

Home Missions.

The following communications to the N. S. Baptist Home Missionary Society were read before the Board on Wednesday, the 3rd inst.:

MISSION TO MACCAN, AND CHURCH ORGANIZATION.

R. N. Beckwith, Esq.

DEAR BROTHER.—My appointment from the Board having ended, I send you some account of my mission. This is a large and inviting field, though destitute of ministerial labor for several years. The cause has been, partly at least, the great scarcity of ministers, particularly in the Eastern Association, and no part due to the willingness or ability of the people to sustain the gospel among them. Though under appointment from the Board I received more than missionary pay.

The Maccau Church consisted of two sections—Maccau and River Hebert—seven miles apart. It has seemed desirable for years to have them separated into two churches, and on Saturday, the 23rd, the members at River Hebert, having obtained dismission from Maccau, united in a new church. We called no Advising Council, as, under the circumstances, it did not seem expedient. At the meeting for organization, after devotional exercises, the Articles and Covenant were assented to and their officers elected. Brethren Job Seaman and Thos. Shipley, who were formerly appointed deacons in the old church, were retained in that position. Bro. John Barnes was appointed Clerk. The separation was by mutual consent, and the churches unite in efforts to obtain a minister. I trust they may be successful, as it is a very important field, and by proper effort a rich harvest might be reaped. Only that duty points in another direction I would remain as requested, and labor with this kind, interesting people. I enclose with my account a more definite report of my work.

Yours, &c., H. MORROW.

Maccau, Aug. 25th.

N. S. H. M. BOARD.

To H. MORROW, DR.

To 9 weeks labor at Maccau and vicinity, Cumberland County.....\$81 00

Travelling expenses..... 2 50

\$83 50

CR

Collected by Church.....\$84 55

Due H. M. Board.....\$ 1 05

Sermons preached 24, family visits 86, miles travelled 150, churches organized 1, prayer and conference meetings attended 18, collected for Board \$81.55. Maccau, Aug. 25th. 1873.

WAVERLY AND FALL RIVER, HALIFAX COUNTY.

Part of the field of labor to which I was appointed by the H. M. Board was last summer the scene of a revival, and naturally the earnestness and good feeling manifested then had not entirely disappeared. However, owing to the lack of pastoral labor, and the failure—almost entire—to sustain meetings of any kind, there was little activity apparent, and the field sadly needed earnest christian effort. Very soon the prospect seemed to brighten, and our prayer meetings grew intensely interesting at Fall River. The Sabbath services were very well attended, and the three prayer meetings regularly maintained. At Waverly I preached every Sabbath, and succeeded in keeping up a weekly prayer meeting during my whole term of labor.

To my knowledge no conversions took place among the congregation while I was with them, but I have endeavored to break the bread of life both in public and privately, and cannot believe that all has been in vain. Indeed I have proof to the contrary in the increased thoughtfulness and earnestness which I witnessed among the church and the members of the congregation, especially some of the young.

I regret that they are left now without regular services, and wish that they might have longer the benefit of missionary labor.

May God in His infinite mercy grant that the 10 weeks spent at Waverly and Fall River may not be unattended with results which shall be for His glory.

Yours truly, A. W. H. EATON.

GUTSBORO' COUNTY.

Allow me to make a few remarks upon the missionary fields in which I have been laboring during the summer vacation of Horton Academy. Wine Harbor, Indian Harbor, and Melrose, St. Mary's, were the principal places at which I spent my time. I went among that people a perfect stran-

ger, resting on the arm of God for direction. The success accomplished encourages me to go forward with renewed determination to preach Christ and him crucified. The money collected in the field speaks for the generosity of the people. Their purses were opened as well as their houses and hearts. They expressed a desire to see a Baptist Missionary in that part, and hoped the day was not far distant when two would be amply remunerated for their services there.

Throughout the eastern part of this province are buried treasures destined to increase the future prosperity of our country; but more than this, there are glittering gems that will adorn the diadem of Christ. Jesus has a people in all lands. Some are luxuriating in wealth, others are accepting a homely dwelling in the wilderness away from the whirl of the fashionable and the gay, longing for the happy period to arrive when Jesus shall call them to enter the mansions above. May the riches of God's grace descend in large measure upon those destitute localities, until the wilderness and solitary place shall be made glad, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose.

EDWIN H. HOWE,

Horton Academy, N. S.

PORT HAWKESBURY, C. B.

