

the constant pastoral labours of their Ministers, and that they cheerfully allow such of them, whose minds are so led, to travel and visit the destitute places in this Province, a certain part of their time."

"That it be particularly recommended by this Association to such Churches as have young Ministers settled over them, who are desirous of improving their minds, that they should endeavour to dispense with their services for a certain portion of their time, in order to enable them to obtain the advantages of instruction at the Seminary at Horton, in such branches of Education, as such Ministering Brethren may deem most essential to their future usefulness in the Lord's Vineyard."

1830. "In answer to a question from the Second Church in Cornwallis, it was agreed to recommend to all the Churches in this Association, in cases where Church members shall commit offences of public notoriety, except the same be of such nature as to require immediate exclusion, that in order to their restoration to the Church, they be required to make a public acknowledgment of such offence before the world."

1831. "The Association proceeded to the consideration of a question proposed by the Church in Upper Granville, viz:—Whether this Association has scriptural authority to licence any possessing gifts, in any of the churches composing the Body, to preach or exercise such gifts in public; and it was thereupon,

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this Association, that they have no scriptural authority whatever to licence any person to exercise their gifts in any way in a public capacity; and it is also the sense of the Association, that altho' in the case stated in the above letter, which is a singular one, the individual mentioned, produces a licence from the Association, it was when this body was in its infancy; and that in their present state, they would not grant, or approve of such licence; and it is therefore their opinion, that such individual should be dealt with according to the Gospel rule, as stated in the 18th. ch. of Matthew, and other scriptures."

1834. "The Committee appointed yesterday for the purpose of taking into consideration the several Questions proposed to this Association, reported as follows:

"1st. With regard to the Question proposed by the Church at Hammond's Plains—'Whether it be according to the Bible that Deacons should administer the ordinances of the Gospel?' Your Committee report, That we cannot find any proof from Scripture, that it belongs to the office of Deacons to administer Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

"2nd. With reference to the Question proposed by the Church at Sissiboo—'What mode is most Scriptural with regard to setting apart Deacons?' Your Committee report, That they conceive the Churches should look out suitable men for the Deacons' office, possessing the qualifications required in Scripture, (see Acts vi. 3. and 1. Tim. iii. 8—12.) and that those persons should be set apart as in the primitive example, (Acts vi. 6, 7.) by prayer and the imposition of hands; we do not, however, insist upon the observance of the latter ceremony, but wish the Churches to proceed on such a subject according to the best light they can obtain, without making it a matter of contention or disaffection.

"3rd. In answer to the Question proposed by the Church at New Albany—'Is it according to the rules of the Gospel, to have Churches consist of different branches so situated (in point of distance,) that they never meet together, and many of them strangers to each other?' They are of opinion, That if the branches of that Church are so far distant as to make it inconvenient to assemble with the other branches for public worship, and if they possess respectively such gifts as enable them to sustain public worship among themselves in an edifying manner, that it is agreeable to Scripture, and altogether desirable, that such branches should be constituted into separate Churches.

"4th. In regard to the matters alluded to in the Letter of the second Halifax Church, the Committee recommend as the answer of the Association, the following reply:—On careful consideration of the subject proposed we do not coincide in opinion with the brethren in said Church, as to the scriptural rule in the matter in question; at the same time, we do not desire to debate the question with them, but are willing to use mutual forbearance, and to leave our brethren to the exercise of their own views thereon.

"We would, however, for the further satisfaction of our brethren, explain, that though we do not deem it unscriptural to practice weekly communion, we do not think Scripture enjoins it; and that in all cases we deem it important that a Church should, for this and other purposes, be furnished with suitable Elders set apart and ordained to this office.

"The above Report was received and ap-

proved, and ordered to be inserted in the Minutes."

1857. "In reply to the questions from Sissiboo, that it is improper for a Minister to be ordained over one Church, while he is the member of another; and that all members of Churches whether Ministers or others, removing from one Church to another should, to be consistent, take a dismission from the former, and join the latter."

1858. "In reply to the Petitions from certain individuals connected with the Church at Aylesford, Nietaux, and Wilmot.

"Inasmuch as these petitions appear to proceed from private individuals, members of various Churches, and not from the Churches themselves, the Committee recommend them to be dismissed for irregularity; and although the Association doubtless would not preclude a private member aggrieved by his Church from seeking the Christian counsel of this Body in a proper manner, this Committee would respectfully recommend the Association to express strongly their disapprobation of the practice of private persons without the knowledge and approbation of their respective Churches and Pastors, intermeddling in the affairs of neighbouring Churches and getting up petitions to the Association on party questions."

The case of Mr. Elder, and some other miscellaneous matters will receive attention in my next.

Yours truly,
MENNO.

Nov. 23, 1861.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, DECEMBER 4, 1861.

Personal and Financial.

One of our friends has sent us the following for publication. We should not do justice to our own feelings, or to the kindheartedness of the writer, were we to undervalue such expressions of interest in our labors.

