

Baptists could and would render pecuniary assistance to our Siamese mission without decreasing their subscriptions to the American Missionary Union, if the opportunity were afforded."

Some prudence is needed in making such a movement. Our Canadian Brethren have large demands made upon them to sustain their various missionary operations. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick will not be unrepresented there, in the absence of delegates appointed by the Convention. Our brethren Porter and Munro and Martell and Wells, and probably several others, will be well able to represent these eastern provinces.

Those of our Subscribers who have not yet paid up to the end of the year, 1872, and in advance for 1873, will greatly oblige by sending on the amount of their subscriptions without further delay.

We regret to learn that Rev. I. J. Skinner, pastor of the Baptist Church at Chester has been dangerously ill.

The church will feel this sickness of their pastor all the more from the circumstances of having on hand the large meeting house now in course of erection. In which enterprise Mr. S. has been so deeply interested.

Newspaper men have curious ways of telling things. Here is one of them which we find in one our exchanges :

A WIFE IN TROUBLE.—"Pray tell me my dear, what is the cause of those tears?"

"Oh, such a disgrace!"

"What! is it my dear? don't keep me in suspense!"

"Oh, I have opened one of your letters, supposing it to have been addressed to myself. Certainly it looks more like Mrs. than Mr."

"Is that all? What harm can there be in a wife's opening her husband's letter?"

"No harm in the thing itself, but the contents; such a disgrace!"

"What, has any one dared to write me a letter unfit to be read by my wife?"

"Oh, no. It is couched in the most chaste and beautiful language. But the contents! the contents!"

Besides the Jamaica Baptist Union, there are several smaller unions or associations, that localize their efforts, and are a means of doing much good. There are now five of these associations, two having been recently formed. These generally have their meetings twice a-year.

Here the wife buried her face in her handkerchief, and commenced sobbing aloud, whilst the husband eagerly caught up the letter and commenced reading the epistle that had nearly broken his wife's heart. It was a bill from the printer for three years' subscription for the newspaper.

Here is another :—

"A subscriber thirty years in arrears settled up with a Kingston paper the other day."

They may both be true for anything we know to the contrary. The inference to be drawn from the latter is probably to shew that although such a debt may be of long standing yet an honest man will not take any mean advantage of the proprietor but will honourably pay up the whole amount due.

Some men allow their newspaper bills to accumulate for several years, and then think that some deduction should be made because the sum is so large, instead of paying the legal interest for the money they have so long been keeping back from the proprietor and using for themselves.

The "Graphic" balloon it appears has after all gone up, and is on its way to Europe. Mr. Donaldson, who was going with Professor Wise, went in it alone, starting on Monday at 9:30 a.m. Whether it ever reaches there or what has become of it is left for the future to develop. It was seen over New Haven on Monday about 11 o'clock that is about 60 miles an hour.

CHRISTIANITY AND THE COLOURED RACE.

The problem of the capability of the negro mind for receiving high cultivation and of the capacity of that race for self-government is well proved and finely illustrated in the case of the republic of Liberia in Western Africa. The wife of the United States minister, Mrs. Turner, writes from there to friend in St. Louis, as follows :

"I see and learn so many things in this strangest of strange countries that, hurried as I am to reach the mail before it is closed, I hardly know which to write first about. But I must tell you that the President and cabinet gave Mr. Turner a superb reception. Persons from many different parts were present. A few evenings afterward he arranged for us a select gathering at his residence, which was simply elegant. The mayor of the city also gave us a reception at his residence. This entertainment caused me, for the time being, to forget that we were in Africa. Every luxury of the tropical climate was upon the table, and the company was very intellectual."

Just to think of generals and colonels in uniform, cabinet officers, city councilmen, lawyers, doctors, other professional charac-

ters, authors, editors, poets, and other distinguished literary people, together with a live President, and a bevy of ladies to correspond, and they, every one, colored! There were also present the ministers for England, Germany, Norway, and Sweden, Hayti, and other countries. I declare that it was the neatest affair that I have ever seen.

Further illustration of the progress of Christian enlightenment is seen in the Calabar Institution in the island of Jamaica.

