

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visit.

Sandy Cove, Jan. 24th, 1863.

DEAR BROTHER,—

My heart has been made glad by another visit from the members of my dear congregation. On the 30th of last month, between seventy and eighty tried friends assembled at my house to present their testimonials of christian esteem and friendship to their pastor and his family. These happy hours were spent in religious conversation, singing and prayer. At the close, addresses were delivered by Deacons Edward and Jacob Denton, and brother Charles Denton. These were characterised by gratitude to God, especially for his mercy and grace recently bestowed upon the First Baptist Church of this place, and also by sentiments of respect and affection for the writer and his family. The donations amounted to one hundred and fifty-five dollars (\$155) in cash and valuable articles for domestic use. May God abundantly bless the donors.

Affectionately yours, JOHN C. MORSE.

Religious Intelligence.

HALIFAX.—North Church.—The special meetings have been continued during the past week, they were well attended, and in many respects were deeply interesting. On Lord's Day last, nine were baptized by Rev. A. H. Munro, five of these received the ordinance in the afternoon at Richmond, about a mile from the city. A large concourse of people assembled as spectators. Some disturbance arose, we are informed, from the crowd pressing forward, and from some boys throwing snow-balls at each other. Four were immersed in the evening in the baptistry at the chapel. Any ministering brethren who are able to pay a visit, and assist, would be cordially welcomed by the pastor and church.

Granville Street.—We omitted to mention last week that on a previous Lord's Day two were baptized by the Rev. Dr. Pryor, at Granville Street. Seven were received into the Church on Lord's Day last.

AMHERST.—We hear some favourable accounts of the Amherst Church. Brother Miles will please send on further information soon as convenient.

FALMOUTH.—The Rev. E. F. Foshay writes from Hantsport, Jan. 26, 1863.—Dear Brother, "In Falmouth, one section of my field of labor, quite a good degree of religious feeling exists. Three persons were baptized last Sabbath. Others are entertaining a hope in the Saviour, and are expected to come forward for church membership soon. One of the persons who joined the church on Sabbath, was an interesting lad of much promise. He may be regarded as the first cluster of ripe grapes from the Sabbath School in that place. May they increase an hundred fold."

WESTERN CORNWALLIS.—The Rev. E. M. Saunders writes from Berwick, Jan. 29th, 1863:—Dear Brother.—"Having passed through two years of unusual declension, there must be a general anxiety and longing for revival by the denomination, at large. The correspondents of the Messenger ought to furnish you with every indication of the return of better days for our churches. I know that as far as accounts of this character have been published in the Messenger of late, they have been read with joy by hundreds, and are spoken of in public and private. The praying and mourning ones in Zion are thereby greatly encouraged.

This induces me to give you a brief account of the work of the Lord in Western Cornwallis. Rev. James Parker and myself united in holding a series of evening meetings in a school-house, near the line of division between the two churches with which we labor. The Lord encouraged us. The blessing came, gradually—but it came. Wanderers have returned, and sinners have been converted. Brother P. has baptized seven and I have baptized three; others we expect will soon obey their Lord in a similar manner. We have been so much encouraged as to commence meetings in other parts of our churches. In the midst of these scenes of rejoicing, our hearts were made sad by the sudden death of sister Ansley Chute, who has left a mourning husband and seven children. The deceased was sister of Rev. I. J. Skinner. May the Lord comfort him and all the relatives in their affliction."

MACCAN.—Rev. D. McKeen suggests that he does not often trouble us with a letter. We should be glad if he would favour us more frequently. He says:—"There may be some enquiring whether we are living or dead, or what we are doing. Well, we are endeavouring to toil on amidst many outward discouragements, but, we trust, accompanied with the approbation of an enlightened conscience and the "still small voice." We find it best to work for God, and live and lean upon him.

Since the first of last April, we have baptized twenty-eight persons,—two of that number into the Maccan church and twenty-six into the Parrsboro Village Church. They stand well,

and some of them are of bright promise; and we are encouraged to say, "And yet they come." All glory to the King.

I have something to send you, of what we have very little in this part of the country. I may have more soon,—One new subscriber," &c.

We welcome the "one," and shall be glad to hear of the "more."

