

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger. Open Letters to the Rev. D. D. Currie.

No. VIII.

My Dear Sir,—

(Your friend Mr. Thompson of Halifax objects to my saying Brother.)

I see by last Wesleyan, Nov. 2nd, 1878, that you are awake at last, wide awake, and you step forth like a giant, minus a giant's strength, to defend yourself against those who you say have cast you and two of your brethren into a burning fiery furnace. It is pretty clear, judging from your letter that you are in a very hot atmosphere, so hot indeed that I fear it is quite vain to advise you to keep cool. A very important thing for a man in the fix you are. I hope it will not disturb your equilibrium, if you have not lost it, when I tell you that the night after reading your letter, so full of thunder and lightning, fire and tempest, I slept much as usual.

You compare yourself, Mr. Lathern, and Mr. Nicholson, to the three Hebrew youths, whom I, with some others, have cast into a burning fiery furnace. You might have told us which of the three you represented. Your giving me the name of "Rev. Nebuchadnezzar Brown" found a hearty response in my risible faculties, as doubtless the term "most mighty men" did with my fellow persecutors who cast you into the fire. Unfortunately, however, for you, Bro. Currie, (begging Mr. Thompson's pardon), the Editor of the Wesleyan, in the same issue that contained your letter, quite spoiled your pretty figure by refusing to be a Hebrew youth; for he says, "The Editor disclaims the figure of the three Hebrew children, so far as he is concerned." Now if he had kept quiet we should have had an answer to the question, "Where are now the three Hebrew children?"

So now, Bro. C., you are reduced to two, unless you can get some friend (Mr. Thompson perhaps) to take the place of the Editor of the Wesleyan. It is a pity that the figure should be lost. In case of failure you will be reduced to two, when you will have to seek another illustration. Perhaps Paul and Silas at midnight with their feet fast in the stocks might answer; unless Mr. Lathern should also object to being a Hebrew captive. In that case, being alone, you might compare yourself to Daniel in the lion's den, or Jonah in the whale's belly, or better still, Joseph in the pit. Either will answer, for you are evidently in a very uncomfortable situation, notwithstanding the kind endeavour of your brethren at Moncton to help you out; in which matter be it known unto them, they have not escaped with clean hands, as is clearly shown by the Christian Visitor of Oct. 30th last.

The Editor of the Wesleyan further spoils your pretty illustration when he says:—"We have the apprehension that if there be any furnace, any fire, it has not been kindled by Nebuchadnezzar this time." He strikes the nail on the head this time for certain, and that long name might not unfitly apply to one of the "children" who may further find that it is dangerous to play with fire.

You inform the readers of the Wesleyan that you never saw my Open Letters to you till you saw them in pamphlet form Oct. 18th last, which letters you say were then within your reach. Do you expect the readers of that paper to believe that they were not within your reach till then? Why give such frequent occasion to question your veracity? And how sweetly ignorant of their existence you appear to be, and of the charges they contain when you say, "On examination I found that those letters had previously appeared in the Christian Messenger. I never saw them till Friday last. I am not aware that I have, at any time, seen a copy of the Toronto Index." (Don't you wish, Bro. C., that nobody else had ever seen the tormenting thing?) You continue, "I have seen a few numbers of the Christian Visitor during the last six months."

You do not say whether you saw any Christian Messengers during that time; although you say you did not see my letters. Did you get some one to read them to you? Eh?

I don't know whether you take the Messenger, but I know that when the

late correspondence began, I wrote to the Editor to send it to you at my expense, that you might not be ignorant of what I had to say.

[We must have overlooked Mr. B.'s request, as we do not remember seeing it, which we much regret. Ed. C. M.]

You wish to make it appear that you never saw a copy of the Toronto Bible Index, which may be quite true; and that only during the last six months you have seen "a few numbers of the Christian Visitor." Is this intended as an excuse for your not attending to the matter before. Let me now tell you something you seem to have most conveniently forgotten, and I would like to catch you denying it. In November last or thereabout you received a copy of the Christian Visitor containing an article extracted from the Bible Index, and crediting that magazine with the same. Will you say you never saw that extract? And will you say that you did not read the following?

"1. Mr. Currie falsifies the testimony of every lexicon from which he quotes.

