

For the Christian Messenger.

A FRIEND OF THE MICMACS.

Dear Brother,—

A short communication from our anonymous friend deserves a brief notice. He has fallen into several errors which I would like to correct.

1. He says my communication in your issue of Oct. 6, "purports to be a reply to the enquiries of a friend of the Micmacs." Now I have distinctly stated in the first sentence of that communication, that I would not reply to his enquiries. For reasons given I said, "I do not feel at all disposed to answer his inquiries." And I did not answer one of them, nor "purport" to do so. As he himself affirms, "Nor one of these simple questions does Mr. Rand attempt to answer."

2. He says that I "demand a Scripture warrant for missionary premises." Why did he omit the clause that contains the very gist of the question? He should have said "A scripture warrant for missionary premises, prepared especially for the occasion."

3. He says, "He makes an attack upon the operations of other missionaries, who [are] imitating Paul the Apostle to the Gentiles, [who] ministered stately to the people in such houses as he could command."

I made no "attack" on anybody; but let that pass. I did not ask for Scripture direction or precedent, for those, who like Paul, can preach "in such houses as they can command," and who like Paul, when they cannot command a house, can preach in the open air, in the market place, in the forum, in the prison, in the vessel, yea everywhere and anywhere where they can get one or more hearers. But I asked for Scripture precedent, or direction, for those who unlike Paul, clamor for money with which to build missionary premises, meeting houses, school houses and boarding houses under the plea that these appendages are essential to Missionary operations. Now your correspondent evidently "purports" to answer this enquiry, and to bring forward the Scripture authority. Every one must see that he has most signally failed. "Paul ministered in the proscenium, in the synagogue, in the school of Tyrannus, and in his own hired house"!! ergo he could not get on without a building erected especially as missionary premises; and, I suppose, called on the brethren to raise the money by "hook or by crook"; if people would not give it for the sake of the gospel, why then let them get up such worldly merry-makings as bazaars, tea-meetings, strawberry festivals, oyster suppers, clam chowders, and hoc omne genus, in order to "raise the wind"!! Perhaps your correspondent who is so anxious about "evasion," can find scripture warrant for all these irreligious proceedings.

Will he have the kindness to mention the passages that teach that "Christ Himself provided rooms for his disciples to meet and worship in," as neither I nor any one else, I imagine, have ever read of them. Were they erected for that special purpose? Were the pews sold at auction and owned as private property by ungodly men as well as by the disciples? Were the pews rented in order to raise the ministers salary? According to the logic of your correspondent, since Paul never found any difficulty in getting a place to preach in, therefore he must have gone round the world getting up on the same principle new meeting-houses, I think it will surely follow that since he never had any trouble about his salary, they must have let the pews in those meeting-houses at a pretty high rent in order to raise the needful. Soberly, what a relief it would be to many conscientious christians, if proof from the scripture could be obtained to warrant these things. But alas, no amount of torture can wring from them any such sanction.

4. He lays it down as an axiom that the "christian public which in that time ("thirty years, perhaps nearer forty) has contributed probably between thirty and forty thousand dollars to this mission, have a right to demand a scriptural, christian and common-sense reply to at least some of the foregoing enquiries." Unquestionably so, say I. And whenever that august body, the christian public, shall ask these questions, or any other, I am prepared to answer them. Nay more, whenever any one whatsoever contributed a cent towards the mission, or any other person who will give me his address, shall ask "the foregoing questions," either through the public paper or privately, it will afford me great pleasure to answer them, as I have always done. Pray what kind of an opinion must

your correspondent have of the wisdom of the christian public? Have they, does he imagine, "for thirty years, (and perhaps nearer forty) been pouring out the dollars year after year to sustain an object of which they knew nothing? Have they all been so stupid hitherto as not to enquire what was done with their money? Can it be true, does any one suppose, that never until after the lapse of "thirty years, and perhaps nearer forty," has A FRIEND OF THE MICMACS been found to arise and enquire what has been done with all the thousands of dollars contributed towards the Micmac Mission? The idea is too absurd, surely, to be harbored by any man in his senses.

