator, scholar, or good writer; but bestow quasi-praise upon his vaulting, lifting or riding.

It is perhaps the most important experience of those best physically educated that every increase in muscular development is not only an actual protection against disease, but conducive in the highest degree to daily health of body, mind and spirit.

In giving expression to my thoughts upon this subject, and especially in directing attention to the only sure remedy for the existing evils in the physical education of our Students, I shall ask spare, Mr. Editor, in future numbers of the Messenger for the insertion of two or three other short communications.

Feb. 28th, 1862.

ALUMNUS.

For the Christian Messenger.

Prince Edward Island.

BURMESE BAPTIST MISSION.

DEAR BROTHER,—

I write in immediate response to Dr. Tupper's appeal in your issue of the 19th ult.

In January our Methodist friends held their long accustomed annual meeting on behalf of their Foreign Missions. At that meeting it was suggested, that other evangelical bodies in the city should at last begin to imitate the zeal of their Wesleyan brethren in this department of Christian enterprise.

Such is the story to which I referred in my last. Dr. Tupper has somewhat anticipated my moral. We did not know, when we set about this our effort, that the aid of our Provinces was so urgently needed for Burmah.

An abundant cause, no doubt, so far as we Baptists are concerned; a point to be pressed rather than proved, Providence seems about to bestow upon us exactly what we have wanted,

and prayed, and waited for,—opportunity for labour on our own immediate account in the great missionary field. Surely we shall not be backward to appropriate the gift; and in so doing take the nearest way to obtain other agents to work side by side with brother Crawley.

Nor need we be afraid to seek for aid from brethren of other names for our Burmese mission. None but Baptists are at work for the salvation of Burmah. Two priceless boons have they already conferred upon that land, in their Burmese and Karen versions of the Sacred Volume.

Your fellow-labourer, J. DAVIS.

Charlottetown, March 1, 1862.

For the Christian Messenger.

"Is the North justifiable, in waging war against the South?"

I have borrowed (without leave!) the above caption from a peaceful "Lakeville." I do not like the latter part of that caption, because it does not appear to me to express either the truth or the justice of the case.

I will put the question in this form: "Is the North justifiable, in her present attempt to put down the Southern Rebellion?" Let us see. "We say, then, at the outset," says the able writer before quoted from, "that the purpose of the war on the part of the loyal States, is the defense of our National Government, the protection of our Constitution against a movement whose tendency, if not its purpose, is to destroy it.

Such are some of the introductory sentences of an article written on the present National crisis of America—the opinions expressed in which sentences have been indorsed and carefully adhered to by the Government at Washington, and well-nigh unanimously by the people of the Northern States, since the inception of the rebellion.

Now, Mr. Editor, let us pause here for a little. We will attend to the question of slave-emancipation soon. But let us dwell a few moments where we are. A recent contributor to the pages of the Messenger reiterated, what has indeed been of late often affirmed—that the North are now waging a war "for territory and power."

But what are they fighting for? Well, in addition to much that I have already said and quoted by way of answer to this question, I will honestly endeavor to put the matter in a still