

then she would burst into a song of grateful praise to her Lord, then would open her book and read, then closing it would clasp it to her heart as the dearest treasure she possessed. The following is a part of one of her joyful songs:

Such joys as these, I little thought to know. Till I had closed my pilgrimage below. Such sweet communion with the Lord I love, I hoped for only in the world above. O why should I, so very vile and base, Be favored thus by Jesus and His Grace, And daily view the the glories of His face? No merit mine, for this my holy bliss; The praise, the honor, glory, all are His! I'll shout and sing Unto my King; My voice I'll raise His name to praise, And thank Him in most joyful lays. O happy I feel For my Lord doth reveal Himself to my soul, my diseases to heal He would not let My feet be set In sin's broad road That leads from God; The bliss is mine, The Glory thine, And so shall be Eternally."

She would then proceed on her way, musing over the happy change she had experienced, and she once said to herself:

"I have often heard, that in Self-Denial travelling is most painful, but I find it quite otherwise, and the further I go, the more pleasant I find the country to be and the easier it is to proceed. But O! how is it, and why is it that I am brought hither? I wished to go with Plausibility, and but for Grace, where should I have been now? And even after I had read in my book that the way which tempted me was a wrong one, then I should have entered it, if my Lord Himself had not appeared to warn me away! The work is indeed all His own! But for His matchless love, His all-powerful Grace, I had been a wretched wanderer from Him still, I had never entered this happy country, or been permitted to go on so long with so little molestation. Where is Vain-Thoughts! I little expected this side of the Holy Land to be so long with so little of his company, O what blessings are mine! Murmuring and Discontent, they too are gone, may I never see them more! I now feeling by experience that my dear Lord can indeed do all things. When He giveth peace, who can make trouble. (When He blesses, then all the curses in the world can do no hurt. He smiles on me and says: 'I will never never leave thee, no never; I will never never forsake thee.' I have loved thee with an everlasting love, therefore with loving-kindness have I drawn thee.' 'I, even I, am He that blot out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.' 'Sin shall not have dominion over thee, for I am with thee, to save thee, and thou shalt rejoice in the Lord and shalt glory in the Holy one of Israel.'"

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Christian Messenger. Academical Education in Maine.

Dear Bro. Selden,—

In reading your resumé of Dr. Parker's remarks at Wolfville, recently, respecting the doings of the Baptists in Maine, in the way of endowing certain academies in the State, to serve as feeders for Colby University, I notice that, inadvertently, a slight inaccuracy has crept in, which, with your permission I will rectify.

You say that Colby University, "had an adequate Endowment Fund, yielding an annual interest of \$220,000." The statement from which Dr. Parker drew the facts, put the matter in this way: "Colby University had a cash endowment fund yielding interest of \$220,000." By inserting "an annual," and omitting a comma, quite a discrepancy is made to occur. The invested fund is \$220,000. The interest of this is a pretty generous income for Colby and would be for Acadia, if it had it.

The Waterville Classical Institute, sustaining the same relation to Colby University that Horton Academy does to Acadia College has had no endowment as yet. Its history is very like the history of the Academy at Wolfville. Now the Hon. Abner Coburn, once a governor of the State, proposes to give \$50,000 to endow this Institute, provided \$50,

000, shall be otherwise raised to endow two other academies, not "three" each to receive \$25,000. That was the stipulation; and that is all that was, at first aimed at. After two academies had been tendered and conditionally accepted one at Houlton, and the other at Hebron, the Trustees of Gorham Academy, a Congregationalist School, made a tender of that, provided our denomination would raise \$50,000 to endow it and make it a first class institution. The acceptance of this will depend upon the ability of our people to raise the amount. The effort is being earnestly made, and but for the financial pressure, at this time would certainly be a success. It may succeed as it is.

In this connection I would further add that a few weeks ago, the Gymnasium connected with Colby University was accidentally burned down. The Zion's Advocate of Dec. 8th, contains the following paragraph with reference to it.

The Trustees of Colby University at their meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 30th, decided to attempt to raise \$8,000 by subscription for the purpose of rebuilding the gymnasium, recently burned, and completing the renovation of the South College building. Hon. Abner Coburn, chairman of the trustees, opened the subscription with a pledge for \$1,000.

