

this time joined the mission will find his hands full of work.

THE CHURCH IN MADRID.

Madrid, Oct. 22, 1870.—Our church is getting on well. The members are growing up, and I trust adding stones to their spiritual house. For a long time I have had to suspend baptisms on account of the low state of the river; but now I have the new baptistry all done, and the coming week I shall begin again this pleasant work, as my health permits. I have also fitted up the chapel somewhat more tastefully, painted and cleaned it. The baptistry is eight feet long and five wide and four deep, so that two can conveniently go down into the water. I have several candidates waiting. Our strictness will for a time make our numbers limited. The fact that we require our candidates to promise publicly that they will not baptise their young children, is a radical step here. But we shall overcome at last. I trust largely to God's owning his own ordinances and giving public and manifest approval to us in our efforts to walk in His statutes. Why should we not expect this?

Though with no one to counsel with or to help me, I somehow feel that this work, which is the only one in Spain founded on the truth of the Scriptures, will, in time, spread in all directions. So we must all have patience.

Not all accepted.—If I chose to accept all who present themselves, we should soon have a large church; but many are rejected because there is not good evidence of a change of the heart. I do not know as I do right in all cases, since they confess to the eunuch's creed; yet that seems to me a very vague one in modern times. For a Jew or a proselyte to assert his faith in the Divinity of Jesus is quite distinct from the nominal Christian's meaning. In a Jew, the simple statement was a great step; here all have pretended from childhood to believe in the Trinity, and effort has to be directed to ascertain the signs of regeneration.

Madrid, Oct. 24, 1870.—I have introduced "prayer and conference" meetings every Tuesday night, and it would make you weep to see how the time is all "taken up" by the brethren and sisters. Two or three in the church surprise me at this meeting by their prayers. It has developed a wonderful deal of latent talent. I was so rejoiced when I first noticed their prayers take an external turn,—ceasing to be all of themselves, and beginning to express desires for the salvation of others and to pray for their pastor! Three did that to-night. This is the only church in Spain that does these things, and we two churches in Madrid are the witnessing churches in the peninsula. The fire will break out by and bye, and we must be prepared for it.

Dec. 5.—Perfect liberty continues. The multitudes are thinking. The Bible is generally distributed and read; but alas, it is accepted more from a fancied discovery of socialistic ideas in it, than from a deep conviction that it is intended to point out the way of life to lost sinners. I still think we shall see a great turning to Baptist views in Spain, as soon as the people search the Scriptures a while longer, and have made up their minds.

Our church and schools are now leaping up again. The chapel is crowded, and about seventy-five to eighty in the schools,—regular attendance. To-morrow I baptize again,—nine candidates, and there will be a great rush as usual. But this "rush" is not, as in America, out of curiosity, but in a large majority of cases is made up of the people who belong to the congregation and other churches, and who meditate asking for baptism and desire to see it administered first. There is the profoundest interest in it, and all is conducted with deep solemnity. My wife plays the organ (or harmonium), and strikes up a verse after each immersion, knowing how to lead the audience and to stop the singing at the opportune moment, so that all goes on with perfect satisfaction.

A Popular Spanish preacher employed.—Since I last wrote, a strange event has occurred. The Society that supported the Rev. Mr. Ruet, who is, beyond all dispute, the most popular preacher in Spain, has been compelled to withhold further benevolence in this country because of the war. The Society is French, and is called the Comite d'Orthez (in the Bases Pyrenees.) Mr. Ruet had been preaching certain nights in the week for many months, and so he turned to me, though I felt I could not carry him on alone. He has been a preacher of the gospel nine years, mostly in Gibraltar and Algiers. He was the first regular

preacher who lifted up his voice in Madrid, a few days after the revolution. The other day I accepted him. He is a gentleman of culture and power. He is a Baptist in sentiment, most thoroughly so on the subject of immersion, and will soon follow in that ordinance.

Five hundred more believers.—I have besides taken a very successful evangelist into the work, a fine young man, who preaches well. He is to be baptized at once. He has raised a large congregation in Alicante, and has a list of 500 believers. These all desire to be baptized, and he appealed to me. I knew him, but thought it prudent to limit myself to inviting him to Madrid, to continue a while under my instruction and witness the working of a Baptist Church, before sending him to Alicante.

Thus the fields are opening by the Providence of God, and we must enter in and possess them. Circumstances have fixed many a man's denomination and creed, and we ought to be willing to make the largest sacrifices for the largest share of truth. I am grateful for your noble cooperation, and accept the "Providence" you offer, with a swelling heart. We only want to do God's work, as well and as thoroughly as we can, and then go home to be at rest.

Dec. 15.—The under-current of this continental Jacobinism, called Republicanism, is very strong, and I foresee many struggles and dark days ahead, in the midst of which our work will go on calmly like the figure of our great Captain walking over the waves. We are living in a "grand and awful time" over here, and whether the revolution that is being effected is to be continued in this gradual manner or by some greater upheavals, no one can say.