2. Not one of the eight which he names gives "sprinkle" as a definition for baptizo.

3. Two of the names—Cole and Dwight—are not lexicographers at all." . . . "Not one of them gives 'SPRINKLE' as a definition of it (baptizo), ABSOLUTELY NOT ONE." The writer, Mr. McDiarmid, continues, "I am responsible for this denial. I make it with the definitions of said lexicons before my eyes. If D. D. Currie, any of his ministerial brethren, or any learned advocate of sprinkling of any faith, would like to show that the statements, which we so positively deny, are reliable, our pages are freely tendered for their use." THAT OFFER WAS NEVER ACCEPTED.

So you see that nearly a year ago the above charge and the above offer were made you, which charge and offer you read in the Visitor, why was it that you did not then accept the offer and clear yourself if you could? You could not, therefore you did not. That was why, Mr. Currie. You knew well enough that the charge was terribly true, and from your long silence it would seem that you would not have come out now were it not for the heavy pressure brought to bear upon you; and time will shew that you are no more able to acquit yourself now than you were then, notwithstanding the mighty flourish and bold challenge you make in last Wesleyan.

In this matter of pretended ignorance you are practising subtlety and deception worthy of yourself; and it is more than time that you received the title of Master of Arts, for certainly you are the most artful man I ever came in contact with.

But let us suppose, only suppose, that what you wish to imply be true, viz., that you saw neither Index, Visitor nor Messenger containing this charge of falsification, will you say that you knew nothing about it? that no one spoke a word to you with reference to it? that you received no communication whatever concerning it? that while the Editor of the Wesleyan received letters of enquiry about it you received none? Strange beyond comprehension that of all living men the man who beyond and above all would be supposed to know most about the matter, according to his own showing appears to have known least!! Too thin, Mr. Currie, a great deal too thin.

Well, now that you are fully aware of what has been written, and have actually read the letters, and are acquainted with the charge laid against you, it is to be hoped that you will make some effort to set yourself right before your brethren before you take charge of their organ, the Wesleyan. This, however, at last you appear determined to do, but you will fail, Mr. Currie, you will fail, most ingloriously. You cannot clear yourself. Those lexicons do not give the meanings you say they do. You say I have made no attempt to point out one instance wherein you have perverted Scripture, so far as you have seen. This is one more to add to the dark list. You have read my pamphlet according to your own showing, and you have therefore read pages 20, 23 and 24 where I have in seven or eight cases rather more than attempted it. You may see more of the same kind by-and-by.

Your impeaching me as a public slanderer and libeller troubles me not. If you had kept as near the truth in

writing your Catechism as I have in charging you with falsifying Greek lexicons and perverting and falsifying the Word of God, you would not have found yourself in such an unhappy position as you are. This fiery furnace in which you find yourself is of your own providing.

I have not slandered, I have not libelled, and your impeaching me (frightful word) as such, is a slander and libel in itself. When you prove yourself innocent your charge will have some force in it. What I have done is simply to expose some of your evil ways. I have marked between seventy and eighty pages of your Catechism wherein your grave errors may yet be made further manifest. As the Lord liveth, Mr. Currie, your false dealing with His Word shall not much longer remain unexposed. Whether your rage and fume or sit "like Patience on a monument, smiling at Grief," I shall go straight on, it will be all one to me. I am sorry you bear recent exposures so ill and get into such a high heat in the prospect of more to follow.

I do not want to speak harshly of the Methodist body, but it is to me more than astonishing that Christian men, will allow in their families the use of a book so fraught with subtlety, misrepresentation and plain perversion of Scripture as your Catechism is. I have just gone through it a second time, which has convinced me more than ever of the truth of what I have said.

Your challenge will receive the attention it deserves, and if it should not be accepted in the way you suggest, you will have ample opportunity of vindicating yourself if you can. But, Mr. Currie, you cannot, and you never will, I tell you that again. You may boast and threaten and bluster as you like, you are cabbined, caged and confined. You have the offer of the use of the pages of the Bible Index, where the charge against you first appeared, to justify yourself. (See above.) And I have no doubt the Visitor or Messenger would afford you the same privilege. In case they should not, the Wesleyan is open to you. It will be necessary first, however, that I supply you with the cases of perversion of Scripture, as you say you have not seen them. More soon from

Yours as before,

J. BROWN. Paradise, Nov. 5th, 1878.

For the Christian Messenger. Valectictory.

