

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, OCTOBER 14, 1868.

The work among the New York Roughs.

The Rev. John Francis, of California, formerly of this province, wrote us from New York on the 1st inst. Although his letter was not written for publication, yet it contains two or three items in reference to the above movement, which, we believe, will interest many of our readers.

Our warm-hearted Welsh brother gives us his impressions concerning the work now going on among those who have been regarded as the outcasts of that great city:

Dear Bro. Selden.—It would have afforded me much pleasure to have visited Halifax when in the Provinces, but I failed to reach beyond Windsor.

You are so well-supplied by your exchanges respecting current matters in this city, &c., that it is unnecessary for me to write, but as there are different reports in circulation respecting the Water Street revival that I may say that I have no doubt of its being a great work of grace. I have worshipped in the "Allen" Dance House, and the Kit Burns Rat Pit, and felt the presence of the Holy Spirit sweetly and powerfully. I have seen and heard the ex-prize fighters, with the marks of their profession on their faces, while the love of God was evidently within their hearts.

You will see by the Examiner & Chronicle many cheering proofs of the efforts put forth.—A wide and effectual door has been opened, but there are many adversaries. We cherish prayerful and loving remembrances of all our Christian friends in Nova Scotia, and hope to have a continued interest in their prayers.

Respectfully and affectionately,

JOHN FRANCIS.

We presume that the movement in the Dance houses and Rat-pits is the only way by which such characters as their former occupants can be reached. Meetings are held daily in these places, the results of which are very gratifying. One of the cases of conversion given in a New York paper is as follows:

"In a prayer meeting a few evenings ago, a young man of intelligent appearance gave the following account of himself: 'I was born in New Brunswick in the British Provinces. My father is dead; he was a christian, and is now in heaven. My mother is still living, I believe although I have not written for four years. Seven years ago I entered college. At the outbreak of the rebellion I enlisted in the service of the United States. In the army I learned to drink and gamble. At the close of the war I came to New York. I have supported myself in a very reckless life by gambling. A week ago I went to the noon-day prayer-meeting at John Allan's on Water-street, to make sport; the prayers and exhortations took such hold upon me that my sinful life came up before me and made me very wretched. I thought of the prayers of my dear mother, and went away in great distress. I determined to shake off these feelings, and began to drink harder than ever; I partially succeeded. On the following Sunday a man came into my boarding house and handed me a tract; I refused to read it, and folding it, threw it on the floor. Shortly after, a blind man came into the room and brushed it with his foot. He stooped and picked it up, and handing it to me asked me to read it. I could not refuse a blind man's request and read it for him. It was headed, 'Are you stifling your Conscience?' As I read, every word went like a dagger to my heart. When I read it, I went up stairs and fell on my knees crying for mercy. I there resolved I would reform, that I would not taste another drop of liquor, but in the morning got to some minister for advice. When I came down stairs I was met by the request, 'Come, it's your turn to treat now.' I said, 'Boys, I'm going out.' They said, 'Well, you'll treat before you go.' I refused, and went out. I did not return until they had all retired. Early in the morning I left the house. That day I went again to the Water Street prayer meeting. When an invitation was given for those who desired the prayers of the meeting to manifest it by holding up the hand, although I felt deeply, I had not the courage to do it. At the close of the meeting I sought one of the leaders of the meeting and laid my case before him, and O how I bless God I ever saw him. He sympathized and prayed with me. That was yesterday, and to-night I am here, blessed be God! I wrote yesterday to my dear mother, and I know she will pray for me. And now here in the sight of Almighty God, I solemnly vow to renounce the devil and all his works and live a Christian life."

THE REV. ALBERT BARNES, the author of so many Biblical volumes, is paying a visit to the British Provinces for the purpose as we understand of gaining a residence in the British Dominions, and thereby being able to secure the copy right of his Commentary on the Psalms. In St. John, N. B., he was met by the christian ministers and several gentlemen of that city who presented him with an address of welcome and expressed their veneration for one who had for a long lifetime employed his talents to such good purpose.

