

cease to take the subject into early consideration, while missionaries laboring in such places, will be able to render valuable assistance.

I remain dear brethren,
Affectionately yours,
D. W. C. DIMOCK,
Moderator, E. B. Association.

Truro, April 23rd, 1863.

For the Christian Messenger.

Desecration of Houses of worship.

MR. EDITOR,—

For a long time I have been anxious to know the feelings, and to get the opinion of the Baptist-body, respecting the sale of their old Meeting houses for other purposes than such as they were designed and dedicated for. I know they have no idle ceremony of consecrating either the exterior or interior, but they usually hold Dedication services. Do not the references made to the Temple, dedicated by Solomon, invoking the presence of the Triune God, imply that for that purpose alone they set apart the house thus dedicated? We read in John the second chapter 14, 15, 16 verses thus—Jesus made a scourge of small cords, and drove them out of the temple, and the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overthrew the tables, and said unto them that sold doves, take these things hence; and make not my Father's house a house of merchandise." This is I believe the only instance recorded in holy writ where the Saviour used chastisement or correction for the many offences committed against his Father or himself. How impious in his sight must have been the desecration for the blessed Jesus thus to act. I know of three buildings formerly used for this sacred purpose in a certain village—one belonged to the Baptists, one to the Methodists, and one to the Presbyterians. The Baptist one, is converted into a store or a general ware-house depository. The Methodist one is used by poor families as tenements, the house is so dilapidated, and the broken windows are stuffed with rags and other unsightly materials, so as to make it look offensive. The other Presbyterian one has been disposed of but it remains untenanted, likewise having many broken windows. Within these several walls, many saints now in glory and some few on earth recognize as their spiritual birth place. It must cause them grief and sorrow of heart to see them put to such unsanctified uses, perhaps not in Heaven, for no grief is there. I am aware that nothing in Scripture is recorded to govern the act of selling or otherwise disposing of them, but it is at least undesirable to see them in this condition.

AN INQUIRER.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

MRS. PRISCILLA DAILY,

Wife of Mr. Wm. Daily of Waterville, Q. C., died on the 26th of March, aged 44 years. She was converted when quite young, and some time after was baptized, by Rev. Mr. Martell, and united with the Baptist Church in Milton. On her removal to her late residence she united with the Brookfield Baptist Church, of which she remained a consistent member till she fell asleep in Jesus. Mrs. Daily's sufferings were great and protracted, and were endured with much resignation. She leaves many mourning friends, aged parents, affectionate brothers and sisters, a companion bereft of a faithful wife, and children of a loving mother.

"Let us be patient; these severe afflictions,
Not from the ground arise,
But oftentimes celestial benedictions,
Assume this dark disguise."

"In that great cloister's stillness and seclusion,
By guardian angels led,
Safe from temptation, safe from sin's pollution,
She lives whom we call dead."

Her funeral sermon was preached by the writer from Heb. xi. 16.

D. O. PARKER.

MRS. ANN HOLMES,

Wife of Deacon Arnold Holmes of Cow Bay, died April 18th 1863, aged sixty four years. Her death was sudden and unexpected.

Sister Holmes left a husband, eight children and a large circle of relatives and friends, to mourn her loss. Our departed sister was among those who gave their hearts to God in connection with the Baptist Church at Mire, she was immersed by Elder Jos. Dimock, Aug. 23rd, 1838, at which time she united with the church. She lived a consistent christian. Naturally, she was gentle, unassuming and kind. In her the poor, especially, have lost a real friend.

The funeral on Tuesday the 21st inst., was attended by a large gathering of people; many of whom came for the purpose of even 12 miles. A discourse was delivered from Matth. xxiv. 44. All were solemn; and we hope some, at least, will heed the voice of warning. May

the Lord comfort the mourners; and enable them to say when thinking of the departed.

