

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

"That not of yourselves." Eph. ii. 8.

The Rev. Dr. Tupper objects to the statement that "That" in the above quotation refers to salvation and not to faith; maintaining that it refers to faith, and then argues that faith is a gift of God. I also hold that

"Faith is a precious grace,
Where'er it is bestowed;
It boasts of a celestial birth
And is the gift of God."

And while it is true of both faith and salvation, I consider the above reference is to salvation and not to faith. The word *tauto* properly means this, and mostly refers to the latter of two objects, as in Matt. xxv. 46. Yet it often stands in no such relation. (See Liddell and Scott.)

The Dr. in quoting Doddridge says it is making Paul guilty of a flat tautology for which there is no necessity, to refer that to salvation. Well, let us see; tautology means "A repetition of the same meaning in different words," which Paul is guilty of, if guilty it be, in this very chapter. (Eph. 2.)

I omit verse 1 because "hath he quickened" is in italics. In verses 4, 5, he says, "God who . . . hath quickened us by grace ye are saved, verse 3. By grace are ye saved, verse 10. For we are his workmanship." And if we read the 8th verse as I think it should be, we have a remarkable case of tautology. "By grace are ye saved through faith: it is not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Here is the same thing said in five different ways, and three times in the same words. And this lawful tautology is used, the more deeply to impress upon the minds of the Ephesians that salvation was of the free grace of God; and for the reason that there were certain Judaizers who were busily teaching them to observe the law of Moses. In one case Paul is guilty of bad grammar when he calls himself "less than the least of all saints." If a rule of grammar stood between Paul and a point he wished to make, he would break through the rule and make the point; as I heard a venerable and learned Doctor in England and a member of the Old Testament revision company once do when the word "better" did not suit his purpose, he used the word "gooder." The argument derived from the difference in gender between *pistes*, faith, and *tauto*, this, to show that "this" (E. V. that) does not refer to faith, the Dr. has shewn to be weak; I thank him, and discard the argument. He has however, as he supposes, given a case where the word salvation which is feminine has a pronoun in the neuter gender, namely—"salvation and that of God," wherein the Dr. comes to the very conclusion which I have on Eph. ii. 8. I am sorry however to have to oppose the Dr's view of this verse, where he says the word that refers to salvation. If he look closely into it he will see that it refers rather to the "sign," or "token," just referred to than the salvation. Barnes, Benson, Bloomfield, Lightfoot, Scott and Alford, refer *tauto* to *endeiksis*, sign, or token, and not to *soteria*, salvation. I hope I do not appear harsh with the good Doctor, as I am very far from it, but there may be a little ink that I was using some months ago sticking to the sides of the bottle which may occasionally get on to the pen. He must forgive me! There is however yet another argument in favour of salvation being referred to, namely, the first clause in the next verse, "Not of works." It is evident from the construction that *tauto*, this (E. V. that) in verse 8 and "Not of works" in verse 9 refer to the same thing. No one will question I suppose, but that verse 9 refers to salvation, which, if it does, proves *tauto* to refer to it also. That verse 9 does, compare Rom. iii. 20, 27, 28. iv. 2. ix. 11 and xi. 6, &c. The idea appears to be this—"God, of his grace, grants salvation to every one who has faith in his Son; faith does not merit salvation any more than works, but God is pleased of his grace to grant it on that condition, this salvation I repeat is not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." Barnes, Benson, Macknight and Alford take this view, and many more, not within reach, but quoted by Alford.

Milton, Jan. 12.

J. Brown.

P. S.—Ernesti's rule "Reject a frigid or inapt sense," is a dangerous one and

not to be adopted, as we do not know when we may apply it, inasmuch as we are apt to think any passage that conflicts with our previous conceptions to be "frigid and inapt." We are in danger of considering a passage to be of that nature when really the frugidity and inaptness may be with ourselves. To many "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved," is "frigid and inapt;" they act on Ernesti's rule and reject the three middle words or invert them, "He that is baptized and believes," &c.

For the Christian Messenger.

Does our Home Missions need a General Agent?

It appears to be a time of trial with the Executive Board of our Home Missions. They are spending much time and thoughtful effort in this good work, and are certainly deserving the thanks, council, and support of the churches in whose behalf they labor. It is not to be expected of any body of men, however good and wise they may be, that all wisdom dwells with them; or that this Board is alone responsible for the success or failure of our Home Mission enterprise in Nova Scotia and P. E. Island. All our members are able to do something—all must share in the joys of success or the sorrows of failure. If all do their best we will not fail. Each will be happy if of them it may be said they have done what they could.

