

The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

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WHOLE SERIES.
Vol. XLVI., No. 10.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.
Letter from Rev. W. B. Boggs.

RAMAPATAM, NELLORE DISTRICT,
INDIA, January 27th, 1882.

Dear Editor.—
Though having enough work on my hands to more than occupy all my time, and though surrounded here with interests sufficient to fill all my thoughts, yet my mind has been led back towards home very much during the last week or two, by tidings which the MESSENGER has brought to me. I refer to the announcement of the death of two men; one of them a very intimate and exceedingly dear friend, the other a revered and beloved instructor and father. Though this news was not unexpected, yet when at last it came it touched me deeply. And even from this distant land, and though what I write is necessarily so late in reaching you, yet I must speak a word in their honor. Though others have spoken, allow me to add my testimony to their worth.

THEODORE H. PORTER,
my dear, well-proved, faithful friend and brother, has finished his course, and entered into rest.

Upwards of twenty-four years ago I first formed his acquaintance, and from that time forward our friendship grew, and ripened into a deep-seated love. It never knew a decline.

It was in the autumn of 1837, when he commenced ministerial labor with the church in Lower Steviacke that this acquaintance was formed. It was under his ministry that I made a public profession of religion. On the 14th of February, 1838, I was baptized by his father, Theodore not having yet received ordination.

My thoughts go back now to those revival scenes at Steviacke, when he was so abundant in labors, so enthusiastic, so beloved by all. Then I think of Brookfield, the powerful awakening, the violent opposition, the crowded meetings in Deacon Hamilton's barn, the ever-remembered baptismal occasions at the brook in the intervals, the great joy of the new converts, the thrilling sermons of Bro. Porter, who was the successful leader of that movement.

In 1864 he became pastor of the church at North Sydney, and in 1865 I settled at Sydney town; and there, side by side, for five years we labored, in constant intercourse, and unbroken harmony. We were together very frequently, as we often united our efforts in holding special meetings. We assisted each other in our respective fields, and we traversed Cape Breton Island together, attending the Quarterly meetings with the different churches. During those years he was a man of untiring energy and glowing zeal, an able preacher, and a faithful pastor, seeking out individually, and earnestly laboring for the good of every church member who could possibly be reached, and carefully corresponding with all non-resident members. He was a strict disciplinarian, believing that the church is powerful in proportion to its purity.

In October, 1870 he removed to Fredericton, N. B., and shortly after, in February, 1871, I went to Portland, St. John, and here again we were near enough together to continue the intimate friendship of former days. For three years this continued, till, in 1874 our paths diverged widely. I came to the East, and he, stricken by disease, went to the West in search of health; and then from California and Siam our messages of love were exchanged across the Pacific.

Again we met, and during the two and a half years that I was at home I

had several opportunities of conversing with him and hearing him preach. His sermons at this time were full of the richness and comfort of the gospel of Christ. One could not fail to observe the maturity in grace and faith to which he had attained. He exulted in the great truths of full and eternal redemption.

In reviewing his life, which, though comparatively short, was filled with faithful work, and blessed results, there is much that might be profitably recorded. Among the features in his character that I would specially dwell upon are the following:

Loyalty to his convictions of truth and duty.

"Nor number nor example with him wrought,
"To swerve from truth or change his constant mind,
"Though single."

Unlike so many who first must find out what other people think on certain questions, and especially how the leading brethren feel, before they can take a position, Bro. Porter took his stand on his clearly defined and deep convictions of right and duty, and there he manfully advocated his view.

Broad and disinterested views. He was always devising liberal things, and advocating a broad and generous policy in our denominational schemes. And though opposed at first, or treated with indifference, his views were pretty sure to be subsequently adopted. For example, all will remember his earnest advocacy, year after year, of Home Missions being taken up by the Convention. Many opposed the scheme, but he, relying on the rightness and reasonableness of it, awaited the time, feeling sure that it must come; and it did come, and he rejoiced to see it.

Unselfishness. His own comfort was a very minor consideration. He never sought for ease. He never spared himself. The welfare of his church, and the great interests of the denomination were always on his mind and heart, and for these he labored even to weariness and exhaustion, spending and being spent for the cause of Christ.