"Thou art gone to the grave; but we will not deplore thee,
Since God was thy ransom, thy guardian, thy guide;
He gave thee, He took thee, and He will restore thee;
And death has no sting, since the Saviour hath died."

MRS. ISABELLA STEWART

Departed this life March 17th, 1863, in the 91st year of her age. She was baptized by Elder Joseph Dimock, in [We are not sure whether the date is intended to be 1803 or 1830, as the only figures in the manuscript are 183.—ED.] and united with the Baptist Church of Chester, her native place. A few years after this, she became the wife of Mr. Alexander Stewart, a native of England, who afterwards became a member of the same church. They remained a few years in Chester, when they removed to Halifax, where they resided for fifteen years. From Halifax they removed to Sherbrooke, St. Mary's, where the writer first became acquainted with her, and where she died. I think 16 years have passed away since I first formed a pleasing acquaintance with our departed sister. She was a very amiable woman. At the present day many make religion a convenience, but it was not so with our sister. The religion of the cross was her element; it was the business of her life. She was an every day christian. I do not remember to have visited her house once when she did not introduce the subject of religion. I have been very much comforted myself when listening to her christian experience. It was very clear and scriptural. During her residence at Sherbrooke she had not the privilege of a stated Baptist minister, which she very much missed. For some few years before her death the infirmities of old age prevented her from going to any meeting, but she was a great reader of her bible and of good books. She had some excellent sermon books, and they were well worn. She had one blessing that many aged persons have not,—the renewal of her eye-sight for, I think, about 6 years before her death. She could read perfectly well without glasses of any kind. Our sister was lovely in her life and triumphant in her death. She was sensible to the last, and maintained an unshaken confidence in Christ, her living Head. She has left a kind husband and three children to mourn their loss, which is her eternal gain.

Yours truly,
HENRY EAGLES.

Religious Intelligence.

YARMOUTH COUNTY, BROOKVILLE, April 24th, 1863.—Dear Brother,—I have read in your valuable paper, during the last winter, with the deepest interest, the reports given of revivals of religion in different parts of this, my native province, as also in various localities in New Brunswick, where I resided for fourteen years. It has been my delightful privilege during my labours as a minister, at times to share largely in such seasons of refreshing from Jesus Christ our Saviour and Redeemer. I pray God in his infinite love and mercy to send the spirit of pure reformation into all hearts and all places, till all people shall wake to righteousness and lay hold of the hope of eternal life. I have been wont to visit, travel, live and labour as a christian minister in these western parts of this province for nearly thirty years, and I have often witnessed the marked displays of the power of God in making the gospel efficacious in the salvation of precious immortal souls. But I think for the ten past weeks the spirit of God has been more generally diffused among the masses of the people than at any other period that I have witnessed, for which I desire to thank God and take courage. I was on a tour, easterly from here, a few weeks ago, over a hundred miles, which gave me an opportunity of seeing the work of God amongst the people. From Westport to Sable River, for a few weeks past, in almost every locality a strong spirit of religious revival has prevailed, and numbers have been added to almost every christian denomination. Elder A. Cogswell who labours in this place, baptized once since I returned home from the east, and last Sabbath I baptized six, as I thought, of the most devoted believers in Christ that I ever led into the baptismal waters. They were all people of respectable standing in society, and all heads of families, (except one interesting young woman,) from the age of fifty to sixty years. This baptism took place at Short Beach, about four miles below this place, where there was no Baptist Church. I therefore requested Elder Cogswell and brethren of the Beaver River Church to attend with us on Saturday and Sabbath, which they did most cheerfully. We had a season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. Brother Cogswell gave the brethren and sisters baptized, the right hand of fellowship into the Beaver River Church. I hope to baptize again next Sabbath, as God has graciously smiled on my labours in that place last winter before I went away, as also since I returned. Pray for us. May God bless you in Halifax. My heart was cheered in reading of the work of revival in the North Church.

I remain, yours, &c.
WELLINGTON JACKSON.