At the last meeting of the Union it was voted, on the recommendation of the Executive Board, to employ a "General Agent." The experience of the past year seemed to favor such a measure. Such an agent had been employed but, as it appears, at the recommendation of the Associations written appeals to the churches had been substituted therefor. Neither of these plans have given satisfaction. By neither of them have our churches been very fully advised of the operations of the Board; or of the real wants of our mission fields. Their sympathies and co-operation have not been commanded. The Board is now struggling under a debt. For this so far as I can see, they are not all to blame. By an appointed agency the necessary work of Home Missions can only be done, yet this is susceptible of such variations as the changes of times demand. In the first stages of our present work a travelling agent was needed to report upon the location and wants of destitute fields, for the information of the Executive Board and the denomination, as well. The first agent employed soon furnished a correct map of our spiritual destitution. Upon this operations have been conducted intelligently. Now our agent is not needed for this purpose.

The more difficult task of the agent has ever been to collect funds. A competent man for this work is not easily found. Such a man is never unemployed. The work demanded in this service is not in itself at all desirable to those who can do it. The necessary expense incurred by an agency is that to which the denomination have ever objected. To meet present difficulties I have a plan to propose for the consideration of our Board and the Pastors of our churches. It is this:

1. Divide our provinces into districts as for our Associations, with more or less territory in each.
2. As in each of these, Missionaries are now employed, make one or more of these Agents of the Board, for the districts in which they labor, to visit the churches, give full information and collect funds. Let their respective churches or fields be supplied in their absence by the young licentiates of our churches or students of our institutions. Most of this agency work could be done during vacations.
3. Let these agents be assisted by Ministerial Conferences, or in any way by the hearty co-operation of the pastors and churches. All this work could be under the guidance, so far as is necessary, of the Board of Directors, already appointed in each Association. Would not this plan if carried out meet our present wants? Could not the work of a General Agent be done in this way very thoroughly without increasing the expense of the Board?

It is but fair that we should say that our brother Saunders intimates that the above was written before he heard of the appointment of Bro. Robbins as the General Agent of the Home Missionary Union.—Ed. C. M.]

Dyby, Jan. 10, 1877.

The Charges against the Rev. Thos. Todd.

The Moncton, N. B., Baptist Church has requested us to insert in our columns for the information of our readers the following report of the investigating committee of that church:

At the Regular Business Meeting of the Moncton Baptist Church of Monday evening last, the following Report of Investigation held at the instance, and by request, of the Rev. Mr. Todd, was read, discussed, and unanimously adopted:

To the Members of the First Baptist Church, Moncton:

The undersigned Committee of the Moncton Baptist Church, appointed to investigate certain charges which had been made in the Sackville newspapers and in the Courts of law, against the Rev. Thos. Todd, a member of this church, in connection with the winding up of the affairs of the Sears Estate, in Sackville, beg leave to report as follows:

In the autumn of 1871, soon after the decease of the late Mr. Joseph Sears, the Rev. Mr. Todd being then in Sackville, undertook to assist Mr. J. E. Cahill in acting for the widow of Mr. Sears in closing the estate, Mr. Cahill being agent to Mrs. Sears, who was Administratrix, and Mr. Todd rendering assistance to Mr. Cahill by keeping the accounts and otherwise.

We find that this arrangement continued and was carried out until the Spring of 1873, when Mr. Todd removed from Sackville and went to reside at Sussex, after which the affairs of the estate were managed solely by Mr. Cahill and without consultation with, or direction of Mr. Todd.

Upon leaving Sackville, the Rev. Mr. Todd delivered up such of the books and papers relating to the estate as were in his possession and then stated to the widow that there would be about \$2000 left for her after the estate debts were paid. This statement we find has since been sustained by the corrected accounts.

Subsequent to Mr. Todd's removal from Sackville, Mr. Cahill attempted at three different times to pass the accounts of the estate through the Probate Court. All these accounts were wrong and unfair to the administratrix and her family, but Mr. Todd had no part in making them up, nor was he consulted at all, although he had offered to go to Sackville, and assist in preparing the accounts for Probate whenever asked to do so.

