

The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

NEW SERIES.
Vol. XXVIII., No. 14.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Wednesday, April 4, 1883.

WHOLE SERIES.
Vol. XLVII., No. 14.

News from the Churches.

THE BEAR RIVER BAPTIST CHURCH has recently received large accessions of believers. On the 11th ult. 13 were baptized by the pastor, Rev. W. E. Hall. These, with three by letter, were subsequently welcomed into the church. More recent additions have been made. Our readers will be glad to hear the particulars.

LOCKPORT.—Rev. C. Goodspeed writes from here March 29, 1883:—"Dear Bro. Selden.—The many friends of the Rev. J. A. Durkee will be glad to know that he has rallied from the nervous prostration which was so alarming during Sunday, Monday and Tuesday last. He is now resting and recruiting. The progress is slow, but, we trust, sure. We cannot but hope that this enforced quiet will assist him toward a general restoration of health. The good work still goes on in the church. Sabbath before last four were baptized, and seven more on last Sabbath, while the interest in the community never was more deep. Several others have already professed faith in the Saviour. The special meetings continue."

BERWICK, KINGS CO.—Dear Editor,—"We are delighted by the revival intelligence which your columns furnish us from week to week, and hope that the good work may continue to prosper until the whole elect family is brought home to glory."

We have held some extra meetings, and have experienced refreshing showers. Considerable anxiety has been manifested by the unconverted in some sections of the church. Some have professed hope in Christ, but there have not been any baptisms this winter. It is best to let every one consider well the gravity of a public profession of religion.

We have been raising funds during the past year for church purposes, and this people have acted well their part, the result of which is that we have been able to purchase carpeting for the aisles of the meeting-house, and an organ, and to paint the outside of the parsonage, and yet to leave funds sufficient to repair the inside of the parsonage and the barn, and to purchase three chairs for the meeting-house. "He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich." Eighty took part in our last Conference. We are hoping to be able to build a vestry soon, and have some funds on hand for that purpose. May the good Lord give peace and continued prosperity, is the sincere prayer of

Yours, &c.,
J. C. BLEAKNEY.

March 28, 1883.

The following communication was accidentally omitted when received, which we much regret. We hope our brother Ingram and our Westport friends will not suppose that we are disinclined to rejoice with them that rejoice as well as to weep with them that weep:

WESTPORT, DIGBY CO.—Dear Bro. Selden.—A word from the extreme western boundary of Nova Scotia will perhaps be acceptable to some of your readers. We rejoice in the religious prosperity which many of our churches appear to be enjoying, but lament that we are apparently left out of the general blessing, and regret to say we have had no special indication of revival this year, although our hearts have longed and prayed and waited. A short time ago a large number of the church and congregation assembled at the parsonage, and, after spending the evening in social conversation, singing, &c., left us the richer in this world's good to the amount

of nearly \$50, most of which was in cash, and taking with them the hearty thanks of pastor and family.

As the weather here is moderating, and the ice is rapidly leaving us, the fishermen and other owners of vessels are preparing for their summer's work, which promises, if the catch of fish is large and the present high price is maintained, to be one of unusual interest to this and adjacent communities, the result of which will be an enriching of the people, and consequent increase of ability on their part to contribute towards the Lord's work at home and abroad. May the Lord hasten the time when all His people will realize that "it is more blessed to give than to receive," and will consecrate their substance unto Him who loved them and gave Himself for them. More anon from Yours faithfully,

A. E. INGRAM.

March 10, 1883.

JEDDORE.—A brief note from Bro. Maider, dated March 30th, informs us that the interest in the Baptist Church is continuing. On Sunday 25th, Dr. Saunders baptized six persons, and on Friday morning, 30th, thirteen more, who had previously made a profession of faith in Christ. There are still others who are trusting in Jesus, and a number besides who are enquiring the way. We congratulate our brother on the success that has attended his labors in that place.