Dr. Barnes in reply, said that he had been quite taken by surprise, and that he was deeply affected with this unexpected expression of good-will in this city of strangers. He touchingly referred to the eulogistic references which had been made by previous speakers to his life and labors, and said that his life-work was about closed. That he was within a few months of seventy years, the age commonly allotted to man, and that in consequence of physical disability he had resigned the pastorate of his church in Philadelphia, and had been compelled to rest from all labor and study; that having completed his work he was waiting the call of his Master. That what he had accomplished in life had been performed under the guidance of an unseen hand—his course had been entirely different from what he had intended when he entered upon life's duties. He was then a sceptic in sentiment, and designed to follow the profession of the law; but by the grace of God he was converted to Christianity, and led to enter the gospel ministry. He had no thought at that time that he would ever be able to write anything which mankind would read with interest; but without any fixed plan he had written books, and he was now amazed at the success which had attended them. The most of these works had been prepared before he took his breakfast in the morning, so as not to interfere with his pastoral work; that he had enjoyed very great pleasure in writing them, and if they had done good, to Jehovah, and not to him, belonged the glory. When summoned to the spirit-world he should have nothing to rely upon but the atoning blood of the Lamb.

Dr. Barnes is expecting to visit Nova Scotia. Should he reach Halifax we doubt not he will find many here who would be pleased to welcome him and have an interview with one from whom, through his writings, they have received much instruction and profit.

A Baptist Tract Society.

We perceive by the N. B. Visitor that our brethren in St. John have formed themselves into a N. B. Baptist Tract Society. Finding that the general Tract Societies, which are necessarily non-denominational, failed to supply the denominational literature required, they have united together for the purpose of providing, in a cheap form, such small works as may set forth the distinguishing views held by Baptists.

Some such movement in Nova Scotia would be very desirable. Such literature might be obtained at a cheaper rate by a Society than by individuals. Much good might be done by such a combination by purchasing, publishing, and circulating that kind of literature which would not be likely to get before the public generally except by some such measure.

(From the Presbyterian Witness.)

BAPTIST HISTORY: FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH TO THE CLOSE OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY. BY J. M. CRAMP, D. D. LONDON: ELLIOT STOCK. SOLD BY S. SELDEN, HALIFAX.

Dr. Cramp wields a facile pen. His style is easy and fluent, but also terse. He rarely uses a superfluous word. His writings are all and always readable, and worth reading. The book before us will be widely popular. Baptists may well accept it as a standard history, a safe guide through the eighteen Christian centuries. Other Christians will find here in small compass the Baptist view of Church history and of Baptist history. We wish some one would do a service like this for the Presbyterian Churches. We differ widely from Dr. Cramp's views of some portions of Church history. We have marked passages in this volume to which we have very grave objections both on theological and historical grounds, and to these we hope soon to return. Meanwhile we thank Dr. Cramp very cordially for placing within the reach of the public so comprehensive a work on a subject so important. Every branch of the Church of Christ should be acquainted with every other branch. The more we know of each other's aims and struggles, the more will we sympathize with each other, and the more surely shall the walls of separation become thinner and still thinner, even until all who love the one Lord shall gather under His glorious banner. We know that the Baptists have done noble work for Christ in many lands, and that they are doing so now. It is only right that we all should know and acknowledge this. The same assertion can be made of the Presbyterian Churches and of many more. Let us be thankful that it is so, and recognize true work and faithful workers wherever we may find them. Dr. Cramp's History contains many chapters with which the keenest Presbyterian critic need find no fault. He has a firm hold on the leading threads of ancient and middle-age history. He tells his tale with wonderful graphic power.—We cordially recommend Presbyterians, especially ministers, to read this book. It contains much that all should know and that cannot be easily got at from other sources.

The History is finely printed and illustrated with several engravings.

GRAND PRE SEMINARY.—The October Examination in connection with this Institution took place on Friday, 9th inst., and as usual was highly creditable to all of the parties concerned. It indicated the thoroughness and efficiency necessary to a high state of mental culture, and which must attend the efforts of those who seek to make themselves proficient.

The questions on the various branches examined were such as appealed to a comprehensive knowledge of them, and the manner in which they were answered, shewed that there had been no lack of exertion on the part of the Teacher to impart that instruction which was evidently appreciated and well understood by the Pupil. It may be unnecessary to make any special reference to the examination in any one branch, but the exercises of the classes in Rhetoric and Natural Philosophy were particularly interesting and evinced an extensive knowledge of the respective subjects.

It is gratifying to learn that this Institution is in a prosperous condition. Its staff of Teachers is efficient. Mr. Blair the enterprising director spares no pains in promoting the comfort and happiness of all connected therewith. The Institution presents superior facilities to young ladies who wish to pursue an enlarged course of mental cultivation.