The disposition of the Baptists of Maine "to attempt" is measured only by the exigencies that may be upon them, and, hitherto, their attempts have not been failures. Nor will they be, now, unless the fountains should dry up, and water-power fail, and all resources be cut off as they have never yet been. Until the heaven that is over their heads shall be brass, and the earth that is under them shall be iron, the Baptists of Maine shall not fail of the successful carrying forward of any christian enterprise, to which, with earnest purpose, they have placed their hands.

The membership of our churches in the State is 19,490;—less than in Nova Scotia alone,—and as it is in N. S., the wealth of the State is not in the hands of our people. But they have "a mind to work," and to give, and the favor of God is towards them. They regard themselves as now building foundations on which succeeding generations shall rear a superstructure; and as the plans and specifications for the edifice to be erected are grand in their proportions and measurements, they propose that the foundation walls shall be built broadly, and wisely, and well. Eastern tourists have been smitten with wonder and admiration on beholding the massiveness, the stability and the durability, of the foundations of Jerusalem, and of the Jewish temple; and the mystery has been, whence the materials were derived and how they were transported and placed. Peoples to come, I take it, will wonder at, and admire the wise and generous building of their fore-fathers in this State; if they shall not be perplexed to know whence came the means, and how the work was accomplished. At any rate, if they do not greatly profit by the advantages conferred upon them, they will be sons unworthy of their self-denying and heroic sires.

And here let me say, that the problem of a Provincial University, a University for the Lower Provinces, might be solved in a twelvemonth, if the Baptists of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and P. E. Island, only apprehended the occasion which is upon them, and rose up manfully and christianly to the work that is before them. If the endowment fund of Acadia College were at once augmented to \$200,000, and the buildings were erected which in such event would be found immediately requisite, the advantages which this school might offer above those procurable at any other seat of learning in the provinces would compel the attendance of students of every class and denomination, and a prestige would thus be given to Acadia which, with the spirit that created it perpetuated, might easily be maintained through successive generations. And who needs the spirit of divination to see that the time for doing just this, is now at hand.

"There is a tide in the affairs of men, Which taken in the flood, &c."

Ask the savants. Did not the moon very recently pass the southing? Is it not now the time of the "young flood" in the tide of the affairs of the institutions at Horton? Let the commander give the word. He has given it. He has been reiterating it. Let every man, each in his place, bow to the capstan and haul

home the anchor, hoist the canvass and shake out the reefs and sail gallantly into the success that waits to welcome our Baptist Israel, in the cause of Education.

Calais, Maine.

R. D. P.

For the Christian Messenger.

"I will turn over a New Leaf,"

is an old saying, doubtless repeated by some of the readers of the Messenger ere your first issue shall reach them. But permit me to ask, Is it done? Many times whilst at school, who has not written, hurriedly and carelessly, the few remaining lines so as to turn over a new leaf to-morrow? Why this haste to turn over; was it a desire for progress? Too often alas, it was a consciousness of imperfection, if not neglect, in the use of the page nearly filled with hurried marks; and sometimes blurs, we longed to hide, but could not erase what was written, every line towards the close showing plainly the copy was forgotten, and that we had been imitating our own mistakes.

Childhood is gone forever unless we take the old adage as true, "Once a man and twice a child."

But young men and maidens, fathers and mothers, how many among us will this year repeat the folly of childhood?

We have a new leaf opened to us, as yet unstained, unsoiled by mortal pen. We have a writing, which, if truly copied will make the new leaf a credit to our selves, a glory to our teacher, and our epistle will be known and read of all men, and the result will be, those around will take knowledge of us, that we have been with Jesus and learned of him. Others will thereby be led to seek instruction from the one who is our Master, even Christ, and our Father in heaven will be glorified.

To obtain this end, we must be looking unto Jesus, our example and pattern in all things, his commands are not grievous, his yoke is easy, if we are willing to learn of him, he is meek and lowly in heart, not an austere man.

Reader, take heed! Although twelve months may seem a long page in history, and perhaps you think that you need not be over careful in commencing, because there is plenty of time and room for improvement. Be not presumptuous, boast not thyself of to-morrow; this page may be thy last, and in that great day of account, may prove you to be a neglecter of salvation, a despiser of opportunities.