TYRON, P. E. I.—The news from the churches contained in the MESSENGER from time to time has cheered our hearts and encouraged us to pray more earnestly, and work more devotedly for the Master's cause. We also have some words of cheer. For some years the church here seemed to be overshadowed by a cloud; many of the professed followers of the Lord had grown so indifferent that their faces were seldom seen in the house of God, but there remained a few faithful witnesses to the truth who were always at their post. At the commencement of the present year, and during the week of prayer, the Lord led these faithful ones to see the necessity of being more consecrated to his service. They with our devoted pastor felt the need of special prayer being offered for the church; the result was that in answer to earnest prayer God manifested His presence among us, and 'the joy of salvation was restored to many.' It soon became evident that "The set time to favour Zion had come." God's people became earnest and importunate in prayer; wrestling with Him day and night for the salvation of those around them, and He heard their cry, and manifested his saving power in our midst. It has been our happy privilege to witness the burial in the likeness of the Saviour's death, of twenty-five believers, some of whom we hope will be pillars in the church. On Sabbath 18th ult., sixteen were baptized, among them a man of 45 years and his son of 20. Also last Sabbath nine more saved ones followed their Lord. Many are heads of families. Among those baptized is the daughter of our pastor which gives him great joy. There are other hopeful conversions, and many more are anxious to be relieved of the burden of sin. The work is deep and quiet, and may be truly said to be of the Lord, reminding us forcibly of a revival season enjoyed by us six years ago, during the ministry of our dear brother Chipman. The good work still goes on with unabated interest, the church from the first, heartily co-operating with the pastor, and all recognizing the grand truth that "we are labourers together with God." We expect baptism next Sabbath. Bro. Corey has had very little help, but has been wonderfully sustained while resting on the promise,—"Lo I am with you always." L.

Tyron, March 20, 1883.

UPPER AYLESFORD.—Rev. J. L. Read writes: "The work of the Lord is going forward in this place. Since writing you twenty-four more have been baptized. More are received. Bro. Young has returned, and is laboring with his usual zeal for the salvation of souls."

UPPER CANAD.—The Baptist Sabbath School of this place had a public exhibition on Sunday the 23rd inst. commencing at 10.30 o'clock A. M. It consisted of Recitations, Essays, and Music which were all very creditable. The music was well selected and rendered in good taste, Miss Blanche Thomas presiding at the organ. After the school exercises, the pastor, Rev. S. B. Kempton delivered a very appropriate discourse from Zech. viii. 4, 5, prepared especially for the Sabbath School, which secured the attention and interest of all present. At the close of the service the S. School Superintendent, Mr. A. S. McDonald presented an address with an accompanying purse containing \$32.00, to the pastor in behalf of the school. This being one way the young people chose to show their appreciation of their pastor's earnest labor, and their marked esteem of him. Mr. Kempton made a short reply to the address after which the exercises of the morning closed.

SACKVILLE, N. B.—The glad tidings that the MESSENGER and other religious journals bring from the churches rejoice our hearts. I feel drawn this morning to add an item to the record of the MESSENGER's good news. Since the union of the churches here, (Jan. 3rd), our membership has grown from 130 to about 210. For the last five weeks I have baptized twice every Lord's Day, once in each end of the field. The prospect is bright and growing brighter. Yesterday eight were baptized, and six received otherwise. The work is almost wholly among heads of families. Among those uniting with us are men who stand in the front rank of our citizens. I shall send a fuller account soon.

Fraternally yours,

D. G. MACDONALD.

April 2, 1883.

MONCTON, N. B.—A note from Rev. G. O. Gates, of the 1st Moncton Church, has the cheering news of a deep and continued interest in the church. Wanderers are still returning, and seekers are finding. Eight were baptized on Sunday, and these, with four more by letter, received the hand of fellowship. He reports that death has been making inroads, five church members having been transferred to the Church triumphant.

P. E. ISLAND NOTES.—P. E. Island is sharing in the revival blessings enjoyed by the other provinces this winter.

At Lot 16, Rev. J. B. Woodland has just concluded a series of special services which have been blessed to the people. Eleven have requested baptism and there are more to follow.

At Poplar Grove and vicinity, Rev. E. N. Archibald has been holding services for some time, and 14 or 15 persons profess conversion.

At North River, the church has been greatly revived, Rev. A. H. Lavers is now holding special meetings at Clyde River.

At several other points from which we have not received definite information, we learn that there are encouraging tokens.

An attempt was made last week to burn down the Preston Baptist meeting house. It was, however, discovered and extinguished before much harm was done.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Valedictory.

TO THE PORT MEDWAY BAPTIST CHURCH.

Dear Brethren,—Nearly two years have passed away since recommended by the Home Missionary Board I visited you with a view to settlement, and soon after entered upon my labors in your midst. In taking a retrospect I am led to say that the church has not had in me a perfect pastor nor the pastor a perfect church in you, and this is only too apparent; but under the exercise of mutual love and forbearance, even amid all our discouragements and trials, we have not unhappily passed these months and years away. I can truly say that the hospitality of last year and the unremitting kindness of two years have endeared you all to me. I came believing that I was divinely directed to you and now after much thought and prayer I feel that the same Hand is again leading me away. I therefore beg leave to resign my position as pastor of the Port Medway Baptist Church, the same to take effect at the close of the present pastoral year. In the event of your accepting this resignation, that the way may be made clear for the coming of an under shepherd of greater physical endurance and stronger faith in God is the earnest prayer of

Yours affectionately,
R. H. BISHOP.