SIGMA.

Wolfville, Oct 10th.

General Intelligence.

Province of Nova Scotia.

The Provincial Industrial Exhibition.

The past week has been one of no ordinary character in Halifax. It has perhaps never had so large a number of people in it, at one time since it became a city. From every part of the country they have come and obtained some sort of accommodation. But few families probably, that did not have some one or more staying with them. The capabilities of the railroad for conveying passengers have been pretty well tested. The city rail cars have been packed with men and women, as each train arrived from the country.

The rain on Monday delayed the work of preparation considerably. Still large numbers were at work, and resumed their labors on Tuesday morning. The weather cleared up about noon, and presented a more cheering aspect. The ground was nevertheless not considered in a fit state to have the opening exercises out-of-doors. A raised platform in the Drill shed, was therefore the place from which the speeches were made, and the ceremony of opening was accomplished. His Excellency Sir Hastings Doyle, Admiral Mundy, the Bishop, the Chief Justice, and the other Commissioners, arrived about 2 o'clock, and took their places on the platform.

The Chief Justice, Chairman of the Commissioners of the Exhibition, read an Address to His Excellency, requesting him to formally open the Exhibition.

The Lieutenant Governor in his Reply, noticed the design of the exhibition, and spoke of the agricultural, mineral and other resources of the province.

Bishop Binney then offered prayer; and a choir comprising the ladies and gentlemen of two church choirs, and individuals from others, sang a fine piece of music called "Trinity."

The Chief Justice then made a speech of about half-an-hour's length, drawing comparisons between the productions of Nova Scotia, and those of other countries, referring especially to the horses of Prince Edward Island. At the close the choir sang Mozart's, "Glory be to God in the highest," and "God save the Queen." High eulogiums were passed upon this part of the ceremony.

IN THE DRILL SHED

were the manufactured articles, the machinery, the fruit, the flowers, the furs, and the works of art. In an adjoining room were a number of very handsome carriages.

THE HORSES AND CATTLE, SHEEP AND PIGS were in the Governor's field, adjoining in temporary sheds erected all around the sides. In the centre of the field was a very tasteful and brilliant pagoda of two stories, and decorated with a vast number of flags, near which was the stand for the military band, which played each afternoon. During each evening the Volunteer or the Protection Society's band played in the Drill Shed.

The vegetables and agricultural implements were on the grounds used for the Volunteer Artillery practice. It would be impossible for us to offer any thing like a full and fair criticism of the goods displayed, except in the most cursory manner.

THE CATTLE SHOW was pretty much all that could be desired. The fat oxen were very fine, and the bulls, both in number, symmetry, and size, were probably such as have never before appeared together in this province. The cows did not appear to advantage after seeing either of the former. Nor were there many well-formed handsome animals. Several of the horses on exhibition were handsome, but generally they were not very large. The colts were neatly shaped, some of them fine animals for their age. The carriage-horses did not remain on the

grounds, or they might have improved the general appearance of this department. There were three or four pairs of noble draft horses belonging to Messrs. Moir, Starr, and Lavers.

IN FRUIT

the apples commanded the largest share of attention, as they did of space.—The quantity displayed was not so large as some shows have been in the apple-growing counties, but the specimens were magnificent. There were also some Canada apples, which, however, for size could not compare with those raised in this province.—The following are the weights of these respectively:

- 6 Apples, Nova Scotia (Gravenstein)—weight 3 lbs, 1 1/2 oz.
- 6 do Ontario do—weight 1 lb, 15 1/2 oz.
- 6 do Nova Scotia Baldwins—weight 3 lbs, 3 1/2 oz.
- 6 do Ontario do—weight 2 lbs, 13 oz.
- 12 do Nova Scotia Belle Fleur—do. 6 lbs, 3/4 oz.
- 12 do Ontario do—do. 3 lbs 7 oz.
- 6 do Nova Scotia Gloria Mundi—do 5 lbs 2 1/2 oz.
- 6 do Ontario do—do. 2 lbs, 13 1/2 oz.
- 6 do Nova Scotia King of Tomkins County—do. 4 lbs, 1 1/2 oz.
- 6 do Ontario do—do 2 lbs, 12 1/2 oz.

One Nova Scotia Gloria Mundi weighed 1 lb and was 13 3-8 inches in circumference.

There were 554 apples on exhibition and 236 different varieties. Three bunches of black grapes and three of white, raised by W. Cunard, Esq., were very large, and were placed in most tempting positions. There were also fine grapes from several other places, some of which were grown in the open air.

