

THE CORN MARKET.—Willmer & Smith's European Times of the 19th ult. says—

The Corn Market, since the Acadia left, has not varied to any great extent. On the 5th instant, the advance noticed in our last was fully maintained, and the arrivals at Liverpool being comparatively small, the country markets generally showed considerable firmness. On the market day of the 8th inst. prices continued firm, but wheat was generally slow of sale. On Monday last, at Mark Lane, there was a liberal supply of grain; and although the best parcels of wheat were readily taken off, the common runs could not be sold unless at a reduction of 2s. to 3s. per quarter. The operations in foreign are quite upon a restricted scale; holders are unwilling to effect sales at a reduction of more than 1s. to 2s. per quarter. The exports to Ireland continue to be very large. The price of best Western Canal Flour has reached 30s. at which price holders are not disposed to make a sacrifice.

TIMBER MARKET.—There is some mitigation of the pressure which the trading interests have been so long undergoing, and there is more activity in business generally; it is, however, not yet practicable to make progress in sales of wood, unless at prices under the quotations given, which must be considered in some measure nominal. Notwithstanding, they are 2d. per foot for timber under what they were at this time last year, and so in proportion for other wood. During the month sales have been effected to a small extent only, both by private and by auction, consisting of Quebec yellow Pine at 14½d. to 14½d. per foot; red Pine 19d.; Quebec Oak 2s. 3d.; Quebec Elm 16½d.; and Pine Deals at 28 per standard. A cargo of St. John Spruce Deals, of prime quality, brought 2d to 2 5-16d. per foot; a fair cargo 2d to 2 3-16d.; a cargo of Bathurst yellow and Spruce at 2d to 2½d.; a cargo of St. John yellow Pine, of good quality, 14½d. to 18d.; one of middling quality 14½d. to 16½d.; a cargo of new Carlisle yellow and Spruce Deals 2 1-16d. to 2 15-16d. On the quay a cargo of St. John Pine timber, of rather over 20 inches average, has been sold at 17d. per foot, with Birch at 14d. and Spruce planks at 1 7-8; and a cargo of Quebec of prime quality, the prices of which have not transpired, but supposed to be about 15d. per foot for yellow Pine.—*Duncan & Ewing.*

THE MONEY MARKET.—The same paper says—The money market, since the 4th inst., has materially improved. Consols were at that date about 32½, and since that period, with occasional fluctuations, have kept steadily advancing. On the 6th instant, Consols had almost reached 84, and during the week ending the 13th, they improved almost a further one per cent., closing on that day about 85. For the opening on the 18th January they reached 85½. As far as the indications of the Stock Exchange can be taken as a proof of returning confidence, nothing is left to be wished, as the advance in public securities has been regular and steady, without those abrupt transitions which of late have been so frequent. Exchequer bills, which a few weeks ago were at 35s. discount, have risen to about par. The rate of money in the stock exchange is easy at 4 and 5 per cent. per annum for short periods; but for mercantile purposes, whilst the bank rate continues at 8 per cent. private bankers, however abundant their funds may be, have a pretext for keeping up a high price for money.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The most important Foreign News is from France, Switzerland, and Spain. We give the principal:

FRANCE.—The King and Queen of the Belgians left the Palace of Saint Cloud on Saturday for Brussels. The affairs of Switzerland occupy a great deal of the attention both of the French Government and of the public. M. Guizot, by the encouragement which he gave to the cantons forming the Sonderbund in their opposition to the Federal Directory, has brought the Helvetic republic to the verge of civil war. On Thursday week there was a Council of Ministers at the Palace of St. Cloud, at which the King presided in person, when the affairs of Switzerland was the exclusive subject of consideration. A considerable sensation was created in Paris on Monday, by a report of another attempt of assassination in high life. It appears that Count Mortier, who is French Ambassador at Turin, had been for some time past in a state of nervous excitement, and that, in the hope of an improvement in his health, he has been for the last few days at Paris. On Sunday he attempted, in a fit of insanity, to assassinate his daughter and his two sons. The mania of the Count, it appears, is that of jealousy. He was immediately arrested and placed in a lunatic asylum. Count Breston has committed suicide.—He was ambassador to the King of the Two Sicilies. He is known in Europe as the agent in the Spanish marriages. Important negotiations are at present going on between the Directors-General of the English and French Post offices, and the Directors of the London and Dover, the Boulogne and Amiens and the Great Northern Railways, with a view to the acceleration of the mails between the two capitals. Three cases of decided Asiatic cholera are said to have shown themselves on Sunday in the Faubourg St. Germain. This is the first time the Asiatic cholera has shown itself.

