

friends in Nova Scotia, who would like to see the Address presented to him on that occasion, it might be acceptable to them to give it a place in our columns. It is with much pleasure we accept the suggestion and copy the address as follows. We gave the paragraphs containing the substance of the reply in our former report.

ADDRESS. St. John, April 23rd, 1863.

REV. I. E. BILL.—Dear Brother:—The deacons and members of the Germain Street Baptist Church being desirous to record some expressions of their brotherly kindness and affection for you, as a tribute of respect, have chosen me, on your retiring from the Pastorate, to present to you, this evening, on their behalf, the following address:—

We, the Deacons and Members of the Germain Street Baptist Church, feel that we cannot let the present opportunity pass, on your final resignation of the office of the Pastorate, without giving expression in a more public way to our feelings on parting with you, after so many years' labour and affectionate interest toward us as individuals, and the good cause in the ministry, for which you have so faithfully labored in Germain Street Church.

About twelve months ago you first began to be afflicted with temporary physical infirmity, and as the spring opened, your vocal organs were so completely prostrated as to induce you in the month of July last to resign the pastoral office. Since that time, however, you have labored with us to the best of your ability, with a fatherly care, and rendered us that aid and kind consideration and interest in our welfare, as demands of us our sincere thanks and gratitude to God.

And now on the eve of an inauguration of a new pastor, whom we trust God will bless as he has blessed you, with seals to his ministry, we beg to assure you that our affection for you is unabated, and that our appreciation and admiration of your faithfulness, energy, integrity, and ability, as a minister of Jesus Christ, is undiminished.

For eleven years of your ministry over us we have been greatly blessed. On referring to the church records we find that about 300 souls, by baptism and letter, have been added.

In addition to the other and varied labors you have performed for the spread of the gospel in this city, you have also labored to extend the influence of true Christianity, and the spread of Christ's kingdom on earth, through the wide circulation and influence of the Christian Visitor, which, under your management, we trust has been calculated to awaken the thoughtless, and diffuse the truth as it is in Christ Jesus, thereby restoring the wanderer to his church and to his God.

We may speak still further. Your incessant efforts and labor in the cause of Home Missions, have emanated, we feel assured, from the purest principles of gospel piety and love for the souls of men, and we trust, under the all-wise direction of the King of kings and Lord of lords, may form the germ of future bliss in the hearts of many redeemed souls.

We sympathize with you, dear brother, as we have sympathized in all undertakings for the elevation of man, and for the glory of God, and, in our parting with you as our pastor, we assure you of our highest respect and unabated confidence in your piety, your zeal, your kindness of heart, and your unwearied efforts, which at all times were devoted to make us a comfortable and prosperous church; and our prayer is, that the work in which you are now engaged may meet with enlarged and continued success, and in your future prosperity, far surpass your most sanguine expectations.

We wish to convey to your beloved partner, Mrs. Bill, our high estimation of her worth as a sister greatly beloved in the church, praying that the Lord will guide you both, and continue to make you useful and happy in your future sphere and labour of love.

On behalf of the Deacons and Members of the Church. (Signed) G. A. GARRISON, Clerk.

For the Christian Messenger.

French Mission.

Mr. Editor.—

I am happy to inform the friends of the French Mission that God has blessed us again by converting another person, who had been connected with the Roman Catholic Church, to faith in Christ Jesus. It has been my happy lot to baptize him. He is a man of good education and talents—a graduate of a College in Canada. He is teaching school in the Mission House, and expects shortly to take a missionary tour with me among the French of St. Mary's Bay. He seems to possess a missionary spirit, and will shortly send an account of his conversion for publication in the Christian Messenger. I believe there are still more coming to Christ Jesus. Dear friends pray for us that the work may go on.

Yours in gospel bonds. M. NORMONDAY, Tusket, May 12th 1863.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notice.

MRS. ANN WILLIAMS, Wife of Mr. John S. Williams, of Green Harbor, died on the 7th of March, after a protracted

illness of 20 years, which she bore with christian resignation; aged 63 years, leaving a husband and seven children to mourn their loss. Sister W. was 42 years a traveller on the christian pilgrimage. Her new birth was very clear and striking. At a prayer-meeting she became awakened to her lost condition. She retired from the meeting to pray, and continued till light broke into her soul, and then returned, rejoicing in the Saviour's love. About a year after this, Elder Nutter visited the Ragged Islands, when she was baptized by him and united to the Baptist Church, of which she remained a valued member till her death. About ten days before her death, she had a vision, in which she saw a great host of people: Christ upon his throne, a golden gate, and all as bright as the sun; on the view of which she exclaimed "I'll be in this band, Glory, Hallelujah." Her health at the time was better than it had been for years; but the next morning she sent for her son John, and told him her time had come to go,—made the preparations for death in disposing of her things as she wished,—gave up, and fell asleep in Jesus. Her last words were, "I am happy, and going home to die no more." Bible religion is what will stand by you.

Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep, From which none ever wake to weep.

—Com. by Rev. A. W. Bars.

Religious Intelligence.

