

FROM LIVERPOOL TO NOVA SCOTIA.

Under the above title Rev. John Brown has forwarded the diary of his voyage out to this country. We make a few extracts.

He says:—

April 28.—Delayed several hours last night on account of the dense fogs. Had a little snow this morning. Weather severely cold. We are now getting into the icefields, the ship sailing very slowly, or just keeping her ground. This ice comes from the River St. Lawrence. Immense blocks are constantly striking against the ship, as if determined to break a hole in her. Some of them must be several tons in weight; they vary from the size of a turnip to 180ft. or 200ft. across, and about five or six feet thick. The man on the lookout is constantly signalling to the captain, who is doing his best to keep clear of the larger pieces. Nothing but ice is now seen the whole horizon round, and being snowy white the sight is beyond description.—These ice-blocks are of the most fantastic and grotesque forms. Some have beautiful arches of snow rising several feet above the water, with the icicles hanging from them, on which is reflected from the water beneath, a rich celestial blue. Others appear like a flat roof, supported by a number of snow-white marble pillars. Here is one coming along like an immense mushroom, fifteen or twenty feet in diameter, with a stem of three or four feet diameter. Now comes along a large piece of ice with something like a table, and on the floor a large bust; a wag observed it was the bust of Neptune. And now, among a thousand strange forms and figures, there is one very much like a large goose, but occasionally the ice-geese sail first. There is such a variety of forms that description seems impossible. Our breath looks very much like smoke on account of the cold. Just been up on deck after having a few hours below deck. 12.30 p. m., London time 4.30 a. m., wind blowing keenly and snow falling, not in flakes as in England, but short thin particles sharp at both ends, which seem to prick as they strike the face. Iceblocks seem to be growing into icebergs, and now as I write they are crashing up with a noise like thunder against the ship. A number of us got together and sang, "My Jesus, I love Thee," "There is a Fountain," "Sun of my soul," and read John xiv. A very happy season.

Some on board are fearing we shall get shut up in the ice. On inquiry of the steward we have found that there are three months' provisions on board. Isaiah xli. 10 is still in full force.

April 29.—Icefields safely passed. Fears dispelled. *Laud Deo!* Several real icebergs are seen in the distance. An old tar tells me that one is about 160 feet high.—They look like floating silver ruins. The captain gives them all the room they require, as it is generally believed that icebergs are like some men, best at a distance. At 9.30 a. m., sighted land (Newfoundland, as the ship calls at St. John's on her way), much joy on board, as we have not seen land since the 23rd. Field glasses in great demand, and "Land, land, land," is in everyone's mouth. The coast has a very wild and barren appearance; the entrance to the harbour is narrow with a rising hill each side, much like Queenstown, with a fortification on one side; fired two guns and made fast at 4.45 p. m.

As we had two or three hours to stay, some of us went ashore. The town has a most wretched and dilapidated appearance, perhaps because of the winter now just passed. Houses principally of wood. The Roman Catholic cathedral is a very fine building, standing on an elevated spot, with two towers, a clock on one and a sundial on the other. Catholics are very numerous here, and I am told there are a great many poor people. A good deal of ice and snow are seen in corners, but it is rapidly passing away. Dirty, lanky, starving-looking pigs and goats wander about the streets, cocks and hens and dogs are seen almost everywhere. A Dorsetshire man, seeing we were Englishmen, "made fast" to us, and the questions he asked were legion; we could not answer half of them; we informed him, however, that the Queen was quite well.

Across the harbour are seen a number of large icicles hanging from a rock; they appear to be about seven or eight feet long and as thick as a man's leg. The harbour is beautifully sheltered by rising hills.—Some of the passengers, it appears, made too free with the decanter on shore, as there have been two engagements on board. About seven o'clock we steamed off and made for the Atlantic again. A beautiful

evening, the sun being quite warm. As we sailed down the coast of Newfoundland, sang several of Sankey's songs, the soldiers and others joining right heartily, the words and music being now pretty generally known. The sun is now setting over the mountains of Newfoundland, and a glorious night it is. He has set some hours ago at home, and the loved ones in England are, I suppose, now enjoying the "sweet restorer."

Much excitement on board, for some one has seen a whale. In numbers of places water is seen to rise like a cloud or fountain for several feet. Two or three away to the right have just lifted up their enormous heads. I don't know how Jonah felt when he was received by one of their race. On the left there are several more sporting about. One has just shown us ten or twelve feet of his back. He is of a dark colour.

