

Baptist body. As to the numerical progress of the churches, Dr. Angus gave the following facts:—In 1801 there were in England 417 Baptist churches, in 1871 there were 1,940, an increase in seventy years of nearly five fold. For every 21 churches in 1801 there were now 107. The population of England had increased in the same time only three fold. In 1801 there was one Baptist church to every 20,000 Englishmen; in 1871 there was one church to every 11,000. The progress in the number of members was considerably greater. At the beginning of the century the average number of members was probably 60 or 70; in 1841 the number was 110; in 1860 the average number in 1,000 churches was 121; and in 1871 the average in 1,500 churches was 129. (Applause). Compared with seventy-nine years ago, the churches had multiplied five fold, six fold in Lancashire and London; and the number of members of each church had doubled. Reckoning 70 members as the average of each church in 1801, there were then about 70,000 members; in 1871 the number was nearly 180,000. Dr. Angus proceeded to deduce hints for future guidance from these facts which he thought threw light on several questions.

The Rev. J. B. Chown moved;—and Rev. A. Tilly of Cardiff seconded. That this meeting, in the review of the progress of our churches during the last seventy years, devoutly thanks God for the large increase with which they have been favoured, and earnestly calls the attention of pastors, deacons, and churches to the need of greater activity and prayer, in order to meet the wants of an ever-growing population, and to secure wider influence for the great spiritual truths we represent and are called to maintain.

For the Christian Messenger.

AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

Dear Editor,—

I am certainly very thankful to Bro. Chipman for enlightening me on the import and derivation of that very important word "Codicil." For although I had in my possession a Latin Dictionary and other good books, I relied entirely on "Webster." After being led by him into such a mortifying error in the misuse of a word, (?) I shall not so highly prize him; but as I pass into the shade I have the satisfaction of knowing that he is eclipsed. I wonder that Webster never "took pains to trace the word to its fountain head." Perhaps he could not get there—I believe very few men can. It may be that he was not a careful man.

Bro. C's questions in the seventh paragraph of his last Codicil are certainly very gratifying to his friends; they indicate clearly that he is not only excelling in philology, but that he is searching for other facts as well. A sincere enquirer for truth is never far from it. Undoubtedly it is always best to question first and then decide, and not to decide and then to question, as Bro. C has been led to do in these "Codicils," but "better late than never" to enquire.

I may be allowed to add that I am not alone of the opinion that perched on a learned caption as censor is a "false position" for any minister to occupy; and that there is a "fountain head" where we all may learn better things, for a better purpose.

In my last communication (C. M., Oct. 9) Your compositor made me say on the sixth line from the bottom "marring," when I had written "making," marring thereby a not very valuable article. I have not time to write—and it may not be profitable for you to publish—more on this subject.

By your permission I will say a few words on the subject of

OUR HOME MISSIONS.

For all the work accomplished by our eastern brethren I am truly thankful. In all their successes I have ever rejoiced. In all their toils and trials they have my warmest sympathy.—They live in my confidence. Many of my brethren know that at the Convention at Berwick I moved a resolution and did what I could to carry it, to locate the Board of the Union in Halifax. Mine was not however the will of the body and I, in common with my brethren in this County am willing to aid in perfecting an arrangement of our Home Missionary work which will doubtless greatly increase the power of our denomination for good.

For fifteen years I have been of the opinion that we should have a union of our Mission Boards in this province. Two of these years I have spent in

Mission work, and am thereby qualified in a measure to judge of the difficulties and disadvantages of our past modes of operating. I have visited every County in Nova Scotia proper, and have seen much of its destitution. In conversation with brethren in all these places I have found them generally agreeing with me on this subject. It is certainly a cause for devout thankfulness that all our brethren east and west are so early one on this question. By reference to the Minutes of the Western, Central and Eastern Associations this will appear. The "Committee on Missions" in the Central and Eastern Associations presented substantially the same report, most heartily endorsing the Union and these were adopted by the bodies.

Since all are agreed it only remains for us to perfect the necessary details. May that wisdom which is from above be ours to possess in large measure, that we may give an early and favorable response to the pressing calls for help now coming from so many of our feeble churches.

J. H. S.

Beaver River, Oct. 5, 1872.

For the Christian Messenger.

Dear Brother Selden,—

It appears to me that, among the numerous calls for benevolence, the very important one presented by Bro. Cote, namely, the establishment of an Institution in the ancient and far-famed City of Rome, for the diffusion of the light of the pure gospel of Christ, urgently demands a ready and general response. I therefore remit you a sovereign (\$5.00,) for that object, in hope that much more may be speedily forwarded, and remitted as requested.

