

NUMBER IV.

Ship Eleanore, S. Lat. 19deg. 53m.; E. Long. 84deg. 47m.;
Saturday, April 16, 1865.

To the Editor of the Religious Intelligencer.

In this view I cannot concur, inasmuch as the University can never satisfactorily accomplish its proper work, unless the true value of education be rightly understood by the people, and the lower Seminary of learning be put in an efficient and prosperous condition. These are the sources from which must come all our supplies. If they fail to do their part, or do it sparingly and imperfectly, the University will be in danger of perishing from inaction; but if they yield abundantly, and are so conducted as to diffuse around them a love of learning and a desire to win it, then we may expect the University to grow and prosper, and, in turn, to react with a beneficial and elevating effect upon the tone and character of our whole educational system.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, it is well to bear in mind that none of the so-called learned professions can long maintain their dignity and influence without desecrating the title of being really learned, and possessing a large admixture of thoroughly educated men. A University education gives breadth and tone to the mind, develops and strengthens its faculties, and enables it when turned in any particular direction, or on any special subject of inquiry, to act with a clear and ready comprehension, and greater penetration and power. Without it there is danger of those who early devote themselves to any one occupation or calling, having the better part of their humanity absorbed in the limited and often uninteresting routine of office, and becoming mere professional hacks, one-sided, narrow-minded, selfish men, incapable of taking broad and liberal views, and of understanding and appreciating grand and general principles.

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., JULY 21, 1865.

REV. J. L. PHILLIPS' LETTERS FROM THE SEA.

We give Brother Phillips' Letters this week the precedence of editorial matter. We are sure that those of our readers will be more deeply interested in these than in anything we could write. We intended to have inserted them all in this paper, but have since concluded to defer the last until next week.

NUMBER III.

Ship Eleanore, S. Lat. 19deg. 53m.; E. Long. 84deg. 47m.;
March 15, 1865.

To the Editor of the Religious Intelligencer.

One more month has swiftly glided by since my last was written for your columns. You see that we are in the Indian Ocean, and also in the heart of the tropics. For several days the temperature has been indicated by 84°, 85°, or 86° F. The sun pours down intensely on our decks, and we keep ourselves in the cabin during a good part of the day, taking our walks either before breakfast or after tea. The beautiful moonlight evenings which we are now enjoying, surpass any I have ever known elsewhere. And the glorious sunsets in the Indian Ocean are well worth a trip from America to witness. I am too conscious of my imperfect diction to here attempt any description of these. To appreciate them one needs to gaze on them here night after night as we do.

We had hoped to be near the Equator now, but the trade winds failed us, after carrying us on grandly for some days. We hope to have them again, however, and, at a good rate, we might make Ceylon in ten days. There I shall have chance to send these hurried scribbles off to you by the British Mail Steamer. All our company are now just busy enough preparing letters to send home. How often the faces of the dear ones left behind come up before us during this long isolation from society! And many many times do we think and speak of our dear America, now the scene of so beloved a fratricidal conflict. In all our prayers that blood had been remembered, and while we cannot learn concerning the progress of our Union cause, I can assure you that it is a great comfort to be permitted to pray for our noble President, now a second time placed in power; for his cabinet officers, for our Congress, and for our glorious army and navy. And in these petitions the poor slave is never forgotten. May the Lord redeem America from all her sins, and in his own appointed time and way send her peace and prosperity! This is the prayer and the hope of us all.