WOLFVILLE, Sept. 1st, 1873.

Mr. R. N. Beckwith.

DEAR BROTHER,—I suppose you are waiting to hear from me, and to hear a further report from Hawkesbury. I am sorry that I cannot report great things as the result of my labors, but it sometimes is at least that the bread cast upon the waters is not seen until after many days. I can say, however, that though there was but few attending the Sabbath services at first, there was before I left a good and attentive congregation, and, I am sure, it there was an active man stationed there, though there is much to contend with, he would do a power of good, and even now there are some waiting for an opportunity to unite themselves to the church. I spent all my time in Hawkesbury except the last Sabbath, which I spent in Port Mulgrave. I found one family of Baptists about two miles from the place. I think with care there would be no trouble in reference to a Missionary laboring there a part of the time at least.—I will send you my returns. I am sorry that the amount collected is so small, but I did all I could. They are looking for a minister to settle among them.

Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM SPENCER.

ST. ANN'S AND WEST BAY, C. B.

St. Ann's, August 12th, 1873.

To the N. S. Baptist H. M. Board.

DEAR BRETHREN,—I am now back to St. Ann's after having fulfilled eight weeks mission at West Bay. I hope that my labor there will not be in vain. A number who were foes to us have become friendly, and everywhere I have been, about the vicinity of West Bay, they have cordially invited me among them again. I have, indeed, met with opposition there, which I take as promised by the blessed Master to all who truly labor in his name, all who serve the Lord Jesus Christ with love in their hearts will suffer persecution in words or deeds. All that I can say is that I have sown the seed among them, according to the measure of grace given to me, with an ardent desire for the salvation of their souls, hoping that the Holy Spirit may bring the same home to their hearts. I did not administer the Lord's Supper to the church as the deacon was not at home. I promised to go to administer the Supper to the church as soon as the church would be prepared. I am received now at St. Ann's with the greatest of kindness. We had a large congregation with us last Lord's Day, and especially in the evening. We were in a large dwelling house, which was crowded, and many others were around. Oh! that the Lord would now pour out the Holy Spirit upon preacher and people.

If the Lord's good time I do expect to see a garden of the Lord in this place. Last Lord's Day the people flocked around and said that they felt the time that I was at West Bay very long &c. The church here do all in their power to help me in the work. I pray that God may keep me humble, and that I may be enabled by His grace to serve Him to the end of my days. Dear brethren, I send my return of mission enclosed.

I am your brother in the Gospel, DANIEL McLEOD.

A cheerful temper is a perpetual hymn to the divinity.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

IX.

"GLAUCUS"—CHINA SEA—PILOT—HONG KONG—HULKS WITH A MISTERY—SEDAN CHAIRS AND CHAIRMEN.

"Marble Halls" and "Ocean Waves" are not often associated, even in imagination; and to sit in the former while gliding over the latter seems a violation of the fitness of things almost ludicrous. And yet the saloon of the "Glaucus" was a veritable marble hall. That steamship was one of a fleet of twenty-four, built to run, via Suez Canal, between London and Shanghai, and all her internal fittings and arrangements were designed with especial reference to the fervid heat of the Red Sea. White marble has a cool effect, and therefore the saloon walls were paneled with wide slabs of that stone.

The China Sea is not a favorite with mariners. It is so filled with small islands, treacherous reefs and shoals, that even in fair weather the navigation is difficult and intricate. In foul weather it would not be strange if the captain's face were as cloudy as the skies. On this occasion strong adverse winds, rain, heavy fog, and what sailors call dirty weather generally, were so prevalent that an observation was impossible. Capt. — proved his right to hold his responsible office by preserving a quiet and cheerful exterior, while, no doubt, consumed by profound anxiety within. About the time the vicinity of Hong Kong ought to be reached the fog lifted, and revealed the coast line. A careful dead reckoning had done its work well. The pilot is at hand, a native Chinese.—Mark well the pilot boat and all its appurtenances, and you will conceive a new admiration for the Chinaman and his handiness. In the old school geography there used to be a print of a Chinaman in his boat. The Celestial was represented as doing not only two things at once, but an incredible number—holding the sail, steering, rowing, smoking, &c. Being now in China waters it would not have been very surprising to have seen something like a reproduction of the old print in actual life. At any rate the same economy of labor was evident in the pilot-boat. That boat is a house, and its occupants a family. No supernumeraries there—a man, a woman, a boy, and a baby. The first of the four is the pilot. The boy brings him in a cockleshell of a boat, launched from the deck of the larger vessel, to the steamer, the woman and the baby remain in charge of their floating home. The waves are tumbling about in a lively manner most infectious, for woman and baby are very lively too.—That "Celestial" female probably never heard of woman's rights, never dreamt of clamoring for them. But she has them, and certainly does not abuse them. She commands a vessel, has sole charge of it, and yet baby's rights are not overlooked, his right to be cared for is acknowledged, and he is carefully strapped a la papoose to the mother's back. Now look at it! the rain and spray beating in her face, the sea rolling high, and that one woman minding the helm, shifting the sail, and taking care of baby!

