

these are my own daughters and there are still others who are "looking toward Zion." Brother Cogswell left here the 5th inst., for home. Many prayers following him for his speedy return. I have no hesitation in saying the Lord will send him back shortly to finish the work assigned him. We have had two Young People's Prayer Meetings here, since Brother Cogswell left. They were very interesting indeed. While I am writing they are coming in and asking if we will not have a meeting. Though we have 6 during the week it does not satisfy the longing desire of the willing converts. A solemnity seems to rest upon the minds of the community generally.

WILLIAM S. RAYMOND.

Beaver River, Dec 8th, 1859.

Since the above was partially printed we have received the following from the Rev. Aaron Cogswell; and although it goes somewhat over the same ground, yet our readers will pardon the repetition, as it is his duty to report his labours, and the very gratifying intelligence is given in a comparatively small space.

LETTER FROM REV. A. COGSWELL.

MR. EDITOR,

As it will be pleasing to many of the friends to hear of the prosperity of the cause of God, I send a short account of my mission. I left home the fifth of October, and arrived at Beaver River, where I remained over two Sabbaths enjoyed a precious season with that dear people, baptized five happy converts, and then proceeded to Barrington, where I found a small church, much united and longing for the Word of Life. I baptized seven, and had the pleasure of hearing them all take part in the prayer and conference meetings. How much this dear people need a faithful servant of God among them. Their best efforts would be directed for his support. They are in hopes the Board will send them a missionary to continue with them a year. Closing my labours with them I returned to Beaver River, where I found the people still praying for a Revival of the cause. I laboured with them sixteen days, aided by the Deacons and members; the Lord was present to bless.

I baptized fifty-eight making in all sixty-three at Beaver River. Those seasons I trust will long be remembered. There were to be seen assembled at the water's side thronging multitudes, day after day. Fathers and children, and grand children all putting on Christ by baptism, which many voices could be heard above the howling wind and storm praising God and the Lamb.

May the Lord continue to bless, till all our churches shall share in the abundance of his grace. I returned home after an absence of 9 weeks, having preached sixty-two sermons, and baptized seventy believers.

I remain yours,

A. COGSWELL.

Clements, December 15th, 1859.

MILTON.—We learn by a letter from Rev. E. F. Foshy, dated Dec. 14th, that the enlargement of the Baptist Meeting-house in this place is nearly completed. It is expected to be reopened in about four weeks. The large attentive congregations are encouraging.

SACKVILLE, N. B.—Extract of letter from Rev. David Lawson.—"I have recently baptized seven believers at Sackville. The kind friends and brethren at Point de Bute have made me a Donation visit. Money and articles to the value of £17 were presented."

HALIFAX.—NORTH CHURCH.—THE REV. A. H. MUNRO of Digby has accepted a call to the Pastorate of the North Baptist Church and is expected to enter upon his labours at the beginning of the year. May he come in the fullness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ, and his labors be attended by the Divine blessing!

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

MRS. MEBETABEL HARDING, WIDOW OF THE LATE VENERABLE HARRIS HARDING.

Died at the residence of her daughter Mrs. Lent at Tuskett, on the 19th inst., after a very protracted illness, aged 81 years.

Mrs. Harding was early left an orphan and was adopted by her maternal grandfather, with whom she lived until her marriage, in 1796.

Her grandfather was one of the early "New Lights," and was probably one of the first immersed believers in this Province, and as his house was always visited by the early pioneers in the churches of Christ, it is no cause of surprise that the subject of this brief sketch should early in life have been a partaker of saving grace. As was quite usual in that day, Mrs. H. had a long struggle before she obtained joy and peace in believing, and, possessing a strong mind, when she did obtain a hope it was a very lively one.

Some time after, however, she had another great struggle with the enemy of souls. Some christian friends were spending the evening with her grand-parents, and religious conversa-

tion led to the discussion of the doctrine of the final perseverance of saints. As there were some present who held the doctrine of what is termed falling from grace, the discussion grew very warm.