Port Medway, March 5, 1883.

RESPONSE.

REV. R. H. BISHOP,—

Dear Pastor,—Your resignation was read and considered at the late business meeting of the church and since then it has been more fully talked over with others who were not present at that meeting. We have ascertained that, though you have many very strong supporters, many who would gladly do all in their power to retain you as pastor; and though we believe a large majority of the church desire a continuance of your labors, yet there are a few who seem to desire a change and others who seem altogether indifferent in the matter as to whether they have a pastor or not. Under these circumstances, knowing as we do that in order that the church may grow spiritually or be able financially to sustain any man in the field, the church members must work together, we have concluded with sorrowful hearts to accept your resignation. In doing so we would say we believe God has blessed your labors in Port Medway to some extent, perhaps much more than can be seen by such finite mortals as we, and if we have not received the full blessing God is willing to bestow upon us, we believe the fault is due to a lack of zeal and a want of co-operation among church members and not on account of a want of zeal in the pastor.

Finally, dear brother, hoping that God may direct you to a field where your labors may be more abundantly blessed in the salvation of souls, we remain,

Yours in behalf of the church,
CURTIS MANTHORNE, Clerk.
Port Medway, March 17, 1883.

For the Christian Messenger.
From France.

PARIS, March 14, 1883.

The French people are recovering their equanimity. There is no great question of instant importance requiring decision. Whether Bonapartists or Orléanists do a little private plotting, or wait for other times no one really cares. The excitement of the Imperialist placard, the arrest of its author, and the outcry against the Orléanist Princes, have quieted down, and people buy and sell, marry and are given in marriage, without any expectation that a flood is at hand. If no ministry can be formed likely to last, no particular danger is feared from the prospects of instability. The tendency is to drift towards a dissolution, and a reform of the Constitution. An upper house that too obstinately declines compromise with the more popular body cannot be tolerated much longer, and a Lower House I ways

to split into unworkable parties must exhaust the patience of all statesmen, and become odious to the nation. "The scrutin de liste" and some means of popularizing the Senate must be regarded as essentials, which Gambetta foresaw. If larger constituencies, voting for a number of representatives, could secure the return of men who would take wider views of political duty, every friend of the Republic must wish the plan tried. To-day the country is tranquil under a system that would excite frantic alarm if great interests were felt to be at stake. Any incident at home or abroad that stirred the popular mind would be dangerous so long as no confidence could be placed in any Administration, and the advocate of a "plebiscite," or even a prompt usurper of power, might take advantage of such an occasion.

The slow increase in the population of France is giving some uneasiness to economists and politicians. In 1881 there was a notable increase as compared with 1880. In the former year the population increased 108,227 souls, as against 61,940 in 1880. Much of this increase was due to immigration from Belgium and Germany, and much curiosity is felt to know whether this increase will be maintained. From 1821 to 1841 the increase in the population of France was about two-thirds of 1 per cent. annually; from 1841 to 1861 it fell off to about one-third of 1 per cent; while from 1861 to 1881 it was only 1 quarter of 1 per cent. per annum. Of course the Franco Prussian war and the commune may have influenced the decrease to some extent, but it is evident that the increase in the population has been steadily falling off within the last fifty years. In Germany, on the contrary, the population has been increasing at the rate of over one per cent per annum, so that in spite of the enormous emigration from that country to the United States, the population will double in sixty six years while it will take three times as long to produce a similar increase in France.

AUGUST.

For the Christian Messenger.
To Superintendents of Sabbath Schools.

Do you wish to greatly increase the number of scholars in regular attendance, as well as confer a lasting benefit upon all?

Instead of paying for papers out of the funds of the school, try the plan of putting sample papers into the hands of an alive young woman. She will make a thorough canvass of every family in the community. Each family will be glad of the privilege of paying for the papers of their choice at Club rates. The papers may be sent in bundles to the Superintendent who will distribute them in the school to those who have paid for them. If there are poor families who are not able to pay for their papers, let their copies be paid for out of the funds of the school.

Samples of a FIRST CLASS VARIETY OF SABBATH SCHOOL PAPERS are sent promptly to any and all who apply by card to

A. L. WOOD,
104 Granville St.
Halifax, N. S.

To the Editor of the Christian Messenger:
Grateful Acknowledgment.