Hong Kong is a small island at the mouth of a river, up which about one hundred miles is the great city of Canton. Hong Kong town has a spacious, almost completely land-locked harbor; no better reason needed why England should possess it! How she took it is significantly intimated by the presence in the harbor of four ugly and yet picturesque old hulks. One looks on these bulky relics of the olden time with something akin to veneration, albeit they are built in savage defiance of all the lines of grace and beauty. But they have a history, they bore a part at Trafalgar, and other famous naval engagements. If the old time heroes could reappear on these wooden walls of old England, with what amazement would they look upon the iron steamers moored near by, and with what incredulity would they learn that they, too, were men-of-war.

Hong Kong is built on the side of a hill, so steep that horses and carriages cannot be used. Consequently there are no public conveyances, such as cabs, hacks, &c.—In their place are found sedan-chairs in great numbers. Immediately on landing the chairmen—Chinese of course—assail one with great vigor and pertinacity, just as the "cabbies" do in other cities. As a mode of locomotion the chair is not unpleasant. On going up the hills, however, the occupant finds two causes of

distress—the consequences to himself if the bearers should slip, and the fear lest the bearers should rupture a blood vessel—a fear suggested by the labored panting of the poor men as they toil up inclines, which, one cannot help remembering, are too steep to permit beasts of burden to be employed. On some principle, of unnatural selection perhaps, the chairmen seem anxious to get over the ground as quickly as possible when there is something worth looking at deliberately and in a leisurely manner, while at other times, when speed is particularly desirable, they lag sadly. It becomes, therefore, very important to learn enough of Chinese to be able to say *mun mun nung*, "go slowly," and *fai tee nung*, "go quickly." All classes must content themselves with the chair, or walk; for the poor Chinese laborer, his wealthy countryman, and the English nabob alike there is no other alternative. There is, however, great diversity in the style of chair. Those of the rich are of larger size, are provided with glass slides instead of water-proof curtains, and have many little accommodations to the requirements of luxurious tastes. They are careful also to have the chair swung on poles of a flexible wood, which greatly modifies the jerking motion caused by the bearers when moving rapidly. The bearers, too, are dressed in a neat uniform, and one or more extra sets are in attendance to relieve the tired ones.

A R. R. C.

For the Christian Messenger.

BOOKS FOR REV. S. THOMPSON.

Dear Bro. Selden,—

The remarks of your correspondent "D." (C. M. Aug. 27th), with reference to furnishing books for Bro. Thompson, who has lost nearly all his by fire, appear to me well worthy of attention and action. Undoubtedly there are many persons who can spare a useful volume or two from their libraries without any real inconvenience.—It may not, however, in all cases be convenient to transmit them directly to him. I beg, therefore, assured of your readiness to aid in this good work, to propose that donors living remote from him send the books to you, to be kept till he may get some friend to call for them, or opportunity may occur to forward them. You may expect a parcel from me for this purpose ere long. Having long enjoyed the pleasure of a very satisfactory acquaintance with Bro. Thomson, I do not hesitate to express assurance that any aid afforded him in this time of adversity will be bestowed on a truly worthy object.

Yours ever,

CHARLES TUPPER.

Aylesford, Sept. 8, 1873.

[Any such parcels, tied up securely and directed—we shall be glad to receive and forward to our Brother if sent within a week or two.—Ed. C. M.]

The following account of the Young Men's Christian Association Convention was kindly supplied to us by E. D. King, Esq., one of the delegates from Halifax.

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION CONVENTION AT TRURO.

The Seventh Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of the Maritime Provinces, which commenced its session at Truro on Thursday, 4th inst., proved to be one of the most interesting and successful which has yet been held.

The Convention organized on Thursday morning by the appointment of the usual committees, and the election of the following officers, viz.:

President—F. W. Hales, Esq., of Charlottetown.