It might prove interesting to your readers to know of our religious services on ship-board. On the Sabbath we hold three services as follows:—At 10½ a. m., one of our number preaches; at 3 p. m., we hold a Bible class; at 7½ p. m., we have a prayer meeting. In all these meetings we take turns in leading; so there being four of us, each preaches once in four weeks. Our brethren of the Presbyterian order are good devoted men, and practically in earnest in their preaching, although occasionally they drop theological dogmas in their discourses, which appear rather repulsive than otherwise to us. Still on the great and vital questions we stand together of course. In our Bible class we have been studying the Acts of the Apostles with much interest and I trust not less profit. But our evening meetings for social worship are peculiarly precious. When either of us Free Baptists have the lead, of course the sisters have liberty to mingle their prayers and praises with us. The Presbyterian brethren adhere to their established order in conducting their meetings. On the first Sabbath evening of every month we observe the Missionary Concert as usual, and these are blessed seasons. Upon the last Sabbath evening of each month we celebrate the Lord's Supper. It is utterly vain for me to endeavor to convey to you, Bro. Editor, any adequate idea of the exceeding preciousness of this communion season to us who, on this vast waste of waters, are so completely cut off from the great congregation. The same Saviour condescends to meet with us, and to sit at the head of His own table. Besides these, we have our Prayer meetings on Wednesday evenings. All these services are held in the Cabin, or more correctly in the beautiful Parlour of the "Eleanore." Our present commander, not being a Christian, disapproves of our holding our religious services on deck, so that the crew may attend. But I got his permission to visit the sailors in their fore-cabin, where I now preach to them every Sabbath at 2 p. m. I feel confident that the Lord is blessing these efforts for the spiritual good of this neglected class of men. Some of them having been sick, I have had quite a hospital in the fore-cabin, requiring daily visitation, and this has given me quite a familiar acquaintance with all these sailors.

I am hoping, Bro. Editor, that when the time comes for my next monthly letter, we shall be at or near Calcutta, and it is not impossible, even at our own station at Madanapore. How I should like to have you, and Bro. Peters, and many others of those whom I have learned to love in the Lord, come to our Missionary stations in India! What an encouragement it would be to our workers, could their American friends occasionally visit them!

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My sheet is full, and I must stop this almost painful process of writing at sea. Our breeze is becoming more favorable, and we are moving on finely.

JAMES L. PHILLIPS.

It may be thought by some that I have dwelt too long on generalities, and that remarks on common school education are entirely extraneous to the subject which should, this day, have engaged our attention.

stood such a spectacle, would be disposed, in answer to the exhortation largely and liberally to cultivate the mind, to say, "To what purpose this waste?"

APPLICATION TO OUR OWN PROVINCE.

And yet, I fear that in our New Brunswick there are not a few parents who are only too ready to ask why this waste of time upon studies which can apparently yield no material and profitable return, and to find in the answer which they are only too well disposed to adopt, a comfortable excuse for neglecting to provide for their children such an education as their position demands, and as their circumstances could easily afford. There are others again who seem to think that they have little or nothing to do in the matter; and that for insuring a good education they have merely to order a quantity of books, and pay for a suit of clothes, the work in one case being left entirely to the teacher, as in the other it is to the tailor. There is, confessedly, no royal road to learning; she will not come to order, and is to be found only by those who diligently and perseveringly seek her. The training of the youthful mind, if we would not run the risk of prematurely forcing its powers or of encouraging superficiality, must always be a slow and tedious process. Time, then, and close, continuous application are needed; but it is to be regretted that parents are for the most part too impatient to wait till the minds of their children are properly trained, their reasoning powers developed and strengthened, and stability and force of character attained as would ensure them against many false steps in their career. The infants from foreign countries are under peculiar temptations to hurry education, and to value it only as it conduces to success in life. In such countries labour of every kind is usually at a premium, and openings and inducements for young men to rush into business are seldom difficult to find. I have often contemplated with feelings of pain and vexation the tender years of even the most advanced pupils in our schools, and especially in those situated in our busy markets of trade and commerce. Again and again it has been my lot to see the bright, intelligent and promising sons of parents in prosperous circumstances, hurried from school, and their education left incomplete, because a vacancy was to be filled in a lawyer's office, or because their services were required in a store or counting room. The consequence is that a very great proportion of our young men never acquire good literary or scientific tastes, never imbibe any real love for intellectual pursuits, and are immersed in business while yet destitute of that strength and expansion of mind which would enable them to exercise a sound judgment and wise discretion in the important affairs of life. This pernicious habit of engaging youths in the active occupations and cares of men, while yet in their boyhood, and when the value of their services must be inconsiderable in comparison with the sacrificing of the golden opportunity of enlarging their acquirements in science and literature, cannot be too strongly reprehended. Such a state of things cannot fail to have in the long run, an injurious influence on the intelligence and character of our people, and in my opinion bodes little good for the future.

