

indices of religious activity, they may safely be added to the numerous other indications manifest both in the East and the West—in Halifax and in Winnipeg and in various intermediate districts—that the young Dominion is entering on an era of unexampled prosperity and material progress. Whatever may be the conflict of opinion still existing in regard to the real merits of the confederation policy—a conflict into which I do not wish to enter—it can scarcely be denied that one result of our new political alliance, has been to stimulate enterprise and laudable ambition in many departments of manufacture and commerce all over the Dominion. May the career of our young nation be one of peace, and may all her history be rendered illustrious by the exhibition in large measure of the spirit of honest industry, domestic and social virtue, and the "righteousness which exalteth a nation!"

J. E. W.

For the Christian Messenger.

## LETTER FROM JAMAICA.

FOUR PATHS, CLARENDON, JAMAICA,  
Aug. 8th, 1870.

Dear Brother,—

I do not purpose writing my autobiography; I have tried, though with many a failure, to imprint it upon "monuments more enduring than brass;" I hope to retrace some fragments of it, amid amaranth groves, by the streams of bliss. In the present communication, whatever may be the secret promptings, I only hope that self may not sufficiently appear to neutralize the impression I desire to make.

I am interested in the cause of Missions. I have sometimes felt a thrill of yearning, till the grateful tear stole to my cheek, to proclaim Christ to the benighted. And when surrounded by the warm sympathies and ready kindness of a too fond, but equally beloved people, my only sense of unrest or of yearning, rose from the increasing hope and impression, that the Master had some riper, richer harvest for me to gather for him. Often, when reading Missionary reports, or attending Missionary meetings, has the language of Mr. Armstrong, a Secretary of the American Missionary Union, come to me, "Brethren there are too many of us here." Strangely to us, and doubtless to many who know us, in the mysterious workings of a wise and gracious providence, the nest so soft, was stirred for us; and the same hand and voice directing anciently, "Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee," seemed no less direct and imperative to us.

Being advised to the trial of a warmer climate for my wife's failing health, I wrote to Bro. Phillippo of Spanish Town, Jamaica, the only Baptist that I knew of in the West Indies, to enquire whether there was any opening for me to preach, and receive remuneration during my visit of a few months to Jamaica, as I was not able to go without such a prospect, and I did not wish to be idle for so long a time. His answer assured me of his willingness to render any personal assistance or advice in his power, as also that of his son—a noble hearted and very skillful physician—but as to the prospect of my labouring, the harvest was plentiful enough, but money was scarce and times were hard; yet should we decide to come throwing ourselves upon Providence, he doubted not, that our bread would be given us, and our water would be sure. Although the High and Lofty One, whose name is I Am, had written the same words to us, yet receiving them from the pen of a brother mortal seemed to encourage us.

With this prospect, feeling assured of our ripeness for the change, in the arrangements of Providence, we let go and fell off. Cutting the anchor of all human certainties, we cast ourselves adrift upon God's sea of Providence. Never did life's winds seem more soft and gentle. Never the waves more calm. Never had we felt more independent, settled, and contented. Gratitude, rather than assurance, took possession of our hearts, when on arriving at Wolfville, we received communication from Bro. Phillippo, that Mr. Clagden, the minister of Clarendon was dead, leaving a very large and interesting district destitute, and if we were still thinking of coming to Jamaica, to come immediately, or to write him when we could. Strange Providence! We were then on our way. Even when the long sea-roll made the soul sick, till it abhorred all manner of meat; even when the low cabins and hard mattresses, dearly bought of the old quarantine hulk, made us contrast the high ceilings, and soft feathers of the deserted nest; even when the drear wet season, kept us among strangers, still fettered from our work, even all through, till the dark cloud grew glorious with bursting light, we never wavered for a moment in the confidence that God was leading us to Jamaica. Was it the promise verified, "Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established?" Never have we regretted that we came. I