A farewell meeting was held at Centreville, Cumberland Co., on the 23rd ult., just previous to the departure of Rev. E. B. Corey for his new field of labor at Alberton and vicinity, P. E. I. A large gathering of church and friends were present. A purse containing \$45 and the accompanying address were presented to Bro. Corey.

ADDRESS TO REV. E. B. COREY.

Dear Pastor,—

The hour of the departure of friends has at all times and on all occasions called forth the tender emotions of the heart. But how tender the feelings and deep the sympathies which cluster around the parting scenes of a church and its beloved pastor.

The tongue is sufficiently eloquent to express whatever the heart can conceive; but the deeper emotions of the soul command silence. Words are wanting to express our sympathy and gratitude towards you. And you may be assured that your labors and services as pastor of Mount Pleasant and Centreville church have been highly appreciated. You will be missed but not forgotten. Your success as pastor of this church is an evidence that the hand of the Lord is with you, and affords ground to hope that he will be your help in the new field to which you have been called to labor. Your indefatigable labor and zeal for the welfare of your congregation, not only collectively but individually, have endeared you to our hearts by ties too sacred to be easily broken. Nor are we forgetful of your amiable partner, whose kindly associations and Christian influence and example will be long remembered in many households in this community.

Dear pastor, yourself, Mrs. Corey and family have the sympathy and love of Mount Pleasant and Centreville Church. And may God bless you, both in your domestic relations and your public administrations is the prayer of

Yours in Christian love,

JOHN BIGELOW, DUNCAN WALKER, JOHN R. SMITH.

Committee in behalf of Centreville and Mount Pleasant Church, Cumberland, N. S. Oct. 23rd, 1878.

REPLY.

Dear Brethren and Sisters,—

Words can but feebly express my feelings as I meet you here to-night, perhaps the last time I shall see some of you on earth. I had looked forward to our parting with emotions of sadness and regret, but I never realized the keenness of these emotions until now, intensified as they are by the presence of the hour when we must say Adieu. Eight years ago I came to you almost a stranger, but they have been years of uninterrupted fellowship and unbroken sympathy between us. I have rejoiced with you in your goodness and wept with you in your sorrows; and you and your families and your interests, spiritual and temporal, have become so deeply seated in my affections, that the severance of the ties which have so long and so happily held us, becomes one of the most painful hours of my experience. Your hearts have been open to me. Your homes have made me welcome and your hands have dealt liberally towards me.

I remember with great satisfaction in this hour of parting, like a moment of sunshine breaking through the storm, that I leave you with the assurance of good will from every member of the church, the congregation and the community. Whatever success may have attended my labors among you, belongs not to me, but to God who gives the increase and to him be all the praise. Accept, dear brethren and sisters, from Mrs. Corey and myself this parting acknowledgement of your many kindnesses and your repeatedly expressed affection for us. The years of my pastorate with you will ever remain a bright spot in my memories of the past. Watch and pray. Be instant in season and out of season. Prove the Lord by bringing all the tithes into the storehouse, and may your hearts be prepared to receive the promised blessing. We will meet in heaven saved by grace, bless the Lord. The God of all grace be with you. Adieu.

E. B. COREY.

For the Christian Messenger. Letter from Paris.

(Correspondence of the Christian Messenger.)

PARISIAN FETES—THE DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES—THE GREAT ASSEMBLAGE OF THE WORLD'S REPRESENTATIVES, &c. &c.

HOTEL DU LOUVRE, PARIS, Oct. 30, 1878.

The Paris Exhibition fêtes commenced on Sunday with free performances at seven of the largest theatres. This is the first time the Republic has imitated the circenses of the Empire. The most luxurious building in Paris was thronged with men in blouses and women in white caps or bareheaded, who during the intervals between the acts promenaded up and down the sumptuous corridors and lounged on the balcony. Such a juxtaposition of wealth and indigence has not been seen in Paris except when revolutionary mobs have taken Royal or Legislative Palaces by storm. The behaviour of the crowd was exemplary. Many streets were decked with flags, though this demonstration was not so universal as four months ago, and at night the municipal buildings were illuminated, the Council having spontaneously voted 50,000 francs for that purpose.

