India Letter.

DEAR FRIENDS :—In my last letter I said I would tell you something about Dahobani, the village we visited on our cold season trip.

Kanchon, the mondol, is an interesting individual. His father, Hori, is now a very old man, and has two wives, the chief of which is Kanchon's mother.

For many years, these people have been halting between two opinions. You see, if they do become Christians, it means the loss of a good deal of prestige, for, besides being the chief man in all the village, Kanchon is the Purganath, or sort of tribal chief or patriarch, of all the surrounding country, as far as the Santals are concerned.

Already there is a good deal of complaint made because the Purganath is mixing so freely with Christians. There is a large family connection and if he comes, all come. I asked Kanchon, point blank, if he meant to become a Christian, and he said, "Of course. Why should I not! I believe that Christ is God's Son. When the proper time comes I shall be baptized."

One of his uncles, Gupinath, a teacher, has becomes a Christian, and the earnest, simple faith of that blessed lame man was as refreshing manna to our souls. When they get ill, they send for Jupinath to pray for them. In his simple way he told us that he just cried to God to make the sick one well, and God always heard the call and answered.

It seemed such a singular thing to hear the beat and roll of the "lagara," or big drum, called "tamak" in Santali, summoning us to worship in a heathen household, and then, off in another village, the beating was to summon all to a wild dance.

I led the second service and was astonished to see several of the heathen (?) pray afterwards. I say see. I know all the voices of our own people, and I looked up to ascertain who was pleading before God "for strength,"

On enquiry, we found that they were accustomed to holding a service each Sunday. Many of the Bengalis came in to hear and see, for I assure you it is quite a sight—two white women and two white children out there in the jungle.

One tall, dignified Babu came down to the tent to have a talk, and we found that he had a Bible and was fairly well versed in its teachings. He believed, too, but said he could never come out openly until his father died. It is a case of loving "father and mother more than Me." Still this was but another evidence that the Word—the blessed Word, is winning its way, and we were thankful. Forget not to pray for the man, that his heart may be convinced and converted, as well as his head.

Three schools came in to us there, and I examined them before an eager interested audience. Many were the Ah's and O's or Hi, Hi, when a mistake was made. One man called his son a donkey because he failed to repeat the 19 times line in his multiplication tables. I did not concur with his judgment, and told him so, for I remember it was thought quite a feat for a child of his age—about eight years old he was—to say up to 12 times 12 correctly. Nearly all knew the catechism and all could repeat the ten commandments and the Lord's prayer. We prayed the last together, after I had explained it to them, and I wonder, if, when they shall again pray it, their hearts will turn to God.

After many pressing invitations we went to visit the Bengali women in a village near. We found most earnest listners, and one woman—the one who had stirred her son up to come so often for us—told Mrs. Burkholder about having heard a Mem Sahib in her own village, before she came to this one. From her description it must have been Mrs. Jas. Phillips. It made my pulse quicken to hear them ask so often and plaintively, "Why don't you come often, and why don't you send some one to us?" I could but ask myself Why, ah Why? The answer was not pleasing.

After a pleasant, and, we hope, profitable stay of five days in Dahobani we moved on to our next camping place. We were not out long this year. The sun became so fierce that it would have been dangerous to remain longer.

Verily, the harvest is ripe. Who will come from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to help garner in the sheaves?

Yours faithfully,
EDNA C. WILE.

Lalgarh, Bhimpore,
Midnapore Dis't, India.
April 7, 1897.

—Rev. Dr. Robertson, a Canadian minister of note, states that in the Canadian church $20,000 are now given annually to foreign missions by congregations that were founded as home mission stations within the last twenty years. It is a striking illustration of the truth that "the very best way to help foreign missions is to establish home missions."

Bits of Letters, And Comments.

"As we would like to have this death notice published in the INTELLIGENCER, I send it hoping it will be done. We expected it to have been done weeks ago. If this is not in line with the regulations of your paper please let me know. It was published in - -, with the request that you publish it in your paper."

The above is part of a letter recently received. We have occasionally before received a similar one. We quite appreciate the feeling of those who write them, and always regret that what they desired had not been done when they expected it. It seems necessary to explain that there is never any certainty that notices of any kind, which are requested to be copied from other papers, will be copied. Usually they will be if they are seen, but often they are not seen The newspaper man, who has to read scores of papers every week, becomes a very rapid reader, and takes in the contents of a paper almost at a glance; he, also, gets to have a quick eye for what he wants, but he does not always, perhaps not often, read the deaths and marriages. He assumes that everything of that kind that is desired to have a place in his paper will be sent direct to him, even though they are sent to a half dozen other papers at the same time: The minister, or whoever sends the notice, should learn from the family interested, in what paper or papers they wish it inserted; and then send it to those papers, not to one only, with a request for the others to copy. The INTELLIGENCER cannot guarantee that it will publish notices that are to be copied from other papers, for it may not see them. Nor will it publish such requests in connection with any notices sent it. It has some times done so, but always with a feeling that it was not quite fair to the papers mentioned. It will not be done again.