still am as interested as ever in my native Province. I am interested in the young men of our Ministry. I know the power and subtlety of their temptations—hence their dangers. I know a little too of the prospects big with glory, open before them. I am interested in the spiritual condition and prospects of the churches; but I have thought that nothing would be more conducive to the increased zeal and consecration of the Ministry, and to the increased spiritual prosperity of the churches, than for some of our young men, fired with the true Missionary zeal, to go forth and labor among the dark and perishing. True, they would be missed and their loss felt where their labors are already much required, but the increase of Missionary zeal, even in its reflex influence, would be more than equivalent. In my articles on "Our Foreign Mission," I remember to have given as a reason for the choice of Siam as a field of labor, the immediate and extensive prospect of success among that people,—surely we would not pass the water from one actually thirsting to another who desired it not. May I not speak for the land of my adoption, so recently the land of darkness, cruel idolatry, and slaves? In scarcely any portion of the world, have Missionary labors met with more encouraging success. The churches have become largely, and are increasingly self supporting, while their Institutions of learning, and at least the African Mission, receive their aid. And yet in the very field of labor which I occupy, fully sufficient for the labors of another man, I know of scarcely any place, where promise of a richer harvest seems to wait the worker's toil. If a live Missionary would only come to Clarendon and take a portion of this field, and N. S. Baptists assist him for a year or two, I think the means and labor would return abundant satisfaction for their outlay.

I am urged to restrict my labors to a portion of the field by the desires of the people, and by the prospect of success on every hand. But what am I to do? To leave a portion of the field, I must leave it destitute. "The harvest truly is plentiful," and still we hear the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us." The climate too is favorable for the disease which threatens blight to the flower of our Province. Consumptives thrive on Jamaica air. Do not take the statement without reasonable limitations, though personally I should praise the climate, for its benefit to me and mine.

The first of August, the Anniversary of emancipation has come and gone. Being 30 miles removed from Bro. Phillippo my nearest white ministerial Baptist neighbor, and my colored brethren being pre-engaged in their own fields, it has been a pleasure and a privilege for me to enjoy the mutual interchange of help and fellowship, with brethren of the Independent, Presbyterian, Wesleyan and Episcopalian bodies. Indeed the cordiality and kindness of these brethren could not have been more warm and hearty had they been all Baptists, or I one of themselves. On Tuesday at the Independent Missionary meeting, where there were four ministers of that body, a Wesleyan and an Episcopalian, we had a very pleasant profitable time, and I only had to close my eyes to the peculiar architecture, and the black listening throng, for the language to transport me to far distant and familiar scenes. On Thursday we met with the Presbyterian brethren, where the christian kindred seemed more warm and tender than by marriage ties. The brethren made us feel the beauty and the meaning of the 133rd Ps. Our meeting was at Zion, and truly "there the Lord commanded the blessing." On Friday, brethren of the Presbyterian and Independent bodies kindly assisted me at one of my own stations, where the meeting was well attended, interesting and profitable. Thus the week passed springing with streams of good.

Truly in view of all God's goodness, we have abundant reasons for gratitude and praise, and feel increasing confidence in the promises "Commit thy way unto Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass." "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Yours truly,

W. H. PORTER.

I have received cordial greetings, by letters of welcome, from many of the brethren here, and am almost longing for the annual gatherings, when I hope to meet with them.

Our N. S. mail has just arrived bringing us letters, and the Messengers. "Truly our cup runneth over." The Messengers seem replete. "As cold water to a thirsty soul so is good news from a far country."

W. H. P.

For the Christian Messenger.

## IN MEMORIAM.

MISS MARY LOUISA CHESLEY,

died at Clarence, on the 3rd of May, 1870, of consumption, aged 23 years.

The deceased professed religion about 8 years ago, and was baptized upon a profession of her faith into the fellowship of the Baptist Church in Wilmot, by the Rev. N. Vido. For a number of years she was engaged as a school teacher, and in this position her duties were discharged conscientiously and faithfully. She aimed to promote the spiritual as well as the intellectual advancement of her pupils, by whom she was greatly beloved.

Christianity with her was more than a name or profession—it was a living principle influencing her daily life. In her death the church and community have lost a valued member, and her beloved family circle one of its choicest treasures. May divine grace sustain the bereaved, and may all learn from her early removal to "be also ready."—Com.

## Dominion and Foreign News.

TORONTO, Sept. 23.—The Intercolonial Railway Commissioners left Ottawa on Wednesday for a trip over the Intercolonial, using waggons for conveyance.

Sir John A. McDonald arrived at Ottawa yesterday morning.

A meeting was held in Montreal yesterday for the purpose of presenting General Lindsay with a farewell token of esteem.

The Tyne Crew intend sailing for England tomorrow.

OTTAWA, Sept. 24.—The Governor General will leave Quebec for the West on the 3rd proximo. He will attend the Provincial Exhibition in Toronto, at which several members of his Cabinet will be present.