PARENTS AT FAULT.

But I have sometimes heard parents complain of unwillingness, if not absolute refusal, on the part of their sons, to spend at School or College the time necessary for securing a thorough educational training. Even in such cases, the parents cannot, in general, be held blameless. If in conversation and the familiar intercourse of the family circle they, both by precept and example, impress upon their children the idea that education is to be considered as a mere auxiliary towards getting on in life, what wonder if the young people, in their ignorance and inexperience, be only anxious to secure the least possible amount of it which is thought requisite for the purpose? What wonder that, in such cases, true learning is contemned, that its real worth and beauty to the individual as well as to society are unappreciated, and that the dignity and mental satisfaction, which knowledge and a cultivated and refined taste confer, remain as hidden treasures. It may be true that education, beyond a certain point, will not make a man a better farmer, or mechanic, or merchant; yet even in such pursuits there is a strong plea in its favor, and the grand question still remains, whether it makes him a better type of a man? Is not the assiduous cultivation of the intellect, next to the acquisition of religious principles and feelings, the surest and best way of promoting the true end of our existence as rational creatures? The study of the higher branches of learning, whenever practicable, imparting as it does the ability to trace the wondrous working of God's finger in the material Universe, and to hold converse with the sages of the past and profit by their teachings, would tend to improve all the social relations, and increase each man's capacity of happiness and enjoyment.

WANT OF PARENTAL DISCIPLINE.

In this connection there is another point to which I may be permitted to draw attention, inasmuch as I conceive it to be a serious evil in many respects, as well as a great obstacle in the way of sound and systematic education. I allude to the far too prevalent laxity of parental discipline, and the dangerous practice of allowing boys at too early an age to choose their own course and act as their own masters. Now-a-days, young people are accustomed to do pretty much as they please, and are seldom subjected to that wholesome restraint and those wise and regular restraints by which all their actions and movements should be controlled. Their going to school or staying away depends very much upon their own whims and inclinations. Hence much of that irregularity of attendance, which is a staple subject of complaint in most of our Schools; Reports; and which draws in its train a host of evils, such as slow and uncertain progress, and a consequent distaste for study, impatience of school restraint and anxiety to shake it off at the earliest possible moment. The formation of frivolous and dissuolatory habits, and general instability and waywardness of character. The laxity and indulgence which leads to such results can, at best, be considered only as an amiable weakness on the part of parents, but can never be regarded as either praiseworthy or judicious, and often springs from that love and care and self-indulgence, which engenders a morbid dislike of being pestered or bothered by any temporary trouble or annoyance that can be avoided.

OUR COMMON SCHOOLS.

In this Province, we, year after year, receive from the Chief Superintendent of Schools the pleasing information that the number of good school-houses built and provided with suitable apparatus, is steadily on the increase, and that a greater proportion of well-trained and qualified teachers are engaged in the service. These are undoubtedly signs of progress, and all praise is due to those whose zeal and energy have accomplished so much. But I am inclined to believe that we may possess an ample supply of school-houses of the very best description, and have them occupied by masters in every way equal to their duties, and yet the cause of education be in a very unsatisfactory condition. Before we can expect schools to flourish and bring forth such fruits as they ought to do, the general public must be brought to recognise the fact that education has strong claims upon rational and intelligent beings for its own sake, independent of those which it has as a means to an end. A deeper interest must be felt in the cause, and parents must be invited to do all they can, both by word and deed, to promote and foster a love of learning in their children. Greater attention must be paid to home preparation, and more home interest must be evinced in all the concerns of the educational progress and standing of the children, in order that the latter may be more and more impressed with the idea of the great importance of the work in which they are engaged, and be made to feel the evil and folly of neglecting the precious opportunity of acquiring knowledge and a taste for intellectual pursuits, which the season of youth so prominently affords.

DIRECT TAXATION.