If you think of turning over a new leaf, do so carefully; remember past failure; ask wisdom from above, and give diligence to the study of the super-scription of the Great Teacher, and you will find your efforts rewarded. Your review of the page may not, should not satisfy you; there will be spots, and imperfection.

But be encouraged; your labour will not be in vain, for Christ will make the crooked straight, and wash away all blurs and mistakes, and then, before the world, declare you have 'well done'—'enter into the joy of thy Lord.' Be not afraid to try trembling one; look close to the page, you will see the Master's tracing, yea he will guide thee by his own right hand. Fear not.

J. F. AVERY.

Halifax.

The Fifth Annual Report of the Central Board of the Women's Mission Aid Societies for Nova Scotia, 1875.

The year which has just closed has been one of waiting and suspense, rather than of progress, owing in part to the transition state of our missionary operations, and the removal of our missionaries from a land where they served two years of probation, to one where we fondly hope they may prove a blessing, and their labors be the means of bringing the numerous heathen around them, to enter the kingdom of our Lord, and their Saviour. The letters from our sisters all breathe a spirit of consecration and devotion to the work which has been given them to do in that far-off land. Owing to this unsettled state of our mission up to the present time, it has not been thought advisable to send out any other missionaries, and Miss Armstrong is at present the only representative of the Societies under the Central Boards, and supported by their contributions, in heathen lands. As soon as the mission requires we trust that

there are many others who will readily respond to the call, and be willing to work wherever their assistance may be most needed.

Our returned missionary Miss DeWolf has been doing good service to the mission cause the past summer, by visiting many of the Societies in the western and central parts of the Province, and assisting to form New Societies. We trust her health may be so far improved as to allow her to visit the Societies in the Eastern part of the Province next spring. It is matter for thankfulness, that with feeble health, and under some discouragement, she has been able to accomplish so much.

We regret to have to state that Miss Armstrong's health has been so impaired by the climate, as to necessitate a complete rest from active duties during the past summer. She was not able to go to Cocanada with the rest of our missionaries but we hope, ere this, she may have rejoined them. In a letter to a friend dated Aug. 9th 1875, she says, "There is such a satisfaction in constant active service for God. I suppose that we are likely perhaps to be unconsciously puffed up with pride, thinking that we are necessary to God's work, and when unexpectedly laid by, we feel like saying, 'What does this mean? How can I possibly serve the Master here?' Surely this is a mistake, but there is no mistake in God's work with us, and we cannot doubt that it is in mercy and love He lays us by, and tells us to wait for further orders."

Mrs. Churchill in a letter to the Sec. of the same date says, "I cannot tell you what a feeling of rest and quiet has come over me since arriving in Cocanada; indeed it had been stealing over my spirit ever since we received the telegram in Bangkok, and knew that the field where we were to labour for the dear Master was at last decided upon, and now that we are really here, and at work studying the language, I feel so happy."

Mrs. Boggs also speaks with pleasure of their new home and says, "We had been so long in suspense, and had so often asked Him whose will we sought to know and do, to direct the minds and judgment of those who must decide our location, that when the word came, it seemed to be in answer to the prayers of many long anxious months. We received it as such, and without the thought that it could be a mistake. We lost no time in getting to our home, as we fondly called this, after our tedious and unsatisfactory wanderings of nearly two years. We are working at the Telooog language with as much energy and perseverance as if we were just out from home I think.

We have feared that our two years in this climate might detract from our burning desire, and possibly also from our ability to acquire the language readily, but I believe such has not been the case, and I am truly thankful for the fulfillment of the promise, 'as thy days, so shall thy strength be,' and that we have always found special grace given in a time of special need. I never felt better able to undertake such a work than I do now, and the study is very pleasant. Perhaps the chief difficulty which we have yet discovered is in the great length of the words. It is not an uncommon thing to find a word containing nine syllables, and sometimes we may count even more."

Mrs. Armstrong having sent a request that money might be furnished for the support of Nau Nau, a christian Karen girl who went with her to Cocanada, the two Societies in Halifax have agreed to be responsible for the necessary funds. Mrs. Armstrong's remarks respecting her, "Nau Nau has been a most faithful assistant to me in all my mission work at Tavoy. She has come with me to Cocanada, and is acquiring the language as rapidly as any of us. I think Nau Nau is the first Karen girl who has ever gone so far from home, and she has done it for the Master's sake. She is one of the most efficient teachers I have ever seen any where. The children all love her, and she has a way of interesting both old and young, while her whole heart is engaged in bringing them to Christ."