The corner stone of the new County hall was laid to-day with Masonic honors.

## LATEST FROM EUROPE.

## THE WAR IN EUROPE.

LONDON, Sept. 21.—There are now four hundred thousand Prussians before Paris, and one hundred and fifty thousand between Metz and Rheims. Gen. Von Moltke proposes to starve Paris into a surrender.

The troops of King Victor Emmanuel have taken possession of Rome. The Papal forces made a slight resistance to the advance of the Italians, but His Holiness the Pope ordered them to cease firing.

The London "Times" is still hopeful that peace will soon be declared between France and Prussia.

It is said that Bismarck has receded from his recent extravagant demands as a basis for peace negotiations. Fourteen of the ex-Emperor Napoleon's horses were sold yesterday.

A despatch from Tours says a Prussian column of 30,000 sustained a serious check on Monday, in a third attempt to cut the line of the Orleans railroad at Vissons. The victory clears for the present the Orleans line, which is the only communication between Paris and the provinces now open.

The surrender of Rome to the Italian army is hourly expected.

A letter from Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer to the London "Times," reproaches the English Government for its apathy in the cause of peace, and has produced a great change in public sentiment. The ministry are justly in reproach.

The Italians entered Rome yesterday, after a brief resistance from Papal troops, the Pope himself ordering the latter to surrender. The event creates great rejoicing throughout Italy.

The French claim some success in recent engagements with the Prussians. The latter threaten Orleans.

Bismarck and Jules Favre are reported to be discussing the peace question, with favorable prospects of an agreement.

The late Emperor is about to issue an address to the French people.

The Committee of Defence is having an uneasy time owing to the hostility of the Reds. There has been no more serious fighting. The Italians hold Rome in quietness. The Pope's corps of Zouaves is totally disbanded, and the men distributed to their homes.

Sept. 23.—The siege of Paris has commenced. The fortifications at Vincennes have been abandoned by the French. The Prussian guns at Sceaux now command the southern part of Paris. A severe action has occurred at Chantillon, in which the Prussians claim a victory.

Rome is now completely occupied by Italian troops. The Pope has been permitted to retain a guard of his late troops of Italian birth. The rest have been dismissed. Popular demonstrations of approval continue.

There is intense excitement at Barcelona and other cities on the Mediterranean coast regarding the report of a virulent type which is spreading rapidly in all directions.

Information received destroys all hope of peace. Jules Favre expressed his willingness to accede to the plan to satisfy Prussia by accepting a Representative Assembly, but the King of Prussia's Counsellors positively refused an armistice, and will make peace only on the terms of retaining possession of the districts now occupied, until terms be ratified by a Constituent Assembly.

Although the question of terms has not yet been reached, Favre informs his associates in the Government, that the cession of Alsace will be the ultimatum of Prussia, and he has little hope of the success of his mission.

The prolonged stay of Favre in the Prussian camp is considered here evidence that he is coming to terms with Bismarck.

Special reports from Paris report that the reign of the Reds may supersede the present authority at any moment.

Russia is in motion to seize the Black Sea, and probably the Dardanelles. A war between the Czar and the Sultan is imminent.

Sept. 24.—Bismarck has issued a circular to the ministers of other nations in which Germany is justified in demanding Alsace and Lorraine.

The rumored alliance between Russia and Austria for absorbing a part of Turkey causes great uneasiness.

The English authorities are exhibiting extraordinary activity in forwarding munitions of war to Malta and Gibraltar.

Sept. 25th.—The reported disturbance within the walls of Paris is absolutely untrue. Communication between Paris and Tours is totally suspended except by the hazardous service of Balloons.

Sept. 26.—Prospects of peace seem more distant than ever. Germany is equipping her armies for a winter's campaign. France contemplates a levy en masse.

The Prussians have apparently concluded to abandon the St. Denis side, and their movements now look as though they intended to attack at Sieaux.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The following are the ages of the leaders of the conflicting armies:—Emperor Napoleon, 62; Marshals McMahon, 63; Bazaine, 59; Canrobert, 61; King William of Prussia, 73; Crown Prince 39; Prince Charles, 42; General Moltke, 70.

