

Religious Services.—The usual morning and evening prayers are regularly kept up. At the mission compound a hymn is sung, a portion of Scripture is read, and remarks are made; in the evening, each is expected to recite a portion of Scripture, after which prayer is offered. These devotions are conducted sometimes by myself, sometimes by the native assistant, sometimes by Mrs. Smith, and sometimes by visiting brethren.

Morning and evening prayers in the Chinese language are conducted at the poor house; Chek Pua conducts these devotions. He reads a hymn, which is sung, and then a portion of Scripture, after which he or one of the Chinese brethren offers prayer.

Morning prayers have been conducted daily, Sabbaths excepted, in the temporary workshop, situated on the mission ground, in the rear of the British Consulate, on which ground the new church edifice is being erected. After reading a portion of Scripture, brief remarks, prayers, and roll call, the workmen commence the labors of the day.

ASSAM.

EXTRACT OF LETTER FROM MR. BRONSON.

God has given me the privilege of baptizing the first Assamese, the first two of the Garrow tribe, and now the first Mikir. Thanks be to his holy name. He has granted his blessing when my unworthiness and failures in duty might have provoked his displeasure and prevented the blessing. I often feel a great delight in the work of the Lord. I would rather kindle up the fires of Christianity among these long benighted tribes, than to occupy the most honorable position at home. If among all your Insurance Companies at home you had one that would warrant the life and health of an old missionary for twenty years, I believe I should "join." By that time I believe that the hills and valleys of Assam will begin to be vocal with the praise of God. As it is, we must be laid aside; others will take up the work, but we will rejoice and be glad, for the time is coming when "they who sow, and they who reap, shall rejoice together."

Work of the Jubilee Year.—I pray God to bring up, on this year of Jubilee, the whole united strength of the churches to man the field as it should be, and to begin now with new zeal and greater enterprise, expecting a thousand fold greater success during the coming fifty years.

Are the young men of the churches ready to come? Are the churches ready to sustain them? "O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, that bringest good tidings, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the heathen, Behold your God."—*Missionary Magazine.*

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

FEDERAL OUTRAGES ON NOVA SCOTIANS.

DEAR SIR,—

You will doubtless benefit some of the young men of Nova Scotia, by publishing the following:

Cyrus Stevens is a son of mine of whom I wrote last fall in the *Messenger*. Your readers will recollect the efforts the Federals made to get him into the army, and of his going to the British Consul and getting protection papers made out. Yet shortly after that they placed his name on a list for a cavalry draft. To escape this second outrage he left for Kentucky, and was employed on government works until they were organizing a draft there, when he had again to leave and came on to Boston. Here he thought himself perfectly secure, and got a situation in a Dry-goods Store, at \$2 per day. This was in December last. He wrote home of his prospects. I wrote, advising him to come home, but heard nothing more of him until he came home on the 23rd of March. Having made his escape from the Federal Army, on the borders of the Tennessee, having travelled 150 miles on foot to the Ohio River, at Marysville, where they crossed and took the railroad to Toledo, thence through Canada to Portland, from there to St. John in steamer, and crossed the Bay in a sailing vessel got to Windsor. You will perceive he was not alone. The companion of his flight was kidnapped in New York, where he had a wife and two children. He was a Nova Scotian by birth, married in the States, was first drafted, but having been wounded in the head by a ball, which fractured his skull, he was discharged. Having so far recovered as to be able to attend to his business, from which he was returning home one evening, when he was knocked senseless by a blow on the back of his head and conveyed to New Hampshire, with scores of others abducted by different modes,—chloroform being one of the most common.

Cyrus had been in Boston three weeks; a young man boarded at the same house who hailed from St. John, N. B., but no doubt he was one of an organized set of villains who infest every state in the Union. They include doctors, offi-

cers in the Army, and men who hold responsible offices in the State, who are not above kidnapping and selling their victims at \$600 or \$700 a head.