"In this eventful period of the world's history, while its pages are being filled with important and interesting matter, almost the least mentioned of those who perform so useful a part in the affairs of the times, are the Editors; but let me say there is no class of persons who would be more missed in moral, intellectual, and knowledge-loving society than they. Week after week brings the welcome newspaper to our door filled with interesting news to old and young, male and female, rich and poor; however impartial it is, some will complain; but let them consider the difficult position in which the Editor is placed, remember intellect, education, as well as physical industry must be applied. In short, there must be news for all classes of society, and should the editor try to please everybody he would probably succeed no better than the old man in the fable who tried to do so."—Nov. 27, 1861.

We omit the writer's appeal to those he terms "grumblers," and his exhortation to them and others to "pay up" seeing that we believe our readers, at least a very large proportion of them, are honorable men. True there are many of them from whom we have not heard for some time, but we are expecting to hear now every day.

The following is part of an address of the learned editor, in the last number, of the *Canadian Baptist*. It is equally applicable to our own case.

"If our friends should sometimes find irregularities in the delivery of their papers, a mistake in their accounts, the insertion of an article not suited to their taste, or the omission of one which they very much desire to see in our columns, we request them not to judge hastily, and censure us as though this was the result of negligence, wilfulness, or a desire to offend. There is, probably, no class of persons so accommodating as editors of public journals, none so desirous to please, and so anxious to avoid giving offence. There is no class of the community, not even ministers or statesmen, with whom so much fault is found, and whose patience is so frequently and so severely tested. If we could have the company of our readers and their personal observation of us for a week, so that they might see what are our labours and trials in order to furnish them with instruction, pleasure and profit; to prevent errors in typography, printing, labelling, packing, posting, &c., we are sure that, even should a paper sometimes fail to reach them, should a label sometimes be incorrect, should some article be unsuited to their taste, or some one be omitted, we are sure, that from them we should have less complaint and more forbearance on any and all of these accounts. Could we put our readers in our place for a short time and involve them in the responsibility of paying the bills which we have to meet for Paper, Printing, Correspondence, Postage, &c., &c., and oblige them to apply to their friends, to borrow without knowing when they would be able to pay again, or be compelled to give up publishing the paper, and thus deprive the denomination of its organ, paying subscribers of their due, and thus bring themselves into disgrace, unless they urged those whose subscriptions were due, to pay them without delay. We say, could we make our readers acquainted with these things as we know them and feel them, we should have

more of their sympathy and give less offence by reminding them that their subscriptions are due, and that we should receive the amount thankfully."

A list of our respected AGENTS will be found on another page. We are greatly indebted to these friends for their invaluable services in receiving and forwarding payments from our subscribers. We would take the liberty, of requesting our patrons to give the Agent in their locality as little trouble as possible, and by way of diminishing his labor we should be much obliged if they would hand in to him their payments as early as convenient, so as to prevent the necessity of his calling on them as some are accustomed to do.—The good of the cause and the benefits arising from the dissemination of christian truth, is the great motive which induces these friends to co-operate with us in this work.

In localities where it would be inconvenient to reach any one whose name is in the said list, and were we have no one specially appointed, we shall be obliged by any subscriber sending on for himself and others the amounts they may put in his hands for this purpose.

A Word to all.

THESE are doubtless "hard times," but to sit down and grumble about them is not likely to make them better. We are disposed to endeavour to improve the times. We cannot command the heavens, or cause the earth to increase the abundance of its productions. We cannot secure peace among the nations, or control their commercial intercourse. But we have a mission, as we believe, second to none in the arrangements of social life, and we invite the co-operation of our patrons in its accomplishment. We have no means of sending the wherewithal to enable our friends to clothe the naked or feed the hungry, but we may perhaps do something better. Could we induce our friends to accompany us weekly to the abodes of their neighbours and there to offer words of counsel, and introduce new springs of action to the minds of those who are living without high moral or mental aims, we might soon see the wilderness become a fruitful field and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose. The hard times, we believe, may be softened, and the public welfare promoted by such means as we are permitted to employ. We wish to smooth the path of life for those within the limits of our influence, by scattering before them the flowers and fruits of christian literature, mental cultivation, and general information. We have the warm sympathy of a goodly number in this enterprise, and frequently receive tangible evidence of their labors. We desire to secure the active efforts of a still larger number. This season is commonly embraced for such campaigns, and we therefore take the present opportunity of making a proposal for this purpose, to those who may be able to devote a little time to it.

We do, from time to time, have additions to our list of Subscribers from amongst those who see the *Messenger* in the houses of their friends, or such as remove from the parental roof, who, having been accustomed to its weekly visits, desire still to have it as part of their own domestic circle. But there are families, we believe, in every locality who have not yet become aware of the advantages of a weekly religious newspaper. We wish to visit these, and desire our friends generally to give us an introduction. A few words from them would in many cases be sufficient. If every one of our present readers would but try and induce another to send on his name we should be well satisfied. As, however, there are probably some who may not engage in this labor of love, we hope that others will try and send on more than one.