Yours in gospel bonds,

CHARLES TUPPER.

Aylesford, Nov. 8, 1872.

For the Christian Messenger.

Dear Editor,—

You will be kind enough to publish in your valuable paper the following extract from a letter recently received by a Baptist sister in Milton, Yarmouth; and thus subserve the interests of Bible circulation, and oblige

ONE INTERESTED.

"Labouring as I am to the best of my ability with very limited compensation, to extend the knowledge of salvation by Jesus Christ, as revealed in the Bible, I feel greatly encouraged by signs of sympathy and co-operation such as your liberality shows.

The world's great need to day is the Bible. Out of 1,000,000,000 of its inhabitants less than 200,000,000 ever heard of such a book. Our Society is doing all it can with limited means at its disposal to give the destitute the words of eternal life.

Had we \$10,000 to dispose of to-day we could judiciously appropriate the whole, and yet not meet half the demands that are before us. It seems a strange state of things to me, that Baptist Christians owing all they are and hope to become as redeemed followers of the Lord Jesus, give so little to put the Bible into the hands of others, that they may obtain like precious faith and benefits with ourselves.

But I will not burden you by complaints against my brethren, but rejoice that many like yourself appreciate the luxury of giving as the Lord hath prospered them, that others may come to that only Redeemer by the efficacy of whose atoning love they ever can hope for salvation from sin and sorrow.

Every dollar given to our Treasury will put two copies of revealed truth into the hands of those who have it not. Our business is carried on by the most rigid economy possible and none employed by us are paid one cent above what they absolutely must have, upon which to support themselves and those dependent upon them.

The Lord prosper you my sister in all things temporal and spiritual, is the earnest prayer of yours in the glorious Gospel.

A. D. GILLETTE, Cor. Sec.
No. 150 Nassau St. N. Y.,
Oct. 7, 1872.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., November 6, 1872.

GREAT INDUCEMENTS.

The Christian Messenger will be sent to New Subscribers from the date of receiving their address up to the end of 1873, for two dollars, in advance. Will our friends please make

this known to their neighbours, and help them to get it.

Our reasons for this offer are—

1. We believe there are hundreds of families in every part of the province who would be greatly blessed and benefitted by having a good christian weekly newspaper.

2. We prefer to have the names of New Subscribers before the New Year commences, if possible, as we then know better what number of copies to print.

3. We are greatly in want of money at the present time.

"THE WANT OF THE AGE."

A pamphlet has been forwarded to us, bearing this title and written by a member of the Established Church.

The author defines the "want to be a Church of the Apostolic type." He objects that at present the Clergy have too much power, and consequently if a layman of talent wishes to be useful in the service of Truth, his activity is repressed, to the great detriment of society and the delay of God's Kingdom. No essential improvement can be expected until this restriction is removed. Also, according to this writer, too much deference is paid to wealth, the poor are pushed on one side or made the subjects of ostentatious benefactions with no manifestations of genuine sympathy; and consequently the laboring classes are more and more repelled from the Church. If, on the contrary, they could feel that in fellowship with Christians they would find social and pecuniary benefits that would lessen their cares and labors, and improve their condition, they would crowd to the gates of Zion, "like doves to their windows."

We think the writer has misapprehended the facts in the history of the first churches. These "community of goods" was on account of temporary and local reasons, and therefore is not a formal precedent, though the spirit that was then exhibited should be found in the church in every age. Spiritual causes had more to do with the increase of disciples in the days of the Apostles than prudential considerations. It is at the present a favorable study with some minds to devise a method by which all Christians may be clothed in purple and fine linen and fare sumptuously every day of their earthly lives, and at the close have an abundant entrance into the heavenly glory. But the problem is too much for human wisdom to compass. The pamphlet, however, is of use as it shows that men are considering one of the most important subjects before the church,—the responsibilities of Christians entrusted with large wealth.

If the author would place himself in fellowship with a church that admits its members on evidence of regeneration, many of his difficulties would vanish; and he would find that "liberty of prophesying" of which he feels himself to be deprived in his present relations.

Send on early the names of New Subscribers for 1873, so that they may have the benefit of the remainder of 1872 for nothing.

We have not heard of any appointment of a chairman for the City Board of School Commissioners. It is doubtless a difficult task to find a suitable man who would be acceptable to all parties. Perhaps one of the greatest difficulties in making the appointment arises from the members of the existing Board. The fact that two churches are represented by clergymen whilst all the other religious bodies are without any such representation is, we believe, very unsatisfactory to the citizens, and some of the Commissioners. It would be a favorable opportunity to make a change in the composition of the Board now that a new chairman is to be appointed.

