

# Religious Intelligencer.

## The Intelligencer.

SAINT JOHN, N. B. MARCH 21, 1856.

ed courage, and was again blessed with seeing the rocky hearts of many of his hearers broken by the hammer of God's word.

### Correspondence.

#### New York Correspondence.

New York, March 7, 1856.  
Mr. Editor.—Home again. I propose in this letter to give you some account of the meeting in Walworth. Though I was there three Sabbaths and quite into another week, I was not able, on account of the storms and impassable state of the roads, to preach but a trifling over a week. Our order of meetings was to preach in the evening, and during the morning to hold a Conference Meeting. The audiences both by night and day were good, rather more than usual for the place at first, and toward the last quite to the extent of the capacity of the house. The last few meetings I was told some people came the distance of six or eight miles.

The first conversion was that of a young man, about twenty-one years of age. In relating his experience, he traced his first special religious convictions, to a few words dropped in a private conversation by one of our ministers, on his way home from General Conference, more than two years ago. It was a matter of joy and encouragement to me to see how the good seed will at length spring up, though we may not live to see the fruits. One may sow and another reap. While these pleasant thoughts passed through my mind, there were others that obstructed themselves upon my attention—thoughts unpleasant and mortifying. Though the ground is every where prepared, and though God is so ready to preserve the good seed once committed to the soil and to give his clouds and rains, and the genial warmth, yet how negligent are we often, in regard to sowing. We withhold more than is meet, and push our way on to spiritual poverty, though we might prepare an abundant harvest.

This reminds me of an anecdote which I have somewhere heard or read, of a good hotel keeper whose practice it was to entertain ministers of the Romish communion, it is gratifying to find such an interest manifested on the part of the Protestant population, in the working of the French Canadian Missionary Society, and such fearlessness, not merely in speaking against the errors of Romanism,—which is not difficult to some persons, as they are constituted mentally—but in braving danger in actual contact with the opposing priesthood, and the priest-governed populace. Montreal is a Catholic city, so far as numbers go. Alas! it is Catholic in its influence also, to a lamentable degree. So far as I know, in no Protestant family do the Roman Catholic domestics attend family worship; and I am cognizant of instances, in which wives were forbidden to join their husbands in such worship, although earnestly desiring it. It is amazing how extensively the intermarriage of the two communions is consummated, although the ceremony is performed by the priest, and the Protestant takes a solemn oath to abstain from every effort to turn away the other partner from Romanism, and promises to bring up all the children papists! Converts abound in the city and neighbourhood, and to their shame be it said, many professed Protestants contribute largely to their support; the popular notion being that convert education is the very best to make an accomplished lady. I have been shocked at the apathy on this point of some whom I have met, whose education was procured in convents; few undertaking to defend the practice, but many seeing no harm in it. It is pleasing to know, that the better part of the Protestant community oppose this suicidal course, and are deeply interested in the christianizing efforts of the French Canadian Missionary Society.

The attendance on Friday evening was not nearly so large as the two preceding evenings, and there was a perceptible difference in the faces, both on the platform and in the pews, but one thousand five hundred persons make no unimportant audience. It is strange how shyness good men are of Temperance Societies. It is no argument, that some temperance advocates are indiscreet in their modes of urging its claims; this makes it the more needful that discreet persons should come forward. But I fear I am trespassing upon your space. Allow me to say to your readers, in conclusion, that we, in Canada, are looking anxiously to our friends in New Brunswick, praying that they may be true to their principles. Our only fear is, that some of our professed friends will prove false. May God inspire every true patriot, every genuine Christian, with such wisdom and zeal as are needed to carry out the great reform, which, if New Brunswick is true to herself, will do so much to make her sons and daughters honourable and happy. A. B.

#### Public Meeting at Southampton.

CANTERBURY, March 1st, 1856.

Mr. Editor.—As you are known to be a true friend of the Prohibition Liquor Law, and would like to see the good cause of Temperance sustained, I beg to acquaint you of the general feeling of the public in this part of the country.