5. There are plenty of places, some near my own residence, and some farther off, where I am not very "stately" but "persistently" teaching the gospel to the Micmacs. Since commencing to write this communication, I have laid down my pen to read and expound Rom. 3 and 5 to an Indian who called to see me. I believe I have now answered all his enquiries. If he has any more, and you Mr. Editor, will consent to it, I will be very willing to answer them.

Yours truly, SILAS T. RAND.

Hantsport, Nov. 25.

IN MEMORIAM.

FREDERICK T. OAKES.

Resolutions offered by the First Baptist Church and Sabbath School of Swampscott: Whereas, "In the Providence of God, he has removed by death our friend and brother, Frederick T. Oakes, therefore,—Resolved, That while we would bow in humble submission to the Divine Will, and recognize in this sad bereavement the hand of Love, we must still from our human hearts, recall the loss we sustain in this sudden removal from our midst, of one who has so worthily filled so many places, to-day made vacant.

Resolved, That we who knew him, can bear testimony to his faithfulness, and his unflinching perseverance in whatever he deemed right. As a member of this church, an officer and co-worker in our Sabbath School, and an honored member in other organizations, his loss will be deeply felt, and his memory tenderly cherished.

Resolved, That we as fellow-laborers, bear the voice of God speaking to us to-day, admonishing us to be equally faithful, and ready to go when our Lord shall call.

Resolved, That we tender to the stricken ones, thus made desolate, our heart-felt sympathies, and the earnest desire, that in their deep affliction, they may enjoy the comfort, and support of the Divine Presence, and hear the same voice speaking peace to them, that gave and recalled the noble life, so soon terminated.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the family of the deceased, entered upon the Records of this Church, and Sabbath School, and printed in the Lynn Reporter, and Halifax Christian Messenger.

CHAS. H. ATKINS, Secretary.

WILLIAM TURNER.

Yesterday we laid to rest, in hope of a glorious resurrection, the remains of our venerable Bro. Turner (colored.) As it may be interesting to many of your readers, I send you the following brief memorial.

Yours truly, G. O. GATES.

Liverpool, Nov. 22nd, 1875.

William Turner was born on the Island of Dominica, May 4th, 1757, and died at Liverpool, Nov. 15th, 1875, at the advanced age of one hundred and eighteen years six months and eleven days. He took part in the American struggle for independence, having left his Island home at an early age—a slave in pursuit of freedom—and enlisted in the British Service. Nearly a century since he came to this part of the Province which became his home till death. He was a sober, active and industrious man and won a good name among his neighbours. In the early part of 1821, he was privileged with hearing the gospel declared in its simplicity by Rev. David Nutter, and, it proving "the power of God unto salvation" in his case, he made public profession of his faith in Christ, uniting with the 1st Liverpool Baptist Church. After the 2nd Liverpool Baptist Church was organized he united with it by letter (1802) and remained a faithful and beloved member until his decease. Bro. Turner was a man of exemplary piety. His meekness, faith and zeal in his Master's cause are remembered by the many with whom he associated. To him the means of grace were very precious and while able to enjoy them he made right use of them. Often did his warm hearted exhortations and fervent prayers enliven the hearts of his brethren. He was a joyous Christian, ever dwelling upon the love of God and the home beyond, to be enjoyed through the blood of the Lamb.

During the last years of his life he was quite blind and helpless; but his faith in God remained unshaken and the hope of rest and eternal joy beyond, unclouded.

His mind was clear to the last, and many

a visitor during his last months listened with interest to his life's history, and his conversion as told by himself; while many a soul was cheered in witnessing this aged one's joy in the Holy Ghost. It was joyous to see his face radiant with smiles when one would mention to him a Saviour's name, and to see the sightless eyes raised Heavenward while he would exclaim, "I am so near thee."

He by a devoted life, won the respect of all and children's children will be told of the colored Bro. Turner whom God signally honored with long life and satisfied with many days. He leaves behind nine children, one more than four score years old—grand children, great grand children and great great grand children.