FALL RIVER.—Mr. McNaughton, Presbyterian Licentiate, gives a full report of his labors at this place in the *Witness* of the 2nd inst. He says:

Many precious souls have been reclaimed from the service of sin and of Satan, and are now zealously laboring to build up the Church of God. We might give instances of most remarkable conversions, and of willing labor; but we forbear particularizing.

It is a noteworthy feature, however, as it contributed largely to the success of the good work,—that is, so far as human agency was concerned,—that those who found peace and joy in believing both men and women, were not ashamed to stand up and, like the psalmist, "declare what God had done for their souls."

Three fifths of the accessions to the fold Christ united themselves by a public profession of their faith to the Presbyterian Church, the remaining two fifths were baptized by immersion and joined the church of their parents. Brother R. S. Burgess (student) laboured with us in unbroken harmony until his departure to attend Acadia College. Valuable services were rendered by Rev. P. G. Macgregor, Rev. Dr. Clay, J. S. Maclean and Jas. B. Morrow Esqrs.

Thus adopting Baptist practices with the exception of baptism.

We may add to the above that it is the intention of Mr. Burgess to continue his labors at Fall River as opportunity may offer.

Send on early the names of New Subscribers for 1873, so that they may have the benefit of the remainder of 1872 for nothing.

INTERESTING INCIDENT.—At the Governor General Lord Dufferin's recent visit to the St. Joseph's Home, at Toronto, one of the young ladies sung with beautiful expression the exquisite ballad composed by Lady Dufferin, mother of the present Earl—"I'm sitting on the stile, Mary."—Subsequently two young ladies sang "The last rose of summer," and then one of the little girls addressed Lady Dufferin as follows whilst presenting her with a bouquet:

"Dear Lady Dufferin, the little children of St. Joseph's wish to present you with an address, as well as the young ladies. Sister says that flowers have a language, and we are sure you understand it, because you are a very wise lady; so we have brought these pretty flowers to say everything beautiful for us, who do not know how to say anything but—thank you for your kind visit."

We had prepared the account of the Canadian Baptist Anniversary on our first page, with the intention of inserting it in our last issue, but were obliged to defer it to enable us to insert correspondence received subsequently. It was in type before receiving our Ontario Correspondent's letter on another page. They will however both be read with greater interest together than if they had been in separate papers.

If any of our readers desire to add to the amount sent by Rev. Dr. Tupper for transmission to Rev. Mr. Cote at Rome, they will please send early, as we shall remit by next mail.

A COMPLIMENT.—The *N. Y. Independent* has been pleased to say that the Baptist denomination "has perhaps the best religious organs of any in the country."

Notices, &c.

RECEIVED FROM WOMAN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

Osborne, Shelburne Co.—Miss M. J. Cunningham . . . \$16 50
M. R. SELDEN, Sec'y.
November 13th, 1872.

We are also requested to insert the following:

NEW W. M. A. SOCIETY AT RAGGED ISLAND.

Osborne, Shelburne Co., Nov. 4th, '72.

Dear Mrs. Selden,—

Through the influence and praiseworthy effort of Miss M. J. Cunningham, a native of Canoe, and intimate acquaintance of our beloved Miss Norris, a Woman's Mission Aid Society was organized at this place, April 8th, 1872.

Although when first organized the Society was somewhat small, only eleven members, yet "the day of small things" being not despised, a rapid growth of interest, and small increase of members, the present membership numbering only sixteen, the sum of sixteen dollar and fifty cents has been collected, and is herewith forwarded. It is much to be regretted that there are Baptist churches, and branches of churches, in which sufficient interest in this great work has not yet been awakened, to induce the formation of a W. M. A. society. Not only are such churches depriving themselves of a glorious privilege—the privilege of assisting in a great work, but they are sustaining an irreparable loss, they lose that happy influence which decends for Christ's sake always exert upon the actors. In these times of special demand upon Christ's church, for systematic and increased liberality, and for vigorous co-operation in christian work, inactivity in this respect on the part of churches, seems to portend, not only a want of interest in our denominational schemes, but a want of heartfelt love for Jesus Christ, which in every christian work is the grand actuating principle. If delinquent churches would but recollect the lesson of the "widow's mite" and the blessing promised to "two or three" they would not allow the prospect of a small society—to hinder them from organizing and in any such contributions as we now send, would flow into the treasury of the Lord. May the love of Christ constrain our

sisters to work, one and all, both in a single and united capacity, that female missionary labor may be sustained and increased, the kingdom of Christ be extended—and God's name glorified.

By order and in behalf of the society,
EDWARD WHITMAN.

