

THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

and light, and joy, and salvation back with them, when they return to their respective homes. Many of them have already become enrolled as members of the Protestant community, and we hope they will yet be enrolled as members of the church of Christ, and their names be found written in the Lamb's book of life.

Five weeks since, a Sabbath-school for adults was commenced in connection with this service. The first Sabbath there were thirteen, and now there are more than twice that number. The average for the four last Sabbaths is twenty-eight. Beriah Krikor, who was at South Hadley and Northampton, learning the cash and wool trade, has the charge of this Sabbath-school, and he takes hold with all the earnestness and punctuality of a good Sabbath-school teacher. May they all sit at the feet of Christ, and learn of him and thus become wise unto salvation.—*Letter of Mr. Goodell in American Missionary Herald.*

SPECIAL NOTICES.

The object of this paper is to do good. Its price—One Dollar a year, almighty income—is so low that scarcely a family in our country need be without it. We will supply (on proper representation) to the poor, who are unable to pay for it, a limited number of copies gratis.

We are very particular in addressing our paper to subscribers according to the instructions given. But should any not be received regularly, they will please notify us at once.

All communications for this paper must be accompanied with the real name of the author, in order to receive attention.

NOTICE.—It is hereby requested that all orders for this paper, communications for publication, letters on business connected with the "Religious Intelligencer," or "Free Baptist Tabernacle," be addressed to the Elder, Elder E. McLeod, St. John, N. B.

B. J. UNDERHILL, Pub. and Business
D. W. CLARK, Vice-Pres.,
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Religious Intelligencer.

SAINT JOHN, N. B. SEPT. 22, 1854.

MISSION AT ST. HELENA.

During a visit to the United States about two years since we met with the Rev. Mr. Bertram, the Missionary at St. Helena, the place of Napoleon's exile, and which bears the same name. Mr. Underhill, merchant in the city, of the firm of Hannah & Underhill, was my travelling companion. It is not only a relief to the mind to have company in travelling, but it is a source of great profit by way of obtaining information, to have, as I had in this case, some one familiar with the country, to direct attention to the various objects of interest.

The river, where it widens into the bay which forms the harbour on which the city is built, is very narrow, passing through a rent in the rock, which, to all appearance, had recently opened to let the pent up waters of a long lake into the sea—the lake itself becoming the present river. Through this narrow opening the waters rush with great violence, both to and from the sea, alternately forming a cataract, above and below, as the tide ebb and flows. At this point, on the western side of the river, is situated the provincial Lunatic Asylum, which commands the best view I have found of the city and harbour. The city is principally on the opposite side and below. On the same side, however, with the Asylum, is a portion of the city, forming two wards. This portion is called Carleton. From the Asylum the river is spanned by a broad suspension bridge, constructed on the same principle of the bridge at Niagara Falls. It would be difficult to excel this bridge, either in skill or usefulness, by a work of its kind. The building for the Asylum itself is an honor to the province, and the affairs of the institution, under the charge of Dr. Waddell, seem to be conducted in a manner every way praiseworthy.

About a mile above the falls, on the eastern side of the river, is a little village called Indian-town, at the point from which the steamboats going up the river leave, and where they land their passengers and discharge their cargo, on their return. Wood boats, as they are called, and also such new ships as are launched above, seem to pass the falls safely; but they must take advantage of the tide. Between Indian-town and the city proper is Portland, which has suffered so severely from the cholera, as I before mentioned. The portion suffering most is built on low ground, which, if it can be, is not drained, and the wonder is that the cholera found any victims there, and it would not in a less healthy climate.

On leaving the above named town, you find, as you go up the river, at first, lofty banks, and comparatively a narrow stream. After a mile or two the river opens into a kind of bay, some five miles broad, and seven or eight long. Passing the bay, and another narrow portion of the river, shot up between rocky hills, you come to the Long Reach, as it is called, where the river becomes broader, and stretches away between the hills, which become less and less bold, almost in a straight line, and some eighteen miles. The hills by this time are mellowed down into graceful swells, and the river, now about a half mile in width, receives broader margins. Sometimes it divides into two channels, facing islands from one to five miles long. The islands and the margins are the best kind of meadow lands. Some of them are high enough for grain, but most of them are annually covered with water for weeks in the spring, and sometimes all of them, as was the case last year, preserves the fertility of the intervals, both island and margin. During the frosty season, the islands and margin are often carried away, and sometimes houses and other buildings. You notice flood wood, logs, and broken timber, broken from rafts, far up in the fields, where one, if it were not for the trees, would suppose the water never recedes.

At this time of the year the climate is no less inviting than the scenery. It is much like the last of September and first of October in New York city. In a few years, when good hotels shall invite to the quiet and healthy banks of this river, Saratoga will be fashionable for Bostonians and New Yorkers, who care to have a reputation for good sense rather than for fashion.

