

considerable interval between them, and that interval was marked by coldness and desolation. Let me illustrate this by a tabular statement of the number of baptisms in six of the largest churches in the Association.

Year.	Horton.	Second Cornwallis.	Third Cornwallis.	Nictaux.	Wilmot.	Second Yarmouth.
1839	55	89	63	8	34	2
1840	62	none.	none.	26	1	6
1841	82	none.	none.	9	3	7
1842	11	none.	3	75	88	44
1843	4	11	4	5	7	12
1844	none.	12	51	4	none.	none.
1845	none.	none.	4	none.	none.	none.
1846	none.	none.	none.	none.	none.	none.
1847	none.	none.	none.	none.	none.	none.
1848	144	none.	1	19	none.	1
1849	2	88	91	66	35	3
1850	2	6	2	9	46	94

Here is the history of twelve years. And a very singular history it is, in a Christian point of view. Four years of prosperity were enjoyed by the Horton church; in the last of which, especially, marvellous scenes were witnessed, mighty manifestations of the power and grace of God; but there were four years in which nothing was done, and the remaining four years exhibit but a meagre report of progress.—There were two revivals in the second Cornwallis church, one in 1839, the other in 1849; but during seven of the intervening years not a single conversion is known to have taken place among them. The case of the third Cornwallis church presents a slight improvement, inasmuch as there were three revivals, at shorter intervals; yet four years were entirely barren of results, and the additions made during the remaining five years were very few. In the years 1845, 1846, and 1847, there was not a baptism in the Nictaux, Wilmot, and second Yarmouth churches, containing at that time upwards of a thousand members; while in the two latter the year 1844 was equally unprofitable, as was 1848 also in Wilmot, in which year one addition was made to the second Yarmouth, more than balanced by two exclusions and one death. Other churches reported similar experiences. Thus, there was an interval of eight years between the revivals in the first Cornwallis church; seven years in the first Clements; six years in the Lower Aylesford church; seven years in the first Yarmouth; and the revivals at Newport, Onslow, and Falmouth, in 1843, had been followed by no manifestations of the same kind up to 1850, the close of our present period.

What shall we say to these things? Is such a course of events satisfactory to the Christian heart? Are we to suppose that years of spiritual barrenness, following each other in melancholy succession,—and then a few months of sudden outburst of feeling, with another time of dearth at the close, ought to be regarded as the natural product of religious effort, conducted on the principles of the New Testament? Should we not rather expect that faithful preaching and holy living would exert such an influence as to produce, by God's blessing, and according to his promise, continuous results, and not merely occasional and impulsive movements? Would any of the apostles have contemplated those years of nothingness with feelings of contentment, or even resignation? Is it to be imagined that they would have fallen back on the doctrine of divine sovereignty, or soothed the sorrowful spirits of their brethren by assuring them that such alternations of success and failure must be expected or that it is useless to labour to prevent them? I cannot bring myself to believe it. It seems to me that the history of the six churches furnished in the table given above, is altogether unnatural. Those blanks are hideous. One dead year is sad enough; but a succession of them is truly horrible, nor do I think it would occur if Christianity were rightly apprehended and zealously practised by all its professors. Clear and faithful proclamation of the gospel, diligent training of the church, brotherly love among its members, affectionate efforts to win over the unconverted, sanctified and sustained by "effectual fervent prayer," will always be blessed. The Lord will not suffer his people, so living and labouring, to languish, and lament his absence. He will be "with them always"; and as long as they continue in that state there will be "showers of blessing." The withholding of the showers should be referred to its proper cause, and should lead to "great searchings of heart." Pungent and piercing are the words of the prophet—applicable, too, to these times;—"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear; but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."

Yours truly,

March 15, 1862.

MENNO.

PROVERBS FROM POOR RICHARD.—An egg to-day is better than a hen to-morrow. Hunger never saw bad bread.

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from Burmah.

My Dear Messenger,—

How often it is the case, that our mercies and blessings become the occasions of neglect of duty! My wife and little girl have been brought safely back to me from America, after an absence of three years,—and consequently I have neglected to write to you for two months and more! I see, however, that I have written to Dr. Tupper and Brother Humphrey somewhat recently, and as those letters contained things which it was important for the brethren generally to know, it is probable that parts of them, at least, have appeared in your columns. My object in writing to those brethren at that time was to inform them that I had ceased paying out anything to the native preachers, and my reason for that step. I am glad now to be able to let all the contributors to the support of the Native preachers know, through your paper, that the necessity, which then seemed so imminent, has not yet arrived, and that recent advices from Boston lead me to hope that there will be no reason for diverting a single dollar of the money contributed to the Board, by Granville St. Ch. and Sab. School and by the St. John Juvenile Miss. Society, from the purpose intended by the donors—the support of native preachers. The Secretary of the Union writes, that it is hoped they will be able to remit money enough to sustain the missionaries,—and that's all. But this, he adds, will be effected only by "unparalleled sacrifices" by the supporters of missions. Four, probably, of the native preachers will be re-engaged. The funds received from Nova Scotia will not suffice,—(retaining a sum to meet the indispensable demand of travelling),—for the support of more.