We are now approaching the spot where the Atlantic was lost. May the God of waters preserve us from a similar fate!

April 30.—Safe out at sea again. Nothing but sky and sea to be seen.

A strong wind is now blowing from the south, the ship sailing for many miles so much aside as to render it almost impossible to walk, unless by laying hold of something every step. Got a complete upset by a soldier who had lost his equilibrium; right eye rather badly bruised. There are frequent collisions, too, among the crockery, cans, bottles, etc. The stewardess has just passed along with a very nice plum-pudding—for we live in good style; The ship gives a sudden lurch, and the whole is precipitated to the ground.

Five o'clock.—Have just been amusing myself looking over the bow, and watching the Nestorian splitting up the blocks of ice that come against her, for it is absolutely impossible to escape all.

Ten o'clock.—Cleared the ice. Ship steaming ahead again in grand style. God speed thee, Nestorian! I am now in the full enjoyment of a sight I have for years wished to look up, viz., moonlight at sea.

May 1.—Glorious morning. Sun shining in all his glory. He has been rather shy the last few days. May, however, has come in right royally. Would that friends at home could enjoy with us this lovely May morning. Cold still rather severe, and two top-coats are necessary. Early this morning a "a little stranger" came among us. The question is being discussed as to what country she belongs, and what her name should be; it was decided unanimously that she claim Nova Scotia as her country, and that ubiquitous wag suggested that her name be Neptuna Atlanta; this also was agreed to *nem. con.* We are now going 14 knots an hour. Numbers for the last few hours have been on the look-out for land.

Twelve o'clock.—268 miles, 2488 from Queenstown, and 27 from Halifax.

One o'clock. Sighted land. The good news is spreading rapidly through the ship, and the deck has a very animated appearance. Beautiful afternoon; everybody in high glee. The land is becoming more and more distinct, and feelings of gratitude fill our hearts that we have been brought thus far safely. Just signalled for a pilot. Great deal of "brushing up" on board, for the toilettes have been much neglected at sea. Pilot boat heaving in sight. This is a very splendid harbour. There is a large island at the entrance called MacNab, and a small one further in, on which there is a very strong fortification, or citadel, as they call it here. Many hundreds of people are seen on the wharves and other places, watching the steamer coming in; two guns were fired, and we made fast about four o'clock, being ten days almost to an hour from the time we left Liverpool. There was much mutual congratulation; many of us, however, knew none and were known by none. As soon as the footway was fixed, Bro. E. M. Saunders, M. A., and Dr. Clay were on board, and having found us, gave us a very warm welcome. Bro. J. F. Avery was also soon with us, and most cordially greeted us. These good brethren then took us under their care till we should be appointed to our different spheres. "So He brought us to our desired haven. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless His holy name."

AMONGST THE BAPTISTS OF NOVA SCOTIA.

In a subsequent issue of *The Baptist* we find an article from the same pen under the above title. He tells what he saw on the way to Berwick, and whilst he remained there:—"On Saturday, April 11, I took train from Halifax for Berwick, King's County, a distance of about eighty miles, and as the carriages are so constructed as

to allow of getting outside, I availed myself of the privilege to see the country. For nearly the whole distance the line runs through forest brushwood, in some parts displaying great beauty, in others, where fires had swept through, it looked very desolate. We passed some most magnificent lakes, one particularly striking, having four little green islands in it. Some remnants of winter in the form of ice and snow are still to be seen. We saw as we came along a few of the aborigines of the province, who were copper-coloured, living in small wooden buildings.

We got to Berwick at noon, and were met by a worthy and stalwart Baptist brother. The conference began at two o'clock and closed at 5.45. About 100 of the brethren and sisters spoke, no one occupying more than five or six minutes. A lad of about ten rose and said—"Jesus says, 'Suffer little children to come unto me,' etc., and then sat down. A young girl about fifteen rose and said—"I stand up to testify for Jesus; I desire to love Him more and serve Him better." Many other young people spoke of their love to the Saviour. Nearly 200 persons have been brought to Christ in this district within the last few weeks, among whom was one old man about eighty. The presence of the Lord seemed to fill the place, while "young men and maidens, old men and children praised the name of the Lord," many with tears flowing down their cheeks. Towards the close of the meeting, Brother Wallace, agent of the N. S. Baptist Board, and president of the meeting, asked any present who might wish to follow Christ to stand and make it known, when two or three rose and expressed their desire to follow Him, and to unite with the Church. A show of hands was called for, and they were unanimously accepted and baptized on the following morning.

