

The Rev. Samuel Brawn had been ordained at Loughton, Essex, in the preceding December. He is there still. I have before me a copy of an "Address" delivered by him "at the celebration of the Jubilee of his Pastorate." Brother Brawn is in his 76th year.

The Rev. Samuel Green commenced his public ministry at Falmouth. He then laboured some years in Norfolk, after which he removed to the metropolis, and was associated in the pastorate with the excellent John Chin, whom he succeeded. He has now retired from pastoral duties, but preaches occasionally, and his pen is busily engaged in the good cause. He is the author of a "Biblical and Theological Dictionary," published by the Sunday School Union, which has had an extensive circulation, and has proved very serviceable to Sunday School Teachers. The Rev. S. G. Green, B. A., President of Rawdon College, is his son.

The Rev. George Pope was stationed for many years at Collingham, Nottinghamshire. He has withdrawn from active service, and resides at Aldborough, Suffolk. I should suppose that he is at least seventy-four years old.

One more of my fellow-students still survives, the Rev. C. T. Keen, now resident at Norwich. He has worthily served several churches. He has a son in the ministry.

With the exception just mentioned, my companions in study have finished their pilgrimage. And of the brethren, ministers, and deacons, and others who offered me their congratulations on that day, nearly all have "gone the way of all the earth." Drs. Hoby and Steane, who were then London pastors, are the only representatives of that class who are still living, and they have long ceased from pastoral labour. Of the Baptist ministers in Kent, my native county, but one remains. Were I to visit England again, I should find myself among strangers.

You will observe that there is no mention of a "Council." That mode of procedure is unknown in England. I had preached to the church in Dean Street for six months when I was invited to the pastoral office. On my acceptance, the church appointed the day of my ordination, and asked the ministers to take the parts assigned them in that service, with which request they complied. All the arrangements were made by the deacons, acting on behalf of the church.

Of my labours during these fifty years, by voice and by pen—in London—in Kent—in Sussex—at Montreal—and in this province, it is not for me to speak. I trust that some service has been rendered to the church of God. This only I will say, that the distinguishing tenets and practices of our denomination—its doctrinal peculiarities—its religious requirements—its church polity—all which "may be proved by most sure warrants of holy Scripture," become dearer to me the longer I live. "Stand ye in the way, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein." Our safety and success will depend under God, on our firm adherence to the ancient testimony. The love of Christ—the life of Christ—the laws of Christ—the glory of Christ;—Christ for us—Christ in us—Christ over us;—grace reigning—grace abounding—grace effectual—grace victorious:—these are the heads of our theology.

Looking back to 1818, I observe that Edward Manning was then at Cornwallis; Theodore S. Harding at Horton; Joseph Dimock at Chester; James Munro at Newport; Nathan Cleaveland at Onslow; Thomas H. Chipman at Nictaux; Thomas Ansley at Upper Granville; Harris Harding at Yarmouth. They also are gone, with many more.

Among the ordained Baptists ministers in this province, Dr. Tupper holds the first place. He was ordained July 17, 1817. It is my privilege to stand next to him. Both of us have been spared to see a Jubilee. By the grace of God, the next will be held in communion with "the church of the first-born."

Yours truly,
J. M. CRAMP.
Acada College, May 7, 1868.

For the Christian Messenger.

The French Mission.

The French Mission Board begs again to call the attention of the churches to the affairs of the mission.

The debt on the mission premises at Saulnierville, when we reported last year was \$1600. Since then it has been increased by fitting up the place &c., to about \$1900.

There has been subscribed in all for the payment of this about \$1200. If these sums subscribed are paid in, the Board will be able to meet their present engage-

ments to a large extent. They will also be prepared to engage another missionary; whose labors are much needed in this extensive field.

Very few of our churches have yet responded to our circular of Sept. last—During the winter our Missionary visited New Brunswick soliciting aid for us, with but little success. Our only hope therefore is in the blessing of God on your efforts. A list of the subscribers with the sums subscribed, will be forwarded to the Pastors or Clerks of the churches to which they belong, with the hope that these sums may be paid at the time specified.

Our Western Association meets on the 20th of June; between this and that time our French Mission Fund should receive such a lift as to make it an object of our warmest congratulations and gratitude at our coming anniversaries.

In behalf of the Board.

B. B. MOSES, Sec'y.

For the Christian Messenger.

New South Wales Correspondence.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Feb. 28th, 1868.

SERIOUS DROUGHT.—NEW YEAR.—WEEK OF PRAYER.—RAIN.—NAVAL RECEPTION OF H. R. H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.—SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—HORTICULTURAL DISPLAY.—BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—RAIL ROAD ACCIDENT.

