

to seek a conformity to Him who bore it. Let us bow beneath the power of his significant utterance at his own baptism, "Thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness." So shall we be Baptists indeed—Christian Baptists—Christlike Baptists—bearing about with us the Christlike resemblance—pressing on to be gloriously like him in the land of glory—and praying, and labouring that others may be persuaded to go with us to that glorious land.

If this our exhortation should stir up any among our brotherhood to aim more decisively at an imitation of their Lord and ours, it will not have been written in vain. To this end the good Lord bless it! And yet we have in view still one thing more. We want you, brethren, in the spirit of this letter, to turn your attention to our Island Baptist History. It is, from numerical considerations alone, twice as important as it was, some few years since, that you should do so. If we can but obtain the men and the means which we so deeply need for the prosecution of the Gospel Commission on this Island, there is clearly opening before us, by God's blessing, such a prospect as never presented itself before. Yes! on our little Island, "the darkness is past, and true light now shineth"—shineth with a new animating splendor. We are just at a crisis at which it has become desirable that our story in the past should be written down,—that we may see "the way in which the Lord our God has led us;" take account of our trials, on the one hand, and our prosperity on the other; be incited to thankfulness while reviewing the past, and to more vigorous and prayerful effort while looking forward to the future. So shall we profit by our review of the past, as we derive new light and courage to press forward into the future.

That is all, dear brethren. You may look for communications ere long under whose guidance you may act in collecting materials for our little record. With which notice we commend the matter now placed before you to such consideration as it deserves. And would to God that we may every one of us find our several names inscribed in God's everlasting records,—in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." It will then be comparatively a small matter where else our names are not written; and thrice happy will they be who thus find themselves entitled to the privileges of the Heavenly City, while there their story and their sorrows alike find their end.

THE BAPTISM OF MR. SPURGEON'S SONS.

The Tabernacle has seldom been so full as it was on Monday evening 21st ult. Every available seat was occupied from floor to ceiling by a deeply interested audience. The occasion was the baptism of Mr. Spurgeon's twin sons, now in their eighteenth year, and Mr. Spurgeon himself officiated. Such an event could hardly fail to bring together a sympathetic audience, but the numbers present must have gratified the most sanguine. After prayer had been offered by Mr. James Spurgeon and the senior deacon, Mr. W. Olney, the pastor took his accustomed place and delivered a very appropriate and telling address on the subjects and the mode of baptism. He showed that parents whose children were sprinkled could not consistently look for their conversion as they were already claimed as members of the Church of God. He contended that God could not accept a child by proxy, and that it was presumption on the part of any one to undertake to do for them what they could not do for themselves. "We shall have," he said, "the worship of God by proxy next while men are asleep, and they will be chloroformed into godliness." This is certainly as rational as to claim for unconscious infants their introduction to the church as the result of their being sprinkled.

Dr. Brock followed with a few fitly chosen sentences, and pleaded with the youthful portion of the assembly to seek conversion first, and then come forward to be baptized. More prayer and singing followed, and then Mr. Spurgeon stepped to the front, and led his son Charles into the pool. Thomas followed immediately, and the service was concluded with the doxology.

Mrs. Spurgeon was enabled to be present to witness the ceremony; and it may also interest our readers to know that Master Charles Spurgeon has entered a merchant's office in the city, while Thomas is pursuing his

studies as an artist. It is not consistent with Mr. Spurgeon's views to send them to college at present, but the desire of his heart and his prayer to God is that they may be called forth to labour in the vineyard as good servants of Jesus Christ.—The Baptist.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mr. Editor,—

Please give me a little space in your paper in which to compress a few statements about the article in your last on "The Pulpit."

I am shocked that the writer should personate the great French Divine and orator. "Massillon" never gave such an audience, as your readers, a hash of Latin and mother-tongue. He would have despised himself for approaching the readers of a religious paper in the *Canis-currat-in-the-swampscapere-hares, felis-sedit-by-a-hole-prendere rats* style. Paul regards the speaker in an unknown tongue a "barbarian."

"Massillon" first compares the subject-matter of the pulpit, with the subject-matter of the "secular orator," the "scholar," and "the philosopher." Doubtless he will find the entire pulpit at one with him in his opinions on this point. But then he compares the preacher's efforts with the efforts of the secularist. The secular orator is perfection itself. In skill, and style, and matter he is high and dry above all criticism; but what of the man in the pulpit? "Go into the chapel, to hear a "modern preacher." He lines out a hymn.—Credit me with italicising "lines." "A scripture lesson will nigh half an hour long follows. Incorrect" "Massillon." The modern preacher does not read a scripture lesson half an hour long.