For purposes of navigation the river is as new as when its waters had known no craft save the Indian's canoe. This far up I have not seen one wharf or landing place for steamboats, though it is said there are some. Passengers come from the shore in row-boats, at any point they please; the steamboat stops alike to receive a traveller, or a sheep for the market. Whenever a package or passenger is to be landed, the ringing of the steamboat bell brings out a row-boat, for everybody seems to keep one, with which he is apparently willing and able to serve any one who wishes to land. Speaking of row-boats reminds me of ours and such cars as you see on this river and on many of my friend Page's cars, that should a pair of his from New York stir up this river, they would create a sensation as great as did the Astorop war, of which our manufacturer of the cars has doubtless heard. I spoke to a man who was rowing me out to a steamboat with two pieces of hemlock slabs of the new kind of oval, and he said at first he would like a pair, but then added, he might unfit him to use the old kind.

About four hours after leaving Indian-town we reached Hempstead, forty miles above St. John. After attending meeting to land a sail across the Ouanoe lake, if it can be called a sail to row against a strong wind two miles, with the waves now and then dashed into the boat. When I speak of our rowing, waste not your sympathy, good Bro. M.—for our blustered hands, for since parting, when I have received a present which abundantly protects in cash, this notion calls to mind. Arrived on the opposite shore of the lake, we were the gaols for the night and most of the day of Mr. S. L. Peters, a most excellent host of an excellent "Pilgrim's Tavern."

This country affords many interesting views, but I have seen none that equals the one from the lofty swell of land where Mr. T. resides. Baring the sea-sickness, it is worth the journey from New York to enjoy it for an hour. Before you the beautiful Ouanoe lies, winding its way between the hills, two or three miles to the left; beyond the lake, and to the right, you see the two channels of the St. John, with its beautiful islands and margins; far before you rises a village with

a single spire; beyond the river, miles away, you catch a glimpse of the Washadnock lake; here and there higher points of the uplands are crowned with forest trees; here the golden wheat field, and there the green meadow, interspersed among the silver sheets of water; the dwellings, the flocks and herds, the traveller on shore, and the passing sail, and the enchantment of distance, all help to make up a view which so fills the mind with the gentler and pleasing emotions, one quite forgets he is yet in this harsh world.

Sabbath morning I attended a meeting at Little River, and in the evening at this place, D. M. G.

Mr. Bertram's first sermon was blessed to some, and soon after Mrs. Janisch, widow of the late Dutch Consul, opened her parlour, as being one of the largest in the town, for Divine service.

The Word of God prevailed in the town, many respectable people began to attend the services, the son of Mrs. Janisch, a magistrate, was brought to the knowledge of the truth; three daughters of Captain Pritchard were also brought to believe in Christ, and with many others, to rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

A blessed revival of religion had commenced,

which resulted, within a few weeks, in the hopeful conversion of about fifty souls.

The results of this mission during the first four and a half years are given in a work by Dr. Hafield of New York, published during Mr. B.'s visit to the United States, which we have read, and which is deeply interesting, and instructive.—

"A foul and abiding church (numbering at present about two hundred members) have been gathered around him; the Word of God has been preached in every quarter of the island; preaching stations have been established in town and country; weekly meetings for prayer and the study of the Scriptures had been set up; Sunday and day-schools had been gathered, or were soon to be started. The fruitful soil had been plentifully sown with good seed, and a blessed harvest of souls was springing up all around him; portions of which were already ripe for the sickle."

Dr. Hafield thus speaks of the importance of this Island in the midst of the wild waste of waters to those who are going to, or returning from the sunny shores of India. The hospitality of Mr. Bertram and his Island Church are also alluded to by Dr. H. It is probably already well known to many of our readers that it was from Mr. Bertram and his people that Dr. Judson received such kindness, when in September 1845 he called at St. Helena to bury his beloved wife.—Mr. B. officiated at the funeral. The following is an extract from Dr. Hafield's work:—

St. Helena is the half-way house on the high road from the shores of the North Atlantic to the East Indies. The merchants and the missionaries of Great Britain and America find it the most convenient and welcome stepping-place on their way home from an Indian residence. To three of them whose health had been sacrificed to the purposes of commerce, or of the Gospel, it is indeed most refreshing to find, in the midst of the weary waste of waters, such a convenient haven, and so delightful a climate, where to tarry a few days or weeks, amidst health and happiness, on their homeward way. Mr. Bertram and his brethren had been accustomed year by year, to extend the hand of fellowship and welcome to the weary, worn-out Missionary, and to cheer him in his sickness and sorrow, in the following testimonial, from the Rev. Jonathan Wade, makes abundantly evident:—

"Both the Baptist and Methodist denominations having Missionaries in the East, owe these St. Helena disciples a large debt already; and this debt will increase every year. Their Missionaries, who are returning home in feeble health, mostly call at the Island; and, but for the hospitality of the members of this church, would be obliged to pay a grueling day for board. Mrs. Wade and myself shared their hospitalities during three months, which enabled us to bear such expense which our usual salary would cover. Brother Bertram and his family vacated their own house for the accommodations of Brother Howell (Baptist Missionary at Amherst, in Barbadoes) and his family, when they were detained some three or four weeks on the island. Other Missionaries, now in this country, have shared their hospitalities for a longer or shorter period."

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