But in the height of the storm we shall try not to forget our duty, which is to "go, preach," &c. New fields are opening in new directions, and I desire soon to make a preaching tour, particularly through Estremadura, where they are calling me. I am busy answering letters to all parts, from those who are inquiring about our Baptist views. I have a priest in training in Alcantara, and hope some day he may be the pastor of a Baptist Church in that province, (Estremadura).

Religious Intelligence.

MAHONE BAY, March 9th 1871.—Dear Brother,—You and the friends of your Zion will be glad to hear that the work of the Lord is reviving and prospering in this part of the country. An unusual interest has been felt by the people in Mahone Bay and North West Lunenburg for some weeks past. Some of the other churches are adopting our social and free mode of worship, and have meetings every night, for prayer and mutual exhortation. This is a new era introduced. It is, they find a necessity as matters are moving along. Last Sabbath I baptised two rejoicing souls and expect to administer the sacred rite next Sabbath as quite a number have obtained hope and some received for membership. The enemies of evangelical religion are mustering their forces to arrest the work. But how vain the attempt, since the work is evidently of the Lord! His conquering word has gone forth and the impenitent are bowing before its power and majesty. May it everywhere go forth as brightness and His salvation as a lamp that burneth, until all our churches are enlightened, refreshed and greatly strengthened. Pray for us dear brother that the work be not arrested in its progress.

Yours very truly
AUGUSTUS SHIELDS

BAPTISMS IN ALEXANDER STREET, TORONTO.—Four candidates were baptized by Pastor A. H. Munro, last Lord's Day evening, in the presence of a large congregation.—Canadian Baptist March 2.

JEDDORE.—Rev. J. Meadows writes, Feb 27th, "I had the privilege of baptizing two young converts yesterday. Others are anxious about the salvation of their souls."

Rev. E. F. Foshey is expecting shortly to remove from Gaspereaux, Horton, having accepted a call from the Baptist church at Summerside, P. E. I., to commence his labors there in May next. Mr. F. will be much missed where he has been successfully laboring for some time past.

ORDINATION AT ELGIN, N. B.—The Visitor contains an account of the ordination of Rev. Solomon Smith over the Second Baptist Church in Elgin on the 2nd of March. Revs. W. J. Bleakney, W. W. Corey, J. E. Fillmore and D. Bleakney officiated.—The services appear to have been of a very satisfactory character.

MILTON, QUEEN'S CO., March 10th, 1871. Rev. W. G. Parker writes in a P. S.: "We have some tokens for good in this place."

OPIMUM VS CHRISTIANITY.—The Rev. G. Johns, missionary in China, states that the effects of opium smoking are such that its victims cannot be admitted to the Christian Church. Such is the moral bluntness and insensibility induced by the habit, that no appeal seems to touch their heart. Their profession of faith and repentance is generally simulated, with the view of obtaining assistance to procure the drug. And even though the victim were a sincere believer in the truth, he would find it almost impossible to break off the habit, so that to admit him into church-fellowship would do little else than to cause him to prevaricate and dissemble in order to conceal his sin.

SUNNYSIDE.

UPPER STEWIACKE.—Mr. Editor.—On Tuesday evening, Feb. 14th, we were favored with a surprise visit from our friends in this place. The Baptists were not alone in this expression of good will. We were further cheered by the presence of Presbyterian brethren, both before and since that evening, other friends have shown their sympathy, by tangible tokens. May the Lord requite them by abundant donations of his grace, that they may have all things and abound. When viewed with reference to numbers, the amount proved the "riches of their liberality." After a rich repast, the evening was most pleasantly passed in conversation, recitations, singing, addresses and prayer.

As ever, yours,
O. CHUTE.

March 3rd, 1871.

MELVERN SQUARE, AYLESFORD, March, 9th 1871.—Dear Brother,—Donation Visits have become quite common, and it is customary—when one is made—for the recipient, or some friend to send a notice of it to the Christian Messenger. The Rev. Obed Parker has for many years resided in this place, and when at home, has either preached the gospel to the people, or in other ways manifested his interest in the prosperity of God's cause. There are many here, who, while esteeming highly their venerable Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Tupper, desired to show their regard for Brother Parker, and their appreciation of his services among them, and for this purpose a large number of persons assembled at his house on Tuesday evening last, bringing their free-will offerings and pleasant greetings, to cheer his, and his highly esteemed companion's hearts. While the donations were acceptable, the words of love and respect which fell from the lips of those among whom he has so long resided, were more highly appreciated by our esteemed brother, and had more power to comfort his heart. Interesting speeches were made by several brethren, interspersed with good music, and at the close the Rev. J. E. Balcum offered prayer, when the company separated, feeling thankful for the religion of Christ, which can bind men together in christian brotherhood.