In the Spring of 1876 it became known to the administratrix and her friends that there were errors and inaccuracies in the accounts of the estate as submitted by Mr. Cahill to the Probate Court; and after certain grave charges had been made in the Sackville newspapers both against Mr. Todd and Mr. Cahill, it was eventually agreed to place the accounts of the estate in the hands of three arbitrators, and abide their decision, the submission permitting an award either against Messrs. Todd and Cahill jointly, or individually, or against either one of them. The arbitrators (Messrs. E. Cogswell, T. Pickard, and Alden Trueman) proceeded to hear all the evidence that could be adduced, all the parties being represented by able counsel; but after the reception of the evidence and before an award had actually been made, the counsel for the administratrix withdrew the submission and thus prevented a settlement of the matters in dispute.

Subsequently a suit in the Supreme Court was commenced by the administratrix against Messrs. Todd and Cahill, and the former arraigned on a charge of embezzling the funds of the estate. The preliminary examination in this prosecution was held by Justices Chase and George, but before it was concluded an effort was made by the friends of the different parties to effect a settlement. This effort was successful through the instrumentality of Mr. A. E. Killam, who joined Mr. John E. Cahill in an agreement to pay \$2,300 in full for amount due the estate.

Your Committee have had before them the minutes of evidence taken by the arbitrators, the minutes of evidence taken by the Magistrates at the preliminary examination referred to, the books of account as kept by Mr. Todd, the final Probate account which Mr. Cahill attempted to pass, the accounts submitted to the arbitrators, a copy of Messrs. M. Wood and Sons Bank Account with the Sears Estate, and all other papers

which they thought might aid them in arriving at a correct conclusion in the matter under consideration. We have also had before us and carefully considered the charges made over the signature of Sarah Sears in the *Post* of August 3rd, '76, and also the statements of other parties hostile to Rev. Mr. Todd, including those contained in editorials in the *Sackville Borderer*.

Your Committee, as in duty bound, have carefully examined the accounts, and fully considered the evidence bearing upon the charges made and reflections cast upon the Rev. Mr. Todd; and are clearly convinced and able to declare most unequivocally as follows:

1. That the settlement effected by Mr. Killam, above mentioned, was made by that gentleman, of his own motion, being actuated by a desire to avoid for Mr. Todd the expense of the litigation which he (Mr. Killam) believed would result from the continuation of proceedings in law. We find that Mr. Killam did not act by Mr. Todd's request or with his knowledge.

2. That Mr. Todd has not, nor at any time had, any money of the estate appropriated to his own use and that he should not have been required to pay a dollar to the administratrix, or for the estate in any way.

3. That the accounts of the estate, so far as kept by Mr. Todd, are correct in every particular and cannot be successfully assailed.

4. That the Rev. Mr. Todd was conscientious and earnest in his efforts to wind up the affairs of the estate so as to save as much as possible for the widow and her family; and that he spent a large amount of time and labor for which he received no remuneration, and with the single motive of befriending the bereaved family.

5. That the charges contained in a letter over the signature of Mrs. Sears, in the *Post* of August 3rd last, are each and all utterly unfounded and have not even a shadow of support from the sworn statements submitted to the arbitrators, or otherwise. Referring to the sixth paragraph of said letter (copy of which is annexed and which contains all the important charges made in the letter*) we find that Mr. Todd's accounts do not represent that Mr. Alex. Estabrooks was paid \$68.90, that Lennox Kinnear was paid \$14.20, Chris. Estabrooks \$10.42, Elisha Wheaton \$52.63, George Campbell, \$72.00, and J. R. Ayer, \$95.55. Mr. Todd's accounts on the contrary show nothing paid to Alex. Estabrooks, or Chris. Estabrooks, and that Ayer received \$17.13, Campbell \$32.00, Wheaton \$27.00, and Kinnear \$2.88, which amounts, the evidence shows, were actually paid, and they were so allowed by the arbitrators, and consented to by opposing counsel.

6. That when Mr. Todd left Sackville, he was fully relieved of all responsibility for the future ordering of the affairs of the estate by the administratrix herself, as appears by her sworn statement. We cannot, therefore, find that he was at all blameable for the errors and discrepancies which were developed in the final accounts.