A large concourse of people followed his remains to the grave. By request the pastor preached a funeral sermon to a very large and attentive audience, from 1 Cor. xv. 57, "Thanks be unto God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Religious Intelligence.

HUBBARD'S COVE, ST. MARGARETS BAY.

Dear Editor,—Till within a few years there was no Baptist interest at Hubbard's Cove. The religious liberty at first accorded to our brethren there, may be judged from the following: Probably about 3 years ago Bro. Edw. H. Freeman of the firm of Shankle & Freeman (Baptist, who had established a mill and lumber business at Hubbards) lost a child of scarlet fever, Bro. F. wished to have a Baptist minister, attend the funeral. Being himself a trustee at the School at the time, he consulted another trustee and concluded he was safe in sending for Bro. Sikner of Chester to attend the funeral and preach in the School house. He did so. Shortly after he received a note from the "Rector," the import of which was that the house would not be at their disposal. Like all the old school houses around this Bay that at Hubbards is decreed to the Bishop. This was a specimen of the large warm-hearted Christian sympathy extended to a stranger in affliction because he could not pronounce the Shibboleth of the dominant party. J. E. Shattford Esq; learning the state of affairs, kindly offered his dwelling for Bro. Skinner to preach in, which was gladly accepted. The brethren then concluded to build a house where they could be allowed to meet for worship.

In the village it was found about impossible to procure a site. R. Fox Esq., generously offered a situation just out of the village and on it a house was erected 30 + 40. To-day we have but 4 male members at Hubbard's Cove. There are others who are Baptists in principle and we doubt not many prayers, and some assistance from abroad, especially from members of Granville St. Church, Halifax, the house has been so far completed as to be comfortable. On the evening of the 9th, inst we had an opening service. Revs. E. M. Saunders and I. J. Skinner were present. A large congregation assembled. Bro. Saunders preached, text 1 Cor. v. 7. Some disappointment I understand was experienced when the preacher at the commencement said—We do not expect our coming here is to make this house any better. We poor mortals do not expect to make the wood and the plaster and the glass any holier."—It appears some mysterious consecration service was expected. Instead of which we were treated to a plain gospel sermon full of Christ, and just such as we needed.

As yet this is the only Baptist Meeting house on the main road between Halifax and Chester, a distance of 45 miles. But the brethren at the head of Margaret's Bay expect to start another in the Spring and a site is procured for the purpose.

There is a small debt still on our house at the Cove, but some friends have promised to help us and we hope others will be inclined to do likewise.

Our congregation is small, but we rely on the promise that the word shall not return void and we expect to reap by and bye.—Com.

HEBRON, YARMOUTH CO.—Brother Doty writes on Friday: Our Pastor baptized two last Sabbath, and expects to baptize six or seven next Sabbath. To God be all the praise.

That was a felicitous figure that Mr. Spurgeon employed the other day when assisting Messrs. Moody and Sankey to open their campaign in the South of London. "I remember," he says, "going over the Alps in a railway train when there was a great deal of snow. We came to a stand still, although the engine, a very powerful one, was in full work. I looked out of the window, and followed soon after with my body—for I did not like the look of things—and saw that although the engine was making the wheels go round, the lines were so slippery it could get no grip

upon them, and so the train stood still. That is what some of us have to complain of in our churches. There are good wheels going round, but they cannot get a grip. It is the gospel, but there is no grip, and the train does not move." Messrs. Moody and Sankey, as our brother indicated, have got a grip upon the masses, and even those who may not approve all their methods will do well to study the secret of their popularity.—Exchange.