Loyalty to Christ and His glorious Gospel. He preached the gospel, not aesthetics; "Jesus Christ and Him crucified," not human fancies; the old-fashioned truth of God, not "advanced" ideas. How he dwelt with glowing enthusiasm on the finished redemption which Jesus has provided, and the absolute certainty of the believer's salvation.

His last sermon was preached where his regular ministry began, at Lower Steviacke, from the words "Mighty to save."

And God richly blessed his ministry, all through his career, to the edification of believers, the conversion of many souls, and the furtherance of important interests.

May his estimable wife and children find great comfort in looking back on such a faithful life, and triumphant death. How ingenuous, how manly, how true, how constant he was!

Brother, farewell! This heaven-born friendship will be renewed in the everlasting kingdom.

DR. CRAMP,

my revered and beloved father, instructor, and benefactor, he also has fallen asleep in Christ. What a full, and rich, and beautiful life of Christian faith and Christian service! Truly "the memory of the just is blessed."

The steady, well-directed, indefatigable labors of a long period; the rich productiveness of his earnest efforts; the eminently evangelical, scriptural character of his ministry; his genuine, living piety; the genialness of his social life, and the calm lustre of his closing years, leave behind them a pathway of light, like the setting sun, where he sinks beyond a cloudless horizon.

I cannot here express the high esteem, the reverence, and the love with which I regarded Dr. Cramp.

His instructions were eminently practical and useful. I have lately been looking over, with deeper interest than ever, the courses of Lectures which he delivered to the ministerial students in the College and Academy twenty years ago.

I never went to him without being received with the kindness of a father, and with just the wise counsel and encouragement that I needed.

When my desire to obtain an education became known to him, and also the fact that the question of pecuniary means was one that caused some hesitation, he wrote to my parents, saying "If you send your son to College I will supply him with all the text books he requires." That promise was fulfilled with unchanging kindness during the five and a half years that I spent at Wolfville.

It was the Monthly Missionary concert, conducted by Dr. Cramp during all the time that I was at Hoon, which, more than anything else, stirred up in me that desire to engage in Foreign Missionary service which has since been realized. Those meetings always made a deep impression on me, and many a Sunday evening his earnest words concerning the Redeemer's last command, and the appalling spiritual wants of the heathen nations, followed me to "the Hill," and kept me thinking till late at night.

He possessed, in large measure, the true missionary spirit. Being a native of India by such men as the "Immortal Three of Serampore," and in England by such grand leaders as Fuller, Ryland, Sutcliffe, and Hall, was ever ready to advocate, and labor for, this greatest of all Christian enterprises. His hearty sympathy with the cause of missions finds appropriate expression in his beautiful "Memoir Madame Feller."

I am about to translate into Telugu for the use of our native ministers, Lectures on "Ministerial and Pastoral Duties," which we took in the College Library in 1861, and thus instructions will go on blessing men another tongue, and through the thousands more.

By the present prosperous condition of Acadia College, by the labors of many of his students, and in many other ways, he "being dead yet speaketh," and his influence will continue to be felt through long succeeding years.

"Mark the perfect man and behold him upright, for the end of that man is peace."

As to ourselves, we are blessed with good health, and the work around us is full of prosperity and promise.

Yours faithfully,
W. B. BOGGS.

[Many of the friends of Brother and Sister Boggs will be pleased to learn that, in a private note to us he says: "On the 26th day of January, 1882, a son was born to us. His name is Theodore Cramp."—Ed. C. M.]

For the Christian Messenger.

Quarterly Meeting at Charlottetown, P. E. I.

The quarterly meeting of the Baptist ministers of Prince Edward Island we do not wish to do, but desire, met with the church in Charlottetown on Tuesday, 21st Feb., at 7 p. m. The work, until all the destitute places first meeting was largely attended, was supplied with faithful workers.