Probably one of the steps towards a juster appreciation of the real value of education would be found in the introduction of the system of direct taxation for the support of Schools. This would, at all events, have the effect of stirring up the public mind, and bringing the matter under more serious consideration. At present, the government does so much, and the people so little, at least directly, that the latter are in danger of becoming apathetic and indifferent to what most intimately concerns the future welfare and happiness of their families. That which costs little is generally little esteemed; but when a man is laid under an obligation to pay for a commodity or privilege which he may use or neglect, he generally considers it incumbent upon him to get some return for his outlay. The effect, then, of direct taxation would be to prolong the time, which is now usually allowed for school instruction, to diminish the irregularity of attendance, and to mitigate some of the evils to which I have alluded.

THE SCHOOLS AND THE UNIVERSITY.

It may be thought by some that I have dwelt too long on generalities, and that remarks on common school education are entirely extraneous to the subject which should, this day, have engaged our attention.

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To the Editor of the Religious Intelligencer.

In closing my last, the hope was expressed that now we might be safely through our voyage and in our fields of labor. In this, however, we have been completely disappointed. By comparing our position to-day with that noted at the head of my last letter, you will readily perceive how barren of fair winds the past month has been. Our warblers have never known such a period of calm before, although some of them have followed the sea for well nigh fifty years. The most probable hypothesis by which these persistent calms are accounted for, is that we have happened here just when the conflicting trade-winds are neutralizing each other in these equatorial regions. With the single exception of a brisk gale of forty-eight hours, of which I shall presently speak, the sea has exhibited one glassy calm! Sometimes for an entire week its surface lies unbroken, save now and then when dimpled by a million rain-drops. I can't tell you how refreshing in these oppressive days have been our frequent showers. Truly our Father forgets us not, though isolated from the great world of men, we wander and wait on this broad briny bill. During the month the heat has been intense, ranging between 80 and 90deg. F. in our cabin. But we have been wonderfully exempt from bodily illness. Not one of our party has been sick since we left Boston. And day by day, even through these warm days, we have been faithfully prosecuting our studies and preparing for the work which we long to enter. Let me say here that these months of comparative leisure have been welcome indeed. Such an opportunity for general reading I never enjoyed before, hence it seems peculiarly precious. I am endeavoring to make the most of it.

But let me tell your readers about the storm which broke our cabin and shook us up so thoroughly for a couple of days. We were quietly sailing on Wednesday, the 22d ult., when, at 4 p. m., the clouds began to gather, the whole heavens to darken and soon the rain fell in torrents. These tropical showers are every way superior to any in the temperate zone. The windows of heaven are burst, and the silver flood pours heavily down, drenching the rigging and the decks. The wind roars rapidly and all sail, save two meagre strips of canvas, is furling. We are now tossing violently in an angry sea. The waves climb mountain high on either side of us, and now and anon break over the bulwarks and sweep the deck. Let me pause amid the storm to dwell on another scene. This was my turn to conduct the weekly prayer-meeting. It was my turn to conduct the weekly prayer-meeting. It was my turn to conduct the weekly prayer-meeting. It was my turn to conduct the weekly prayer-meeting.

Need I say that the hour of danger was one also of calm assurance and Christian peace? How sweet to us were the Psalmist's words, so graphically descriptive of just our state! (Psalms, cxi. 21 and 31 verses, inclusive.) And it was so comforting to pray to our Father above. The fervent and trustful petitions of that hour will long live in grateful memory. Our songs of praise went up to God and the brief hour was soon gone. But I forgot to say that the passage marked above from the Psalms, had been designated for us to resort to in a storm, by my friend, Rev. Dr. Cheney, of Bates College, who visited the beautiful *Eleanore* at her wharf in Boston.

While we prayed and sang the elements raged violently without. The tempest made doleful music through the shrouds;—the heavy and headlong seas were scouring the decks;—the wheel was tied, the rudder thus made fast; we were lying to, as mariners say. The experience of that frightful night none of us shall soon forget. In this rough weather, nearly all felt fresh, the distressing sensations of sea-sickness, and the great disposition was revived. For 48 hours the gale lasted. How cheering was it to see the sun peering out again from the rifted clouds! Since that day we've seen no waves,—for weeks we've hardly more than the gentle ripples. O, may He, whose commission we are to the heathen, send us the winds to speed us on our way! As I write the heavy clouds are pouring their refreshing contents upon us. Loud reports of thunder are frequent. This shower may fetch a breeze. Three days good sailing could easily bring us to Ceylon. How completely we are dependent on the Almighty! But I derive no little comfort from the thought that the Lord knows we are here, and why we are here. He can bring us to our work, for His are the winds and waves. While, therefore, we wait His time, we rest assured that He doeth all things well. But I often have thought that it requires more grace to wait than to work. Both are needful in Christian life.