WEST YARMOUTH.—Rev. Joseph H. Saunders writes from HERRON, April 28th, 1863: "Since my note of the 26th ult., we have enjoyed some very happy seasons in our churches. On the 12th inst. I had the pleasure of baptizing four at West Yarmouth and ten at Ohio; and on the 9th inst. we again visited our Jordan at Ohio and baptized twenty-nine happy believers of various ages, from the child of ten summers to the man of forty-five. "The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad."

He adds in a note:—"A small error occurred in the printing of my last note, (see C. M. April 8th, page 107). It reads "we have also received to christian fellowship two members from other denominations." But it should have been "Church fellowship" and "from another denomination."

The subject of your Circular to the Sabbath School Boards, I think is worthy of our serious attention

WESTPORT.—Rev. W. Hall writes April 27th.—The revival here is still making progress. Though I have baptized Seventy-nine yet many more are being awakened. Baptisms every Lord's Day. I sometimes think that the whole population of this Island, numbering one thousand souls, will be converted to God. "It is the Lord's doing and marvellous in our eyes."

I am glad that you have introduced the matter of catechisms to the denomination.

WILMOT, PINE GROVE, April 27 1863.—Dear Editor,—Knowing that your christian readers are ever interested in revival intelligence I enclose a few lines concerning the good work in Wilmot.

We observed, in common with our brethren generally, "the week of prayer." Since then we have held meetings almost daily in different sections of the church, and a considerable portion of the time twice a day; not so much for preaching as for Conference and Prayer. God has been graciously pleased in connection with these services to awaken deeper interest in the minds of his people, in the reviving of his work and the conversion of souls. Some who had satisfied themselves with serving to the halves, and yet felt rich and in need of nothing, have been counselled to buy gold, tried in the fire, and white raiment, and eye-salve. Richer, and purer, they now see. Branches of the church had been long distracted by unhappy differences that had become like old sores. Most, if not all of such have been mercifully healed, we trust by the true balm. Some who had long been walking about Zion, have come in, and are now contributing to swell the volume of incense of supplications and praise. Some of the young have enlisted, and it is truly pleasing to attend their weekly meetings. Oh! may the Good Shepherd keep these lambs, and the many very many, who have been elsewhere gathered into his fold. Twenty-one have been baptized in all during the year, five more are received as candidates for baptism, and others we hope have been converted, some of whom would have gladly united with us but for parental attachment to other views. In such instances rather than exert any sectarianizing influence we prefer to wait for the calm conscientious results of coming years. And still may the work go on. The spirit of religious enquiry is abroad. Many appear serious who are not within range of these special influences. The fields are whitening. May we awake to the importance of sowing beside all waters, and to the assurance that "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

W. H. PORTER.

PEREAU, CORNWALLIS.—Rev. David Freeman writes from Canning, April 28th:—"Since we wrote you with reference to the revival in Scott's Bay, the Lord has blessed us in a wonderful manner in another section of our field. In Perreau, one of the chief branches of the Fifth Cornwallis Church, a most powerful and blessed work has been in progress for about three weeks. We feel that some one has been praying for us. Stout-hearted sinners have returned to Zion with songs, and (we trust) with everlasting joy upon their heads." You will be pleased to learn that the revival commenced among the children of the Sabbath School. From the children, the work extended to the parents,—many of whom are old professors,—as well as to the middle aged. Backsliders have returned to the Lord and mingled their tears of penitence and joy with the new converts. Little children have bowed before the Cross, and strong men have bowed there with them like little children. As we have witnessed these scenes, we have felt, Who can wonder that the angels in heaven should rejoice over them?

Three promising candidates were baptized in Scott's Bay last Sabbath, where the work is still progressing, and we are waiting and trusting that the Lord will further add to His church those who shall be saved. Let the friends of Zion still pray that the work of God may deepen and widen and fill the land.

Yours in the gospel,
D. FREEMAN.

New Brunswick.