SWITZERLAND.—All hope of avoiding a civil war in that country is at an end, and hostilities are reported to have actually commenced. The Diet finally resolved, on the 8th inst., to carry into execution by force of arms, its decrees for the abolition of the Sonderbund. The decree was notified by an elaborate manifesto. The

8th was the day appointed for the troops of the Diet to begin their operations on a grand scale; but already there are reports of trifling conflicts having taken place, and at least two officers have been killed.

SPAIN.—There are indications of a hitch in the arrangements of the Narvaez Ministry at Madrid. There have been retirements in the Cabinet, and displacements in the diplomatic body. The vacancies have been filled up by creatures of the ex-Queen Regent. These facts would tend to show that Queen Christian is in reality now the dictatrix, and that Narvaez is merely her instrument. There were alarming reports current in Madrid, and that the government had ordered all the troops to be kept under arms.

ITALY.—The affairs of Italy are proceeding favorably, but Austria has not evacuated the city of Ferrara, which she occupies with her troops as well as the citadel. The reforms in the Papal States are assuming consistency, and public tranquillity is unimpaired.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Christian Visitor.

MR. EDITOR.—Will you or some of your Correspondents be good enough to present your view of a Church of Christ?

Does the fact that a Council was once called to organise a Church, and that such council pronounced the body a Church, make it such; or when such a body ceases to support the gospel or observe the Lord's Supper or preserve the Scriptural discipline, is it still a Church of Christ?

Further:—Residing where Christmas is not observed by the denomination, I should like to see that course justified, or the reasons set forth why Christians, and, indeed, all men should observe Christmas Day.

A BAPTIST.

We very cheerfully lay the above questions before the minds of our brethren and should be very happy if some of them would give us their sentiments upon them. We can see how each question should suggest some very profitable reflections to those who love the peace and prosperity of the Household of Faith.

Enquiries like the above, or in relation to the doctrines of the Gospel, and communications upon them will be acceptable at any time.

For the Christian Visitor.

THE CAUSE OF GOD IN CHARLOTTE COUNTY, NEW-BRUNSWICK.

No. 2.

There is no instrumentality employed by the great Head of the Church for the establishment of his cause upon earth, of more importance than the ministry of the word. And if that success has not marked the progress of truth in the world which we would naturally expect, it may be owing to the want of that agency which God is pleased to bless to the edification of his people, and the conversion of immortal souls. The Church of St. George, as well as many others which were organized at an early period, suffered much for the want of a stated ministry; so much so, that for the long period of fourteen years, from 1806 to 1820, there was no pastor to superintend the church which had been established, and as the certain result which will ever happen in similar circumstances it lost its visibility. No accessions were made to its numbers, and there seemed to be as little knowledge of the one thing needful, as if the Gospel had never been preached among them. In the year last mentioned the Church was reorganized by Elder Dunbar, who laboured with them for the space of two years. His ministry was considerably blest in giving instruction to the people of God, in the awakening of souls and in sowing the seed of divine truth which sprung up and bore fruit in subsequent years. It was during his connexion with the Church, that the first place of worship in the County occupied by the Baptists was erected in the village of St. George. At this present period there are eleven, including the spacious house in the course of finishing at the First Falls. It may be necessary to add a few observations respecting Elder Dunbar, who fills so conspicuous a place in the city of New-York.

