

still practice and defend the institution?

We are, as Baptists, invited in a Week of supplication set apart for this purpose, to unite with a portion of the Christian Church, who practice and defend the error, as we regard it, we are invited into union, to pray down, if I may so express myself, the superstructure, upon the foundation of which their own feet are firmly planted. How can we do this thing? Who hath required it at our hand? Was not the solitary prayer of the sincere and penitent publican more regarded, because of his humility and contrition, than that of a whole Sanhedrin, steeped in dissimulation, would have been. If our friends and neighbours believe they are right in practicing what Rome practices, and enjoins in her rituals, even though they be mistaken, their sin would be very different, I take it, and far less aggravated, at least as men judge, than that of those who believe and know, that such and such ordinances are unscriptural, uninspired, and have a pernicious tendency, and still countenance them.

Strong language, says one. Ay friend, strong, but honest, and consistent from my stand point. Your high churchman, and low churchman are about as far apart, now as Rome from Geneva, and your broad churchman looks upon both, as Jenkins, of Ginx's baby notoriety, or Max Müller regards all denominational christianity. We can defend our own religious views and practices, and, being agreed, we can thus walk together. The periods may possibly be not so finely turned, the elocution not so grand, the tropes and the figures not so fine, the emulation to excel in the eyes of the great congregation not so prompted in the comparatively obscure, and lowly tenements, but will the prayer be less effectual because the congregation is small, the diction rude, or even ungrammatical?

Our numbers are not, however, so very few in most of the towns and settlements of this Province, if all who can, will but determine not to forsake the assembling of themselves together, that we need be hankering after large assemblages, or courting outside popularity.

I love all good Christian people much, but I love those of my own way of thinking most. I love the truth, and I have no sympathy with error, or erroneous practices, no matter where found, or by whom taught.

Especially do I desire to put your readers on their guard against the slight deviations from the good old paths. They end, these deviations usually do, in "a meadow," where a stile goes over, such as Christian and Hopetown, by reason that the way was rough, and their feet tender, to find "the easier going." But like all such inviting by prospects, "there was a deep pit hard by, made by the Prince of the grounds to catch vain-glorious fools withal."

I was quite interested in reading the letter of your correspondent, Jas. Fraser Campbell, in the last issue of your paper. He is a very unsophisticated lecturer on behalf of Christian Associations, is James. I should like to hear him very much in one of the large halls in city or country, delivering an address to the Y. M. C. Association on the subject of Election, Predestination, Infant Baptism, or open Communion, with liberty and an invitation to any and all who differed from him to speak their minds freely, with a view as he puts it, "to arrive at unanimity." But then, "owing to the weakness of our love," he counsels them "not to select a subject on which members hold strongly opposed views." And pray why not? Would it not be equally "miserable cowardice, and insulting to his audience" to smother and stifle his opinions on one subject as upon another?

But my remarks have already extended so much beyond my intention in setting out I have to a close.

He that is the Way and the Life, is the Truth; and the truth can—ought to, make no compact, hold no terms with error, in any of its many forms and disguises.

AN OLD-FASHIONED BAPTIST.
Enon, near to Salem, 15 Jan'y. 1874.

The recent week of fog in London seems to have had a marked effect on the death-rate, raising it to 27 per thousand—higher than had been known for many years. At the Agricultural Exhibition some of the animals were so oppressed that it was found necessary to kill them, or they would have died!!

The Reporter Office sends out a very neat card Almanac printed in three colors.

Foreign Missions.

OUR MISSIONARIES.

My dear Sir,—

I have received letters from our Missionaries, the contents of which I communicate to you at once, believing that our friends generally will be much gratified by the perusal.

Yours truly,

J. M. CRAMP.

Rev. S. Sanford to Dr. Cramp.

"Steamship Denasserin."

Mediterranean Sea, Dec. 12, 1873.

"We are within twenty-four hours' sail of Port Said. The day is fine and warm. A favourable breeze fills our sails as we steam along steadily towards the East. All the missionaries, fifteen in number, are in good health, happy and busy. They are writing to friends in America and Scotland, with the expectation of mailing letters as soon as we arrive."

"On the 25th Nov. our good ship bore us down the Clyde, and out upon the deep. Since then we have had a varied experience. There are, as you know, lights and shades in sea-life. Upon the whole, however, there is not much cause for complaint on our part. An excellent opportunity has been afforded us to cultivate the graces of Christian character under difficulties. It is to be hoped that we have improved by the trial."