THE BAPTIST UNION OF SCOTLAND.—The annual meetings of the denomination recently held in Glasgow, Scotland, show that our friends in the North have been making very rapid progress during the last few years. The following is from the Report on Home Missions:—

The missionaries employed in 1870 numbered eighteen; the present number was twenty-eight and a superintendent. The number of members in the mission churches in 1870 was about 1,000, the present number is 1,850, or nearly double. This year the clear increase was upwards of 340, or nearly half as many as were added to all the churches of the Baptist Union last year. The number of stations was in 1870 about 80; this year it was 148. The number of young people under instruction in 1870 was 400; this year there were 1,700, with 124 teachers. Some of the classes in the Highlands were for teaching the young their mother-tongue as well as for religious instruction. The income of the society in 1870 was £1,100; this year it amounted to upwards of £1,700.

Six years ago when the present Union was formed it consisted of 50 churches and 3,700 members; now it comprises 70 churches with a membership of about 7,000, or nearly double. The Union started with a revenue of from £400 to £500; this year its free income, exclusive of the "Ministers' Provident Fund," exceeds £700. It afforded pecuniary aid in the second year of its existence to three churches; the number of supplemental charges has since increased to ten; over and above this assistance rendered to weak churches, it has expended hundreds of pounds on evangelization, and some ten churches have been added to the denomination since its formation in 1869.

The clear increase in the membership of the Union churches during last year was equal to ten per cent.

Home and Foreign News.

DOMINION OF CANADA.—The Cures of Montreal churches have received a pastoral ordering the cursing of Guibord's grave.

Four vessels, bound from Quebec to Magdalen Islands, with supplies, have been lost together with many lives.

Parliament is further prorogued till the 8th of January.

Mr. Bernard Devlin was elected by acclamation, on Friday, to represent Montreal Centre in the House of Commons.

The report of the Postmaster General ending June 30th, 1874, just published, shows that during the year the number of letters and postal cards delivered was 39,358,500; newspapers 29,000,000; registered letters 1,562,000; free letters 1,422,200; parcels 102,800. The revenue and expenditure statement for the year ending the 30th June, 1874, show the revenue \$1,476,207 76; expenditure \$1,695,480 34; money orders issued \$6,153,329.66.

Davis, the Toronto abortionist, now under sentence of death has confessed that Ex-Alderman Clements, of Toronto, paid him two hundred dollars for procuring abortion on Jane Gilmour. Mr. Clements has been arrested.

The Quebec Parliament have adopted the following resolution: "That the Treasurer of the Province be authorized to advance out of the consolidated fund of the Province three thousand dollars, for the purpose of purchasing provisions for the use of the inhabitants of the Magdalen Islands during the coming winter."

The Pope has conferred on Lieutenant-Governor Caron, of Quebec, the Grand Cross of the Order of Saint Gregory the Great.

The Quebec Treasurer has signed a cheque for \$50,000 in favour of J. R. Middlemiss, a partner in the Land Swap transaction.

Messrs Morgan of Montreal have recovered \$11,000 worth of the silks and laces of which they were robbed a short time ago, on payment of \$3,000 greenbacks. They were stored in a house, the property of a Mr Harnday, who is sub-chief of police without his knowledge.

The Ontario House of Assembly met on Wednesday and unanimously elected R. M. Wells, Speaker.

The Speech from the Throne, referred to the decease of the late Governor, the bountiful harvest, reform of election law, and other matters of local importance.

The report of the Minister of Militia, now in preparation will show that out of 23,000 Canada Militia men who served in 1812 there are only 3000 survivors to claim a bounty offered by the Dominion Parliament.

A despatch has been received from the survivors of the Magdalen Island fleet. It says of the six vessels lost only seventeen men were saved out of sixty-two.

The Ottawa "Free Press" says a difference of opinion relative to certain clauses of the Washington Treaty has led of late to considerable correspondence between the Governments of Canada and the United States, through the British Minister at Washington. From present appearance it seems that the vexatious conduct of the

United States towards Canada, acting under treaty, causes a great deal of dissatisfaction and must lead to a clearer understanding of the mutual obligations of both countries before very long.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—On Saturday last John Bellony, picture dealer in Dock St., St. John, was stabbed by an employee named Michael Sulari in a dispute respecting some jewelry.