While on this subject there is another thing which may be mentioned One case will serve as an illustration. A minister said to the editor,—"Why didn't you notice in the INTELLIGENCER .....(mentioning a service in which he was the central figure); I looked for it, and wondered why it didn't appear, and was annoyed. Such things ought to be in the denominational paper. I didn't care for myself, but it was a matter of interest to the denomination. After he was done talking—and his talk was just a little warm—the editor meekly asked what it was all about; he hadn't heard of it before, he said. "Why," said the preacher, there was an account of it in the—, and I supposed, of course, you would copy it or make a note of it in some form." The paper he mentioned was one which rarely contains anything of interest to us or the people whom we address, and one which the complaining preacher, himself, had frequently spoken of as showing little or no interest in his church or denomination. Now, what that preacher should have done was to have furnished the INTELLIGENCER with the facts which he considered of sufficient importance to have notice in its columns; or if he was either too busy or too careless to do that, he might have sent the paper marked, and left the rest to us. We hope however, that nobody will get the notion, from this reference to a marked paper, that is the proper way to communicate what you desire to have your paper publish. It only answers for very indolent persons. The one right way is to send the facts. And this ought to be done promptly, not after they have been printed in several other papers, and have become stale to everybody.

"Please discontinue the paper to my address at the end of the year, I am very sorry indeed to part with the dear old INTELLIGENCER. We have been friends for nearly forty years. My circumstances compel me to part with it.

Occasionally a note like the foregoing comes to us. It always grieves us to have to stop the paper in such cases. Does some one ask, "Why, then, do you do it?" The only answer is that we never do if we can avoid it; but the list of names to which free papers are sent grows so rapidly that we sometimes have to deny ourselves the pleasure of adding another. In some years thoughtful and generous brethren have provided for papers to a number of worthy people who could not otherwise receive them. Such a fund could always be used to advantage, and would not diminish the number which the editor sends on his own account.

W. C. T. U. CONVENTION.—The annual Convention of the New Brunswick Woman's Christian Temperance Union will be held in St. Stephen June 1-3. The first meeting will be on the evening of June 1st, and the closing one on the evening of the 3rd. Arrangements have been made for reduced fares on the railways. The Convention will, doubtless, be one of interest.

Home Religious News.

—Rev. J. E. Goucher, pastor of the North Baptist church, Halifax, has been compelled to resign on account of his health. He is advised to take a long rest from pastoral work.

—A new Baptist church was dedicated at West Dalhousie, Annapolis Co., N. S., on the 9th inst.

—The meetings at Kentville, N. S., conducted by Messrs. Crossley and Hunter, are largely attended, and much religious interest is manifest.

Denominational News.

GAGETOWN.—I have just closed a series of special meetings at Gagetown in connection with the Bethany Free Baptist church. We held the services for a time at the Temperance Hall in the village, and later at the Mill road school house, about two miles from the hall. They were fairly well attended, and were deeply impressive. The few brethren and sisters who were trying to hold on their way, were greatly strengthened, backsliders were reclaimed, and sinners converted. Five were buried with Christ in Baptism and as many more took part in the meetings but were not baptized but we trust they will continue to seek the Lord, and ere long see their way clear, to obey Him in His ordinance.

G. W. FOSTER.

SUSSEX.—The Free Baptists have planted a lot of fine maple trees near their church, and are about to have a handsome fence put up in front of it in a short time. They have in contemplation the building of a new parsonage near their church, work on which may be begun during the summer.—Cor. Sun.

"LICENSED VICTUALLERS."—The St. John Licensed Victuallers (Rumsellers) Association held its annual meeting last week. The papers do not report the business done, except the election of officers. It is probable, however, that they considered several schemes for the moral and material welfare of the community, among them how to prevent the prohibitionists from destroying the business of the country and demoralizing the people generally.

RUM LORDS.—There are said to be ten Scottish dukes, five marquises, twenty earls, and five lords—forty in all—who have a direct financial interest in the continuation of the drink traffic In England and Wales the names of no fewer than 172 members of the upper House appear as owners of one or more licensed places. And it is one of this gang who is mentioned as, possibly, the next Governor General of Canada. From such calamity "good Lord deliver us."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.—The members and friends of the little church at Bethany, Gagetown, kindly remembered me in a financial way. On Tuesday evening, May 4th they held a social in the School House. There was a short entertainment, consisting of singing, reading, recitations &c. Then the baskets and pies were sold, with bros. Abner Belyea acting as auctioneer, T. W. Redstone, treasurer and James Barnett secretary. A very pleasant evening was spent. The receipts were $13.00, which with $6 25 raised at a previous social, which was interfered with by a storm, was presented to me. Besides these amounts I received $9.00 in private donations, making $28.00 in all. I wish hereby to extend to all the friends who have thus expressed their kindness my heartiest thanks. May God bless them is my prayer.