It is very cheering to feel that you and your pious readers are praying for us. May God hear both you and us!

JAMES L. PHILLIPS.

HOME MISSION SOCIETY.

DEAR BRO. McLEOD.—The Executive Committee of the Home Mission Society, wish through your columns, to give the friends of the Society, and the friends of religion generally, a synopsis of its operations and some of their immediate results during the last year. The Corresponding Secretary's report, which will be found in the Minutes of our Conference, will be circulated in about three weeks, gives the details of the labour of the brethren, who were engaged as missionaries, and the places visited by them.

We had six missionaries in the field; Elder Downey the whole year, excepting a few weeks spent by him in Nova Scotia. Elders Babcock, French, and Vanwart, with licentiates Marsh and Shaw, were engaged by the month, or week, and labored as the Committee felt warranted to continue them. The longest time spent by either was three months, the shortest, two weeks. The whole time spent by the six brethren is equal to a year and eight months by one, at an aggregate expense of \$585.75. Of this there was collected by the missionaries, \$183.75. The whole amount received during the year, including what was collected by the missionaries, as the Treasurer's account shows, is \$648.78, after paying all the missionaries, and advancing \$32 to Elder Knollin for a month's labor in P. E. Island, which he was unable to perform before our annual meeting, and all incidental expenses, leaves a balance in the treasury of \$33.52.

Eternity alone can reveal the amount of good done by the labors of these brethren. Encouraging reports were given by each from each place visited. The Lord worked by them. About one hundred and thirty souls professed to be converted and were baptized as the fruits of their labors, besides the many wanderers who were reclaimed, and the churches strengthened and righted up. One church of more than thirty members organized, and a new meeting-house commenced. The Committee is pleased to be able to say that the wishes of the friends and patrons of the Society have been carried out as far as they have been made known. Every application that has been made to the Executive Committee for labour or assistance has been granted, but in one instance, which was a request for labor in a section of the country where we have no church, and which we regret we were not able to supply.

In entering upon a new year's operations, the Executive Committee wishes to say that, as the Society has been re-elected to its responsibilities, we trust we shall have the continued support of its friends, and assistance from all who wish well to the cause of Christ.

We have undertaken to keep Elders Parsons and Hartley in the field as missionaries this year, and hope all who sympathize with us in our efforts and who wish to see these brethren kept in the field the

whole year will aid us by their contributions to our treasury. We would also like to be able to engage other brethren for shorter periods of time. Brethren, cannot we do it? What is your reply, in dollars and cents? It is well known that all forces are stronger at their centres and diminish in proportion to the distance. Would we be successful in other important operations in which we have engaged, we must begin at Jerusalem and make our centre strong—we must take care of our churches.

The Committee hopes that any of our churches or ministering brethren, who wish to consult with them in reference to the distribution of labor or any other matters connected with the objects and interests of the Society, will do so through Bro. Wm. Peters of St. John, who will act as Corresponding Secretary, while Elder Hartley is from home on his mission.

FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY.

The following preamble and resolution was passed at a late meeting of the Executive Committee of the Foreign Mission Society, and ordered to be published in the RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER:—

"Whereas there has been much anxiety in the minds of our people concerning the safety of our Foreign Missionary in consequence of the long absence of the news of the arrival of the ship *Eleanore* in India; and whereas, when we had about given up all hope, the long desired tidings have reached us of the arrival of the ship in Ceylon, and we have reason to hope all is well:

Therefore resolved, that the Executive Committee do gratefully acknowledge the kind hand of Providence in conducting them safely over the night deep, and recommends all our churches in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, to put forth their best efforts to raise funds to enable the Executive Committee to carry out the engagements of the Society, and do request the Ministers to bring the matter before the people and solicit their co-operation."