Mr. Dunbar, when he first came to this Province, was a Presbyterian, and labored with much success in Sheffield, on the River St. John, but changing his views on the subject of believers baptism, he was immersed and ordained, laboring with great zeal and eminent success in the city of St. John, and Fredericton, as well as in St. George. It is to be regretted that so many of the Lord's Ministers have gone to the United States, leaving a field so destitute, and where so wide a door was opened for their faithful labours. Such removals may be over-

ruled for good by the providence of God, and subsequent events may prove that the removal of a minister from one field of labour to another, is for the glory of his Redeemer and the promotion of his cause; but as a general practice, nothing will tend to diminish the moral influence of the ministry, or encourage a party spirit in the church, or retard the advancement of sound Bible knowledge and encourage a restless dissatisfied curiosity, always eager for new things, more than the frequent changes so common in a neighbouring country. It is this circumstance, along with their other excellencies, which surrounds the characters of our aged fathers in the ministry, with such moral dignity. That they have laboured with the churches over which they were ordained for so long a period, and will die in connexion with their beloved flocks. What must be the associations called up in their minds when they address the congregation, realizing that they survive, it may be two generations; they have baptized the grandsire, father, and son; they have seen their spiritual children ripening for heaven; they have been with them in the hour of trouble, cheered them onward when their spirits drooped by the way; administered the balm of heavenly consolation into hearts which were well nigh broken; they have heard the last sigh and caught, with anxious ears, the feeble accents of faith when life's last embers were burning, and the immortal spirit was about to wing its way to the climes of immortality; and now they anticipate that hour, when, amidst the sacramental host of God's elect, they will be their crown of rejoicing. All these considerations will weigh so strongly on the mind of the Lord's servant, that his duty must appear very, very evident, before he will consent to leave the field of his early efforts. With reference to Elder Dunbar, circumstances have clearly proved that he was in the path of duty. For upwards of twenty years he has been Pastor of his church, and this very fact is proof positive how that connexion has been blessed. Hundreds have been added to that church during his Pastorate, and in all probability, with his people he will terminate his ministerial career.

If frequent changes are injurious to Ministers, they are not less so to Churches; and although to the mere casual observer, a variety may appear desirable, yet when we come to trace the system throughout, we must arrive at the conclusion that the design of the Lord Jesus was, that every church should have its presiding Elder or Bishop, called and qualified according to his word; who with the co-operation of the people, is to administer to them in spiritual things, not for one year, or for a term of years, but so long as it appears that such relation is according to the will of God in his word. If the qualifications are possessed, such a connexion will become more and more permanent, and instead of the Pastor's gifts becoming stale and unprofitable, they will be acquiring greater unction, and his profiting will appear to all. It is true that it requires no ordinary mental efforts for a minister to sustain himself, for a long series of years in one place; there must not only be a previous discipline of the mind, but a constant preparation, week after week, to bring out of the treasury of God's word things new and old, but with every effort there will be increased expansion of the faculties: so that after a few years experience, the religious teacher has only to cull from his mental storehouse, those truths which he may from time to time embody in the form of a discourse. If any evils arise from a change of Pastor, what greater evils must accrue where there is no settled minister. When will the day come when every church will be according to the order of the gospel; and should we not earnestly strive to accomplish so desirable a result. In Charlotte County there are ten churches, and only three Pastors of churches.

WILLIAM HALL.

For the Christian Visitor.

A DAY OF HUMILIATION, FASTING, AND PRAYER.

It has been the practice, I believe, of a number of Baptist Churches in the Province to carry out the recommendation of the New Brunswick Baptist Association, viz:—"That the First day of January be observed as a day of Humiliation, Fasting, and Prayer;" so far, at least, if not fasting, to observe the day as a special opportunity of congregating together for the exercises of prayer and exhortation. This has been the universal practice of the First Baptist Church in this city for the last 25 years, and no doubt will be again observed by them on the coming first day of January. The writer, for some months past, has deeply deplored the low state of the Churches in this city, in reference to their apathy, and want of spirituality, and growth and advancement in the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have had a long season of drought and leanness in the souls of the members of the Churches, and a lukewarm spirit has too much characterized the

assemblies of God's professed people in seasons of prayer, and while attending on the ministry of the word of the Lord.