Let me, here, acknowledge the receipt, by Mrs. Crawley, of £5, from Miss Bent and others at Amherst, for the Female School. This School will probably be commenced immediately after the meeting of our Association in February next.

As the demands of the zayat give me but little time for writing, and as this will probably meet Brother Humphrey's eye, I will acknowledge here the receipt of £2, (through Dr. Tupper),—a donation from three little girls connected with the Granville St. Sabbath School, with which they suggested that I should make a present of a Bible or Hymn Book to Ko Eing, (the preacher supported by the Granville St. Church.) As Ko Eing already has a good Bible and Hymn Book, I asked him what he would like to have? His eyes brimmed over at the thought that he was remembered in distant America. And what do his little friends think, he asked me to get for him with their gift? Why, at first he wanted to give it as a contribution to the Mission. But I told him that you probably would be dissatisfied with that, as you sent the money expressly to be used in getting something for himself. He then said, "teacher, I go about preaching all day, and can't find much time for reading my Bible until after dark. But my eyes are old, and unless I have a strong light, I can't see to read long. If the teacher thinks it best, I would like a good lamp." And I think you will all be satisfied, will you not, when you know that good old Ko Eing is every night using the lamp you gave him to enable him to get a better knowledge of God's Word. Good bye.

Faithfully yours,

ARTHUR R. R. CRAWLEY.

Henthada, Dec. 24, 1861.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, MARCH 26, 1862.

News Summary.

London news to the 8th inst., was received by the R. M. S. America, which arrived on Friday evening.

A motion in Parliament to declare the blockade of the Southern Ports by the Federalists as merely nominal and inefficient, was defeated by the general voice of the Commons. Its adoption would probably have led to the recognition of the Southern Confederacy, and a war between England and the North. English statesmen of all parties are unanimous in maintaining the strict and dignified neutrality which they have hitherto observed.

A good deal of perturbation appears to exist in France. The Emperor and the Priesthood are at variance. His object for a long time has evidently been to lessen their influence over the masses, and to bring them into more immediate dependence on the Civil Government, and make them less subservient to the Pope. Prince Napoleon, the Emperor's cousin, the same who visited this Continent last summer, in an eloquent and forcible address in the Corps Legislatif, (The French House of Commons) has demanded that the French Troops should be withdrawn from Rome, and the Romans and the Pope left to manage their own affairs,—a measure which would immediately result in depriving him of his temporal power. The Republican party are also again in activity, and a number of arrests have been made in Paris and elsewhere.

The Austrian Emperor is at length conceding to his subjects large and important measures of civil and religious liberty, and adopting to some considerable extent, the forms of a Representative Government. In Italy there has been a change of ministry. The Baron Ricasoli, who succeeded Count Cavour as Prime Minister, and who continued to act on his policy, has resigned, and been replaced by M. Rattazzi, who is supposed to be much more under the influence of France.

There is still a strong and general feeling throughout Italy, to wrest Rome and Venice from the Pope and the Emperor of Austria. The Government of Victor Emmanuel, although desiring the same object, are averse to any immediate attempt, which might involve the newly formed kingdom of Italy in a general war with her neighbours.

There has been nothing of importance transpired during the week relative to the movements of the hostile armies in the South. Severe and destructive gales have prevailed on the European coasts, and numerous shipwrecks have occurred. Among them is the loss of the *Spartan*, a transport coming to this country and New Brunswick with military stores and munitions. She was wrecked near Havre, on the coast of France. Several lives were lost,—among them a Capt. Hand of the 63rd Regt., with his wife and child.

LEGISLATIVE.—The proceedings of the Legislature on Saturday and Monday last, have produced much excitement in the capital. We regret that we are unable to give a fuller report, the outline in our columns appropriated to that department will however give our readers the substance and the result of the debate on the Estimates.

ACADIA COLLEGE AGENCY.—We forgot to mention in our last week's issue that the Rev. A. D. Thomson had been in Halifax last week on his way to New Brunswick. A letter from him at Westchester dated March 14th, says: "I fled from your city for fear I should not get home on runners, and behold there is now here four feet of snow on a level."

You are aware that I received \$400 from one brother, and \$20 from another before I left you. I got \$460 the next day in Truro, from an Alumnus, and \$4 more from an old friend, making in all \$824, which, with the £800 reported by Brother Barss, will complete £1000,—not bad for a little over two months' labour.

The two largest donors in the above (I mean in Halifax and Truro) have received, and know how to appreciate a course of College training.

I would just say for the encouragement of friends to the Institution, that at no period of my acquaintance with it, do I believe it stood more firmly, or had more true friends than at the present day. I never had such success before, and I heartily hope and pray it may continue. Let its friends be united, pull together and the work is done.

Yours as ever,

ADAM D. THOMSON.

THIRTY-TWO YEARS AGO.—A copy of the *Acadian Recorder*, dated March 20, 1830, came into our hands a day or two since. As in all old documents,—especially old newspapers, much of interest may be found in its contents.