G. W. FOSTER

A number of my friends came to my home on the 26th of March last, to celebrate my 71st birthday, this being the eight year in succession we had such a visit. We had a very enjoyable time. The cash outcome of it was $41,50 cents. May the Lord abundantly bless the donors is my prayer.

E. B. GRAY.

Parliament.

MONDAY.—This was private members' day. Most of the afternoon was occupied with motions by Mr. Mills of Annapolis concerning the closing of a post office in that county and the dismissals of postmasters from offices that were not abolished.

In the evening public bills were taken up.

Mr McMullen moved the second reading of his bill to make the civil service non partisan, by placing it under a board of commissioners, independent of government control. After some discussion, Mr. McMullen withdrew the measure at the suggestion of the Government.

Mr. Davis of Alberta, on the premier's request, withdrew a mounted police bill he had.

Mr. Martin (P. E. I.) resumed the debate adjourned some days ago concerning the financial relations of his province to the Dominion. He claimed that Prince Edward Island had not received justice.

TUESDAY.—The house was in supply and made fair progress with the contingency vote. Before the speaker left the chair Mr. Davin proposed an amendment, stating that the good faith on the part of the ministers towards the western farmers demanded that agriculture implements be placed on the free list. The amendment was lost.

The parliamentary vote was taken, and also the estimates for the justice department, for the year book and experimental farms. On the last item the minister of agriculture gave an exposition of the work done at the central and branch farms and also the work of the government creameries and cheese factories.

WEDNESDAY.—The house went into committee and took up the agriculture vote.

On a vote of one hundred thousand dollars to promote the dairying interest, Mr. Fisher explained that five thousand dollars would be required for expenses to the patrons of Nappan. The other ninety-five thousand dollars was intended for the North-west.

Mr. Fisher explained that five thousand dollars for the Northwest would be used for advances to patrons to western cheese and butter factories. He was following the principle in the west that the late government pursued in P. E. I.

Mr. Ganong asked the government not to give its whole attention to the Northwest, and asked that a supplementary appropriation be made for the promotion of creamery enterprises in those parts of New Brunswick that had not yet been successful in establishing this branch of dairy industry.

Mr. Fisher said that sixteen creameries and sixteen skimming stations would be established in the Northwest.

THURSDAY.—The house took up the quarantine item and were engaged in it all afternoon. The item was at length adopted when the committee went at the cold storage item. Mr. Fisher entered into some particulars of the arrangements which had been made with railways which could be used for conveying perishable goods to ports of shipment. The agreement with the railways required that the goods be carried in refrigerator cars at the usual carload rates, the government guaranteeing two-thirds of a carload every trip. The storage accomodation is provided in the various shipping and connecting points in Canada, with buildings and plant in Halifax, Quebec and other points furnished by companies, the government gauranteeing five per cent. interest for three years on a certain amount of capital. Storage freight rates in steamships would be at the rate of ten shillings per ton of seventy cubic feet. The government would have to assist the steamships in providing the plant. About twenty-five ships from Montreal would be provided with refrigerators. St. John and Halifax most depend on the Furness line fortnightly service.

Mr. McDougald, Cape Breton, expressed regret that no cold storage provision had been made for the shipment of fresh fish from Nova Scotia to the upper provinces and other markets.

Mr. Martin was sorry to hear that arrangements for cold storage were not completed in respect to P. E. Island.

FRIDAY.—During the three hours of the afternoon session the speaker did not get out of the chair for the voting of supply. There was a discussion about dismissals, begun by Mr. Cameron, who claimed that the dismissals were not numerous enough.

The debate was continued during afternoon and evening by several speakers, until after one a. m., when the house went into committee and passed one item.

Denominational Notices.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.—First District Meeting, with the Church at Wicklow, C. Co, the last Saturday in June, at 10 o'clock, a. m. Ministers to attend—Revs. Joseph Noble, C. T. Phillips, John Perry, E. B. Grey, F. A. Currier, Dr. Mcleod, John Henderson, G. F. Currie, C. F. Rideout.

Second District Meeting, with the Church at Lakeville, C. Co., the third Saturday in June, at 10 o'clock, a. m. Ministers to attend—Revs. Gideon Swim, C. T. Coombs, and John Perry.

Third District Meeting, with the Church at Campbell Settlement, York Co., the third Friday in September, 1897, at 2.30 o'clock, p. m. Ministers to attend—Revs G. W. Foster, F. A. Currier, J. J. Barnes, J. W. Clarke, O.N. Mott, C. T. Phillips. Dr McLeod. Rev. J. T. Parsons to preach the annual sermon.