The Rev. D. J. East, the President, reports that instead of four students, as in 1852, there were in the college during last year nine theological and seventeen Normal school students. In the general-day school and high school together there are now over 200 scholars, and the standard of education has advanced with the numbers. Since 1867, young men have passed out of the institution; of these 28 have been from the theological department. Nineteen are now pastors in Jamaica; one is settled in America; one is a missionary in Africa, and another intends to devote himself to a missionary life either in Hayti or Africa. Of the Normal School students, 25 are keeping schools.

From another source we have highly gratifying accounts of the progress made in evangelizing that remarkable island :

For a number of years the Baptist Churches of Jamaica, have been, almost exclusively, self-sustaining, yet the progress of the denomination will ever be regarded with sincere and tender interest by the Baptist Churches in Britain, whom these churches love and look to, as to an honoured parent.

In connection with the Jamaica Baptist Union, there are at present, 105 churches with a total membership of about 22,000, and with enrolled inquirers numbering nearly 3,000. Besides the 105 churches in the Union, there are two large and influential churches, containing nearly 1,400 members and 200 inquirers, not connected with the Union. For these 107 churches there are only 45 ministers, who have thus an average of nearly three churches each. In some cases as many as five churches are under the care of one pastor. This, of course, makes pastoral work somewhat difficult to be done effectually; but at present there is no help for it.

Besides the Jamaica Baptist Union,

there are several smaller unions or associations, that localize their efforts, and are a means of doing much good. There are now five of these associations, two having been recently formed. These generally have their meetings twice a-year.

The Jamaica Baptist Union is an honored stock, on which are engrained several branch societies, each doing its own work in a very effective way. Among these, stands first the Missions Society. As soon as the Baptist Churches were in a position to declare themselves independent of the funds of the society at home, I believe they at once resolved, not only to support themselves, but to form an Auxiliary Missionary Society, to aid in sending abroad God's light and truth. This is, perhaps, one of the most pleasing features in our Jamaica Churches, viz., the interest felt in, and the desire to promote, the work of Christian Missions. And, in this respect, our own society stands out in bold relief. The objects that it embraces are various, and all exceedingly desirable; among them are the following :—To provide the necessary funds for the maintenance of the students, and for meeting other current expenses, in the training institution in Kingston; to assist needy cases in the building or repairing of chapels, or other mission premises; to support, in part or in whole, evangelists labouring in those parts of the Island that are not properly or sufficiently supplied with the means of grace; to aid the parent society, by furnishing means, and sometimes men, in carrying on its evangelistic work on the Western Coast of Africa; and to do something for the spiritual enlightenment of the islands by which Jamaica is surrounded. We have lying around us, not far away, heathenism, Roman Catholicism, and slavery, of the severest types: and our Christians here strive and pray that these enormous evils may be swept away, and that the Kingdom of Christ may be established in all hearts.

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CHRISTIANITY AND THE COLOURED RACE.

The Central Ministerial Conference will hold its next meeting of Canard, Oct. 15. As it is the day previous to the Sabbath School Convention, it is hoped that there will be a large attendance. Brethren desiring conveyance from Kentville, or Port Williams Station to Canard, please notify me by Post Card at least a week previous. Ministering Brethren at a distance are cordially invited.

S. B. KEMPTON, Sec'y.

Dear Brother Selden,—

In the reference made in the MESSENGER to my mission at Port Hawkesbury mention was made of the amount collected there for the H. M. Board as being small.

As I understand that parties would be better satisfied by my naming the definite amount, I therefore state that the sum collected during my mission of eleven weeks was \$52.08, (fifty-two dollars and eight cents.)

W. SPENCER.

Wolfville, Oct. 6th, 1873.

TEA MEETING AT HUBBARDS COVE, MARGARET'S BAY.

The sisters of the 2nd Margaret's Bay Church, (and other friends) intend holding a tea-meeting in the New Baptist Church, (now in the course of completion,) at Hubbards Cove, on Wednesday, 15th October next. A Refreshment Table will be provided, also a sale of Fancy Articles, the results of the industry of the Ladies' Sewing Circle of the above named place. The funds to be appropriated in defraying the outside of the building. We would humbly solicit aid from sister churches and friends of religion who may feel disposed to assist us. The smallest donation will be thankfully received. We are a very small church in this place, our means very limited. By the blessing of God and assistance of friends we expect to succeed.