Mrs. H. then 15 or 16 years old, and but a new convert, listened with deep interest. Her mind became much depressed, and the enemy assailed her with doubts as to her own experience, partly because it seemed that when she obtained a sense of pardon, she felt an assurance of ultimate salvation, and partly that she could never reach heaven, if it depended on herself or her faithfulness. She was filled with despair, and her distress was so great that she lost all consciousness of surrounding objects. Like the Psalmist, she would say, "The pains of Hell gat hold on me." She was, however, enabled to take hold on the promises. The Saviour appeared not only willing but able to keep her, not only able but pledged by his own oath and promise.—Heb. vi. 16-19. In short, a whole, sufficient, and certain Saviour. This conflict she never either forgot or doubted, and the writer has often heard her, after a lapse of more than sixty years, refer to it as one of the principal events of her christian experience.

As before stated, in 1796 she married, and the next year with her husband settled in Yarmouth, where she resided till his death in 1854. As a skilful manager, especially as a minister's wife, Mrs. Harding had few equals. She possessed not only tact to devise, but an active body and persevering mind. Many and severe trials she was compelled to pass through; some peculiar to the wife of one of the early ministers, and some by peculiar local circumstances.

As a true helpmeet in the ministry to her husband few even of her intimate friends fully knew her value. One instance out of many I will relate.

More than 40 years ago, the Methodists first commenced a mission in Yarmouth, and strange as it may now appear, seemed about to swallow up every other religious interest. Mr. and Mrs. H. were in a mixed company one afternoon, and the prospects of religious bodies were being pretty freely discussed, when one of the company observed to Mr. H. that unless he modified his religious views and preaching, he would be obliged to leave Yarmouth, or starve. This aroused Mrs. H. Turning to Mr. H. she said, "Go on preaching the doctrines that saved your soul, that apostles and martyrs rejoiced in, and suffered for; be not afraid for a living, Elijah was fed by ravens and a poor widow's meal; go on Mr. H., God will bless and prosper you, and take care of His own cause."—The result has proved the truth of this,—shall we say—Prophecy!

Until she was about fifty years old Mrs. H. enjoyed almost uninterrupted good health, but at about that age, she was seized with malignant Erysipelas which rendered her partially a cripple for life. Her energies however remained almost unimpaired until the winter in which Mr. Harding died, when a long confinement from a pulmonary attack much reduced her strength. The two years after were followed by severe illness and a slight shock of paralysis, and though she partially recovered, yet the buoyancy of her spirits, and the vigour of her mind were greatly impaired. Incipient symptoms of dropsy also now appeared, which after more than three years of suffering terminated her earthly existence.

Mrs. Harding was also called to endure severe trials in the loss of children, some of them under peculiarly distressing circumstances, but all through her long and eventful life she was often blessed with the presence and support of her covenant-keeping God, and though not so much given as some to converse on religious subjects, yet the depth and stability of her piety would frequently burst out in praise to her God and Saviour.

As she drew near the valley and shadow of death though her sufferings were very severe, and her speech almost wholly interrupted, yet she did not fail to give full evidence that her soul was stayed on her Saviour, who appeared for her deliverance near seventy years before. Almost her last understood words were an affirmative answer to the question, Was she going to God in joy and peace.

Thus lived and died, a mother in Israel, a helper in the gospel field,—the wife of a remarkable man,—the companion for near sixty years of an eminent minister of Christ, and now her flesh reposes in hope beside the husband of her youth and age.

"No more we'll seek her merits to disclose;
Or draw her frailties from their dread abode;
There they alike in trembling hope repose,
The bosom of her Father and her God."

Her funeral was attended by most of the Baptist ministers in the country. Sermon by the Rev. A. Martell from 1st Corinthians, Ch. 15, v. 57, which sermon I hope to see published in the Messenger.—Communicated by Mr. Israel Harding.

Tuskett, Nov. 25th, 1859.

MR. JOSEPH HAMILTON

Died at South Rawdon, May 25th, aged 33 years. Mr. H. professed religion and united with the Baptist Church in this place in the Autumn of 1856, which connection remained unbroken until his death. His constant attention at the house of God, his uniform observance of family worship, and his general deportment as a professor of religion afforded satisfactory evidence that he had passed from death unto life. Our lamented brother was also a Son of Temperance, which cause he advocated with untiring zeal and interest. His confidence in God was steadfast during the few days of severe suffering which preceded his death. He left a widow and four children to mourn the loss of a truly kind husband and affectionate father.—Communicated by the Rev. James Stevens.

Colonial & Foreign News.

OLIVER CROMWELL.