"Our friends will be pleased to know that the detention in Scotland, apparently so unfavourable to the Mission, has turned out greatly to our advantage in various ways. The Missionaries themselves have been benefited by mingling with warm-hearted Scottish brethren, and have been cheered by them to enter zealously upon foreign Missionary work. Our expenses in Scotland have been met, and a good margin left, by the liberal, yet unsolicited contributions of friends whom the Lord raised up for us."

Let our friends in the Provinces thank God and take courage.

I will send you a full account in my next.

Yours truly,

RUFUS SANFORD.

From Mrs. Churchill to Dr. Cramp.

"As Miss Eaton and I had an experience peculiar to ourselves, we thought it might not be uninteresting to you to hear how the Lord opened a door for us to prosecute our medical studies while waiting for our ship."

When we found that we had six weeks to remain, we concluded to look about us, to see if we could be admitted to any lectures, or to the Royal Infirmary, or in some way make the time pass as profitably as possible. The first day we went out sight-seeing, we observed on the pillar of the Andersonian University building a notice posted of a lecture on Chemistry to be delivered there that evening. Messrs. Armstrong and Churchill accompanied us, and after the lecture, as we found there were to be lectures on Anatomy and Physiology on other evenings, we applied and obtained tickets to all during our stay. The first evening, on which was the Anatomy lecture, it rained very heavily, and our gentlemen were invited to a meeting in town after they were gone we started, and though half inclined to turn back more than once, we went to the lecture, and very glad were we that we persevered. Of course we were the only ladies present; and after the lecture Dr. Buchanan came and spoke to us, said he understood that we were on our way to the East, asked us if we would like to visit the Infirmary during our stay. We told him we were very anxious to do so. He handed us his card, and told us to present it to the Matron, Miss Tait, and she would take us to his wards and show us his patients, and if he had any operations in the wards he would be glad to have us present, if we cared to see them. More, than this he could not do, as no ladies could be admitted to the clinic theatre. We were very grateful, and next morning presented ourselves at the Infirmary, and were received very kindly by Miss Tait, who took a deep interest in us when we told her of the work we had in view, our detention in Glasgow, and our desire to spend the time to the best advantage in preparing ourselves, in a medical point of view, for the work before us. She took us through some of the wards that day, and then applied to the Superintendent to admit us to the Infirmary during our stay, as regular nurses, as we could not be admitted as students, being females. She asked for our admission as nurses; but instead of re-

ceiving pay we were to have the privilege of going into all the wards, both Surgical and Medical, assisting and learning all we could in each. The Board of Managers was consulted, and we were duly admitted. Miss Eaton moved in, and Mr. Churchill and I took lodgings quite near the Infirmary, so that I could go in every morning at ten o'clock, meet Miss Eaton in Miss Tait's room, and go into the wards together. We were introduced to the head nurse and resident physician, and as they understood our motives in coming they showed us every attention, and gave us all the assistance they could. If you could have looked into some ward in the Infirmary almost any morning, between 10 and 1, and often 2 o'clock, you would have seen two of your missionaries, with aprons on and sleeves pushed up, dressing wounds, bandaging limbs, or listening to the physician, as he went from bed to bed, examining the different cases.

"There were in the Infirmary about 500 patients, and it was a grand opportunity for us to become practically acquainted with a great variety of human ills and their treatment. We feel the Lord's hand was in this, in inclining the hearts of entire strangers to us in such a manner, and admitting us to such privileges, and especially at this time, when Miss Jex Blake has set Edinburgh in such a ferment, and created so much hostility in the minds of medical men, against women studying medicine."

"We spent our last mornings in the Laboratory, compounding medicines and filling prescriptions for the Infirmary, and the Doctor in charge gave me a note to the druggist from whom they purchase all their medicines, and another to Mr. Hilliard, the instrument maker, so that I was able to get my medicines and the few surgical instruments I need—the money to purchase which was so generously given to me by our American sisters last Spring—at wholesale prices, and to make arrangements for future supplies on the same terms."

"We are now rapidly approaching Port Said, and expect to arrive there to-morrow—and we sea sick folks will be glad to set a foot on land again. We have been on this boat sixteen days, and during that time six half-days will include all the time I have been able to get out on deck. Still I have many memories to recount. Mr. Churchill has been well, and able to take care of me, and our Heavenly Father has brought us safely through the storms, and given us His presence and love in our hearts."

Yours in Jesus,

M. F. CHURCHILL.

Home Missions.

OUR HOME MISSIONS.

Dear Editor,—

The Lord is blessing our Home Missions. Rev. J. B. McQuillin reports to the Board that he has baptized eight more—making in all forty-seven and that others are awaiting the ordinance. He believes that seventy persons have been savingly converted since the revival commenced under his labors at Goshen and Melrose.