But to return—this man invited Cyrus to accompany him on a visit to a sick aunt, a short distance off. That evening being Sabbath, and he, being a blacksmith, had no other time at his command, Cyrus went, without the least suspicion, although he had to give up going to meeting. Being a Member of the Baptist Church here, he united with the Baptists in the States when he could do so. He, the blacksmith, led the way to a house where the inmates appeared very kind. They pressed him to take some hop beer; Cyrus put the glass to his lips and knew nothing more until he found himself in New Hampshire, in prison with soldier's coat and pants on, with dozens more in the same plight. Expostulation was vain, some put their heads out of the window and called for aid, on which the guard shot one poor fellow through the head. They hurried them into the cars as soon as possible, as the inhabitants threatened to rescue the men they had so cruelly wronged. After the cars got under way, many jumped off and were maimed for life—one young man jumped off near a piece of woods and ran for his life; they fired and broke his leg, yet he hopped on the other into the woods. No further notice was taken of him. The heart grows sick in hearing the details of cruelty practiced in this unnatural war.

Cyrus was taken to camp with the rest, and remained there six weeks before he was able to effect his escape. He obtained a pass for himself and friend from the Captain for four hours, to go beyond the lines. They then threw their coats and pants away, having a light suit concealed beneath. They travelled by night shaping their course by the stars, and lay concealed in the woods by day. They had some hair-breadth escapes, being often a whole day without food. Cyrus had \$100 by him with his British protection, of which they had not robbed him, and which now was his best earthly friend, which he shared liberally with his companion in flight. They crossed rivers on rafts of logs and brush wood, which often sank until the water was over the top of their boots before they gained the opposite shore. They at length arrived at the Ohio River, at Marysville. Their clothes being torn to shreds they crossed over the river and purchased a suit of clothes for each, put them on immediately. A Federal Officer being in the store, watched them closely. They knew they were suspected and practiced the ruse of recrossing the river, and going into the town of Marysville, where there is a guard and soldiers quartered. Being now dressed in citizens clothes they were not suspected. After dark they crossed over and made their way to the railroad, from thence as before stated, to Toledo, and got a through ticket by way of Montreal to Portland.

And now, Mr. Editor, I would just say in conclusion, it is high time the British Government would speak out, and not allow her subjects with her protection in their possession, to be drugged, drafted, knocked on the head, kidnapped, abducted and spirited away after this manner. If we had a Cromwell in the place of Lord Lyons, there would not be so many outrages committed daily on British subjects, winked at by the American government, and the spoil shared by officers of both State and Army.

I trust this may be a warning to our young men. Let them seek employment at home, and not venture themselves in a country where there is no safety, and from which the inhabitants are flying by thousands to our own highly favoured colonies.

This has grown far beyond what I intended, and yet I have not given a tittle of the villainy practiced.

Yours truly,
JAMES W. STEVENS.

Stewiacke, April 2nd, 1864.

For the Christian Messenger.

DONATION VISITS.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I would wish through the columns of your valuable paper, to acknowledge the receipt of an excellent Donation visit, paid to myself and family, on the afternoon and evening of the 21st, by my Church and Congregation. After partaking of a refreshing tea provided by the ladies, the donation was presented by Ira Raymond, Esq., amounting to \$31 cash, and \$85.10c. in substantial articles, accompanied by an appropriate address, which was followed by like addresses from Revs. W. H. Richan, Wellington Jackson, and several other brethren, together with excellent Vocal Music, and enabled us to pass a most agreeable evening. May God reward the kind friends who have thus cheered us with their tokens of good will is the prayer of their pastor.

A. COGSWELL.

Beaver River, March 23rd, 1864.

Paradise, March 22nd, 1864.

MR. EDITOR,—

Allow me to acknowledge through your paper, the repeated donation visit of a very large number of my friends, the sum of \$145, was thus put into my hands, independent of my salary. The feeble expression of thankfulness we were able to give, was far below the feelings it created, and that still remain. The occasion was made pleasing and profitable by a number of addresses, by the ministering brethren who were present. May the God of donations soon make us a gracious visit, by the power of redeeming grace and dying love.