The Dartmouth factory had some excellent blankets and cloths, equal to imported articles.—A very compact loom belonging to Mr. George Creed, of Rawdon, was also on exhibition, and at work part of the time. Next a case of hats and caps of Everett Bros. manufacture. Alex. Robinson shewed a fine assortment of galvanized shipping gear. Next come bells for doors, then stoves, and then two steam engines, the largest of which is of 40 horse power, from Montgomery's establishment at Freshwater.

Moir shewed a great variety of fancy bread and biscuit, next to which was the golden butter, and cream cheese, pronounced by the connoisseurs such as could not be beaten. Stephens had a clever arrangement of a sofa bedstead—more complete and handsome than has been heretofore manufactured, and may be had from \$12 to \$20 according to the covering.

It must have been evident to those who reflected upon what did not appear in the Exhibition, that much more might have been done if all the mechanics of the city had been in full and hearty sympathy with it, and had taken up the matter earnestly and in time. Muir had finely bound blank books, and Mackinlay a display of school books, maps, pictures, and apparatus.

There was a table of imported vases, and another of statuary, highly ornamental; but not being manufactured here, were no indication of our progress in that line. Also of gold and silver manufactures. Mr. Cornelius was the only contributor of his own handiwork in this department. Some excellent articles of pottery from New Glasgow were shewn.

A stand of plants and flowers from Harris' Nursery was much admired. The variegated leaves of many shewed that the latest and most fashionable varieties were to be had here as well as in the more favorable climates. We might say much more respecting this great display of the works of Nature and Art, but perhaps our readers will prefer a glance at the list of Prizes given to exhibitors. We therefore appropriate our remaining space to the more important particulars in the

PRIZE LIST.

HORSES.

- Best thorough-bred stallion, 4 years old and upwards, \$50.00, Board of Agriculture, Halifax.
- 2nd. do. do. 30.00, William Church, Cornwallis.
- Best stallion for agricultural draught purposes, 4 years old and upwards, 30.00, William Monroe, Pictou.
- 2nd. do. do. 20.00, Charles McDonald, Antigonish.
- 3rd. do. do. 15.00, James McKay, Pictou.
- Best stallion for trotting, carriage or road, 4 years and upwards, 30.00, Alexander Cochran, Newport.
- 2nd. do. do. 20.00, James Balfour, Pictou.
- 3rd. do. do. 15.00, Hon. W. A. Henry, Halifax.
- Best stallion for agricultural draught purposes, 3 years and under 25.00, Edward Rossley, Beaver Bank.
- 2nd. do. do. 20.00, Hugh McLean, Douglas.
- Best pair matched carriage horses, in carriage, 80.00, Jeremiah Northup, Halifax.
- 2nd. do. do. 25.00, William Casey, Halifax.
- 3rd. do. do. 20.00, Hon. W. A. Henry, do.
- Best pair draught horses tested on draft, 30.00, Thomas Lavers, Halifax.
- 2nd. do. do. 25.00, W. C. Moir, do.
- 3rd. do. do. 20.00, Mr. Yeadon, North West Arm.
- Best thorough-bred brood mare, 40.00, Joseph J. Northup, Halifax.
- Best brood mare for breeding horses for agricultural draught purposes, 40.00, John Chambers, Newport.
- 2nd. do. do. 30.00, Thomas Parker, Musquodoboit.
- 3rd. do. do. 20.00, John Pemberton, Windsor.
- Best brood mare for breeding horses for trotting, road or carriage purposes, 40.00, Hon. R. A. McHaffey, Windsor.
- 2nd. do. do. 30.00, E. C. Banks, Stewiacke.
- 3rd. do. do. 20.00, Walter Armstrong, Aylesford.
- Best saddle horse, mare and gelding, under saddle, 20.00, John Stairs, Halifax.
- 2nd. do. do. 15.00, Hon. W. A. Henry, do.
- 3rd. do. do. 10.00, Jonathan Rand, Cornwallis.
- Best stallion for trotting, carriage or road, 3 years and under, 25.00, Colin Ross, Antigonish.
- 2nd. do. do. 20.00, W. H. Burbridge, Cornwallis.
- 3rd. do. do. 15.00, Leonard Maxner, Windsor.
- Best stallion of any age or breed, 60.00, Wm. Church, Cornwallis.