Rev. P. R. Foster has been laboring for the Board at Salmon River, Yarmouth Co., for a part of three months. His faithful labors have been greatly blessed there. He has already baptized nineteen at that mission station.

Bro. L. M. Weeks reports that a revival has commenced at Isaac's Harbor. Three persons have professed conversion, and the good work is going on.

Rev. E. N. Archibald, our missionary at Shelburne, has succeeded in getting a new Meeting House built at Sand Point.

The proceeds from the sale of the pews met all the expenses not previously provided for, and left \$100 in the hands of the building committee. The new house in Shelburne town will be finished by the first of June next.

OTHER ITEMS.

The Missionary Meeting held at Milton, Yarmouth, was a success. The subscription list showed \$135 pledged for the Union. Considering the ability of the church this is a very creditable amount.

Mr. Giffin, of Isaac's Harbor, is here soliciting aid to rebuild the Baptist Meeting House at that place. He has raised \$260 in the five places he has visited. We think he will get not much less than that amount here.

Bro. Charles Norwood has received an appointment for eight weeks to

New Ross and Blue Mountains, with a view to a more permanent arrangement.

The churches at Maccan and River Hebert informed us that they had raised \$500 for a pastor's salary and had a parsonage for his accommodation, and requested us to send them a minister. We have introduced Rev. H. B. Bock, of Aylesford who will visit the churches and preach there, if all be well, on Sunday, 25th inst.

The public will be interested in knowing that the article in the last number of the *Messenger*, on "The three great R's," is from the pen of Rev. John Clark, of Suffolk, England. He is one of the ministers we expect here in April next, and from our means of judging we shall be much disappointed if he should not prove a valuable addition to our ministerial force in this province.

G. E. DAY,

Cor. Sec'y of Union.

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 28, 1874.

MISSIONARY ANNIVERSARY.

The Annual Meeting of the Woman's Missionary Aid Societies of the Halifax Baptist Churches, and the Nova Scotia Central Board was held in the North Baptist Church on Thursday last. Hon. Dr. Parker occupied the chair.

After singing, the Scriptures were read by the pastor, Rev. J. F. Avery, and prayer was offered by Rev. John Miller. The chairman took a very comprehensive view of the work of Foreign Missions especially in connection with the several denominations of Christians in Nova Scotia; calling to mind the fact that until a very recent date, this country had itself been regarded as a missionary field by the Church of England, the Presbyterians and Methodists of the mother country, but that all are now contributing more or less towards the support of the work of missions to heathen lands. The work of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia was dwelt on in detail, and the success alluded to as affording encouragement to more general effort. The past labors of the Baptist body were recalled, the sending forth of Mr. Burpee and the later going out, under the American Board, of Rev. A. R. R. Crawley, the sending forth Miss De Wolfe, and the recent departing of Miss Norris, and later of the six brethren and sisters now on their way to Siam. These latter constituting our present force and claiming our prayers, our sympathies and our support.

Dr. Clay was then called on and gave some of his personal recollections of the brothers Gordon, the Nova Scotia Martyr Missionaries. He made a touching appeal to all present to imitate the woman mentioned by our Saviour who gave "all that she had, even all her living" unto the offering of God.

The Reports of the two local societies were then read, that of the Granville Street Society by Rev. E. M. Saunders, and for the Secretary, Miss E. Robinson, and that of the North Church by its Secretary Miss Meagher. Each of these documents was full of interest and showed how much of capability and talent exists among the sisters in the churches.

The report of the Central Board was read by the Secretary, Mrs. Selden as follows:

REPORT OF THE N. S. CENTRAL BOARD OF THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AID SOCIETIES FOR 1873.

In presenting the Fourth Annual Report of the W. M. A. Societies of this Province, the Central Board feel that gratitude must be the prevailing sentiment of all the members, for the steadily increasing support which has attended the enterprise. Each year has witnessed a gradual growth in the amount of funds contributed, while the general interest in the work is still increasing. At the last Annual Meeting the Treasurer's Account showed an aggregate of \$1,358.45, this year it has reached the sum of \$1,791.50, giving an increase of \$433.05. The sum of \$119.00 of the above amount has been raised by the children in Sunday Schools, or by Mission Bands, and is kept apart for the education of Karen children under the superintendence of Miss Norris and our own Missionary.