UPPER AYLESFORD, Jan. 26th, 1863.—Mr. Editor.—God is pouring out his Spirit in this place. The church is greatly revived, and a number have found Christ to be precious. Last Sabbath six of these were baptized. It was a blessed day to the church here. More are enquiring the way to Christ. May more be brought in.

Yours in gospel bonds, JAMES L. READ.

HEBRON, YARMOUTH CO.—Rev. R. D. Porter informs us that he has accepted the unanimous call of the Hebron Baptist church to become its pastor, and adds—"The church here is being refreshed in a measure. I have baptized five persons since the Week of Prayer, and we look for still further additions."

New Brunswick.

ST. ANDREWS.—A letter from Rev. T. W. Crawley, in the Ch. Visitor, states that a meeting house is to be shortly erected in this town. The frame is all prepared.—The room in which the Congregation at present worship, is too straight for the number who attend.

CARLETON.—Rev. C. Blakney administered the rite of christian baptism in Carleton to three candidates, Sabbath before last, and to two last Lord's day, making nine in all since special services commenced. Rev. Mr. Hartley baptized four at same time and place. He has been holding revival services also.

Canada.

PORT HOPE.—Several articles of silver-plate were presented to the Rev. W. H. Jones, on the 1st ult., by members of his Bible Class.

WATERFORD, CANADA WEST.—The Lord has been graciously visiting the church in Waterford. The young pastor, Rev. J. Dockrey, has been cheered in seeing God's work prosper. Seventeen persons have been baptized, and others are preparing to follow the example of their Lord and Master. Wanderers have also been reclaimed, and the church is lifting up her head in gladness.

THE MISSION SCHOONER.—The children of the Merigomish congregation have collected the sum of \$49.30 for the Mission Schooner. The children of the North Cornwallis congregation have collected the amount of \$50. The young people of the second congregation of Maitland and Noel raised the sum of \$89. The children of the Plaister Cove Sabbath School have collected and remitted \$8.—Presbyterian Witness.

THE GOSPEL IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC.—In fifty years the gospel has entered more than two hundred islands in the South Pacific ocean, and at least a quarter of a million of persons have abandoned idolatry and savage habits, and been elevated by Christianity into heroism and Christian love.

In the Friendly and Fiji Islands there are nearly 1,200 local preachers, and thirty-six native assistant missionaries. So completely is idolatry abolished in the Friendly Islands, a missionary recently returning to England could not obtain an idol as a curiosity.

BAPTISM OF THE REV. ROBT. DUNLOP.—On Sabbath last, the Rev. R. Dunlop, for three years a travelling preacher in the Methodist New Connexion body in Canada, and who withdrew from fellowship with that denomination after the annual meeting of Conference in London, in June, 1861, was publicly received into the fellowship of the Regular Baptist Church, St. George, and baptized into the likeness of Christ's death, in the presence of a most attentive assembly, by the pastor, Rev. Thos. L. Davidson. Since Bro. D. disconnected himself with the N. C. Methodist body he has been laboring and travelling as an evangelist, and carefully studying God's word, in order to discover more perfectly his will. As the result of eighteen months careful and prayerful investigation of the Bible, Bro. Dunlop has been led to ignore Arminianism and Pedobaptism, and to declare himself a Calvinistic close communion Baptist. His christian experience and confession of faith, as given before the church and congregation in St. George, on Sabbath, was clear, full, and peculiarly gratifying. It is proper to state here, that previous to his being brought before the church of which he is now a member, the pastor made diligent inquiries as to his previous history, character, and standing, and communicated with the Rev. Prof. McClure, of Toronto, (through Rev. Dr. Caldicott,) and the Rev. J. H. Robinson, of London, editor of the Evangelical Witness and General Superintendent of N. C. Methodist Missions in Canada; and the result was exceedingly satisfactory, and went to show that Bro. D. had sustained a blameless reputation as a christian and a minister while in fellowship with that denomination. We trust that our brother may become an honored minister of the Regular Baptist denomination in Canada, and a fearless standard bearer in the camp of Israel amongst us. Three of the Ministers of the N. C. body, viz., Rev. John Bell, of Bolton, C. E., Andrew Clarke, of Hanover, and Robert Dunlop, of Nichol, have united with the Baptists during the last twelve months.—Canadian Baptist.