The distribution of the prizes of the Exhibition took place on Monday in the Palais de l'Industrie, in the Champs Elysées. The ceremony passed off most successfully. The day broke close and gloomy, and slight rain fell in the morning, but towards eleven o'clock the elements became more propitious, and the afternoon turned out charming. The great central space of the palace was transformed into a magnificent hall, which was elegantly and richly decorated. The east end of the immense salle was set apart for the places of honor. Here a series of raised platforms, covered with crimson and gold, rose one above the other till they reached the galleries. In the centre at the bottom was the estrade of the President of the Republic, flanked on either side by the tribunes of the Diplomatic and other official corps. Behind and above the Marshal sat the members of the Senate and the Chamber. The ground space was allotted to the juries, the exhibitors, and their friends. Round

the hall beneath the galleries ran tribunes for the various countries represented at the Exhibition, beginning with England. Over these tribunes the national colors of every land waved by the side of trophies of French flags and escutcheons emblazoned with the letters "R. F." and the word "Pax." The galleries were turned into open boxes for such of the general public as were lucky enough to have procured a ticket. Above the Presidential estrade stood out in bold relief a bust of the Republic gorgeously bedecked with the favorite tricolor, while throughout the building banners and streamers of every color and clime under the sun floated and intermingled together. The music, composed of several military bands and a choir of Orpheonists, 200 strong, was placed at the west end of the palace.

Representatives of England, Russia and Turkey sat side by side in their respective military attire, and chatted with one another in such an apparently friendly way that one was almost tempted to put the eastern difficulty down as a romance got up for the amusement of the reading public. The Japanese Ambassador was there in his quaint dress silent and placid, but he passed almost unnoticed by the side of the Annamite ambassador and his suite, whose swarthy faces and gaudy silk costumes attracted more attention than they seemed to like. In the other official tribunes sat severe-looking judges, some in sable, others in seal, others in scarlet gowns; members of the French Academy, with their laurel-bordered coats and gilt rapiers; bishops in purple robes—in short, every conceivable and inconceivable species of attire was to be seen, mingled together in the most picturesque and diversified manner. The proceedings began about half-past twelve by the arrival of the President and Bureau of the Chamber of Deputies. When everybody had settled down into his right place the defile began to the inspiring sounds of a triumphal march, executed by military bands. First came the foreign soldiers sent over to do duty at the Exhibition. There were American, Swedish, Moorish, Spanish, and Italian troops. Each body marched past before the Marshal, with their colors en tête. The American Marines drew down general admiration and applause by the regularity of their step and their soldierly bearing.

After the usual speech making the Head Commissioners of the various foreign countries, after having been presented to the President of the Republic, severally received an immense album containing the diplomas, and a small basket containing the medals awarded to each country. The Japanese Commissioner received quite an ovation, which was no doubt an acknowledgement of the remarkable show Japan has made at the Exhibition.

At night the streets were gaily decorated with flags, and the public buildings were brilliantly lighted up. The festivities of the day were wound up by a ball at M. Teisserence de Bort's. In a temporary saloon erected in the garden of the Ministry of Commerce and Agriculture 250 guests sat down to dinner. They included the foreign Princes visiting the Exhibition, the new Grand Officer Krantz, all the ambassadors except Prince Orloff, and the Grands Prix who are now in Paris. While coffee was being sipped the Banqueting Hall was cleared of the remains of the feast and horseshoe tables, and transformed into a ball-room.

LOUIS.

For the Christian Messenger. United States Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 20, 1878.

Notwithstanding the embarrassments and anxieties and harassing disturbances to which the Potter Committee has been subjected and which is the common lot, more or less, of all Congressional Committees, there is much to be gained and enjoyed (not to say accumulated) by being appointed on such Committee, or in being a favorite relative or particular friend of some member of such Committee. It is a good time with no expense, especially if one is not a Chairman. Take, for instance, the visit of the "Congressional Committee on Indian Affairs" to California this summer. A party of 17 (by no means Committee members, all of them. Ladies, correspondents, clerks, "guests," swell the