On the same evening Charles Richards attempted suicide, by swallowing half an ounce of laudanum. He was taken to the police station and was given some water to drink which acted as an emetic and saved his life.

The Railway to Fairfield, in the Aroostock, was to be opened yesterday.

A rough looking customer, who bought a ticket at Moncton for St. John, got on board the night train at the former place, bound for Halifax. On being asked for his ticket he showed the one he had, and was informed by the conductor that it was not the one required. He then became insolent to the conductor, who threatened to put him off the train. The rough put his hand into his breast pocket, drew a revolver, and threatened to "drill a hole through" the official. The weapon was quickly taken from the rough, and he was then put off the train.—Chron.

The St. John Freeman says that on Tuesday afternoon Capt. French, the Portland Tax Collector, seized the carriage of the Bishop of St. John for taxes, and conveyed it to some place of safe keeping, where it will remain until it is sold. The Bishop, when called on, more than once offered to pay all the taxes except the school tax, but this was refused. He was told he must pay the whole or submit to have his property seized and sold. He would not pay the school tax, and his carriage was seized.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—Three men were suffocated on board the brig "Adrienne," at Vernon River, on Saturday the 20th ult., by the escape of coal gas from a stove in the galley. One was found dead in his bunk and two in a standing position. Two others were rescued, but one of them is in a critical condition.

About half a mile of railway on the Souris branch, at the head of St. Peter's Bay, was washed away by the late rain and snow storm. Communication with Souris will be broken for several weeks.

The Land Commission has adjourned sine die, and Judge Wilmot left for New Brunswick. Awards have, we understand, been made for all the estates brought before the Commission—except the Rennie and Tracadie estates. They are not yet filed in the Prothonotary's office, but we are informed that they amount, in the aggregate, to about \$136,000. The Thompson, Bourke, Holland and DesBrisay estates have yet to come before the Commission.—Charlottetown Examiner.

UNITED STATES.—The remains of Vice-President Wilson were lying in state at the capitol on Thursday, the public being admitted from 10 o'clock till sunset.

Six full regiments of soldiers were escorting the remains through N. York on Saturday.

Faneuil Hall Boston was densely crowded on the occasion of a memorial meeting in honor of the late Vice-President Wilson. Salutes by the forts in New York harbor were fired in honor of the obsequies.

The officers of both army and navy will wear mourning for thirty days.

The funeral in the Senate Chamber was attended by the President and Cabinet, Foreign Ministers, Judges of the Supreme and other Courts, Senators, Representatives, officers of the Army and Navy, and marines, besides a large number of prominent citizens. The remains were expected to reach Boston at nine o'clock Sunday morning.

The funeral is to take place on Monday at noon, at the State House.

The people's Saving Bank at New York has stopped. It will probably pay seventy-five cents on the dollar to depositors.

A daring robbery was committed in Monroe, Michigan, on Monday week. Burglars entered the first National Bank, and after gagging and binding the watchman abstracted \$18,000 from the safe, making good their escape.

Much distress exists in Liberia in consequence of the war with the natives, and President Grant has been asked to aid the Liberians. An American vessel has been despatched to the African coast.

ENGLAND.—The British Colonial Office has received a telegram stating that troops from the British residence at Perak have shelled and captured two stockades at the village where Mr. Birch was murdered.

The "Times" telegram from Bombay, on Wednesday last said the Prince of Wales and suite returned from Baroda all well. The Prince at once went at once on board the "Seraphis" and was to leave the next day for Ceylon.

The British Minister for Spain, while recently passing through Bilbao, declined to receive a visit from Burrill, Captain General of the Province, in consequence of his inhuman treatment of "Virginias" captives.

A disastrous gale occurred off the coast of Fifeshire, Scotland in which some fishing boats were lost. Sixteen fishermen are known to have been drowned, and 14 are missing.

The "Times" says it has reason to believe the British Government has bought from the Khedive of Egypt £4,000,000 worth of shares of the Suez Canal Company; that the Egyptian Government is authorized to draw on Rothschild at sight for the