If the prayer meeting be the place to test the piety of the Church, then have we cause to write bitter things against ourselves, and exclaim—*Icha-bod*, the glory of the Lord has departed from us.—Let us inquire, then, if there be not a cause, and upon whom does the blame rest? Has God been unfaithful to his promise, or has the gospel been unfaithfully proclaimed? In neither case. The truth is, too little importance has been attached to God's word, requiring of all his believers spirituality and heavenly-mindedness—a subject much talked about, but too little sought after and enjoyed. Were the condition of the Churches the opposite to this, then would their peace be as a river, and their righteousness as the waves of the sea.

As the first day of January, then, will be observed as usual by the First Church in this city, and of which I have the happiness to be a member, as a day of *Fasting and Prayer*, I am exceedingly anxious that the whole Church, male and female, should be interested in these exercises, and that we come together, giving utterance to the fullness of a grateful heart that we are the living—the living to praise God. The past year, and indeed the last three, or four years, our records are made to tell of the loss of many valuable members; and could we read the book of our destiny, perhaps we would find written opposite to some of our names—"This year thou shalt die."

This season, then, (the first day of January,) therefore, may be a suitable one for admonition, for reflection, and for prayer to God, (without Him we can do nothing,) for an out-pouring of His spirit in the revival of the gifts and graces of his children, and the conversion of sinners. To this end, therefore, I would recommend that the leading brethren unite with the pastor in keeping this subject before the minds of the people, and that each make it their duty—he and she, when meeting, whether in the House of God, the family circle, or in the street,—to invite the particular attention of one another to the objects and co-operation of this meeting. Self-examination is a duty enjoined upon us in the holy Scriptures:—observe with what vehemence the Apostle enforces it, "Examine yourselves whether ye be in the faith, prove your own selves, know ye not your own selves that Jesus Christ is in you except ye be reprobates." None therefore, I am persuaded, can be really in earnest about the salvation of his soul, who never looks with anxious solicitude into his spiritual condition.

In a little work entitled the "True Christian," written by that holy and pious servant of God, the Rev. John Angell James, my mind was particularly struck with the force and truth of the following remarks, and conceiving them to be applicable to our present state, I give them verbatim:—"To which duty brethren shall I most earnestly direct your attention, to a deeper spirituality, or a stricter morality? To a more elevated heavenly mindedness, or a more uniform exhibition of the graces that shed their fragrance, and exhibit their beauty upon earth? I exhort you to seek both: I want to see the devotion of the Church, incorporated with, and vitalizing, and animating the morality of the house and of the shop. I want to see the spirit of prayer shedding a lustre, and diffusing the bounties of holiness over the whole character. I want to see the saint blended with and sustaining the husband, the father, the master, and the tradesman. To adopt apostolic and inspired language, I want to see you exemplary in all holy conversation and godliness." This then is what I press upon you as the object to be sought by us this year, and indeed, through every future year of our lives—*more holiness*—and for whom should we seek it? For the Pastor: that his mind may be more filled with holy light, his heart with holy love, and his life with holy actions. Do not leave him out of your prayers. Much under God, even in reference to yourselves, will depend upon him; upon his preaching; the tone of his piety; and the wisdom, sanctity, and blameableness of his conduct. Appointed to be an example to the flock, as well as its teacher and ruler, it is for your own advantage that you should seek for him an abundant supply of the spirit of Christ Jesus."

Having now perhaps, far exceeded the limits of a communication of this kind, I shall come to a conclusion, (at some future time you may hear from me again.) Sincerely desiring that these communications may be a means, under God, of creating in the hearts of his children more heavenly mindedness, and less of the spirit of the world which brings barrenness into the soul, and chills the affections, and a desire to be one if health and strength permit, who will meet on the coming first day of Jan'y. for God's blessing, I shall have accomplished my object.

A CHURCH MEMBER.