Wm. Peters,
Chairman Ex. Com.

A DESERVED TRIBUTE.

A noble tribute of respect and Christian regard was presented a few days since in Halifax to Mrs. Geddie, wife of the Rev. Mr. Geddie, returned missionaries from the New Hebrides. We noticed a few weeks since the visit of these missionaries to Fredericton, and gave a report of Mr. Geddie's account of his mission work at the island of Annetum. They have since visited Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Geddie were the first Foreign Missionaries sent out by the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, and have been among the most successful that ever entered mission fields.

The offering presented to Mrs. Geddie, is not merely a tribute to her worth and that of her devoted husband, but it is also a testimony on the part of the donors to their appreciation of the noble work in which the missionaries are engaged. The following is the address that was read by Mrs. W. S. Stairs:—

"MY DEAR MRS. GEDDIE.—During the many long years of your absence from home and friends you have been, as it were, present with us, and we have often wondered if we should be spared to see your face, and give you a welcome to your native land. When you came among us and we heard from you an account of the manner in which you had spent a large part of your life, and when we reflected upon the many trials, dangers, and privations you must have passed through, our hearts were filled with admiration of your patience and fortitude, for we, your country-women, had spent the same years safely in our homes, in the enjoyment of all the comforts and blessings of civilized life.

When we considered our many comforts, we remembered how you had often been in want of what we look upon as the necessities of life. These thoughts were in all our minds, and it only needed some one to give them utterance, to receive a most kindly answer,—and these your friends now present, are some of those who have given expression to their feelings in the shape of an offering, of which I am requested to ask your acceptance.

When you read this paper, I know you will be pleased to observe that your early friends in Pictou and New Glasgow have been the most generous contributors, and my dear Mrs. Geddie, we found among our friends of the church of Scotland, and of the Wesleyan and Baptist churches, an earnest willingness to contribute to this token of regard.

I beg you will accept the sum of \$402 1s. 3d., with our best wishes for the health and happiness of Mr. Geddie, yourself and family."

Mrs. Geddie's reply was read by Rev. James Waddell, one of the oldest and truest friends of the Mission. It was as follows:—

"MY DEAR MRS. STAIRS.—When so providentially met on the wide Atlantic I had no idea to what extent our acquaintance would grow. Your kind hospitality recorded to us on our arrival, we felt to be very precious, and shall always cherish it in fond remembrance. But this meeting, these kindly greetings, and this substantial token of your sympathy and regard, greatly enhance our estimate of your friendship and esteem. You do well, my dear Mrs. Stairs and Christian friends, to appreciate the privileges of civilized and Christian life. They are more precious than you can well know. Nor do you mistake when you suppose that we have had trials and privations in heathen islands of the sea. We felt, oh how keenly did we feel our separation from the children dear to us as our own souls, and we were often cast down into contemplation of the kind and amount of work we had to do.

But as your condition at home is not all privilege, so neither has our mission life been all trial. It was cheering to us to know that you remembered us at home—your sustained us by your prayers—you strengthened our hands and encouraged our hearts—your bounty provided for us, and if we endured privations it was not because you would have it so, but because that our Father in Heaven knew that we required discipline at his hand. But he has sustained us when others fell. He has encouraged and blessed us in our work. He has brought us to the home of our youth in the multitude of his mercies and given us all hearts under his influence do we ascribe this display of your beneficent regards."

For your kind utterance of generous thoughts concerning us among our friends, my dear Mrs. Stairs, for the cheerful response to your appeal by those who love in Pictou and New Glasgow, and among other Christian denominations, we are heartily grateful.

It has been one of the happy experiences of our missionary life that we have been brought into intimate correspondence with the ministry and people of other churches, and you do not need to be told that we are all brothers and sisters on missionary ground."

For you, my dear Mrs. Stairs, and your kind husband and other friends associated with you in this valued testimonial, Mr. Geddie joins me in grateful acknowledgments, and in commending you and all you hold dear, to the word of his grace which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among them that are sanctified."