Captain Orlebar recently delivered a lecture before the Charlottetown Young Men's Christian Association on "OLIVER CROMWELL." This has been made a subject of considerable discussion by the press of the island. Some have gone to such lengths as to suggest that it was "degrading his commission" for an officer of the crown to express a favourable opinion of that great man. We copy a few extracts of the lecture from the *Protestant*.

The lecturer thus described the tyranny of Charles:

Many English Kings had occasionally violated law, and oppressed their subjects, but none had ever systematically attempted to make himself a despot, and to reduce the time-honored constitution of England to a nullity. We are persuaded this was the end proposed by Charles. From March, 1629 to April 1640, the Houses were not convoked. Never in our history had there been so long an interval. Systematically the promises accorded to the Petition of Rights were violated by the King; large revenues were raised without legal authority, and persons obnoxious to his government were cast into prison. Elliot, who had been Speaker in the last House, a man of distinguished family, of wealth, and of great nobleness of character, because he dared to be independent, and would not pay a fine inflicted upon him unjustly, was thrown into prison, where he died after two years of misery and suffering. Leighton, Prynne and others were pilloried, and had their ears cut off. Many were cast into prison, and from being rich men were made paupers by the exactions of the Court, and finally were only released by the Long Parliament after years of loathsome confinement.

When we consider these acts of cruelty and oppression, need we wonder that Cromwell, who abhorred tyranny, though he had up to this time never drawn the sword, resolved to fight in defence of his country's liberties. The Captain referred to this step of Oliver Cromwell as follows:—

On the 7th of February, 1642, Cromwell having contributed £300 to the fund for raising an army, left the parliament and joined the army with his two sons. With noble simplicity, he said "you have had my money, I hope in God to venture my life, and so do mine,"—alluding to his family. From this day, till the day of his death, all his thoughts, however well or ill conceived, were for protestantism, and for the liberty of his fellow-men.

The lecturer, in speaking of the execution of Charles by the army, remarked:—

When and how the scheme originated, whether from the officers to the ranks, or from the ranks to the officers, we cannot tell—only this seems clear, that it was not the act or suggestion of Cromwell. More probably he who seemed to lead, was forced in this particular to give way. Certainly Cromwell had provided Charles at one time with means and opportunities to escape beyond seas; but this failing, he appears after several mental struggles to have acquiesced in the joint resolution of the army, then encamped at Windsor, "to call Charles Stuart, that man of blood, to account for the blood he had shed, and the mischief he had done to his utmost against the Lord's cause and people in these poor nations." I will not harrow your feelings by entering into further particulars respecting this judicial murder of King Charles,—it must ever remain a deep blot on the conduct of Cromwell. But there are extenuating circumstances which should be glanced at, so that we may not form a false judgment of this wonderful man. Cromwell began life as a Puritan, and like Hugh Peters, dangerously mixed up religion with his politics, and thought he saw warrant for all that he did as a warrior in the wars and fightings recorded in the Old Testament. Cromwell became every day he lived less and less a fanatic; but one cannot pursue the narrative of those sad months which issued in the beheading of the King, without seeing that fanaticism blinded his eyes, perverted his judgment, and silenced his conscience.

In vindicating the Protector from the charge of hypocrisy, which has so often been alleged against him Mr. Orlebar said:—

Look closely through his whole career, read his letters, his speeches; see him in his relations to his fellow-men, as husband, father, son; consider his admirable fitness for the highest offices; mark his public spirit, his generosity, his unselfishness, his moderation, his habitual self-control; and the moral fitness and wisdom of most of his public acts, and see if the one, two or three actions that deserve reprobation in a public life of unexampled activity, extending thirty years, can prevent the firm and honest conviction, that we have reviewed the life of an eminent christian and a godly ruler.

Canada.

At the Wentworth assizes, the jury awarded to the family of the late Rev. Mr. Fawcett, who was killed by the accident on the Great Western Railway at Flamboro, \$5,000 damages. On the same day the jury, in the case of Cook, seriously injured by the same accident, awarded him \$5,000 damages, and a like amount to the family of Mr. McAleaze, who was killed.

One hay speculator in Canada has purchased 22,000 tons of the article.