"The scripture read not unlikely embracing half a dozen topics that have little or no connexion with each other."

Who is to blame for that? Did the preacher make and arrange the bible? "Massillon" must settle that little fault of the preacher with the preacher's God.

"One would almost suppose it was a shift to kill time."

Some men make heaps of books, but God has only given us one, and that one "Massillon" can carry in his breast pocket. To call the attention of an audience of immortal souls to the word of the eternal God for half an hour, "is a shift to kill time," is it! Oh, oh, oh, oh, "Massillon" may cultivate his peculiar habit by counting the foregoing oh's; but many as they are, they do not express all the surprise produced by his notion of time-killing. Then comes the prayer of a certain preacher. "Massillon" counted the "oh's" and was amused by the suggestion of the "little game" "tit, tat, O."

Fancy Massillon sitting on a stone and amusing himself with counting the "O's" and shaking his sides over the "little game tit, tat, O, rub out X and put in O," when these words—"O Lord hear. O Lord forgive. O Lord hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God"—ascended to God's throne from the quivering lips of Daniel!

Suppose he had been caught in his profane folly by Gabriel, when he came! What would this holy being have said and done to him? I am not certain that he would not have boxed his ears and said, "Get you gone," this man Daniel is engaged in litiing a nation out of bondage and exile."

Not quite so fast, "Massillon."—Stop and compare the audiences of the secularist and the preacher. "Skimpole" the lawyer, and Demosthenes the statesman, are not called upon to address themselves to men, women and children of every class and condition in life. Think too, Mr. "Massillon," of the two or three, and often more, sermons per week, that are expected from the preacher. The lawyers and statesmen do not speak so frequently. They have more time to prepare. The result of the comparison, half stated and half implied, and so much to the disadvantage of the "pulpit," I flatly deny. This denial will be sustained, if the first men from the secular and sacred spheres are compared; and it will be made good, equally well by comparing the rank and file.

I now close, Mr. Editor, by stating that neither in style, nor fact, nor skill is your author worthy of the name of "Massillon;" and he may think himself fortunate if the shade of Massillon does not trouble him for this rash act of personating. The spirit of the article is as bad as the matter is faulty. "Massillon" must have a sac of acid

slung where "bowels of kindness" ought to be.

Let him go on, but you may expect that he will be followed by

Yours,  
Very truly,  
"SLIP-SHOD."

Home Missions.

Dear Editor,—According to my usual custom I have taken the month of September for a holiday season. While absent from home a great many letters connected with our Home Mission work came to my address. The writers of those letters will please consider my absence from my post a sufficient explanation for not replying to them promptly.

At the last meetings of our Board the following resignations were presented:

1. Rev. I. Wallace, our General Agent.

The enfeebled state of his wife's health rendered this course necessary. He has accepted the pastorate of the Berwick church. The Board and bro. Wallace deeply regret that circumstances compelled him to resign. The Board are taking steps to have bro. Wallace's place supplied at an early date.

2. Samuel Brown, Esq., the Treasurer of our Board. The state of bro. Brown's health has been very poor for several months. His infirmities were such that he felt it his duty to resign. He was such a faithful officer of the Board that it was with sorrow his resignation was accepted.

The following appointments were recently made:—

1. P. D. Kinney, Esq., Treasurer, vice S. Brown, Esq., resigned.

2. J. C. Anderson, Esq., Auditor, vice P. D. Kinney, Esq.

3. Bro. Benjamin Miller for 8 weeks to Parker's Cove and Litchfield.

4. Bro. Isaac R. Skinner to Margaree, Cape Breton, with a view to a permanent settlement.

5. Rev. W. E. Hall for 4 weeks to Musquodoboit Valley, to explore the field and report thereon.

6. Rev. J. Meadows was requested to labour at Musquodoboit during the portion of his time which is not at present occupied.

7. Bro. Z. C. Vickery for 6 weeks at Upper Carleton, Yarmouth County.

8. Bro. W. Mortimer McVicar to Parrsboro and Westbrook, with a view to settlement.

9. Rev. Joseph Murray is recommended to Summerside, P. E. I. If he should not use the recommendation he will please let us know at once, as many of our vacant churches would be glad to obtain his services.

10. Bro. Caleb C. Burgess will soon proceed to Prince Edward Island to labour there.

The Book Department.—The Books of the American Baptist Publication Society, and of other Societies, can be obtained of us at a cheaper rate than they can be purchased by private parties in Boston.

A. J. Walker, Esq., our Colporteur, is now travelling in the Counties of Cumberland and Colchester. He will make Truro his headquarters. Any books, papers, maps, &c., needed for the Sunday school or the family can be obtained through him from us at the most reasonable rates.