Ever yours,
N. VIDITO.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

DALHOUSIE COLLEGE DEBATE.

We should be very glad to be able to place before our readers the whole debate in the House of Assembly, on the Dalhousie College resolutions, and give the speeches as nearly verbatim as possible, that they might be preserved for future reference; as the question is yet far from being settled. But on looking over the official report, now partially published, we find that our own summary, as given in previous issues, contains the gist of them with the omission of but very few important points. The whole, too, would be so voluminous, that if copied into our columns, they would exclude much other important matter; and further, there would have to be a repetition of much of what has already appeared in our pages. We nevertheless believe, that the republication of the speech of the Hon. Attorney General, may be desired by many of our patrons, although we do not endorse the conclusions to which that honorable gentleman arrives. The following speech was given after those of Mr. Longley, and the Hon. Provincial Secretary, on Wednesday the 23rd ult.:

SPEECH OF THE HON. ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Hon. Mr. Johnston, after an interval of a few minutes, during which the cry of "Question" was frequent, next addressed the House. He said he found himself placed in the most painful position in which a man could be situated—that of being compelled to give a vote contrary to all his inclinations and all his feelings and all his interests. It would be to him one of the most heart-felt gratifications imaginable if he could be for a moment emancipated and enabled to take the side of his hon. friend and colleague, (Mr. Longley) and deal with the question as he thought it ought to be dealt with. He was, however, compelled by the action of the House at its last session to oppose the motion of his hon. friend because he did not see how it could be carried without involving consequences of a most serious nature—consequences that would lead to great injuries, not only to denominational bodies, but to individuals who were placed in certain positions on account of the legislation of last year. He deeply regretted that legislation, because he felt it placed this country in a situation much to be deplored, for it had launched the cause of education once more on the troubled sea of political discussion. He could not forget the scenes that had been presented in the House years ago when the great struggle was going on that agitated the country so long between the claims of one university to be established here, and denominational institutions to be scattered over the Province, and assisted by its resources. Neither could he forget the part which he himself took in the whole of these discussions, nor the eventful issue. That result, every one knew, was the successful establishment of denominational institutions and the placing of the higher education of the country in the hands of the religious bodies for the purpose of training the youth of the country at one and the same time in the elements of religious and secular knowledge. He was proud to look at the results of the course he had taken in the past; he believed nothing had tended more to the promotion of the best interests of the country than the establishment of education in the hands of the several religious persuasions.—Now those who were particularly interested in the support of these denominational institutions felt themselves called upon to oppose the legislation of last year; they believed that it was calculated to do them not only injustice but to place their institutions in an inferior and unequal position. He felt that this was a most unfortunate sentiment to prevail among a class of people whose intelligence gave them such great influence in moulding the sentiments of the people. His hon. friend had not spoken a single word too strongly upon the probable results of this controversy if it should be unhappily continued. The men who were at the head of this movement, necessarily from their position, ability and intelligence, must have great weight among the masses of the people. The very character of the question was one, he felt, that never failed to enlist strongly the sympathies of the people. When he looked at the petitions, and saw the names they contained he could not help feeling that they were subscribed by persons who were entitled to every consideration in the community. They were signed not by men of a single party, but of various denominations, not by men of one political party, but irrespective of political ties and sympathies. Therefore it was na-