The parliamentary report gives but few names now found in that department. A Memorial of the Judges of the Supreme Court, for an increase of salary is the principal subject of discussion. Mr. Lawson in opposing the sending of this to a committee, said "every bit of bread that is eaten in the province is taxed and the treasury is improved by drawing on the pockets of the poor. The country is very far from being wealthy; if those in official situations and a few other rich individuals are excluded there would not be found 100 persons in the province possessed of £100 per annum."

St. Patrick's Day seems to have been observed with all honor. One of the toasts at the Annual Festival of the Charitable Irish Society then was "The Lord Bishop of Nova Scotia, the Bishop of Tanen and the Clergy of the Province."

We find in many of the advertisements the same names as at the present day,—most of them however being fathers of the merchants of this date.

Notices, &c.

NOTICES.

To those who have paid for their paper.

Dear Friend,—Many thanks for your remittance. May you continue to enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that you "owe no man anything, but love."

Not to be read by those who have paid.

Dear Friend,—Are you not in arrears for the *Christian Messenger*? Large demands are made upon us for labor and material to supply you with the paper. Please send on what is owing by you without delay, and oblige

THE PROPRIETOR.

Christian Messenger Office,
49 Granville St., Halifax, N. S.

Letters Received.

G. V. Rand, 17th. D. Mosher, 15th, 20s. James B. McNutt, 15th, 10s., per Alex. Cummings. J. W. Cobb, 19th, 20s., per Mr. Cohoon. X. Z. Chipman, Esq., 13th, 1 sub. H. T. Goudy, 17th, 20s. I. McNayr, Esq., 15th, 25s.—Can only send *Young Reaper* from March. W. Sabean, 15th, 10s. Rev. James Stevens, 19th, 1 sub. W. L. Crowell, 15th, 20s., 1 sub. Rev. D. M. Welton, 21st. G. Langille, 12th, 10s. J. Spidel, 10s. Rev. J. E. Balcom, 20th.—It has been sent regularly, as first directed.

General Intelligence.

DOMESTIC.

The City Council have moved in the matter of the Chimney Sweepers.

A lot of old Province Notes were burned by a Committee of the House on Thursday.

We had a letter yesterday from Sherbrooke, giving a very favorable account of the gold prospects there.—Col.

The Hon. Joseph Howe will deliver an Address this evening before the Mayflower Volunteer Company, on "The Art of War."

Wm. Hickman, Esq., has been appointed Private Secretary to His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, vice Capt. Stapleton, resigned.

VOLUNTEERS' LECTURES.—Mr. Morrow lectured on Wednesday last on the Vikings—the ancient pirates of the North—with extracts from the writings of the Sagas and early Scandinavian history.

PROGRESS WESTWARD.—The *Sun* has the following:

"We are informed by a gentleman recently returned from the westward, that shipbuilding is progressing with great rapidity in that direction. At Shelburne there are 16 vessels now building. Yarmouth, 12. Tusket, 5. Argyle, 3. Liverpool, 2. Barrington, 2; and several at St. Mary's Bay."

It is stated that parties from the States are purchasing large tracts of land at and near Sheet Harbour, and making arrangements for carrying on extensive saw mills, &c. Two or three vessels are now on passage from New York, laden with supplies necessary for prosecuting work at the locality in question.—*Express*.

PRESERVATION OF ISLAND FISHERIES AND GAME.—A meeting of the Society having this object in view was held in Masonic Hall, on Tuesday 18th inst. Capt. Chearnley in the chair. P. S. Hamilton, Secretary. Statements were made showing that great destruction of moose had been effected by some gentlemen from England and resolutions passed for preparing an Act to be presented to the Legislature, for preventing the wanton and improper destruction of moose and game.

WINE HARBOUR GOLD DIGGINGS.—The auriferous deposit at this place, from all accounts, appear to be more extensive and richer than was at the first discovery anticipated. A gentleman from Pictou, was in Halifax, a few days since, and was shown the produce from a barrel of quartz from this place, the value of which was \$36, after deducting the fee for crushing; and was purchased by giving in exchange a barrel of herring, valued at \$3. There was not the slightest evidence upon the exterior of the quartz, that it contained gold. There is no doubt but thousands of tons of this quartz will go through the crushing operation the ensuing summer, and probably of a much richer quality. We learn that the claims are nearly all taken up.—*Pictou Chronicle*.

WEST INDIES.—The *Greyhound* from Bermuda, reports fourteen men-of-war lying at those Islands.

The last arrival from Havana reports that three schooners had succeeded in running the blockade and getting in there with cargoes of cotton.

Bermuda was visited with a severe storm on the 9th inst., doing considerable damage.

Several rebel schooners had been brought into Key West, including the William Mallory.

A number of rebel schooners with small quantities of cotton on board had reached Havana.

Two slave dealers had been murdered at Havana. The assassins were four in number, including a mulatto, who confessed the crime and is under trial.

AUSTRALIA, Melbourne, Jan. 26.—The English cricketers victorious. The above intelligence has been telegraphed from Alexandria. How important!

Garibaldi has arrived at Genoa. The Committee of the Provedimento Society are preparing to celebrate his arrival with a banquet.