After the choice of Rev. M. Ross as Moderator, and the undersigned

Secretary, Wednesday morning session, and a portion of the afternoon session, was devoted to talking over our situation as churches, and considering the best methods of promoting the cause of God amongst us. This matter being fully discussed, the following brethren presented skeletons of sermons from the following texts for criticism: Bro. Burgess, Rom. vi. 22; Bro. Ross, Gal. iii. 1; Bro. Macdonald, Matt. xxvi. 56, last sentence. The following work was assigned for the next meeting: Bro. Lavers to preach the first sermon, also to prepare a paper on a subject of his own choice.

Bro. Bradshaw on "Hints on pastoral duties."

Bro. Burgess on "The aim of our Quarterly Meetings, and the best method of conducting them."

Bro. Ross on "Church Discipline."

Bro. Archibald on "Conference Meetings."

Bro. Kinlay on "Prayer Meetings."

Bro. Macdonald on "Hints on the best methods of reaching the unconverted with a view to their salvation."

Bro. Corey an exegesis on Romans x. 4.

Bro. Hinson an exegesis on James v. 14, 15.

Bro. Woodland an exegesis on Rom. viii. 19-22.

To aid the churches in raising funds for the benevolent objects of the denomination, it was agreed that the following brethren visit the sections assigned them, and hereafter named, to advocate the claims of the Convention Scheme, holding missionary meetings, and seeking to create a greater interest in gospel work: Alberton, O'Leary, Cape Wolfe, Summerside, Bedeque and Belmont to be visited by Bros. Archibald and Lavers; Cavendish, Rustico, Emyvale, and Tryon, by Bros. Woodland and Corey; Clyde River, Long Creek, North River, Charlottetown, St. Peter's Road, and Alexandra, by Bros. Burgess, Ross, Fillmore, and Macdonald; East Point, Souris, Dundas, Grand River, and St. Peter's Bay, by Bros. Kinlay, Hinson, and Macdonald; Montague, Murray River, Uigg, and Belfast, by Bros. Ross and Bradshaw. The above work to be commenced immediately, and completed before the end of March next.

The furious snow storm, (of which we are having enough and to spare), prevented any further sessions. Much disappointment was felt and expressed at the absence of so many of our brethren. The meeting adjourned to meet with the church in Tryon, on Tuesday, the 28th prox., at 7 p. m. Brethren, let nothing but impossibilities prevent you from being present.

D. G. MACDONALD, Sec'y.
Charlottetown, Feb. 23, 1882.

For the Christian Messenger.

Home Missions.

IMPORTANT STATEMENTS.

We deem it important that the denomination should be made acquainted with the following facts:

Grants have already been made on 50 fields. To pay these about \$100,000 will be required. As several months of the year still remain, and applications continue to come in, the expenditure for the whole year cannot be kept within \$6,000, unless the Board will use to listen to worthy appeals for help.

Now that we have a Financial Committee, it is expected followed by warm-hearted and stirring at least half of the amount aimed addresses from Bros. Ross, McKinlay, Burgess, and Corey.

at would give us about \$7,000. Up to date of our last meeting, Feb. 13th, \$1,734.48 had been received,—

\$722.84 more than was received during the same time last year. As this overplus hardly equals the amount raised by special effort at Convention towards the payment of the debt, the ordinary receipts of the year are thus far no better than last. We shall, therefore, need much larger contributions during the remaining months of the year than were received last year, or we shall close the year with a crushing debt.

3. The churches aided by the Board are not only striving to help themselves, but are, in nearly every case, making vigorous efforts to raise money for the Convention Fund. It is expected that they will do much better this year than last, as both missionaries and churches have been repeatedly urged to do their utmost in this matter.

It will be seen, therefore, that while they are receiving help they are also helping forward the work of the denomination in all its departments.

4. The following brethren, viz.: B. W. Lockhart, W. F. Parker, F. M. Young, and H. A. Spencer will finish their studies at Newton in June next, and will be ready to settle. They have already proved themselves to be "workmen that need not to be ashamed."

Churches in need of pastors should make note of this. They must not wait for these men to come and ask them to employ them. Churches in other lands will not thus wait, and they will be lost to us; not because they do not love their native land, or are unwilling to return, but because they have too much Christian manliness to go round the churches begging to be allowed to become their pastors.

Besides those who finish their studies there are eight or ten others who wish employment during the summer vacation. We should keep our hold on these good men by having them spend their vacations with us. The address of all these is Newton Centre, Mass. I shall be glad to do all in my power to assist churches in securing these men, either as pastors or as summer supplies.