CHESTER.—Rev. I. J. Skinner writes:—Dear Brother,—In observing the doings of God among men, how frequently and forcibly are we reminded of the truth contained in those sublime words of the poet;

"God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform; He plants his footsteps in the sea, And rides upon the storm."

Although God is "everywhere present" at all times, yet it may be said of Him, that He sometimes makes special visits among his people. He has visited Chester of late; with the stroke of death on the one hand, and with the message of mercy and the precious gift of eternal life on the other. One of our old and long-standing church members Bro. John Corkum has been called from the church below, we trust to the church above. He departed this life April 28th 1863, in hope of heaven, beloved and respected, I believe, by all who knew him.

Some of our friends too have heard the gentle whispers of the Holy Spirit, awakening them from the deep slumbers of spiritual death and causing them to come forth into the "new life;" and on the same day that the last funeral rites were performed for our departed brother, three newly baptized persons together with two who had been restored, were welcomed to the privileges of church fellowship. That day, which was last Lord's-day, will be had in grateful remembrance by some at least. The morning was beautifully fine, and the shore of Chester Basin was lined for a considerable distance with spectators. A solemn silence reigned all around, broken only by the voice of praise and prayer and the impressive ceremony of baptism, as three candidates were buried beneath the yielding wave, in obedience to the command and in imitation of the example, of the Great Redeemer.

The case of one of the candidates deserves special notice. Three years ago she was married, and went to live in the family of her father-in-law, where family devotion was constantly maintained. Those devotional exercises were the main instrumentality in her awakening to a sense of her lost condition and her subsequent conversion to God. She is now a baptized believer, happy and thankful to God that her lot was cast in a family where God was feared and loved and worshipped. What encouragement is here afforded to heads of families, for the maintenance of the worship of God in their houses. God honours those who serve him.

"His mercy visits every house That pays its night and morning vows,"

We most sincerely wish it might be said of every professedly christian family, that morning and evening devotion daily ascends to the Father of all our mercies.

Four persons have been baptized, and there are others of whom favourable hopes are entertained. These may be regarded as some of the fruits resulting from the Divine blessing on our recent special religious services which commenced in the latter part of March. We would make grateful mention of our ministering brethren Delong, Philp and Gates, who kindly came to our aid. May the Lord reward them for their labors of love, and may the work of God progress in all the churches.

Yours very truly I. J. SKINNER.

Chester, May 15th 1863.

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY.—Rev. H. Achilles writes from Parker's Cove May 12th 1863:—Dear Brother,—Many of the readers of your valuable paper are glad to hear of the prosperity of Zion. By request of the Church at Graywood, four weeks ago, I made a visit there and Millford. They had been without preaching for some time, but the little church was still active. I attended a Conference meeting, and preached four times. It was a very interesting season. Some, for the first time, confessed Christ, and a number seemed to be concerned about their souls.

I again went out last Friday, in company with Brother Kenedy and remained over the Sabbath. I baptized two happy converts, and trust the occasion will be blessed. The work of God seems to be advancing.

In my field of labour on the Mountain, our meetings are well and regularly attended, and a spirit of union prevails. A few weeks ago I baptized three at Lichfield. Others are received for baptism. Four persons have been received into the Parker's Cove church by baptism. We expect to baptize next Sabbath. Many are anxious about their souls. Pray for us.

American and Foreign News.

Latest from the States!

[From Telegrams to Morning and Evening papers.]

MAY 12.—General Hooker pushed across the Rappahannock two corps of his army. Subsequently his whole force was put across with rations for eight days, deploying to the right and left without finding the enemy in force. The enemy left their dead unburied. The roads were in a bad condition, and the movement of the army consequently slow.

Military men think that the enemy has fallen back in two columns toward Richmond, and the others towards Gordonsville.

Fredericksburg is reported to be occupied by the Federals.

General Keyes is stated to have occupied West Point with a large force.

The iron-clads had left Port Royal for North Edisto.

Federal Colonel Stringer is reported in Georgia, after fighting five battles.

MAY 13.—A special despatch to the New York Post says that Gen. Halleck is about taking the field, not for the purpose of relieving Gen. Hooker, but rather to give directions to the army.

Gen. Hooker is reported to have planned the present movement.

The Confederates have no way of escaping from Vicksburg, except by cutting through the Federal forces.

Evening.—Richmond papers of Monday announce Stonewall Jackson's death on Sunday P. M., from amputation of arm, and pneumonia. New York Express says it is believed that the ship Mermaid, from Shanghai, with 500,000 pounds tea, has been destroyed by the Alabama. Lee in general order, congratulates the Confederate army in repelling attack of army of the Potomac, and driving it across the Rappahannock. Recommends Sunday next, (last Sunday) to ascribe to Lord of Hosts the glory due to his name.

MAY 14.—The Jackson Appeal says that the capture of Little Gulf is of little consequence, Big Black River being unnavigable. It thinks that a great battle involving the fate of Vicksburg will be fought soon in the open field. The Governor of Mississippi calls every able-bodied man to arms. The Confederates in front of Murresboro' are lately vastly increased.

Wheeler and Morgan, with 500 cavalry, are stated to be at Liberty, meditating an attack on Nashville.