LETTERS RECEIVED.

B. Brown, 2 subs. A. Marshall, Esq., \$225. S. E. Marsters, \$6. Rev. H. Achilles, 25cts. S. Saunders, J. C. Plumb, N. McIntyre, \$5. M. R. Eaton, A. E. Durland Esq., 1 sub., \$4. M. Kinsman, \$3. Dr. J. Woodbury, \$10. Rev. J. H. Saunders, 3.89. Rev. Dr. Tupper, \$1.00.—for Rome, \$5.00. Rev. H. Morrow, \$4.00. Rev. J. Shaw, \$2.00. Jno. Whitman, 1 sub., \$2.00. George Hardy.

News of the Week.

THE STORM OF THURSDAY NIGHT.—A strong southerly gale, accompanied with torrents of rain, commenced on Thursday afternoon, the wind shifting round to the southwest in the evening, and continued all night. The damage was not very extensive, owing to a shift of the wind. The American schooner *We are here*, belonging to Gloucester, anchored near George's Island, dragged her anchors, and got foul of the brig *Ben Nevis*, of Arichat, lying off the Market wharf, carrying away the brigantine's jibboom, cut water and head gear. The schooner's rail was cut down on both sides, two planks on the starboard side cut through, and she sustained other damage. It will take a considerable sum to repair her. The brig *B. L. George*, owned by Mr. W. S. Salter, of Halifax, anchored off the Marine Railway, Dartmouth, dragged her anchors, and drifted high and dry ashore little north of the Marine Railway. Her rudder is gone, bottom considerably chafed and a portion of the rail carried away. The *Bgt. Absterner*, of Parrsboro, from New York for Liverpool, which put in here on Thursday in distress, and was anchored in the stream, dragged her anchors a short distance but brought up without damage. At Richmond the large derrick on the wharf was blown down.—*Cit.*

THE INTERCOLONIAL.—The first train from Halifax left the Depot on Monday morning. It consisted of one second and three first class cars, baggage car, and smoking and postal car, with engine and tender. It was one of the best trains ever sent from Richmond, all the cars being quite new, and one of them used for the first time. Mr. Carvell, (who arrived by special train from Truro on Saturday night) and Mr. Taylor started to go over the line. All the cars were crowded with passengers, and a goodly number of persons assembled at the station to witness the departure of this first regular train from Halifax over the Intercolonial. The train which left St. John on Monday morning, was some hours behind time in arriving at Amherst.

THE HORSE DISEASE IN TRURO.—The *Truro Sun* says: "We learned yesterday that H. Hyde, Esq., has five horses laid up with the sickness, some of which have in one stage or another of the disease, exhibited all the known symptoms appertaining to it. And we understand that a horse of George Archibald, Esq., took ill on a return journey from Wallace, a day or two ago, and became as difficult to move as a locomotive without steam. We have also heard of several instances of horses being troubled with coughs and influenza, which forces us to the painful conclusion, that there is no question about the horse disease being in Truro."

The Horse disease is said to have appeared at Yarmouth and Amherst. No cases are known as yet in Halifax.

ON FRIDAY LAST a lad named John Curran, a frequent offender, was sentenced to the Reformatory, for stealing a wallet containing \$20 from the counter of a shop.

SABLE ISLAND.—The new lighthouse and fog whistle on the east end of the island is now in full operation. Another lighthouse, which is being constructed at the west end of the island, will be completed next February. It will be 70 feet high, and the most powerful light on the coast of America.

The Steamer *Neptune* plying on the Bras d'Or Lake, has been quarantined at North Sydney, with small-pox on board.

THANKSGIVING DAY.—The Provincial Government have appointed Thursday, 21st inst, a day of Thanksgiving.

TRURO.—Much damage was done here by the gale on Thursday last. Three houses and a new store, 65 feet long, in course of erection, and nearly finished, were blown down. The Old Railway Depot which was being removed was brought down by the force of the wind, strewn the track with debris, which had to be removed before the morning train could leave. Roofs of houses, fences, etc., also suffered considerably.

Efforts are being made to bring the water in the town. A meeting was held to consider the matter on Saturday week, and a committee of four appointed to canvass the town for subscriptions to the project. The estimated cost is \$20,000.

On Tuesday afternoon last, as Mr. H. A. Gray, the Resident Engineer on the Intercolonial Railway at Truro, was stepping into one of the ballast train engines at the Mines Station, he missed his footing and fell. His man, who was frightened at seeing Mr. Gray slip, dropped the axe which he had in his hand, and in falling it cut a severe flesh wound into Mr. Gray's leg, a little above the knee-cap. He is recovering.