FRANCE.—The Catholic party in France is again in the ascendant. The indefinite postponement of the Roman question has given it fresh courage, and in the Empress Eugénie it finds a powerful supporter. It is some consolation to know that Protestantism does not relax in its efforts. Within two months as many as six new places of worship have been opened. At Alby, celebrated as the birth-place of the Albigenses, there are signs of revival. A pastor, who was passing through the neighbourhood, preached several sermons which excited so much interest, that the Protestants have since petitioned the consistory to establish a regular religious service; and funds are being collected to secure them a resident minister.

SPAIN.—In Spain, there is no abatement of persecution. The inferior tribunal of Malaga has pronounced sentence on Antonio Marin, of seven years' penal servitude at the galleys; on Jose Gonzalez and Antonio Carrasco, of nine years; and a like punishment of seven years on nine others, who are fugitives. The Evangelical Alliance is exerting itself to the utmost to obtain a suspension of these iniquitous proceedings, and will probably send an influential deputation to Spain to plead for the prisoners.

ITALY.—It is estimated that there are now 2,500 children under instruction in the Evangelical schools of Italy.—The desire to learn is prevalent among both the middle and lower classes.

Genoa, has not many more than 100,000 inhabitants, and yet, in addition to many private academies, there are now no fewer than 16,000 of the people in attendance on the public schools, supported jointly by the Government and the Genoese municipality, which latter is giving 12,000*l.* sterling per annum to the enterprise. You can easily believe that the priests look askance, but are unable to hinder such energetic action.

Many agents offer themselves for employment in the work of evangelisation. One gentleman, a major, formerly in the army of Garibaldi, now in the regular army of the King, offers to resign his commission, and sacrifice his pay, to be employed, at a very inferior stipend, as an evangelist among his countrymen. A priest in full orders, formerly Professor of Mathematics in a celebrated University, has resigned his living, refused invitations to return to the bosom of Rome, placed himself under instruction, and for some months given proof of both sincerity and religious growth.

Father Passaglia is about to commence a daily newspaper to be called Peace—"peace between the Church and the State, peace between all races of mankind." A daily paper has also been started at Naples, with a similar object. The priests who signed Passaglia's address to the Pope are said to be by that act excommunicated.

GREECE.—A few of the priests and bishops are beginning to appreciate the value of the Scriptures, and would gladly see the errors of their Church reformed. The use of the New Testament has been ordered by the Minister of Public Instruction in all the public schools; and the circulation of the Scriptures in modern Greek is freely permitted.

INDIA.—The Baptism of a Hindoo gentleman, named Grish Chunder Dutt, with his wife, has excited some attention in Calcutta. A native newspaper speaks of the event as ominous of a great change. "We are not Christians ourselves," says the writer, "but we are anti-Christians neither, and we entertain a very great and sincere respect for all true followers of Christ. If we are not yet convinced of the Divine origin of Christianity, we are quite convinced of its efficacy in promoting the well-being of society, and we shall not, therefore, at all regret if such a religion should supplant the present religion of the Hindoo, a religion than which we consider even Mohammdanism to be more rational and less hurtful." The example of this gentleman has been followed by his two brothers, Govind Chunder and Horro Chunder. All these are in independent circumstances, and bear the highest character for integrity, besides being thoroughly educated and intelligent.

Govind, the eldest, holds high offices in the Treasury, is an accomplished English scholar, and writes English well. Their wives also have been baptized, and this in spite of much opposition from their Hindoo relations. The wife of one of them is of the family of Rajah Radhakant Deb, a man who stands at the head of Hindoo society in Bengal. Govind's son, a promising boy of about twelve years, was baptized along with his parents.

MADAGASCAR.—Radama II. was crowned King of Madagascar on the 22d of September last. The Rev. William Ellis, accompanied by an armed escort appointed to attend him, and the newly arrived missionaries of the London Society, by special invitation, were present at the splendid ceremonial. They were also honoured as guests at the banquet by which it was followed. Crowds gathered on the hills around the city, and the tropical sun poured down its glory on a scene of great beauty.