7. That there are no contradictions or discrepancies in the evidence taken by the Arbitrators or Magistrates inconsistent with the utmost confidence in the statements of the Rev. Mr. Todd.

8. That the award which the arbitrators had agreed on (as your committee have been credibly informed and fully believe) corresponds with the statement, as to probable value of estate, made by Mr. Todd to Mrs. Sears before he left Sackville, thus affording very strong evidence that the wrong doing (which all admit) was subsequent to his removal to Sussex and without his knowledge. We have reason to believe also that the said award, as agreed on, would have exonerated Mr. Todd financially and morally.

9. Your Committee, in conclusion, find that in all the proceedings adverted to, the Rev. Mr. Todd, after having gratuitously done his utmost for the benefit of the family of a deceased and beloved member of his church, has been remorselessly persecuted; not merely by scandal mongers but also by those whom he sought to befriend from the purest of motives, and by their paid agents and friends. Much of this, your committee believe, has been the result of ignorance and misconception, but the conduct of some parties who have been active and malicious cannot be excused on these

grounds. Your committee believe that in these sore and undeserved trials our brother and Pastor should have the warmest sympathy of his brethren in the churches, and of all who claim the name of Christian.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. CRANDALL,
H. T. STEVENS,
JOHN MCKENZIE,
D. A. DUFFY,

Com.

Moncton, Jan. 15, 1877.

* [Extract from letter in *Post*, Aug 3rd, Mr. Todd wrote too much in his Ledger on page 58; he wrote that he had paid Chris. Estabrooks \$10.42, when he never paid him one cent; he wrote he had paid Alex. Estabrooks \$68.90, when he never paid him one cent; and on page 59, he had paid Lennox Kinnear \$14.20, when his Cash Book shows he only paid him \$2.88; on page 50, that he had paid Elisha Wheaton \$52.63, when he only paid him \$27.00; that he had paid Jas. R. Ayer \$95.55, when he only paid him \$17.13, of which \$4.13 was a turn to secure a debt of his own; and that he paid George Campbell \$72.00 when he had only paid him \$18.32.

The Seventh Annual Report of the Central Board of the W. M. A. Societies of Nova Scotia.

In bringing before you the report for the past year, we will refer you to the original design of our Society.

You will all recollect the dear sister, who, not content with devoting her own days to the work, so dear to her that it was part of herself, desired that the heart of every sister in this Christian land should be consecrated so entirely to the Master's service, that her longings for His glory should extend "even to the ends of the earth."

And so she banded us together in one cause, some to give our strength and talents to the heathen in India, and others of us, working with them to aid with our means and our prayers.

At first our Constitution provided that our funds be given to support "Single Women," who should go out under the supervision of missionaries already on the field, to teach the women and children to whom they are permitted free access.

But the Foreign Mission Board of the Maritime Provinces, having established an Independent Mission; and having sent out a large number of workers to the Foreign Field, it was deemed expedient this year to alter the form of our Constitution, thus:

"The object of this Society shall be the evangelization of the heathen, by raising funds for the support of Christian women as missionaries; for sustaining schools or native teachers; and for aiding the Mission to the Telooogos, in any way that from time to time may seem opened by Providence."

Since the marriage of Miss Armstrong, in the early part of this year our society has had no missionary in the field, and deeming it advisable to send forth no new recruits until the work has become more surely established, has devoted its funds to the Mission rather than to the Missionary. And yet some are crying out "Why raise funds which are not required? What need to work longer? What need! Are the heathen millions of Telooogo all converted? Have all the women and children heard 'the old story of Jesus and His love?' Do the wives of our Mission write us that now is the time to rest? that now they can afford to fold their hands? They have gone to a people where the Gospel is new, houses must be erected for the missionaries; schools must be built and furnished; books and maps must be purchased; and these cannot be provided without funds. Our dear sisters, the wives of the missionaries are entreating us to give them the work Mrs. Churchill writes as follows:

"We who are out here want to work, we came as missionaries' wives, but not as that solely; but we hope, the Lord giving us the strength, our sisters supplying the means, and our Lord the blessing to do much good to our sisters, the poor heathen women of India."

One thousand dollars have been appropriated therefore to the Foreign Mission Board, for the erection and furnishing of Schools on the Mission premises.

By referring to the letters of your missionaries it will be seen that the work is now in progress, though it will require time to get the schools into active operation.

The following extract from Mrs. Arm-