"CHARLOTTE L. GEDDIE."

Mrs. Geddie then spoke briefly: "There are occasions," she said, "when silence is more expressive than language, and this appears to me to be one of these. Nevertheless, I feel that I ought to say a few words lest silence should be misunderstood. The sympathy shown to Mrs. Geddie and myself since our return, has taken us both by surprise, and we feel humbled rather than elated by it, as we are unconscious of having done anything to entitle us to it. It is true, indeed, that it has been our privilege to labor for Christ among the heathen for years, but we have already had our highest earthly reward in seeing

the happy change which by God's blessing has taken place among them.

"We found the Aneiteumese worshippers of false deities, but we left them worshippers of the only living and true God; we found them naked and painted savages, but we left them clothed, and many we found sitting at the feet of Jesus in their right minds; we found them without a written word in their own language, but we left them with the whole of the New Testament and many portions of the Old in their own tongue; we found them indulging in the practice of every crime, but we left them a comparatively moral people; we found them living for this world only and with no cheering prospect beyond the grave, but we have witnessed many happy death-bed scenes, and believe that not a few whom we left shall be Christ's in the day when he makes up his jewels."

"During the early years of our mission we were exposed to many trials, privations and dangers; our God has mercifully brought us through them all. The subject of pecuniary support, has, I feel thankful to God, never given us any concern, for we knew that we served a good Master who sends none a warfare on his own charge. We are prepared by past experience, to go forth again in the work which we love, assured that our bread shall be given to us, and our water made sure, and that we shall be sustained by God under any future trials which may fall to our lot."

"It is our intention, in a few months, to leave friends and country for ever. If we should be spared to reach our distant home in the islands, the kindness of Nova Scotia friends will form the theme of many pleasing and grateful thoughts and conversations. When continents and oceans shall once more intervene between us, we ask to be remembered by you in your prayers. As we neither expect nor desire to return to our native country, it is our earnest prayer that it may be your happiness and ours to meet in Heaven with the Redeemed from every land."

FREEWILL BAPTIST MISSION IN INDIA.

The Freewill Baptist Quarterly Meeting in Orissa, India, sent the following Report to the New Hampshire Yearly Meeting, recently convened at Dover:—

"Orissa, India. The mercy and grace of God have really abounded, abounded toward us as a mission. Our cords have been lengthened, and our stakes strengthened, and an unusual degree of harmony and love has reigned within our borders."

Five of our dearly beloved church members have gone to heaven. We felt keenly their removal, but we do not mourn. They have gone to swell the ranks of the saints on high; "we a little longer wait." Ninety-four precious ones still remain to witness for Christ—to shed holy light, and to adorn the doctrines and precepts of our dear Redeemer in this dark, wicked, idolatrous land."

Twenty-two believers have been baptized into Christ. Four men were here and were mercifully brought back to the Shepherd and Bishop of their souls, and there are others "seeking Jesus"—blessed search! Six persons have been broken caste during the year and have given in their adhesion to Christ, his people and his principles, and there are others who are waiting on the eve of following their example, at all our stations."

These facts make the monster—Hindooism—write and founder terribly. Many "fellows of the baser sort" have hovered around us in our public ministrations, loaded us with opprobrious epithets, and sailed our native preachers with unsavory missiles; and in two or three instances resorted to blows to prevent the word of God from prospering in the land, whereunto he sent it. But the word of God is not thus to be put down. It is a light that cannot so easily be extinguished. It will shine, it will enlighten, it will heal, it will bless and save to the uttermost, until all perdition should scream in an agony of regret. O the privilege of being the expounders of such a Bible in such a land as this!

The chapel at Midnapore has been completed, and was opened and dedicated to the worship of the living and true God Oct. 9th, 1864. The dedication exercises were interesting in the highest degree, but we cannot describe them here. Suffice it to say, that it was a good day. We had three sermons—Orissa, Bengal and Santal. The dedicatory was preached from the words, "Peace be to this house." But the best of the wine was kept until the last of the feast. It was Dula's sermon in Santal to his countrymen. The Santals like the negroes are nearly all natural musicians. They had learned a hymn for the occasion, and they sang it in grand style. The scene and the song together made us weep with joy."