Mr. Ellis further says:—"When the French and English embassies were on their way to the capital, it was announced to the King that General Johnston, the head of the latter, had sat off from Tamatave, and was coming to put the crown on the head of the King at the coronation. The King, said, 'The French say they are to put the crown on my head—now the English say they are coming for that purpose. They can't both do it, for I have not got two heads for each of them to crown. Go and ask my father, Mr. Ellis, what I am to do.' I was obliged to attend this summons. Though very early in the morning, I found the King, as usual, consulting with some of his officers, as he rises

early and transacts a great amount of business before breakfast. I endeavoured to explain the mistake which had arisen from the expression, 'assist at the coronation.' But I also said I thought the coronation was a great national act, appertaining in its responsibilities to the Malagasy alone, and should from first to last be performed by themselves. The King said that was his own view of the transaction, and that as he had received the authority he exercised by inheritance, he should assume the symbol of it neither from France nor England. The secretary afterwards told me that the King had decided to take the crown and place it on his head himself."

As regards the progress of religion among the people, Mr. Ellis reports that it is most encouraging. "I hear of scarcely any defections among them from the integrity and purity of the Gospel, or any abatement in their zeal and earnestness in bringing others to Christ. Their numbers continue to increase, and the most marvellous and gratifying accounts are received from distant provinces. I am informed that there are hundreds of believers in the Betsileo country, 200 miles from the capital, and the region to which some of the earlier Christians were banished. They carried and scattered the precious seed of the Word, and a wide and glorious harvest invites the reapers to the field."

American and Foreign News.

Latest from the States!

[From Telegrams to Morning and Evening papers.]

JAN. 27.—A movement is on foot at Newbern, to ask authority for the formation of ten loyal regiments in the North Carolina. The material for such a force is represented to be abundant.

Four French vessels bombarded Acapulco, and in three days silenced the fort, spiked the guns and sailed. The inhabitants abandoned the town.

JAN. 28.—General Hooker's salutatory general order to the Federal Army, on taking command after Burnside's resignation of the position of Commander-in-Chief, goes in for fighting the enemy whenever and wherever they are found!! Southern papers in the interior of the country have evinced much consternation, from the concentration of Federal troops in the State of North Carolina.

It is reported that seventy-five thousand (75,000) Confederate troops have been sent from the Rappahannock to North Carolina, in the belief that the Federal army of the Potomac is demoralized.

The New York Post reports that twenty gunboats and transports left Newbern and Hatteras on Saturday last, for a Southern destination.—There were no troops on board these vessels, but the forces at Newbern are ready to move at short notice. It is believed that the most important results will follow from this source.

It is reported that the steamer Oveito had arrived at Havana with seventeen hundred bales of cotton.

Evening.—General Cameron tenders his services to the War Department to lead a brigade of colored Unionists into the heart of the rebellion [wherever that is.]

General Banks sends order for a large supply of entrenching tools.

The World's despatch reports that Governor Andrew has authority to raise Negro Regiments in Massachusetts.

Senator Saulsbury, of Delaware, yesterday violated the rules of the Senate in denouncing the President, and was ordered into custody of the Sergeant-at-arms, whereupon he drew a pistol. Resolution of expulsion introduced to-day.

Southern despatches report that a detachment of Morgan's men dashed into Murfreesborough, capturing two hundred prisoners.

The proprietor of the Philadelphia Evening Journal was arrested last night by order of the Government, and taken to Washington.

JAN. 29.—The Memphis Bulletin says that General Joe Johnston commands the whole Western Department of the Confederate army and is marching with an immense force to Vicksburg.

The Confederates are determined to stake everything to hold Vicksburg and Port Hudson. The Fortifications of the latter place are now complete.

Latest advices say that General McClelland and Commodore Porter's expedition has reached twenty miles above Vicksburg.

General Grant was expected to move on the 27th inst.

Hatteras Inlet advices to the 23rd mention that General Nagle's fleet anchored there and rode out the storm.

A Fredericksburg despatch to Richmond says that everything indicates that the Federals have made their present position their permanent base of operations.

General Franklin's farewell address assures his command that he parts from them unwillingly.

JAN. 31.—A New Orleans letter states that the "Harriet Lane" is blockading Galveston Bay. The Confederates are fitting her out, and fortifying to resist attack. The Federal fleet is considered ample to retake Galveston. Governor Stanley, of North Carolina, has resigned. He disapproves of President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation.

The New York Tribune denies the charge against its chief editor, Horace Greeley, that he had entered into personal negotiations with M. Mercier, the French Minister at Washington, to promote intervention on the part of the French Government.