VALEDICTORY AND INSTALLATION SERVICE AT GERMAIN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH, ST. JOHN.—We have received from Mr. John March, the Secretary of the Council, a report of the above services on the retirement of Rev. J. E. Bill, and installment of Rev. H. Vaughan. We regret that we are compelled to abridge the account. It was held on Thursday April 23rd. Revs. S. Robinson, I. E. Bill, E. B. DeMill, A. M., T. W. Crawley, A. M., J. Ring, and A. Washburn, composed the Council.

The valedictory address of the church to their late pastor was read by the Clerk, Deacon G. A. Garrison:

To which Rev. I. E. Bill made an appropriate reply, in which he said:

"When I accepted your call to the pastorate of the Germain street Church, more than eleven years ago, I did so in direct opposition to the wishes of a very large and flourishing church over which I had presided for more than twenty years, for the simple reason that I was powerfully impressed with the idea, that my Master had a work for me to do in New Brunswick. The addition to your number during my pastorate, as stated in your address, of some 300 souls, and the circulation of not less than a million and a half of religious papers, each one bearing the glad tidings of salvation to a lost world, is satisfactory evidence to my own mind at least that such impression was not far astray. True the years I have spent among you have been years of anxious care, unremitting toil and self-sacrifice to a much greater extent than I anticipated when I came to the city; but in any humble measure I have been instrumental in advancing the interests of truth, of enlarging the circle of denominational influence and usefulness, and of leading precious souls to Jesus, I am satisfied. While conscious of manifold infirmities and short comings on my part, I should be guilty of the vilest ingratitude if I failed to acknowledge that "hitherto the Lord hath helped me."

When it pleased God more than a year ago to deprive me of my health and voice, my thoughts were immediately turned with anxious concern in reference to my successor, and it is to me an interesting fact that the first brother to whom I unbosomed my heart in confidence on this subject, after tendering my resignation to you, is found to be the one whom Providence had designed to become our pastor.

Rev. S. Robinson introduced Rev. H. Vaughan who said—"He was glad to learn that he was at liberty to be brief. All that was expected of him was that he should narrate the circumstances attending his conversion, and to speak of the time when he felt as though taken by the hand and pushed into the vineyard to labor for Christ. From early life he had been subject to religious impressions, had knelt at the family altar, and it could not be otherwise than that he should carry such impressions away with him. But, in time, these to a great extent, passed away. He left home, to enter on a course of study, careless and indifferent. At Horton there were those whose hearts had been touched by Divine love, who met from time to time to pray, and sometimes he met with them. There came a time when these felt their hearts stirred more deeply than they had been. As he listened to their fervent petitions he felt that there was something moving in their hearts that he lacked. He had not then said he could give up all for Christ. But at length there came a time when he could from his heart say—

"The dearest idol I have known,
What'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from Thy throne,
And worship only Thee."

Then came the joy of forgiveness, and that calm which none but Christ can spread over the soul. He could with certainty say, "I know whom I have believed." But there was the struggle. He had to come out before the world and acknowledge Christ. He yielded obedience to Christ's command, and was buried beneath the yielding wave in token of submission to his Divine Master, in 1856, and became a member of the church at Wolfville.

And now came a yearning for the salvation of those who surrounded him. He then realized his own sinfulness, and the responsible position he now occupied. He at once commenced to point some to the Lamb of God. His efforts, put forth in weakness, were to some extent successful. He soon felt "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel." To this end he pursued a course of theological study, at the close of which he received a call to the pastorate of the church at St. George, where he had been laboring for fifteen months.

Rev. E. B. DeMill delivered an address to the pastor.

He referred to the necessity for study, attention to health, his connection with the church, and with his ministering brethren.

The Rev. S. Robinson addressed the church on its privileges and duties.

The Rev. I. E. Bill then gave the right hand of fellowship to the Rev. Mr. Vaughan, and Rev. T. W. Crawley offered prayer.