The Baptists of Nova Scotia have a favourable opportunity now for putting their own pure literature in their Sabbath Schools and families. If truth should be a little dearer than error, are we to prefer error to the truth?

Pastoral changes.—Rev. J. Rowe has resigned at Hebron. Rev. P. R. Foster has resigned at Tuskent. He goes to Lower Granville. Rev. J. Williams has resigned at Arcadia and Chebogue. Rev. P. Murray is moving to Chegoggin. He is to labour a part of the time at Lake George.

Rev. A. B. Earle, the celebrated American Revivalist, will commence a series of services with us next week. Probably he will spend a short time in Halifax.

G. E. DAY,  
Cor. Sec. of Union,  
Yarmouth, Oct. 9, 1874.

We have to apologize for some disorder in the arrangement of the columns of our first page last week. The column which appeared as the fifth should have been the third. We are not disposed, as some of our contemporaries, to charge such mistakes to "the devil." It arose from want of proper attention on the part of one of our compositors,—a very human matter.

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., OCTOBER 14, 1874.

EXHIBITION WEEK has come and gone, and is now numbered with the things of the past. As the reports of the long list of prizes has filled up so much space in the daily press, we do not propose to weary our readers by a long account of the many aspects in which it might be presented. We must however, take just a glance for the information and benefit of some of our readers in the country, who may perhaps see no other Halifax paper.

At the opening of the Chief Justice, on behalf of the Commissioners, introduced Lieutenant Governors Archibald and Tilley, the Admiral and commander-in-chief, by a very brief address.

Mr. Archibald's Opening Address was a glowing description of the capabilities of the province, a sketch of its history and the history of its Exhibitions, taking an enlarged view of what may be expected in the future by the application of enlightened industry. The products of the soil as shown by the samples before his audience he said ensured an indefinite onward progress.

The attendance on the opening day was not so large as probably it would have been if the price of admission had been the same as on the subsequent days. During the afternoons of Wednesday and Thursday the rooms were densely and uncomfortably crowded.

The display of fruit was very fine. Apples were of course the prevailing class, the number of varieties and the clear distinction preserved between those varieties was no less remarkable than the perfection to which they had all been brought, shewing the perfect adaptation of our country to the raising of that fruit. Pears were also there in large quantities and of the richest kinds. Plums too, and grapes, and quinces, and peaches, were there from various parts of the country.

Only six counties competed for the prizes offered for County collections. Some of these have not heretofore been regarded as fruit-growing counties.

Roots and vegetables, tomatoes, and squashes there were very large and handsome and in considerable quantities. Flowers, too, there were rich and rare, some exquisite bouquets in vases. The collection of foliage plants was most beautiful—some having the most curiously marked and strangely shaped leaves. These were principally from Harris's Nursery and a few of the private hot-houses in the city.

The textile manufactures consisted of homespun, rugs, carpets, shawls, &c., &c. Many of these were not inferior in finish, but far superior in strength to imported manufactures, although of course done mostly by farmers' wives and daughters. One very superior piece of carpet we saw which had been made by Mrs. Sibley, of Stewiacke. We learned that the loom in which it was woven was also set up by her son. It would have been more satisfactory if the names of the makers of the several fabrics had been given on all the articles.

The next room contained dairy produce, the butter of the Alderney cows of richest color and quality obtained most attention; manufactured articles in harness, soaps, bookbinding from the firm of R. T. Muir & Co. A handsome case of boots and shoes from the establishment of G. S. Yates & Co, shewed that his workmen comprise skill and taste of a very high order, and that there is now no need of importing goods in that line. Although there were no prizes offered for such articles yet we think an "honorable mention" is richly deserved for this addition to the skilled artisans department. It is to be regretted that there was not some more effort made to include manufactures in the Exhibition. Such a large concourse of people being in the city from the rural districts would have been able to see at the same time the progress made by our artisans. One new branch was however, exhibited in the two handsome organs of Messrs. Gates, of Wilmot, N. S. So far as we had opportunities of judging they were in no respect inferior to the imported instruments. The proprietors having obtained their experience in some of the best manufacturing in the United States they now return to work up the materials in their native province, and deserve encouragement.

Going to the sheds erected in the adjoining fields we saw the Live Stock arranged in order. The oxen were very large. The 1st prize of \$50 for the largest and fattest pair was taken

by John Allison, of Newport. 2nd prize of \$40, by Edwin Chase, of Cornwallis, and 3rd of \$25 by Leonard Maxwell, of Windsor.