On Sunday, April 12, the sun shining down in all his glory, I went at ten o'clock to the river, to witness the baptism. Some hundreds of people had assembled, and there were about thirty conveyances. Mr. Wallace read several portions bearing on baptism, and after prayer and singing he led the candidates into the river. Having baptized them, he announced that if there were any amongst the spectators who believed in Jesus, and who wished to be baptized, he should be happy to wait upon them; and, there being no response, he spoke for a short time, and closed with prayer.

At eleven o'clock I preached from Heb. x. 23, to a very crowded congregation. After the sermon, the Lord's Supper was observed, and seven received the right hand of fellowship. Mr. Wallace then read the "Articles of our Faith" and the "Covenant" (which I send by this post), the whole congregation of some 500 or 600, standing. This meeting closed about two o'clock.

After a hasty dinner, we went to Cambridge—a distance of five miles—where others were waiting to be baptized. Seeing a very aged and very coloured man and his wife, the latter wearing a black veil. I went and gave them a hearty shake of the hand, and said, "I hope you are bound for the kingdom." The wife replied, "Yes; I trust I am"; the husband, however, could not say so. A great crowd had collected at the river, there being here also as many as twenty-five or thirty conveyances. As Mr. Wallace led one of the young women into the river, she having publicly stated, "I desire to love God, and obey His commands," the brethren sang, "There are angels hovering round," repeating it several times.

After she was baptized they sang—  
To carry the tidings home,  
When the second, who was sister to the first, was baptized, they sang, also repeating it several times—  
And Jesus bids them come,  
To the New Jerusalem.

A young man was then baptized, after which Mr. Wallace said, "Lord, we have done as Thou hast commanded, and yet there is room."

After prayer and praise, we went to the chapel, or as it is called here, the church, where a large congregation was gathered. I began the service at 4.20, while Brother Wallace, after making some announcements, set off for a journey of ten miles, again to baptize and preach the Gospel. Having preached from Mark xvi. 16, and closed the meeting at six o'clock. I went with a brother to tea, and reached Berwick at 7.45. A large congregation was waiting, the time of service being 7.30. Having spoken from Mark xvi. 15 to a most attentive people, the meeting was closed at nine o'clock.

The Lord is evidently working mightily in this district in this province. To those in the dear old country we say, "Brethren, pray for us, that the Word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified." He the harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few.

J. BROWN.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

BOSTON CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Brother,—

You are probably aware that a movement has been set on foot to endow a Professorship in Acadia College, by the Provincialists residing in this country. Rev. J. F. Kempton by appointment of the Endowment Committee has entered zealously into the work as agent. According to announcement a meeting was held last night in the vestry of the First Baptist Church, (Dr. Neale's) which was kindly placed at our disposal, to consider the interests of our Institution. The meeting was not large, but we hope something was done towards enlisting the sympathy and co-operation of those present. It was opened by prayer by Dr. Hovey and singing by a select choir provided by Bro L DeWolfe, of Charlestown. Bro. Kempton briefly explained the object of the meeting and presented some facts in reference to Acadia College, after which he called on the following brethren, who made interesting addresses.

Dr. Hovey referred to his acquaintance with the Provinces and especially with Acadia College. He knew its President and knew the kind of work done in it by the students who came from that Institution to Newton, most, if not all of whom did honor to their College. He believed in institutions under the control of religious bodies, referring to what Amherst College had done for the Congregationalists of New England. He was convinced the Maritime Provinces need and must have such an Institution as Acadia College. It may have times of weakness as is experienced in the history of every institution but it must live. He remembered the time when Newton was \$20 000 in debt. At that time they made an effort to raise \$50 000 but its friends were discouraged, as half that would be required to pay the debt. They then proposed twice that amount and succeeded. Since that they have doubled this last by another effort, and have done it more easily than the first. He was anxious to see the people in this country take hold of this matter, and believed money contributed here would be worth twice the same amount raised in the Provinces on account of the encouragement it would give to those who labored for it.

Dr. Stearn's spoke of his early acquaintance with the Provinces and his impression that Colby University where he had studied, would be all the Provinces required as they could forget the line and send their students into Maine for an education; but when he had visited them and got acquainted with the old men who had labored so long for their Institution, and the interest they felt in its welfare, he came to the conclusion, that the Baptists of the Provinces must have a college for themselves. He referred to the honored names of Crawley, Cramp, Tupper, and others who were so firmly convinced of its importance, and whose opinions were so valuable. He did not fear that a college like Acadia should die. You may as well try to kill a Baptist church, as a college. It may run low sometimes but will revive again.