Vice-Presidents—H. Thane Miller, Esq., of Cincinnati; J. K. Blair, Esq., of Truro; J. Newton Freeman, Esq., of Liverpool; Rev. L. Gaetz, of Fredericton; H. B. White, of St. John; and B. N. Fullerton, of Parrsboro'.

Secretaries—W. B. McNutt, of Halifax; E. T. C. Knowles, of St. John; and Thos. Clarke, of Truro.

Reports from Associations, many of which were of a most interesting character, were then heard until late in the afternoon, when the Convention adjourned preparatory to the WELCOME MEETING, which was held in the very commodious and comfortable Presbyterian Church at half past seven o'clock in the evening.

Every one familiar with the Association work understands the importance which attaches to this meeting. The interchange of greetings gives expression to the warm-

hearted sympathy with which christian brethren have come together to strengthen and encourage each other in winning souls to the Master, and the addresses are usually of a very interesting character.

The welcome at Truro was unusually earnest and cheering, and fitly foreshadowed the stirring meetings which followed. The speakers, who were introduced by Jas. K. Blair, Esq., Chairman of the meeting, were W. Cummings, Esq., President of the Truro Y. M. C. Association, on behalf of the Association; Mr. Russell, on behalf of the citizens; and Rev. J. E. Goucher, on behalf of the clergy of Truro. Responses were made, on behalf of the Convention, by the President, F. W. Hales, Vice-President, H. Thane Miller, and by other delegates present.

Want of time prevents me from giving even an outline of these addresses, but as we listened to them we felt more willing than ever to give the Master himself a warmer welcome to our hearts.

On Friday, in the morning session, a very interesting discussion took place on the question of "Systematic Benevolence." The Rev. Mr. McCurdy, of New Glasgow, who opened the discussion, read an able paper on the subject, taking as his text the words of the apostle, "On the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God has prospered him." His address was an eloquent advocacy of the system of voluntary weekly offerings for the support of the various benevolent operations of the christian church, and was listened to with great interest. He stated that the system, so ably vindicated by him, had been almost universally adopted by the Presbyterian Churches of the Maritime Provinces, where it was in very successful operation, and he felt sure that so soon as christians everywhere should become fully alive to their responsibilities, a similar system would be adopted by them.

In the afternoon session W. Walsh, Esq., of St. John, read a very able and interesting paper showing the strong temptations to which young men are exposed, and the work of the Associations in respect to them. The discussion which followed manifested great earnestness and enthusiasm in connexion with this branch of christian work, and a warm desire to throw around the tempted the protectingegis of christian benevolence and sympathy. An interesting paper was also read by W. H. Wiswell, of Halifax, showing the comparative advantages of town and country for the growth of personal piety.

"Responsibilities of young men" which was well opened by A. H. Patterson, Esq., of Amherst, was the subject of the stirring addresses of Friday evening; on Saturday morning an interesting discussion took place on "the test of membership" opened by R. N. Beckwith, Esq., of Halifax; and in the afternoon F. W. Hales, Esq., of Charlottetown introduced the subject of "recreations &c." in connection with Young Men's Christian Associations, in an interesting and very excellent address. On Saturday evening a crowded house assembled to listen to a discussion of the question: "How can our Christian homes be made more effective in bringing young men to Christ?" and very earnest appeals were delivered by the various speakers. These discussions were sustained throughout with great earnestness and enthusiasm, infusing zeal in the hearts of all present, and throwing out many practical hints of great value in connexion with christian work.

The daily Sessions of the Convention were chiefly held in the Baptist Meeting House, but in the evening the meetings, with one exception, were held in the large Presbyterian House, the only building in Truro capable of seating the large and attentive audience which gathered together on those occasions.

Addresses to the unconverted were given at the close of the meeting each evening by H. Thane Miller, Esq., whose earnest touching appeals and sweet songs of Zion will not soon be forgotten by those who were privileged to hear them.

The Holy Spirit was very manifestly present in all our meetings. Christians were abundantly revived and strengthened, and many sinners were led to cry out "What must I do to be saved?" and doubtless while we write the gracious work is extending.

Prayer meetings were held every morning and open air services every evening during the Convention. On Sunday there was a "Praise meeting" at 9 o'clock in the morning, a large meeting of the Sabbath School children at three o'clock, and a meeting of the young men of Truro at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

An immense congregation of people as-