If the day above mentioned should prove unfavorable it will be held on the first fine day after.

NOTICE.

Arrangements have been made with the railroad authorities, that those attending the Sabbath School Convention in Canard, can come and return for one fare from the 16th to the 18th, both East and West.

D. FREEMAN.

Canning, Oct. 3, 1873.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE.

At the meeting of the Central Conference, on the 15th inst., papers will be presented by Revs. D. Freeman, S. B. Kempton, Dr. Sawyer, T. A. Higgins.

The first session at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ A.M.

Public meeting in the evening.

A reduction of fare for those coming by Railway, may be expected.

By order of the Committee.

WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

The Secretaries of the Societies throughout the Province when forwarding their monies for the coming quarter, will please state at the same time the number of members on their list; we have no means at present of judging of the extent of our membership, but by this plan it can be ascertained and stated in the Annual Report which will appear in January.

Correspondents will oblige by prefixing Mrs. or Miss to their signatures, which will prevent mistakes.

M. R. SELDEN,

Sec. C. Board.

Halifax, Oct. 8, 1873.

POSTPONEMENT OF SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION.

Dear Brother,—It is thought necessary to postpone our Sabbath School Convention for one month. Our Ministers' Conference is to meet at Canard in October, and the Sabbath School Convention, as it is to be in the same place, should be in connection with it, so as to secure better attendance, and put the friends in Canard to less inconvenience, I therefore give notice that the Sabbath School Convention of the Central Baptist Association of Nova Scotia, will be held in Canard, on Thursday the 16th day of October, at 10 o'clock, A.M.

By order,

D. FREEMAN, Sec.

Canning, Aug. 27, 1873.

LETTERS RECEIVED.

Rev. Dr. Tupper, 1 sub. Rev. R. S. Morton, 1 sub., \$1.31. I. McNayr, Esq., \$3. W. Allwood, N. Dobson, G. Cogswell, Esq., 1 sub. Rev. A. D. Steele, Rev. G. E. Day. John Wheelock, \$2, 1 sub.

By order,

D. FREEMAN, Sec.

Canning, Aug. 27, 1873.

News of the Week.

THE SPRING HILL RAILWAY CELEBRATION on Friday last appears to have been quite a pleasant occasion. Combined with it was the commencement of another branch line from Spring Hill to Parrsborough. A large party of gentlemen went from Halifax and were met by a special train with a similar party from St. John. Arrived at Salt Springs station the two trains were connected and proceeded over the branch line to Spring Hill, where Lieutenant Governor Archibald drove the last spike to complete the laying of the rails. After this had been completed, the party proceeded to break the sod for the new railway from Spring Hill to Parrsborough, which was done by the same hands in a very workmanlike style. The work being done dinner was served in a small building, and speeches were afterwards indulged in on the platform by the following gentlemen: Hon. Peter Mitchell, Hon. Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Willis, of St. John, Governor Archibald, Hon. Mr. Annand, of Halifax, Mr. Domville and Mr. Anglin, of St. John, Hon. E. P. Flynn, and Mr. Hickman, Mr. McKay, Mr. Morse, of Amherst, Mr. Morrison, of Londonderry, and others.

The hour having arrived for returning, the cars went on together back to Salt Springs station, and then each party in the direction of their homes. The examination of the coal deposits gave the greatest satisfaction. The seams are from 11 to 14 feet in thickness, and extend for miles, with many facilities for working them and bringing the coal to the surface.

ANOTHER LOCOMOTIVE for the Intercolonial Railway was sent through our streets from Montgomery's Foundry last week. Five others have been brought to Richmond in the bark Guyon.

ROBBERSIES.—Dartmouth has in common with Halifax been visited during the past week by some unscrupulous individuals.—On Monday night they effected an entrance into the residence of G. J. Troop, Esq., and passing by other valuables took a silver fish slice, some napkin rings and two overcoats, &c., to the value of about \$75. On Friday night they visited Mr. Esdale's larder, and took therefrom a tub of butter, some beef, and other provisions.

