

LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA.

MELBOURNE, March 28.

The state of our denomination just now is not what we could wish it to be. For the last two years our progress has been very unsatisfactory.

Our general election is just over, and the results of the measure passed last year, which provides for paying members of the Legislative Assembly £300 a year each, have been very satisfactory.

Looking at the state of the colony at large, we are full of hope of brighter times yet. But we want people to come out by thousands and tens of thousands.

The London Watchman publishes some important correspondence on Kidnapping, from the South Sea Islands. It is stated that last year no fewer than 100 "cargoes" of South Sea Islanders were "taken" from their homes to Fiji and Queensland.

The Indian Mirror, a Brahmio journal, congratulates the Liberal religious public in England "on having at last secured (in Mr. Voysey) a zealous Theistic preacher, who will nobly consecrate his heart and soul to the organization of a Theistic community similar to the Brahmio Somaaj."

For Sabbath School Teachers.

A TEACHER'S RESOLUTIONS.

- 1. I will endeavor to keep in constant remembrance, when with my class, that each scholar is immortal—that if impatient, they are under the wrath of God, and that if they continue thus till death they will perish forever.

WE BEGIN TOO LATE.

We begin too late with the culture of the heart. The world comes when it is in the April of life, and sows tares. The world comes along again when the child is in the May time of life, and sows thistles.

Let us "stand up for Jesus" now, and He will stand up for us hereafter.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

REPORT OF MISSIONARY LABOR.

PERFORMED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE WESTERN HOME MISSIONARY BOARD.

Rev. OBED PARKER, reports labor performed in New Albany, in substance, as follows:—

I spent two Sabbaths in the place; preached three sermons, attended one Conference Meeting, administered the Lord's Supper, and delivered two addresses upon the subject of Temperance.

Bro. BENJAMIN MILLER, Licentiate, reports seven weeks labor performed at Milford and Greywood. Referring to dissensions that had unhappily disturbed the peace of the brethren, and to the neglect of the public worship of God, the Missionary says: "I felt somewhat discouraged, and had thought of returning home."

Rev. PEREZ MURRAY gives the following account of six weeks labor in Dalhousie West, closing April 3rd. "When I visited them they were in a very sad state. Although Bro. Reid had visited them for nearly two years, he could not succeed in getting them together in Conference."

During this mission there were thirty-seven sermons preached, four Conference meetings attended, forty-six families visited, and four persons baptized. \$14,344 were received in aid of the mission.

Rev. ISAIAH WALLACE was requested to give a portion of his time to Annapolis Royal and vicinity. A fortnightly Sabbath evening service, has been kept up with encouraging results.

In his second report, he adds "A sewing circle has been organized during the quarter with a view to raise funds to build a Baptist Meeting-house in Town."

Rev. JOS. H. SAUNDERS received an appointment from the Board to the Town of Shelburne and vicinity; and entered upon his labour the 1st of December.

He writes Feb. 18th. "The opening for Baptists in this county are increasing every day—our services in the town are increasingly interesting, signs of revival are enjoyed. Our chief difficulty appears to be

that our house is too small. Already we are talking of a larger one. With \$1000 help from outside we can build to accommodate ourselves, this I intend trying to raise by and by.

Our brother again writes April 6th. "As to my work here I am getting along as might be expected. I find the necessity for more work than I can do. I am not without tokens to encourage."

Again under date of June 1st, he says: "I have now visited almost all the eastern sections of the county, and find everywhere an open door and call for labor."

Travelled 1445 miles, preached 80 sermons. Attended 44 Prayer and Conference meetings. Made 320 Family visits.

We have, thus far, allowed the missionaries, for the most part, to speak for themselves. It is not necessary that we should further enlarge. We would however invite the attention of the brethren to a few facts in connection with our missionary efforts.

There are large inviting fields, within the bounds of our Association, calling upon us for help. Some of these sections scarcely ever hear the Gospel preached from any except ministers of our own denomination, and that only occasionally.

Considerable sections of country are not supplied with Baptist preaching. This should not be. If we have the light we should let it shine everywhere.

Another fact to which we invite your attention is the want of funds at the disposal of the Board. They are utterly inadequate to the work that should be attempted.

By order of the Board. M. P. FREEMAN, Secretary.

THE SWEDISH EMIGRANTS TO AROOSTOOK.

We have received a letter from the Rev. K. A. Ostergren, whose interesting visit to Halifax we noticed some two or three weeks since, giving an account of his progress after leaving Halifax in the steamer Acadia with his company of Baptists from Sweden.

on Sunday. We were pleased to enjoy the fine scenery of this river; the beauties of Nature and the balmy air of Spring soon made us forgetful of the hardships and inconveniences of our past journey, and the anxious feeling of being strangers in a strange country just as soon gave place to mirthful hopes.

Fredericton. Here we were met by Mr. Thomas, the agent of the colonization of New Sweden. All of us were glad to see this messenger from our new country, and expected to hear some sweet invitation to come there, when, against all expectations we were told of the stern fact that at present the colony was not able to receive but a few more.

Thus our number was diminished by more than a hundred. The rest of us arrived the following day in the morning at Tobique; from thence we were carried by teams to our place of destination.

Judging from what I saw and heard the first days of my arrival I would not but think this way of colonization to be a failure, a gross mistake. Almost every Swede who was under the necessity to leave the colony went off with the impression of having been deceived.

The Swedes seem to do well there. Not a single tree was felled about a year ago, and now you could see broad openings in the wild forest and some of them had even growing crops in the soil they thus had diligently prepared.

I am not settled yet in New Sweden. I have hitherto lived in a village 8 miles from there and am now on a journey to Boston and New York; nothing was provided for my reception, all houses in New Sweden being filled with emigrants and provisions for them.

Yours indeed, K. A. OSTERGREN.