The Mission Press at Midnapore is busy and self-sustaining. Eighteen schools are now in successful operation among the Santals. The Industrial school at Balasore is an entire success. The Boys' Boarding School continues to grow and improve. Three of its members are consistent members of the church of Christ—two of whom we humbly trust are designated for the "Great School" ministry. The mission "Grant-in-Aid Vernacular School" is in a flourishing state. In it, the Hindoo and Christian boys read and study the word of God together. In this way they grow up in sympathy with, and attachment to, each other. One of the pupils, one of our own boys, Caleb Hodgdon, passed a successful examination about two months ago, and was immediately appointed to his second teachership. Three years ago he came to Balasore, poor, naked, ignorant and friendless—now he is educated, respectable person and honored. We are proud of him. Sister Crawford's school is still what it has ever been—a great blessing. It has lately grown to colossal proportions, and is consequently taxing severely the tireless energies of our dear sister."

"We recognize in the dreadful war with which your beautiful country is now being torn and lacerated, a death struggle between freedom and slavery—between truth and error—between light and darkness. It is the kingdom of darkness in battle array, resolved to ignore man's manhood and to trample in the dust the elevating, equalizing principles of the Bible. We therefore most deeply sympathize with you in your sufferings, rejoice in your successes, and earnestly pray for your honorable peace, securing the authority of the United States, and the freedom of the slave, may soon be yours to enjoy."

A. MILLER, for Q. M."

"Rev. Mr. Brewster, Wesleyan Minister, after about twenty years labour in Newfoundland, P. E. Island, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, has retired from the British American Conference, and returns to England to labor in connection with the Conference there. Mr. Brewster carries with him the esteem of many friends both in and out of the Methodist church. The following resolution was carried by acclamation, in the Wesleyan Conference, recently held at Yarmouth, N. S.:—

"The Conference having learned that our esteemed brother, the Rev. John Brewster, by the permission of the Committee in London, is about to return to his native land, to labor in connection with the British Conference, would most sincerely express their regret that we are to be deprived of the services of one who has been so highly honored in his ministry among us, and would pray that he and his family may be conducted home in safety, and that his future labors in the Lord's vineyard may be increasingly owned and blessed by the Great Head of the Church."

"Q. M. B. R." in an article in the *Star* on "soul sleeping" says:—

"Of all theories, the 'soul sleep' doctrine, the 'sleep of the dead,' and 'annihilation of the wicked' scheme is the most comfortless and unscriptural. How strange that any person should expect to relieve an anxious mind, standing on the brink of eternity and peering into the future with a thousand questions springing to his lips, by assuring him that he steps from earth into a sleep of years on years, to be broken only by the resurrection trump. Did Paul find comfort in such a theory? Did he believe that he would know and do nothing for thousands of years after death, and yet long to depart that he might be with Christ? No indeed, Paul was not that lover of sleep, idleness, unconsciousness, that caused him to be in a strait between life and such a death. He was Christ, to live was Christ, to die was gain; in his view; and yet we are told that Paul expected to nei-

ther know nor do anything during the thousands of years intervening before the resurrection."

"A correspondent of *Zion's Herald*, writing from Craftsbury, Vermont, giving an account of a revival there, which resulted in the conversion of fifty persons—twenty-three receiving baptism on a single Sunday—says:—

"We have held no protracted meeting, had no foreign help, have not preached an extra sermon; but we have endeavored to preach the Gospel with fidelity on the Sabbath, held prayer-meetings and class-meetings five and six nights in a week at different points, visited the people at their dwellings, and addressed them personally upon the great subject of their soul's salvation."

"In one of the noon-day prayer-meetings in New York recently, a gentleman, venerable in years and appearance, rose and said:—

"I am from the banks of the Missouri—northern part. I have been in this city twelve days, and have improved the first opportunity to be present for a few minutes. I rejoice in the opportunity of being here, because I learn you pray for the coming of the Spirit in power. In 1823 I was here when the observations of prophecy were much discussed by the divines of that day, and our minds were impressed with the conviction that in the four years comm