Fourth District Meeting with the Church at Tracy Station, S. Co., the second Friday in September, 1897. Ministers to attend—Revs. F. C. Hartley, A. B., G. W. Foster, G. F. Currie, Joseph Noble, and John Henderson.

Fifth District Meeting, with the Church at Brown's Flat, K Co., the first Friday in July 1897, at 10 o'clock a. m. Ministers to attend—Revs. David Long, O. N. Mott, J. W. Clarke, C. T. Phillips, Dr. McLeod.

Sixth District Meeting, with the Church at Penobsquis, K. Co., the second Friday in July, 1897, at 2 o'clock, p. m. Ministers to attend—Revs. Dr. McLeod, C. T. Phillips, W. J. Halse, G. A. Hartley, and J. W. Clarke.

Seventh District Meeting with the Waterloo Street Church, Saint John, the fourth Saturday in July. Ministers to attend—Revs. J. T. Parsons, Dr. McLeod, David Long.

NOTICE TO FIRST AND SECOND DISTRICTS.

Forms for church reports, Sabbath School reports, Conference Fund lists, and a letter to each church have been sent to the Clerks of the First and Second Districts for distribution to the churches in their respective Districts. If any churches in these Districts do not receive the forms needed within ten days from date, they can be supplied on application to the clerk of their District or to the undersigned.

JOS MCLEOD.
Cor. Sec. Gen. Conference.
Fredericton N. B.
May 15: '97

This Week.

We are expecting remittances from a large number of subscribers this week.

If you are one of those whose subscriptions are due, we trust you will not disappoint us.

THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY has issued a very neat and attractive card setting forth the most important points to the pleasure seeker, angler, and sportsman along their line of railway. Full particulars, guide books, time tables, etc., can be had from the passenger agent, Moncton, or from any of the station agents. Some of the finest pleasure resorts in the world are along the I. C. R.

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Marriages.

SAUNDERS-HALL.—At Grafton, C. Co, on the 12th May, by Rev. C. T. Phillips, Edward H. Saunders, M. D., of Woodstock, and Miss M. Aurilla, daughter of F. H. Hale, M. P.

DOBSON-STEEVES.—At the home of the bride's father, on the 28th April, by Rev. E. S. Parker, Joseph Dobson, of Stoney Creek, W. Co, to Lillian, daughter of William Steeves of Dover. N. B.

Deaths.

NELSON.—At Bridgewater, Me., on the 5th instant, William Nelson, aged 65 years, leaving 2 sons, 2 daughters, five brothers and one sister, with other relatives to mourn their loss.

E. B. GRAY.

BROWN.—At Snider Mountain, K. Co., on May 2nd, Susanna, relict of the late Moses Brown, in the 63rd year of her age, leaving three sons and one daughter to mourn the loss of a kind and affectionate mother. D. L.

KEIRSTEAD.—At Grafton, C. Co., on the 24th April, after a lingering illness, Mary J., beloved wife of Thomas Keirstead, aged 68 years. Sister Keirstead was born in Kings Co., and was a member of the Free Baptist church at Corn Hill. She moved to Woodstock twenty years ago, and was an honoured member of the Free Baptist church here. Many friends in her old home will read of her death with regret, for she was warmly esteemed wherever known. Her funeral was attended by Revs. C. T. Phillips, T. Connor and W. Wiggins.

BAKER.—At Woodstock, on the 26th April, Charles Baker, aged 78 years. Bro. Baker professed religion many years ago, and was a member of the Free Baptist church at Seventh Tier, until his removal to Woodstock, where he united with the Free Baptist church of that place, and was esteemed by his brethren. His illness was long and severe, but his faith was strong, and he longed to go Home, believing that for him to die would be gain. His funeral was conducted by Rev. J. Noble, at the 7th Tier church, where he was buried.

COUGELL.—At Brookville, Carleton Co., on the 11th instant, Mary A., widow of the late John Cougell, aged 58 years, leaving four sons and one daughter, three brothers and one sister, (one of the brothers is a Baptist minister) and other relatives to mourn the loss of a loving sister and an affectionate and painstaking mother. Our sister, with her late husband, sought and found the Saviour some years ago, and were baptized by the writer; she lived a consistent life, and died the death of the righteous.

ESTABROOK.—On the 16th ult., at Tracey Mills, Carleton Co., Eben Estabrook, in the 82nd year of his age. He was born in Sunbury county. When about 27 years of age he professed faith in the Lord Jesus. Some years ago he moved to Tracey Mills, and became a member of the church there, by which he will be much missed. He leaves a widow, five sons and three daughters, with other relatives. The esteem in which he was held was evinced by the large congregation at his funeral.

E. B. GRAY.

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