The Secretary has had communications from fifty-one Societies during the past year. Two new ones have been established, one at Chelsea, and the other at Waterford, Digby Neck. It is to be regretted that this part of our Report is not so satisfactory as could be wished. It is known that there are still many churches and localities where societies might be formed, and ministers of the Gospel are earnestly requested to countenance the movement, and encourage the sisters to go forward in the good work.

The number of members cannot be cor-

rectly ascertained, as but twenty-six of our Societies have reported, but from these we find eight hundred and thirty names on the books.

Our friends in Prince Edward Island have organized this year a Central Board of their own, believing that they could do more for the cause by this means. This arrangement will diminish the number of our Societies to forty-five, but we trust that greater good may result.

At the present time we have the names of four missionaries on our list:

Miss De Wolfe returned to her native land last spring to recruit her health. She hopes at some future time to return to the labour which she loves, and to which she has already given some of the best years of her life. This winter she is pursuing her studies with the special view of fitting herself more fully for teaching and training in Karen schools, and next summer she hopes to visit some of the societies, and help to organize fresh ones, as well as to arouse the missionary spirit in the hearts of the sisters generally.

Miss NORRIS is at present labouring at Tavoy in schools both Burmese and Karen. In a letter received from her last spring she says, "I have been exceedingly pleased with the report of the W. M. A. Societies for 1872. How God has prospered you! Tell my sisters to be faithful to the end; we have not long to labour for the Master, and those things that perish with the using, we can make imperishable as offerings to the Master we love." I write you on the evening of this first day of 1873 from the depths of a Siamese jungle, a nook in the mountains, walled in on every side by limestone cliffs. This Karen village is a rendezvous for Siamese on their way to Burmah, and in this region is inhabited only by Karens. We spent the last Sabbath of the old year on the banks of a small stream in the forest, on Monday arriving at this village, where the Karens have received us with the whole-hearted hospitality peculiar to them. The Chief received us into his house, and insisted upon our taking possession of the open verandah which is the native hotel; and upon supplying the whole party with food during our stay. This the fourth day we have been here and the people listen well, but they have a great many perplexities to encounter. It seems as if the ground promised well for seed-sowing, and God will take care for the harvest." At a later date she remarks "The Lord has given me a blessed place in his vineyard, and He holds up my hands if ever they grow feeble; pray for us, pray for us, that in all things the will of the Lord may be done, and those measures adopted which He has already designed. I have not time enough to write of the schools, but it is matter of wonder to all who see their progress, that the Lord has brought forward such a work here so rapidly. I shall have opportunity for opening a school for heathen Siamese Karens as soon as the dry season comes, I hope. In the meanwhile hands and heart are full with what God has placed before us in Tavoy."

It is to share in these labours and work that we have sent our dear young sisters Miss ARMSTRONG and Miss EATON. By this time we expect they are near the end of their journey. The prayers, sympathies, and support of the sisters at home are needed on their behalf.

But few of the Societies have sent in regular reports of their progress, but from what may be gathered from the letters received, there is not much of general interest. A few extracts may be given:

Pine Grove, Wilmot.—In making our fourth Annual Report, we regret that we have failed to raise as much as last year, yet we are encouraged by the increase of the cause in general, and pray God to give us increased faith and liberal hearts. The monthly meetings have been held as regularly as circumstances would permit, and the reading of select Missionary matter has rendered them more interesting and stimulating of late. Our plan is, to appoint some one at each previous meeting to make the selections and come prepared to read. No doubt the record of our various hopes and discouragements, if given, would be similar to the experiences of all. We find apathy and selfishness hard to be overcome. But amid all our discouragements there are a few faithful ones whose hearts still cling to the work, and feel an increasing interest in the cause of Missions, especially the Independent Mission, and the dear young Brothers and Sisters now on their way to the Karens of Siam.

Summersville.—In our little gatherings for prayer, we have had striking instances, related by sisters who had thought of withdrawing from us, of money coming to their disposal by such unexpected ways, that they felt they dare not withhold their offering.

Hantsport.—Our regular monthly meetings have been appointed regularly through the year. Owing to unavoidable circumstances some have fallen through, yet there is the same desire to continue and enlarge our Society. We had an interesting meeting with our missionary Miss Armstrong, and our hearts warmed towards her and the cause she has espoused. We pray that our hearts may be filled with love to Christ, and that we may never grow weary in the service of our Master.

Billtown.—I am happy to report our Society still in working order; although some of the members have dropped off, yet new recruits have come up, keeping our numbers good; but there are many more sisters in our church whose names ought to be on our books. Surely two cents a week is but a small offering to so noble a cause, considering the large amount laid on the altar of fashion by professing christians.