ONE PRESENT.

BRIDGEWATER, March 10th, 1871.—Dear Editor,—Permit me to acknowledge the receipt of my ninth annual donation visit, on Tuesday evening, March 7th. A large and respectable company gathered at my residence; among them were representatives from the several Evangelical denominations of the village; and the season was a very enjoyable one, with good music, excellent speeches, and an abundant supply of choice refreshments. A sealed envelope was presented containing, with sums received since, \$56 in cash and other articles of value, estimated at \$27, as a token of affection and regard from a kind and generous people to their pastor. May they realize that it is indeed, "more blessed to give than to receive."

A similar visit was paid me on the evening of Thursday the 9th inst., at the residence of Mr. J. W. Felt, Pleasantville, when excellent addresses were delivered, and music from the choir added interest to the occasion, and the friends presented their pastor with \$22 in cash and useful articles.

I have also to record with gratitude the reception of an unexpected visit on the evening of Saturday, the 20th January, from a small section of the LaHave Church and Congregation at the residence of deacon John Lantz, when, after several kind expressions of regard, \$13 were contributed and paid in, chiefly in cash.

Thus have I been placed on the Sunnyside to the extent of \$1.18 about \$83 of which was in cash. May the divine blessing rest upon the donors.

Yours truly,
STEPHEN MARCH.

PITT STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B.—A Donation of \$100 was made to the Rev. Mr. Titus on the 29th ult. The occasion appears to have been one of much interest and pleasure to all the participants.

BRUSSELS STREET, ST. JOHN, N. B.—A presentation of a Life Insurance Policy for Five Thousand Dollars on "The Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States," for Mrs. Harley, with one year's premium paid, was presented to Rev. Timothy Harley, the pastor of the church, on the 1st inst. A very kind address, showing their high appreciation of their pastor was also presented at the same time with a donation of \$74.16. The address was read by Mr. Z. G. Gabel, the insurance Policy was presented by Mr. Henry Vaughn, and the money-gift by Mr. Gilbert White. Mr. Harley made a very suitable acknowledgment at the close, expressing the gratitude of himself and wife for the mark of appreciation shown by his congregation in the gift bestowed.

Members of the Rev. Mr. Miles' congregations at Maccan and Point de Bute, although having made him Donation Visits in their respective localities last autumn, concluded, with other friends, to make him one at his own house on Tuesday the 7th.

A large number of those now enjoying the ministerial services of Mr. M., which were so long appreciated by the Baptist Church and congregation at Amherst, assembled at his house with their offerings, which amounted to \$116, principally cash.

When the Donation was ready for presentation, Mr. Cutten was called to the chair; Mr. Hance Mills presented the purse, with appropriate remarks; Mr. Miles responded in his usual happy manner; and Rev. Mr. Steele made an admirable speech. The chairman made a few remarks, when Mr. Miles offered prayer and pronounced the benediction. The assemblage then dispersed, having enjoyed an agreeable evening.—Gazette.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The following is the corrected sub-division of the Road Grant for 1871:

Annapolis,	10,400.00
Antigonish,	9,758.75
Cape Breton,	11,368.75
Colchester,	11,680.00
Cumberland,	11,680.00
Digby,	9,760.00
Guy'sborough,	9,760.00
Halifax,	14,712.50
Hants,	11,983.75
Inverness,	13,200.00
Kings,	10,800.00
Lunenburg,	12,000.00
Pictou,	14,400.00
Queens,	9,456.25
Richmond,	9,760.00
Shelburne,	9,760.00
Victoria,	9,760.00
Yarmouth,	9,760.00
	200,000.00

TUESDAY, March 7th.

Mr. Kidston introduced a Bill the object of which is to abolish the Legislative Council.

Mr. Hill presented a petition from citizens of Halifax, against the bill to provide for erecting a new Civic Hall in Halifax, now before the house. Several bills were read a third time and sent to the Legislative Council. Others were read a second time.

Hon. Prov. Secretary laid on the table a statement from the Crown Land office concerning grants of land and applications receive for grants. Petitions were presented by Messrs. Young, Landers, Eisenhaur, and H. McDonald.

WEDNESDAY, March 8th.

Mr. Landers presented a petition respecting the fisheries.

Mr. Smith reported from the Committee of Examiners of Normal School recommending the payment of \$200, for services rendered in the investigation of charges against one of its teachers. After some discussion the report was adopted.

Mr. Purdy introduced a bill to establish a Council for the county of Cumberland. Hon. Provincial Secretary submitted the Estimates for the year with explanations of the items. By this it appears that there is at the present time about \$94,000 in the Provincial Treasury, a large portion of which arises from sales of Crown Lands during the past year.