DEAR SIR.—The continued absence of rain, for some time past in this colony, was awaking in many minds very serious apprehensions, and the city had visible cause to sympathise with the anxieties of the more remote districts, the supply from the water works at Botany Bay was diminishing to an alarming degree, so much so that the street watering was dispensed with for days, and the various municipalities thrown upon their own resources. Our philosophers and wise men shewed very conclusively that rain ought to come, the materials for it being so ample; there was the vast expanse of the Pacific Ocean, and the sun having the power of evaporation, a cloudless sky, aqueous vapors, in fact all the instrumentalities of condensation, but yet the precious fluid was stayed and proud man humbled.

The Annual Carnival of our city was celebrated as usual in seeing the Old Year out and the New Year in.

Devotional exercises were conducted in some of the city and suburban churches. The solemnity of the season aids the mind in its efforts to acknowledge the benefits of the past and to ask for strength to overcome the temptations of the future, and to remember His mission who brought peace and good will to man. These exercises contrasted strongly with the noise and gaiety which was predominant in the streets.

From every tower in Sydney and suburbs, in which there is a bell, the fact was announced at midnight, that the old year had expired and given birth to the new one of 1868, whilst some of the bells were jubilant all night. Old John Brown's memory was kept green and sacred, erratic Johnny, no doubt went home in a state anything else but desirable or consistent with propriety. Others were loud in recommending every one to "Paddle his own canoe."

Meetings for united prayer were held during the week. Monday the 6th, at the Baptist Chapel, Bathurst St., in connection with Rev. I. Voller's Valedictory, who has just left for England, his health having failed, I think. I told you that Rev. John Bunyan McCure had left for the same place, also Rev. G. Shepherd and Hibberd, all Baptist ministers, the latter to Tasmania, where a large and inviting field is open, whilst the labourers are few. So you may suppose our staff of Baptist preachers is smaller than usual. I think that I mentioned to you on a former occasion, that it was my opinion the Baptists in N. S. ought to enter and occupy N. S. Wales as a missionary field. Now is the accepted time for this enterprise which would result in great good to the people, and also produce a reflex influence on the churches at home. Language fails to describe to you the destitution as far as the Baptists are concerned, and there are many holding these sentiments all over these Colonies, New Zealand not excepted, which is a most inviting field for the Baptists. Also, in Queensland, a young and rising colony. Baptists are to be found in every part, but the spiritual dearth that is seen amongst them is great as in New Zealand. Ministers have been land jobbers and have amassed wealth, whilst souls are perishing. I have often been asked, Has Nova Scotia no men to spare for the supply of this

great country which is every year rising in importance? Other denominations are not so remiss. Surely Baptists of the Great Dominion of Canada ought to do something worthy of the name, and what enterprise could possibly be as benevolent as to establish a Mission to Australia? Then here are the South Sea Islands at our very doors, open also for Baptist preaching. Surely the fields are white and the labourers are few. I often get letters from our dear brother Murray, who with his amiable wife are Baptists, but who were compelled to continue with the London Missionary Society for the want of a Baptist Missionary Society.

But to return the meetings were held all through the week in the city, and suburbs, and earnest prayer for rain was offered. On the 8th the rain came in abundance, causing the earth to put on new beauty, every thing wearing a different aspect "O that men would praise Him for his goodness."

The commencement of 1868 has been quite memorable from the number of distinguished visitors. The Earl of Belmore, and suite, our new governor successor of Sir John Young and H. R. H., the Duke of Edinburgh, who also had a grand naval reception, the Merchant Steamships employed on the occasion amounting in aggregate to ten thousand tons, whilst the ordinary traffic steamers were not interfered with. The first welcome given at Port Jackson was by this fleet and a fine sight it was, the crowds who congregated on the shore of the harbor, or assembled at the heads, or were afloat in steamers and sailing boats bore testimony to the heartiness of the welcome accorded to the Prince. The marine illumination followed in the midst of falling rain. The whole of Fort Dennison, Fort Daws Battery, Fort McGuarrie, &c., were all lighted, also vessels of all descriptions. A singular novelty was instituted towards the last of the display, one of the harbor steamers was fitted up and illuminated as a fire *Dragon*, propelled through the fleet, discharging fiery combustibles from its mouth, Roman Candles squibs, &c. The day following H. R. H. landed at the grand triumphal arch, erected for his reception at an immense cost, amid the salutes of all the war ships in the harbor, and from Fort McGuarrie &c., and the acclamations of a multitude including most of the leading men in the colony both civil and religious. The procession was a most magnificent affair, tens of thousands from the country as visitors thronging the streets and thoroughfares; innumerable flags flaunted their gay colours, gigantic pictures and transparencies decked with all manner of gaudy colours greeted the eye at every turn. It was estimated that not less than 20,000 visitors were in the city, from different parts of the country, and they by far were the greatest sight seers. At night when the city was illuminated, and the transparencies lit up the crowds in the streets were astounding, it was computed that there was not less than from 90 to a 100,000 present. We with others did drive our carriage through some of the principal streets, but it was by the aid of a most vigilant Police who were stationed for that purpose to prevent confusion. The Sons of Temperance occupied quite a conspicuous place in the procession, and were not a whit behind other benevolent bodies either in regard to numbers, appearance or instruments of music, for in addition to their band, they were accompanied by 7 Highland Pipers. One thousand eight hundred of the Order of the Sons united in presenting an address to H. R. H. who in his reply applauded the principles of the Order—"Love, Purity and Fidelity." Four triumphal arches were erected and a Pavilion on Hyde Park for the accommodation of the Grand Ball, capable of accommodating 16,000 persons. The display of Horticultural products and specimens of Art in the Botanic Gardens was one of much interest. It was not limited to mere Horticultural productions. Works of Art, Photographic illustrations of botany and artificial flowers in wax, paper letters, models of steamboats patent anchors, superior harness, cordage from Australian trees, specimens of Soap, Candles, Boots and Shoes, preserved meat, and Colonial Wines, Kerosene, Shale and Ceresene Oil, &c. One exhibitor, Mr. Patterson, a Botanist, had a collection of not less than 200 specimens of commercial plants, including Tapioca, Sugar Cane, Tea, Sago, Palm, Ginger, Senna, and not a few of them are indigenous to Australia.