The 1st prize of \$30 for Durham Bulls was taken by the Annapolis Agricultural Society; the 2nd prize of \$20 by the Union Society of Cornwallis; the 3rd of \$15 by J. E. Starr.

The 1st prize of \$50 for the best herd of thorough-bred cattle was given to Mr. Edwin Chase.

We have not space for any full list of prizes.

The public schools and the inmates of our humane institutions amounting to several thousands of persons were admitted on Thursday and Friday mornings—much to their gratification. The work of the judges was doubtless a very arduous task, and it appears that their awards have pretty generally given satisfaction, but not absolutely so to all the parties concerned. There may possibly be some grounds for these complaints but we know nothing of them.

The closing of the Exhibition took place on Friday by an Address from the Hon. Mr. Tilley, Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick. He spoke in praise of the management of the Exhibition. The fruit he regarded such as would do credit to any country. He had seen other Nova Scotia Exhibitions, but none to equal this, in this respect. He thought New Brunswick could produce superior vegetables but the Nova Scotia cattle were superior to those of his province. Mr. T. noticed the flowers as indicating a highly cultivated taste in those who had supplied them. He regarded the exhibition as not only a great success but as an indication and proof of progressiveness in the people of the province, which would lead to future success and greatness. He suggested the importance of a much enlarged population and the need of encouraging immigration, together with the adoption means for improvement in agricultural operations. An Agricultural College he considered as a most desirable institution for the accomplishment of this object.

His Worship the Mayor then offered his congratulations on the orderly conduct of the visitors—characterized by the police authorities as "all ladies and gentlemen."

Cheers were given for the Queen and the two Lieutenant Governors.

The National Anthem was then sung and the exhibition closed.

We commend the following kind and timely suggestion from a brother in the country to all whom it may concern:—

Mr. Editor,—  
Having the pleasure of being a subscriber to the Christian Messenger for 30 years or more, and, in the main, I must acknowledge that I have been instructed and edified in its perusal, and hail its weekly return, with pleasure. There is one thing, allow me to say, I would like to see manifested—a little more of brotherly love and kindness in some of your correspondents' letters. I cannot see why brethren cannot write without overstepping the law, "speaking the truth in love," and try to avoid personalities and hard speaking, wounding the peace of others, and giving cause for our enemies to rejoice. Behold how good, and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. J. H.

Our brother's remarks remind us of a little bit of advice given on a public occasion, by an aged brother, now gone to his reward, to his friend who was contending with an opponent on some denominational question. "Brother," said he, "Throw smooth stones."

In the absence of any more practical constitutional question some of our contemporaries in this province and in New Brunswick are occasionally disposed to regale their readers with an article on Maritime Union. The St. John Telegraph gave in a recent number a sort of résumé of the question, which may not be unworthy of notice. We copy the article:

MARITIME UNION—WHAT THEY SAY.  
The Halifax Chronicle lately published an article on a Union of the Maritime Provinces, pointing out many considerations in favor of such Union, and mentioning, also, some of the objections that would be made to it. The Express, which is supposed to enjoy the honor and advantage of inspiration from the Globe House, at once took strong ground against the Union, for which it was blamed by the Citizen. The Reporter took a friendly attitude towards the Union, which was strongly favored by the Pictou Standard, a thoughtful paper, and other Nova Scotia journals. Since then the Chronicle seems to have "gone back" on the Union question. In its issue of the 28th, it published an article which is hostile to Union, which is praised by the Express as presenting "clearer views" to

the reader formerly paragraph views" art as follows: At this on the part the Island in semi-reli more or less desirable to our own fin Education administered be to inj we are prot vential ante every session them. This promulgation Government the organ that the U is to be op education Maritime Union mig cal, politici but then aggrandize single deno We grant Scotia if th such an rather to s to resolve retarded on to the re above refer "This pro education ministered, he to injur is decid'd Scotia Seb to that of provide for special den Union with Edward Isl by hangs t administrat Chronicle Union. W at least, t give to or jured, by v virtually s by the St danged w This gro not hold w it is not w of Separat whether I should adm of any o would say canker how politic in little fitted a Maritime its own me the specta subject of burning of contempl on the Pro be realiz however, i that even t assumed t consummation of that all rel treated pre DOMI The M lishes an with full the Conf some of papers w cusses to The one "The ch thing be doubt if too broad to deliv therefore subject. On th the Rev. read a p Lord reg bearing In th Cramp r the disti im shot fined tho ficiency knowledge 2. The s all relig right of a amine se all thing good. 4 by the ator Jesus Ch only, to t angelic vision Rev "Ultran Court Missions Lafleur subject. Essay o