Those who intend to settle will probably be able to make churches wishing to become acquainted with them a visit in the course of a few weeks.

There are, besides these at Newton, a few of our Province men at other Theological Institutions in the United States, who, we trust, will desire to return and labour in their native land as far as in my power, assist them in securing fields.

To pastorless churches we would say, Brethren, do not think you can get on without the preached word. As soon think of having your children do without bread as without the Bread of Life. Rest not, then, until you have secured a faithful man to go in and out among you, and break unto you this Bread.

A. COHOON,
Cor. Sec'y. H. M. Board.
Hebron, Feb. 28th, 1882.

For the Christian Messenger.

The Financial Agency.

Dear Brother,—

You will expect some report of my progress and success in endeavoring to promote the financial interests of our Convention during the past two months in New Brunswick.

The principal places visited were St. John, Portland, Fairville, Musquash, Fredericton, St. Mary's, Gibson, Keswick, Macnaquack, Woodstock, Jacksonville, and Jacksontown. I had made arrangements to visit other points, but frequent and severe storms prevented me from carrying out my plans in this respect.

My work has, indeed, been carried on under the discomforts and inconveniences of the most unfavorable season of the year. Much kindness, however, has been shown me by many friends, and I am deeply indebted to them for cheerful assistance and generous hospitality.

Comparing the results of my labors in New Brunswick with those in Nova Scotia, I find it difficult to determine in which Province I have found the greater liberality or the deeper interest in our denominational work. There is, of course, room for enlargement in beneficence on both sides of the Bay of Fundy; and there is great need of arousing our churches in both Provinces to a just sense of their grave responsibilities in the matter of adequately sustaining our missionary and educational institutions. A few brethren are earnestly striving to promote the objects of our Convention, but a large proportion of our people are comparatively indifferent as to the success or failure of these objects.

The following summary shows what has been secured by means of the Agency during the past two months in N. B.:

Cash for Building Fund.....\$322 75
" Endowment..... 622 49
" Theological Chair..... 20 00
" Convention Fund..... 236 76
Unpaid subs. to Building Fund. 20 00
" Conv. Fund..... 28 50
" Theo. Chair..... 100 00
\$1350 50

The following is a summary of the results of the Agency during the past four months:

Cash for Build. Fund.....\$1067 61
" End't. Princ. 707 79
" " int'est 248 25
" Theo. Chair. 20 00
" Mem. Vol. 16 00
\$2059 65

Unpaid subs. to Building Fund. 59 50
" Theo. Chair. 600 00

Total for College.....\$2719 15
Cash for Conv. Fund.....\$291 26
Unpaid subs. do. 347 50

Total for Conv. Fund. 638 76

Total for all purposes.....\$3357 91

The state of the roads and of the weather for some time past has led me to abandon the work of the Agency, for the present at least.

It is hoped that all our churches will endeavor to remit their quarterly contributions to the Convention Fund with reasonable promptness. I regret to find that so little has yet been forwarded by churches visited by me. What we most need is a permanent agent in each church. Let each pastor assume that responsibility, and our finances will speedily improve.

W. H. WARREN,
Financial Agent.
Bridgetown, March 3, 1882.

For the Christian Messenger.

The Technical School.

Mr. Editor,—

As the subject of Technical Education is discussed somewhat at the present time, permit me to raise the inquiry, Why should the Government be called upon to support this department of Education any more than the Collegiate, the Medical or the Legal? In other departments the principle has ruled, that the efforts of individuals may be supplemented by aid from the government. Why should not this rule be applied in the support of a Technical School? The plea made for such a School is, that it will be especially useful to the manufacturing and mining interests of the Province, helping the parties engaged in these forms of business to make two or three dollars where they now make one.

When the men who are most interested in the success of such business, show that they feel the need of such a School by appropriating some portion of their own money to found it, the public will probably be willing that the Government should encourage such efforts by a reasonable annual grant in aid of the object. This method of development would be in harmony with a long-continued practice, to depart from which now will almost certainly introduce serious confusion and trouble.

ZETA.