Dear Sir,—As Dr. Geo. DeWitt of this town is a member of your church, I beg through your columns to express a recognition of the great kindness shown to me in volunteering his services on my behalf free of any charge while seriously stricken down with illness in this place during my lecture tour. All who are acquainted with me must know that I have had an extensive intercourse with doctors and surgeons during the past four years, having received in Boston no less than six hundred visits, half of them from some of the most eminent men on this Continent.

Dr. DeWitt fully impressed me with his capacity and practical ability both as a Surgeon and otherwise; and although as usual the pangs accompanying the knife were keen, yet the result fully demonstrated the skill of the practitioner. Wishing the Dr. every prosperity in life and begging to say that my health is quite restored.

I remain, Sir,

Yours truly,

T. M. LEWIS.
Chester, March 31, 1883.

For the Christian Messenger.

A God Given in Exchange for Corn.

When Ptolemy Philadelphus, King of Egypt, wanted to obtain the image of the god Serapis, which was kept in Sinope, a city of Pontus, the inhabitants for two years refused to give it up. But at length, in a time of famine, they consented to exchange it for corn!

Thousands every day are imitating the conduct of the inhabitants of Sinope, though less excusably. Their God is bartered for a little more gold, or a little more drink, or a little more dress, or a little more dance.

Many a man thinks more of his fast horse, or his fat ox, than of his Creator. Many a lady loves her pet bird or poodle more than she loves the Saviour of the world.

GRAEME GREY.

News of the World.

John Brown, the well known personal attendant of Queen Victoria, died at Windsor Castle on Wednesday last.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer of Great Britain, expects to have at least a million and a half of pounds surplus at the end of the coming financial year.

The Archbishop of Canterbury was enthroned on Thursday last at the Cathedral.

It is reported in St. Petersburg that several officers of the Finland Guard have been arrested for disloyalty.

Emperor William of Germany is suffering from Catarrh of the stomach and swelling of the neck.

The craters of Mount Etna are again in a state of activity. The rumblings of the volcano are frequent, and signs of an eruption are becoming more evident.

M. DeLesseps has arrived at Tunis, and says explorations make it plain that an inland sea in the Desert of Sahara, which he has been advocating, is practicable, and it can be accomplished by using one hundred excavating machines.

The Scranton U. S. Steel Company on Thursday last started their new mills, giving employment to over 1,000 men.

Acknowledgments.

Just received \$14.80 from Portland, N. B., in aid of Lunenburg Baptist Building Fund. From Antigonish Church instead of \$26.00 as noticed before, should have said \$26.50.

ISAAC GATES,

Treasurer of Committee.

March 30, 1883.

NEW HARBOR, GUYSBORO' CO.—On the 13th of February a number of friends assembled at our residence and cheered our hearts with friendly greetings. The evening was spent in a profitable manner. Very appropriate speeches were made by Deacon Nickerson, Bro. M. Sangster, and Bro. E. Gillie. As an expression of their goodwill toward us they left us a Donation amounting to \$40.00. May God abundantly bless our kind friends. We pray that the Holy Spirit may be poured down upon our people along these shores, which above all would fill our hearts with joy.

D. McLEOD.

March 20, 1883.

Mr. Editor,—

Permit me through the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER to acknowledge the kindness and generosity of the ladies of the Baptist Church and congregation at Brookfield, Colchester Co., who presented me on March 31st, with a purse of \$20. May the Lord abundantly reward them.

J. J. ARMSTRONG.

Truro, N. S., April 2, 1883.

Moneys Received.

J. P. Foster, \$9; S. Caldwell, \$2; A. Coggins, \$4; J. Desbrisay, \$4; Rev. H. B. B. \$2; G. Darrt, \$3; W. H. Sabean, \$4; Rev. J. B. Woodland, \$1.50; J. W. Simpson, \$1; W. E. Jefferson, \$1.75; N. H. Pinney, \$2; G. Eaton, \$2; N. R. Westcott, \$2; G. C. Carter, \$2; Mrs. J. D. Harris, \$2.

A REMARKABLE FACT.—It is a remarkable fact W. A. Edgers, of Frankville, who was so far gone with liver and kidney complaint that his life was despaired of, was cured with four bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters. At one day he lay a fortnight without an operation of the bowels.

DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE.—"A Rough on Rats." Clears out rats, mice, roaches, bed-bugs, flies, ants, moles, chipmunks, gophers, 15c.