NAPOLEON is reported to have laid aside a magnificent fortune to be enjoyed in some quiet country in the event of his being driven from Paris. The Chicago Tribune says:—

Our London correspondent assures us, as an ascertained fact that the Emperor Napoleon has enough money invested in the English funds to yield him an annual income of \$100,000. This sum, capitalized at the English rate of interest, represents over £3,000,000. He also estimates that the Emperor has as much invested in other countries. The means by which Napoleon has been enabled thus to accumulate this vast fortune were very simple. For twenty-five years he has had his hand in every Bourse. He could depress the funds with a frown, sink them to zero with a threat, and render them buoyant again with a smile and a promise. That he has used this power for his personal profit is not surprising. He has always had his throne upon a mine. He has never felt any security, save that which the bayonet conferred. His reign has been one of force throughout; and it is but natural that clothed with the power to manipulate the funds of all Europe to suit his own interests, he has done so to build this immense fortune for the future.

Fourteen million copies of Spurgeon's sermons are reported to have been sold in England, and three hundred thousand in America; and Spurgeon is but thirty-six years old.

In Illinois, a congregation lately expressed its satisfaction with its pastor, in the form of a present of eighty-nine dozen eggs. A minister in Maine is reported to have received from his people on one occasion, "thirty-one bushels of potatoes, a beef tongue, seventeen mince pies and a pair of guinea pigs."

Rev. Dr. Angus, the distinguished scholar and President of Regent's Park College, London, Eng., has arrived in New York. His reputation has preceded him, and his able contributions to our biblical literature have made him well known, and greatly revered and loved by Christian scholars all over the world.

Rev. John Francis, formerly colporteur and missionary in Richmond, Va., is now laboring among the Chinese in California. He gives a very favorable account of his work in San Francisco. He reports: "In the short period of thirteen weeks, six Chinese Sabbath schools have been organized, having 250 pupils and 100 teachers. The gospel is preached in the Chinese language, and the meetings are well attended. Many tracts and books have been distributed, including copies of the New Testament and hymn books, all in the Chinese language. Five young men were inquiring the way of salvation, and one had applied for baptism."

## Marriages.

At the Baptist Church, Tusket, on Wednesday, the 21st inst., by Rev. P. R. Foster, E. C. Simonson, Esq., to Annie Mattie, only daughter of W. S. Robbins, Esq., Merchants, of Tusket Village.

On the 20th inst., by the Rev. T. V. Allen, Capt. William Moeckler, to Mary, youngest daughter of the late John Hogan, Esq., all of this city.

On the 12th inst., by the Rev. Mr. Sergeant, Mr. Inglis T. Mumford, to Annie Lowe, both of this city.

At the Presbyterian Church, Lower Londonderry, on the 14th inst., by the Rev. A. L. Wylie, J. D. Ross, M. D., of Halifax, to Miss Ruth McLellan, daughter of R. N. B. McLellan, Esq., Londonderry.

## Deaths.

At Wolfville, Sept. 13th, 1870, Harriet C., fourth daughter of the late Henry Best, Esq., Paymaster R. N.

At the Ridge near Wolfville, on the 14th inst., Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Enoch Caldwell, and daughter of the late Deacon John Smith, of Oak Island, Chester. Deceased was for many years a member of the Baptist Church, and deservedly esteemed for her consistent walk. She leaves an afflicted husband and many dear friends to mourn her loss.

On the 21st inst., William Grove, Esq., late of Clonfuegos, Cuba.

At Lunenburg, on the 12th inst., after a short and severe illness, Sophia Edwina, beloved wife of J. W. Kaulback, Esq.

On the 21st inst., Thomas P. Studd, of Ipswich, England, aged 35 years.

On the 19th inst., Thomas P., son of Thomas and Margaret McDonnell, aged 16 years.

At Halifax, the 24th inst., in the 47th year of her age, Rebecca, the beloved wife of A. N. McDonald, Esq., of Sherbrooke.

On the 23rd inst., Mr. John Nott, a native of Wiltshire England, aged 72 years.

On the 23rd inst., Margaret, infant daughter of John and Margaret Farley.

On the 24th inst., Florence Burton, infant daughter of Susannah and the late Wm. Murray.

## Shipping List.

## PORT OF HALIFAX.

## Arrived.

Tuesday, September 20.—Steamers Carlotta, Colby Portland; Commerce, Deane, Boston; Sidonian, Smith, Glasgow via Liverpool; Brigs Fawn, Doat, Kingston, Ja; Express, Fudge, do, via Inagua; schrs