In Oct. of last year an appeal was sent to the Societies through the Central Board, from the Lady Missionaries in Cocanada, asking for aid to help them in establishing schools. A special meeting of the Board was called to consider this request, when the following resolutions were passed:

Resolved, That the Central Board having heard the Appeal for aid signed by Mrs. Armstrong, Mrs. Sanford, Mrs. Churchill and Mrs. Boggs, have agreed to set apart four hundred dollars of the surplus funds now in hand, for the purpose of assisting our sisters in their efforts to educate and christianize the children by whom they are surrounded, in such manner as may seem best to them. Also

Resolved, That we pledge ourselves to help to build school houses, and supply necessary school appliances when needed, as far as the funds at our disposal will warrant us in so doing, trusting that as much more money will be sent in, as the needs of the mission may require."

There are now sixty-two W. M. A. Societies in N. S. Eleven new ones have been organized during the past year. At Annapolis, Clementsvalle, Cambridge, Digby, Granville Ferry, Hammond's Plains, Lockport, 2nd Margaret's Bay, Pugwash, Sable River, Virginia, Clements church, with a total membership of about 1,400. These have sent in, to the Central Board from Jan. 1st 1875, to Dec. 31 of the same year, the sum of \$1535.29. This sum includes \$31.20 subscribed by Sunday Schools and Mission Bands, for the education of heathen children. Three persons have become life members during the year—Mrs. W. Boggs of Cocanada, Mrs. Brison of Rawdon, and Miss Unie Chipman of Berwick.

But few regular reports have been furnished by the Secretaries, but from these and the letters received, we gather that the same hopes animate, and discouragements depress as in former years. The Secretary at Deerfield writes:

It seems so difficult to engage our sisters in our Missionary Prayer Meetings; they seem more willing to give their money than attend our meetings. May God incline their hearts in the right way, and lead them to increase their money and prayers."

From Berwick the Secretary sends word that

"The cold weather prevented us from meeting to re-organize till February; then two or three sisters whose hearts are warm in this most glorious work, met and formed a nucleus of what we trust may become a large working Aid Society. It seems to be the general impression with most of our sisters, that when they have given the dollar, they are released from further duties in the Society. Certainly this is the great object, but our money will we believe be a ten-fold blessing if accompanied with earnest fervent prayer. Then there is always a sort of inspiration which exerts a great influence when several meet for prayer and praise, which is very beneficial to one's own heart and life."

Windsor, "We have had quite a large addition of members to our Society, and hope to be able to send you more money than in any previous year."

Great Village. Mrs. Freeman says—"We have worked on quietly through the year, and though we cannot report large additions to our numbers, we are thankful we have not lost any. We began with eleven a year ago, and now number twenty three, and there are others who will join us. Our Meetings for prayer and the reading of missionary intelligence have been much better sustained than last year, and have been seasons of blessing. We feel them necessary to an intelligent knowledge of our Foreign Mission work."

Miss Marsters writing from Summer-ville remarks:

"It did rejoice my heart to see the willingness of some of the members to pay up their half year's payment, even though they had to pick berries to get the money.

Three new members joined us after attending our Annual meeting. I think the Reports and missionary intelligence brought before the people at these Annual gatherings, are very beneficial as a means of keeping the cause of Missions before the people.

From Billtown, word comes that "We have nothing interesting to report at this the close of another year. Our number is small, but we are still hoping and praying that more of our sisters in the church will come forward and aid us in this noble work.

Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot.—"We regret that we cannot report more favorably with regard to our Society.

The present year has been one of depression in financial matters. Some of our members have removed, and a number in Melvern Square have formed a separate Society. We hope they will do a good work. These things however tend to diminish our funds. We hope to do better another year. We had a very interesting visit from our dear sister Miss DeWolfe. We feel confident she is aiding the good-cause of her Master.

We cordially agree to comply with the proposal of our Missionary sisters, to have funds raised by the W. M. A. Societies, devoted to the establishment and support of schools in connection with our Foreign Mission."

Pisc Grove.—"The Society here em-