The following is a summary:—

Assets 1st January, 1871.	
Advances for Roads and Bridges to date.....	\$29335.04
Balance from 1870.....	64870.14
	\$94205.18
Less—Liabilities to date.	
Undrawn Road Moneys.....	\$3679.00
Navigation Sec. articles.....	3224.60
	5903.60
	\$90001.58

Probable Revenue for 1871.

Subsidy.....	\$425,000.00
Dept. of Mines.....	75,000.00
Hospital for Insane.....	25,000.00
Crown Lands.....	33,000.00
Marriage Licenses and other Fees received in Provincial Secretary's Office.....	4,500.00
	564,200.00

Estimated Expenditure for 1871.. 618,906 00

Balance.....\$31,993 58

Heads of Estimated Expenditure.

Advances.....	\$ 5,000.00
Agriculture.....	6,000.00
Contingencies.....	900.00
Coroners' Inquests.....	2,000.00
Crown Lands.....	40,000.00
Education.....	175,000.00
Legislative Expenses.....	28,000.00
Local Works.....	60,000.00
Mines.....	13,000.00
Miscellaneous.....	15,000.00
Navigation Securities.....	13,000.00
Public Printing.....	8,000.00
Poor's Asylum.....	14,000.00
Provincial and City Hospital.....	4,000.00
Roads and Bridges.....	200,000.00
Road Compensation.....	500.00
Salaries.....	21,450.00
Steamboats, Packets and Ferries.....	11,566.00
Transient Poor.....	1,500.00
	\$618,906.00

It appears that Mr. Morrison has resigned the office of Immigration Agent and there is therefore no appropriation for that service.

Friday was named for going into Committee of Supply.

THURSDAY, March 9th.

Several Local and private bills were read the third time and sent to the Council for concurrence.

Hon. Attorney General introduced a bill to amend the chapter of Revised Statutes, disqualifying officials of the Province, or under the Dominion of Canada from election to the House of Assembly or appointment to the Legislative Council, unless said officers have resigned said offices six months previously. Petitions were presented by Messrs. Kirk, Landers, J. McDonald, Ryerson, H. McDonald.

Hon. Prov. Secretary presented a petition for \$2000 for a line of steamers from Yarmouth to the places at the head of and around St. Mary's Bay.

The House in Committee passed a number of bills relating to Acts of Incorporation of Free-masons' Lodges, &c., &c.

On motion the order of the Day, "the Crown Lands Resolutions" was taken up, and speeches made by Messrs. Purdy, Prov. Secretary, Atty. General, Freeman, Ryerson, DeCrisay, Hill, and Dr. Murray.

Mr. Purdy asked, When the promised government measure would be submitted? Hon. Attorney General replied that the government had no intention of bringing forward any measure.

Mr. Purdy contended that the reference to the subject in the opening speech was so understood.

Hon. Attorney General said the government scheme had been submitted to the Crown Lands Committee, but was not a government measure.

Mr. Purdy charged the Hon. Attorney General with quibbling, when he affirmed that no government measure had been promised. When he defied any man to prove each promise, Mr. P. read the following extract from the speech of the Hon. Prov. Secretary.

"I do not, therefore, anticipate that the matter will be brought before the House again, except when the Government introduce the measure which they had in view to check the Crown Land speculation," &c.

The House shortly afterwards adjourned.

FRIDAY, March 10th.

Bills passed on Thursday were read a third time and sent to the Legislative Council.

Hon. Provincial Secretary submitted a statement showing the amount of Province notes destroyed by Commissioners appointed for that purpose.

The Provincial Secretary then moved that the House go into committee of supply.

Mr. Purdy asked for delay, until the speech of the Prov. Secretary upon introducing the estimates should be printed. He wished an opportunity to discuss the financial condition of the country.

Mr. Hill expressed a similar opinion. Members of the government expressed a different opinion, and the House went into Committee of Supply, and the following items were agreed to:—

- \$200 additional for the clerk of the Provincial Treasurer.
- \$500 for contingencies in the Provincial Secretary's Office.
- \$5000 for Agriculture.
- \$2000 for Coroners' Inquests.
- \$175,000 for Education.
- \$13,000 for mines.
- \$60,000 for Public Works.
- \$1,300 for Navigation Securities.
- \$200,000 for Road and Bridge service.
- \$5,000 for Advances.

Mr. Hill asked for an explanation, and the Provincial Secretary answered that it was intended as a vote of credit to the Government.

Mr. Hill suggested that a resolution be passed to wipe from the journals the resolution of Mr. Dickie proposing a vote of \$50,000 for Secret Service, and thereby remove the stigma which attached to the House and the Government in respect to this matter. He also suggested that it was due to the country that the government should make some explanation respecting the abstraction from the treasury of the \$6710.94 which it was alleged had been paid to Robert Cook, Jr. The Provincial