A few days since, Elder Samuel Hart attended a Temperance Meeting in the Campfield Settlement, where the universal opinion was in favour of Prohibition.

He then appointed a meeting in Southampton, to consider its utility; a very large congregation assembled. The meeting was opened by Elder Hart with singing and prayer, after which, powerful appeals were made to the people in favour of the Law, by Elders Hart and Sealy, and the assembled multitude seemed to feel a deep interest in it. Before the meeting closed, the following resolution was offered by Thomas Atherton, Esq., and seconded by Mr. George H. Maxon, which was carried with great delight to all. Mr. Hart requesting the yeas to stand up, and the whole congregation rose to their feet, after they were seated again, he requested if there were any nays, that they would signify the same by standing up, but none arose, after which the meeting was adjourned. Yours, in haste,

Asa Dow.

Whereas, an Act did pass the Legislature of this Province, and has received the sanction of Her Most Gracious Majesty, the Queen, to prevent the importation, manufacture, and traffic in intoxicating liquors, which came into operation on the first of January last. And whereas, this community has learned, with great regret, that the opposers of the Law have introduced into the Assembly, now sitting in Fredericton, a Bill to repeal said Prohibition Law. Therefore, unanimously

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this meeting, the Prohibition Liquor Law is beneficial in its effects to the community at large, and, therefore, it is not expedient to repeal said Law.

G.

#### Canada Correspondence.

MONTREAL, C. E. Feb. 25th 1856.  
Mr. Editor.—In continuing my remarks on our Anniversary Meeting, it may not be out of place to state, that one of the speakers brought out an idea on Tuesday evening, with respect to his views of the proper manner of spending the Sabbath, so far as public worship was concerned, which made a decided impression upon the audience. In brief it was this: in the forenoon, a sermon, with the usual accompaniments of prayer and praise; in the afternoon, a Sabbath School on a large scale, comprising the entire congregation, in which the study of the Bible should be the grand object, the exercises to be varied by frequent singing—the hymns to be few, well chosen, committed to

memory, and sung by all, to tunes well known and cheerful; in the evening, a meeting of the brethren for mutual instruction, calculated to promote social and christian fellowship, in which opportunity would be afforded to any brother to exercise his gift to edification, exhortation, and comfort. To this, I would take the liberty of adding, a participation in the Lord's Supper. It may not be amiss to add, that these views were advanced by a Presbyterian minister, and expressions of approval from ministerial brethren of other denominations were numerous and cordial.

It would have gladdened your heart, Mr. Editor, to have participated in our Bible Meeting; such a mass of living beings! Such earnest and faithful speaking! Such a fine christian spirit throughout! It was really delightful. There was no clay trap, no effort at display, so tedious and fatigued arguments, but, as one speaker remarked, "let christians carry out the spirit of the Bible in all things, everywhere; and let there be more believing prayer, and there will be less need of defending the Bible from the attacks of infidelity!" Assuredly this witness is true. Oh, if christians had but the Bible-spirit, would it not be better for themselves, better for the world? Who, from this moment, will seek, untiringly to cultivate this spirit?

Living, as we do, in the midst of a papal community, where an overwhelming majority adhere to the Romish communion, it is gratifying to find such an interest manifested on the part of the Protestant population, in the working of the French Canadian Missionary Society, and such fearlessness, not merely in speaking against the errors of Romanism,—which is not difficult to some persons, as they are constituted mentally—but in braving danger in actual contact with the opposing priesthood, and the priest-governed populace. Montreal is a Catholic city, so far as numbers go. Alas! it is Catholic in its influence also, to a lamentable degree. So far as I know, in no Protestant family do the Roman Catholic domestics attend family worship; and I am cognizant of instances, in which wives were forbidden to join their husbands in such worship, although earnestly desiring it. It is amazing how extensively the intermarriage of the two communions is consummated, although the ceremony is performed by the priest, and the Protestant takes a solemn oath to abstain from every effort to turn away the other partner from Romanism, and promises to bring up all the children papists!

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