The Washington Chronicle says that Vallandigham has been banished to Tortugas for two years. The Democratic General Committee at Albany have called an indignation meeting in consequence.

MAY 16.—The New York Post's despatch says that serious disagreements have arisen between Hooker and Halleck. Halleck countermanded Hooker's new movement. Prominent Congressmen have united in a vigorous protest against Halleck's taking the field. It is thought the President may veto the project.

Charleston advices say that the Federals are unusually active in the islands. Several steamers had arrived from Nassau, and more were due. Some were missing.

MAY 18.—The Confederate officers report their loss in the late battle at 25,000. A North Carolina brigade lost 900 men.

General Stonewall Jackson's death was caused undoubtedly by his own men through mistake. His funeral was a great demonstration of mourning.

It is reported that the \$300 substitute in the Conscription law will be ignored, and that every man will be obliged to stand the draft.

The writ of Habeas Corpus in Vallandigham's case has been refused.

The New York World's despatch says that General Hooker will have full command of the army, through any new advance movement, unaided by General Halleck.

Evening.—Hooker has returned to the army highly gratified with his visit to President Lincoln.

Confederates have been extending their works rear and left of Fredricksburg.

Colonel Grierson arrived at Baton Rouge, having traversed from Tennessee, cutting every Mississippi railroad, and doing immense damage; taining 30,000 loaded shells.

Gen. Grant advanced on the 11th on Raymond, Mississippi; 10 miles from railroad and 25 from Vicksburg.

Nassau advices report steamers Britannia, Emma, Pot, Antonia, Victory, Calypso and Banshee cleared for Southern ports.

New Orleans.—General Banks has been issuing some important general orders. One condemns to death all who supply aid to the enemy; another orders the registered enemies of the United States government to leave the department by the 16th of May, and another forbids sheriffs and others to conscript slaves for the rebel army, in pursuance of the action of the Louisiana Legislature.

SPOTTED FEVER.—A disease little known in America, called the spotted fever, has broken out in the Federal capital. In one family, five children died of it in one day. It is a very violent disease, those attacked usually surviving but a few hours after it develops itself. It is also very contagious, and has thus far baffled the efforts of the physicians to save the victims.

Latest from Europe!

GREAT BRITAIN.

DECREASE OF LANCASHIRE DISTRESS.—The distress in the cotton-manufacturing districts is steadily diminishing. During the week which ended on the 18th instant there was a decrease of 4404 in the number of persons receiving relief. The balance of the central fund exceeds £400,000, and contributions are still freely flowing in.

The affair of the Peterhoff will terminate amicably. The vessel is to go before a Prize Court, and the mails are released. In the House of Commons, the announcement by Mr. Layard that Mr. Seward had released the Peterhoff's mail bags was received with loud cheers.

MR ADAMS RECEDES.—It appears that Mr. Adams, the United States Minister in London, has discerned the gross impropriety of his conduct in granting permits to certain vessels trading between Britain and Mexico. Mr. Adams, it is reported, is "conscious of having acted with undue haste," and he now "raises no pretension such as would necessitate any absolute protest from one Government to another on the subject."

DESPATCH OF IRON-CLADS TO THE WEST-INDIES.—It is stated that Government have determined on sending all the iron plated ships now in commission to the West Indies. The ships referred to comprise the Warrior, Black Prince, Defence, and Resistance.

ARMS SENT TO BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.—A parliamentary return states that 44,829 rifles, 2,600 smooth-bore arms, 40,000 great-coat 25,940 blankets, besides 45,500 "accoutrements," and 2,276,500 "ammunition," have been sent to British North America since Dec. 1861, as ordered, in consequence of the affair of the Trent.

POLAND.

The Polish insurgents are pursuing their struggle for mercy with unabated vigor, and with almost unvarying success.

Poland rejects Russian pardon.—The Central Committee of Warsaw have issued a proclamation in which, after reducing to their real value the Imperial promises of pardon and subsequent reforms they thus proceed—"To prevent all vain delusions, we declare once for all that we reject the pardon. We have not engaged in this struggle in order to obtain institutions more or less free, and which, under the Muscovite rule, can offer us no guarantee for the future, but to emancipate ourselves from a hateful yoke, and to regain our complete independence and liberty."

FRANCE.

The Nord announces the arrival in France of the Prince and Princess of Wales for the middle of May. They are to be received at the Palace of Fontainebleau, where the Court will be established at that period.

The continuance of the distress amongst the operatives in France leads to the belief amongst manufacturers that coercive measures will become "necessary" to put an end to the conflict now raging on that continent. Attention is called to the exasperation manifested in the North against England, and it is anticipated that negotiations will be resumed between the Government of France and England relative to interference of some kind.

SWITZERLAND.

BERNE, April 21.—The Austrian Government has acquiesced the Federal Council that adherents of Mazzini in Switzerland are plotting an attack upon the Southern portion of the Tyrol.

ITALY.

THE POPE DYING.—A letter to the London Times, dated Turin, March 16th, says: The career of the Pope is fast drawing to a close. The old man is fading day by day. His own phrase is that his weeks are numbered. He remains whole hours without speaking a word, plunged in profound reveries.