We would gladly offer rewards to our friends for their good words as inducements for them to extend their efforts; but we have found that proposing a pecuniary compensation prevented some of them from such attempts. Many of those who have long been our best friends prefer laboring in this way, simply from a desire of serving the cause which we are unitedly engaged to promote.—They are glad to find an opportunity of adding to our circulation, but prefer doing so from motives of Christian love rather than from the love of money.—We would be glad to enlist many such valuable Volunteers in our cause, as well as others who are unable to devote their time without some remuneration, and would ourselves forego considerations of profit, for the sake of obtaining a large increase to our circulation.

We propose therefore to any person who may secure the names of SIX NEW SUBSCRIBERS, and send them on before the end of the year, with the payment in advance, to send another copy FREE to whoever he or she may name, viz:

Seven copies, for new subscribers, for the price of Six.

Any person therefore, who is able to get

six names may, if he chooses, make A PRESENT OF THE *Messenger* FOR A YEAR to some other person, and each of those six would also be participants in such donation.

We shall be glad to hear from our friends as early as possible, so as to prepare for the enlarged issue of the first week in 1862.

PRIZES.—We will also send to the person who forwards to us, before the close of the year, the greatest number of new Subscribers (if more than twelve) either SEARS' LARGE PICTORIAL FAMILY BIBLE with about 1000 engravings, price \$6; or The ILLUSTRATED DOMESTIC BIBLE with numerous engravings and Notes by Rev. Ingram Cobbin. Price \$6.50.

And to the person who obtains the next largest number (if more than 10) a copy of THE CITY OF THE GREAT KING, or Jerusalem as it was, as it is, and as it is to be, by J. T. Barclay M. D. Price \$3.50.

New Subscribers for 1862.

We shall be happy to receive a few hundreds of names to add to our list for the coming year and will send

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

to such as forward their Subscription in advance for 1862,

FREE OF CHARGE. the remainder of this year (1861.)

TO MINISTERS.—The ministers of all religious bodies should have as much information as possible respecting religious movements, passing events, &c., &c. We have therefore concluded henceforth to supply the *Messenger* to ministers of all denominations for \$1.50, when paid in advance.

We deeply regret to learn, from a friend in the city, of the death of WILLIAM JOHNSON Esq., of Wolfville. He had been seriously ill but a few days, and died on Sunday evening last, aged about 70 years.

Mr. Johnson had been for the past fifty years identified with the affairs in Kings County, and so highly esteemed for his business habits and strict integrity that his death will be a public loss. He was, we believe, twice returned as Representative in the Provincial Parliament. As a Christian man, few were more valued in the Baptist Church at Wolfville. We sympathize with the family and the church, and believe we express the feelings of the community generally, when we say a good man has been taken from their midst.

New Publications.

HISTORY OF AMERICAN MANUFACTURES from 1608 to 1860, by J. Leander Bishop, M. D. Vol. 1. Philadelphia: Edw. Young & Co. Quarto. 650 pages.

The author and publisher of this work are both Nova Scotians. The former studied medicine in this city with Dr. Sawers. It is a producing the wherewithal to enable our friends to which does credit to both. A notice of it before us says,—

"The Edition is limited, and the book is one that, as an investment, will become more valuable with the lapse of time. It will be a reservoir of reputation, as it is of facts, to every one who is called upon to make a speech, or write, or converse upon American Manufactures, Industry, or Progress."

The following notice of it is from the *North American and United States Gazette*:

Dr. Bishop's work is a monument of patient industry and research. In this respect it is scarcely second to Dr. Allibone's Dictionary of Authors, which we look upon as a standing marvel. The title of the volume before us is sufficient to indicate the comprehensiveness of the author's design. It is, in fact, a social history of the United States, and is as interesting in its historical materials as it is instructive and useful in its commercial. So vast and intricate a subject could only be dealt with by a man of unwearied industry, and possessed of great powers of analysis. We should like to know how much time the author devoted to the collection of materials for his work. This must in itself have been a herculean task, apart from the labor of writing the book afterwards. The mass of facts here collected, from a body of materials which will be of the greatest importance to future statisticians, statesmen, and historians. To obtain them, Dr. Bishop consulted the statistical reports of the Federal and of the local governments of each State, the all authorities that could be found respecting the early commerce and resources of the United States, and the periodical magazines, journals, and other organs of every branch of Industry, Trade, and Manufactures. The digest of these data into a form available to the general reader, has been accomplished in a very successful manner. The first volume gives the early commercial history of the colonies, each State being considered separately. This separate history of the States is preserved throughout the work, giving rise to occasional repetition, but rendering it more useful as a book of reference. It in-