In Halifax the same or some other parties effected an entrance to Mr. W. Myers Gray's residence, and stole about \$100 worth of valuable articles. Here is some work for our detective force. It may be that some of the visitors who came to see the boat race a week or two since are stopping over the time for the purpose of awakening our police force and giving them an opportunity of studying the higher branches of their profession.

The story of an attempt at fratricide in Dartmouth, reported last week, seems to have been somewhat exaggerated before it got into print.

TRURO.—The account last week in one of our daily papers respecting the Clerk of License being convicted of selling liquor, appears to have been slightly inaccurate. It seems to have been a Mr. Marsh, Clerk of License at Earlston, 20 miles from Truro, but the case was tried at Truro.

A man named Bree, a conductor on the Intercolonial was killed, it is supposed, by his reaching out and striking against a post in passing.

BEARS.—A big bear is reported to have been seen at River Philip, Cumberland, last week, and at Port George, Annapolis County, they found that one had killed some sheep, probably seeking for good winter quarters.

At the meeting of the Dartmouth Council on Thursday last an application was received from the Universalists for the use of the Town Hall for divine service on Sundays. It was decided to grant their request on condition of their paying \$1 each time that they meet, and furnishing their own furniture, fuel, etc.

A slight frost was experienced at Annapolis on Tuesday night of last week.

The twenty men required for the Mounted Police Force in Manitoba have been obtained. One day last week the men were sworn in at the Drill Shed by ex-Mayor Dunbar, one of the County Justices, and on Monday morning they left by railway for Montreal. There names are H. Saunders, A. Tremain, Croton Uniacke, John Ryan, C. Driscoll, Jas. Batterby, John Nash, R. J. McDonald, John Mulloney, P. King, Geo. W. Murray, Wm. Andrews, Wm. Goldsworthy, H. J. LeCain, John Dorgan, Jas. Keating, Charles George, J. Clarke, and James Kelly.

The SEASON is over at McNab's Island. The last trip was taken on Thursday last.

Seventeen men are missing from the Swallow and Sphynx. It is supposed they have deserted.

The amount realized at the late bazaar in aid of the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Antigonish was (nett) \$7,600.

The Telegraph Cable Steamer Robert Lowe arrived on Thursday last from London, having on board a cable to be laid in the Straits of Northumberland, between Prince Edward Island and Cape Tormentine, N. B.

OUR RIVER FISHERIES.—Mr. W. H. Rogers, Inspector of Fisheries, on Wednesday at Oxford seized eight nets placed in the river in violation of the law, and a number of salmon in them.

The Tea-meeting on Wednesday, at Kentville in aid of the New Baptist Chapel realized about \$300.

SHIPPING AT PUWASH.—More deals are being shipped this season than for many years past. About 800,000 standard will be sent away, which Black & Co., and G. Pineo & Co., nearly divide between them; at present there are four square rigged vessels loading, the ship "Siam" to Pineo & Co., barque "Mathilde" to Pineo & Co., barque "Rebecca," and barque "Fred," all to Black & Co. The barque "Gracia," loaded by H. G. Pineo & Co., sailed for London on the 26th.—*Chignecto Post*.

Amount of Customs Duties collected at the Port of Halifax for the month of September, 1873 \$163,249.40
Amount for Sept., 1872 147,812.22

Increase in Sept., 1873 \$15,431.18

CIVIC.—The Elections on the 1st Inst. resulted in choosing Mr. Sinclair for Mayor by a majority of 185 over his opponent; and for Aldermen: Ward 1: W. J. Coleman, Ward 2: H. A. Taylor, Ward 3: T. P. Connolly, Ward 4: Joseph Seaton, Ward 5: David Ellis, Ward 6: R. T. Room.

There being a tie in the latter the Presiding Alderman gave his vote for Roome. Alderman Dodson having resigned, his place was filled on the 2nd Inst. by the election of Joseph E. Coombes. The City Council for the ensuing year will therefore be:

Mayor—John