tural that he felt that this question was entitled to the most serious consideration, and that there was every reason to deplore that such a controversy had unhappily grown up. The position which he occupied, he was convinced, was one that precluded him from voting for the passage of the resolution of his hon. friend. It was to repeal the act of last session, and to distribute the funds in some other manner. If that act had passed appropriating these funds for any other purpose than that for which they were originally designed—that is, education in its higher branches—there would be some reason upon which such an appeal should be made to the House. It might then be reasonably said that these funds were diverted to purposes for which they were never intended, and that the legislature was therefore unjustified and untenable. But that could not be said of the legislation of last year; for whether wise or unwise, it was directed to the purpose of raising Dalhousie College to the position of an educational institution imparting its benefits to the youth of the country without distinction of sect. He regretted that a measure so well intended, as that from which Dalhousie drew its origin, should be productive of so much trouble up to the present time. No one laboured more earnestly than its founder for the purpose of devoting its funds to the best interests of the country. He presumed the reason that prevented King's College from being removed to Halifax—when the offer alluded to by the Provincial Secretary was made—for the purpose of receiving the benefit of these funds, was that those who regulated its affairs did not see their way clear to adopt that wiser policy which has been more recently adopted, with results so entirely beneficial to the prosperity of the Institution.

A strange fatality seemed to accompany Dalhousie from its very commencement. It might be recollected that not many years ago, when it was attempted to place Dalhousie College once more upon a beneficial footing, its portals were closed against a particular Professor, because the religious denomination to which he belonged was deemed to be inconsistent with the objects for which the Institution had been originally designed. No mistake could have been greater, as regards the fact, nor as regards the deleterious influences that resulted. The attempts that had been made subsequently for the purpose of resuscitating Dalhousie College, one after the other failed of success, and it remained a blot and disfigurement in our educational history which all might well regret. It lay long a dilapidated hull, flung, as it were, on the ocean scarcely cared for, or with any one to manage it, until the legislation of last year took place. He was bound to say that when the proposal was made at the first, he was not ignorant of the negotiations which took place with his hon. friend the Provincial Secretary. He confessed he adopted the same judgment that had been come to by his hon. friend—that the best course that could be taken with a view to the general interests of education, was to accept the proposals, and make one more effort for the purpose of re-establishing Dalhousie upon a beneficial footing. It never occurred to him at the time, that the re-establishment of the Institution as a Provincial University, if it was kept free from sectarian influence and government, could be an injury to the denominational colleges, or would be a just cause of dissension. It was with great regret that he had seen the sentiment that had grown up, and he had no hesitation in saying that could be have imagined that it would have arisen, he should have felt it his duty to have prevented, as far as lay in his power, the legislation of last year. He had always regretted that the bill did not receive that consideration at the time of its passage in the House that it ought to have received. He did not believe the Government fulfilled the obligations that rested upon them to give the measure that prominence which it required. It was introduced, little or nothing was said about it, and it finally passed as one of the most insignificant measures. It passed in fact without his knowledge; for he had intended making some amendments, but when he enquired for it, he found that it had actually gone through. Now, if the bill had been called to the prominent attention of the House, and had been the subject of considerable discussion, the probability was that the feeling which now existed would have been prevented. He did not, however, wish it to be understood that would have opposed the bill. On the contrary, he believed the policy would tend to useful results, and never imagined it would give rise to the feelings it had actually originated. He would have been better satisfied if the different denominations had taken hold of it. His view had been that every effort should be made to place in a chair a Baptist, a Wesleyan, and a Church of England man, and so far from his judgment believing that such a course would injure the various denominational institutions, he had thought it would tend to support and strengthen them. But unhappily a different view was adopted, and the feeling that all must deplore was the result. When he acquiesced in the proposition that his friends, the Provincial Secretary, and Mr. Shannon and Mr. Ritchie, should go into the Government of the Institution, he felt the importance of the weight of their character, ability, and position—he did not care if they were in a minority, for he knew that so powerful a minority must make itself felt and respected. He fully appreciated the feelings of those who considered themselves injured at the course that had been pursued. It was not to be wondered at that those institutions which had grown up after years of difficulty, and with a comparatively small amount of Provincial aid—and that only obtained after a fierce and protracted struggle—should feel aggrieved when they perceive a single denomination in this Province, without any effort hardly upon their own part, taking posses-