The municipality of Wallace, C. W., has adopted an Anti-Liquor By-law to come into force on the 1st January 1860. We hope that many of the adjacent townships will follow the example, and that intoxicating liquors will for ever be banished from that promising section of the country.—C. Messenger.

United States.

CONGRESS.—Congress met on Monday the 5th inst. at 12 o'clock. Mr. Mason of Virginia, immediately plunged at the Harper's Ferry affair by a notice of a resolution of inquiry, which was followed by notice of a resolution by Mr. Trumbull, of Illinois, inquiring into the seizure of the arsenal at Franklin, Mo. In the House there was one ballot for Speaker, which indicates the ultimate election of Sherman. The House as yet appears in good humor, although excited. The galleries were densely crowded. Forty-eight Senators, and 231 members of the House were present.—W. & R.

GEORGIA AND FREE NEGROES.—A bill has been introduced into the Georgia Legislature, similar in its provisions to those in operation in some other Southern States, requiring all free persons of color to leave the State by the first Monday of January, 1862. Those who desire to remain can do so by selling themselves, with what children they have, to such masters as they may select. The purchase-money thus paid is to be appropriated to defray the expenses of those who prefer to leave. The penalty for remaining contrary to the provisions of the bill, is immediate sale into slavery.

NON-INTERCOURSE.—Some of our Southern papers and speech makers are advocating non-intercourse with the North. On Saturday week Gov. Wise sent a dispatch to Col. Holt, of Hartford, Ct., for the immediate shipment of 400 of his revolving rifles, at a cost of twenty thousand dollars! They were sent on Monday. This is the practical operation of the non-intercourse which the South cannot well avoid.—Ch. Era.

European.

THE TREATY OF ZURICH.

"PARIS, Tuesday, November 29.

"The letters of invitation to the Congress were despatched to-day to the different Powers.
"The Congress will assemble in the early part of January next."

THE PAPAL STATES.

"MARSEILLES, November 28.

"Letters received here from Rome confirm the rumour that Cardinal Antonelli will represent the Pope at the Congress.
"The Official Journal of Rome, of the 24th inst., says:—Certain journals exaggerate the reforms which are to come into operation."
"The Propaganda has received reports from Cochinchina, that persecutions and ill-treatment of the missionaries have again taken place there."

FRANCE.

The ratified treaties of Zurich have been exchanged, and M. de Bannerville has arrived in Paris with the French portion of the documents under his charge. On the day of the ratification a draft at sight for 29,000,000 of florins was delivered by M. Armand to the Austrian Plenipotentiary. The remaining 80,000,000 will be paid in four instalments at short intervals.

MORE PEACEFUL APPEARANCES.

Whether by Imperial command or not, the tone of the French press has decidedly taken a change with reference to the English Alliance, and it is to be hoped it will turn out in this instance as in a smaller matter, that "the quarrelling of lovers is a renewal of love." The *Siecle* recounts the mutual advantages to be derived from an alliance between the two countries; its beneficial effects upon civilisation, and the peace of the world. The important thing, it adds, is to put an end to all antagonistic feelings, to forget what tends to divide, and to think only of what operates to unite the two nations. The *Pays* declares it has always been a partisan of the English Alliance. It saw with joy the union of their flags in the Crimea; it applauded beforehand the expedition to China; and finally, the presence of England in the Congress will give it much lively satisfaction. General Montaubant, too, the commander of the Chinese expedition, unites his voice to that of the press in favour of the national unity, and in an order of the day he tells his soldiers they are called upon to undertake a glorious expedition. "For the second time your flag will be united to that of England, and that union will be a pledge of victory, as that of the two nations is a pledge of peace to the whole world." These things, slight as they are, serve to give a confidence and hope that conciliatory counsels will always prevail between the two countries, though the sensible and thinking portion of each kingdom will see that a firmer security lies in the commercial interests of each, and in the cultivation of the sympathies which ought to tie civilised countries in a common bond.

A Marseilles journal continues a happy strain commenced by its metropolis brethren and, in a speculative commercial spirit, it says and, in a speculative commercial spirit, it says "the Chinese expedition has given a confidence that the relations between England and France will remain friendly at least two years."

THE PRESS IN FRANCE.

The following is said to be a copy of the circular recently addressed to the Prefects respecting the press:—PARIS, Nov. 12, 1859.

"Several of the past provincial journals have for some time been brought to the discus-