A Baptist Association for N. S. W. may appear almost an anomaly after so many of the ministers have left the colony, but there are a few churches still remaining that need support and concentration of effort; or

otherwise the name ceases to live, and we fear, will die out, and although it is a day of small things yet this is not to be despised for Union is strength, whilst the watchword of the enemy is divide and conquer. And if we have not got all that we could desire, a step is made in the right direction; and if we cannot all agree on all points we agree to differ. Inaugural meetings were held on Tuesday, 11th inst., at the Baptist Chapel, Castle Ray St., Sydney, of Delegates and others, for the purpose of forming a Baptist Association.

After special devotional exercises in which a number of persons engaged, it was unanimously agreed to form an Association of Baptist Churches, holding the Word of God as contained in the Holy Scriptures as the rule of faith, resting on the atonement of Christ as the only ground of salvation, and that the work of salvation is effected by the Holy Spirit. Five Baptist Churches entered the Association by their delegates, viz., that meeting in the Masonic Hall, York St., Newtown, Aurelian, Wallsend, Newcastle and Lambington. In the evening a public Tea Meeting was held to inaugurate the newly formed Association. Old Deacon Thomas Jones presided and addressed the meeting. The Inaugural or Circular Letter was read by Rev. Allen Webb. Deacon F. Palmer spoke on the constant zeal necessary in supporting the Church of Christ. Mr. Drury spoke on the work of the Holy Spirit; showing that there could be no salvation, no deliverance from the thralldom of sin but by the Spirit of God. Mr. Knibbs spoke on the Church in its first formation, &c. Mr. Lewell the Welshman, and your humble servant followed. I trust this will be the beginning of good days, so far as the Baptists are concerned. A Missionary Committee or Society was also instituted and a collection taken up. After which we adjourned to meet with the Baptist Church at Wallsend, Newcastle, the Association Sermon to be preached by your humble servant. Brother Allen Webb has recently removed to this place, and is a valuable acquisition to the Baptist cause. He was born and educated in India in the Church of England. He is pastor of York Street Baptist Church.

A fatal Railway collision at Newtown Station, the most serious that has lately happened on our railways, occurred on the 6th. The passenger train, due in Sydney at 8.40, was just leaving the station opposite our house, when the through goods train which followed came up before the first train had acquired much speed and ran into it causing a violent concussion. One passenger, a Mr. Falconer, a brother to the Station master at Newtown, was killed on the spot. A considerable number of ladies and gentlemen were seriously hurt. Most of the passengers were hurled by the violence of the concussion, from one end of the carriages to the other. Many jumped out of the carriages, panic-stricken. The utmost consternation prevailed, for the concussion was so sudden and unexpected that many attempted to extricate themselves before the carriages had acquired full speed. More persons were injured by jumping out of the carriages, and considering the nature of the place it was very providential that many more were not killed. One carriage was smashed to atoms and others were more or less injured, whilst hundreds of people were crowding on the line, some to ascertain the extent of the accident, others to lend assistance to remove the killed and maimed. Here was the prospect of another and most appalling accident, had not a man with much presence of mind ran on the line toward Sydney and apprised the engine driver of the 9 o'clock train from Sydney of what had occurred, and the crowded state of the line near the Newtown Station. About 400 persons go in by the train every morning, merchants, clerks, &c., from Newtown and other towns on the line, but this train was occupied by clerks, &c., who go to the city at an earlier hour.

It is needless to state as to who was to blame for the disastrous occurrence. The passenger train was five minutes late in arriving at Newtown or in leaving Newtown. It was positively ascertained that the caution signal was exhibited to warn the approaching luggage train. Others say that the signals were not up, but it was proved at the inquest the signals were all right at the station, but at Petersham Station, a couple of miles further on, the signal was not visible, so that the Station master and the engine driver of the luggage train were both indicted for manslaughter, but the Jury have cleared them. The luggage train was going about 28 miles an hour, and very long and heavily