Rev. J. Morton spoke of the necessity of endowing a chair of Natural Science and of the loss the College sustained in losing Prof. Elder on account of lack of means, Colby has obtained a prize at a great expense to Acadia.

Prof. Gould feared he might be considered heretical, but he did not believe in multiplying institutions of learning. They must ever remain weak, and tend to retard rather than advance higher education. Acadia College, however, was a positive necessity, and must live at any expense and any sacrifice. He wished to impress two points on the minds of its friends.

1. It is an actual necessity that it should be sustained. 2. There is some danger of its dying. He emphasized the necessity of a chair of Natural Science. Any college without such a department could not expect to prosper.

Our excellent brother DeWolfe, made some practical remarks, and was willing to "fill his place" in sustaining Acadia Col-

lege as in other work for the Master. We have tangible evidence of his interest in a liberal donation. Our brethren at home will be encouraged by the co-operation of those across the line, and the deep interest felt by the Faculty of Newton. Acadia and Newton must go hand in hand. Bro. Kempton is using every possible means to advance the work, and you will hear from him in time.

Yours, &c.,

H. M.

Boston, July 8th.

For the Christian Messenger.

A SAD ACCIDENT AT DIGBY.

On Saturday evening, July 4, a very sad circumstance occurred in this place, resulting in the death of bro. Wm. Farnham. He with a younger brother went out in a small boat to set a lobster trap, when he accidentally fell overboard and was drowned. Through the praiseworthy efforts of a number of our townsmen, the body was recovered on Sabbath morning. His funeral took place on Wednesday, and was largely attended by sympathizing friends.

This is a very heavy affliction to bro. Farnham and his family. It is one of the dark ways of the Lord, towards our little church in Digby; hence it is a cloud with a silver fringe. This young man was a member of the Brussels St. Church of St. John, N. B. About two months ago he came to reside here; and as is most consistent had decided to remove his membership. Among his papers is found the draft of a letter to his church in St. John asking for a letter of dismission. It was lovingly and wisely dictated. I copy a portion of it, as it is a model in its way not often given by older church members. He says:

"As I have left you for the purpose of residing in Digby. I feel as though I should like to join the church here as it is very small and weak. . . . I hope that by the power and grace of the Lord who is mighty to save our church here will be built up. May the Lord be with you all."—The italics are mine.—The very reason he assigns for wishing to unite is one too frequently used for refraining from doing so. How easy it is to see the consistent way when the heart is right. On the day following his death he was expected to join our staff of Sabbath School teachers, and we very much needed his aid. God has unexpectedly called him to higher service, and we know he will supply our needs. For this we look to Him believingly; and we shall not be disappointed. There is

A VERY ENCOURAGING INCIDENT

in the life of this young brother, which I desire to put on record. He is a relative of one of our Foreign Missionaries, Miss F. G. Eton, now in Siam. On the occasion of the farewell services held in St. John N. B., last fall he went forward and made himself known to her. In the course of a brief interview she urged him to give his heart and service to the Saviour, and prepare to meet her in heaven. The Spirit gave power to this word and he yielded. He was baptized by Rev. Mr. Everitt. Two days after his death a letter came for him from our dear sister, a portion of which we take the liberty to copy, as it so well illustrates one of God's chosen methods of saving sinners. It is dated:

"Steam Ship Ananda,  
Tonqua Harbor,  
Mar. 18th, 1874.

Dear Cousin Fred,—

I received your letter in New York, and it gave me more happiness than I can express. I wanted to answer immediately but perhaps you will be better pleased to receive a letter written out here than in Scotland.

I need not tell you of my surprise when I read that letter, for I had no idea that I had said a word to you worthy of such a blessing from God. But I was indeed thankful to know that you had given your heart to the Saviour, and that henceforth your life was to be devoted to His service. Learn a lesson from the way in which he led you to Himself. Sometimes we think we can say so very little to a person that could do them good, and so little likely to help them at all, that we in our ignorance of the ways of the Most High do not open our lips. Had we spoken the word which the Spirit prompted to our hearts God might have blessed it to the saving of a soul. It is not always the greatest efforts that God blesses. Let us seek to please and honor Him in small as well as in great matters, and He will give His blessing. You are I hope, dear Fred, daily seeking to lead some poor sinner to trust in Christ. You know we were saved, that henceforth we might not live unto ourselves, but unto