

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Christian Visitor.

NECESSITY AND DUTY OF CO-OPERATION.

How gentle the dew drops that sparkle as gems on the tender blades of grass, compared with the torrent that rushes from the mountain, or the overflowing floods that sweep the valleys along the water-courses! How impotent the hoary frosts of autumn, or the single flakes of snow falling upon the hills, compared with the avalanche that rolls from its rocky summit, overwhelming in its descent families and flocks with the ponderous mass of its immense accumulations! As feeble are the individual efforts of a scattered few, compared with the concentrated power of coöperative hosts in any enterprise of good or ill to human kind. Does any doubt of the power or utility of coöperation in all the holy charities of Christian enterprise, let him devoutly listen to the triune voice of Nature, Providence and Revelation on this vital point. These three witnesses harmoniously assert the necessity and supremacy of coöperation in every great undertaking. Nature's laws and powers never operate singly and alone; she completes nothing by single efforts. Atoms accumulate, and mountains rise; vapors ascend and fill the atmosphere, and all the hosts of heaven are hid from our sight; drops mingle into floods, and oceans spread over immense channels; solar systems revolve around a common centre, and an universe is complete. Thus Nature is one grand coöperative system. Under the providential management of the God of Nature, what do we contemplate? Individuals form families, families grow into tribes, tribes into nations, nations into empires, and continents are filled with inhabitants. Of these empires, each member contributes his mite, and its treasures are filled with wealth. One class of these coöperatives unite their labors, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field; the valleys are filled with corn. Others combine their energies, and highways and canals spread in every direction; villages, cities, temples, towers, rise in all the rich variety of human taste; navies are built and manned, harbors are constructed, arsenals are founded and immense bulwarks are completed and armed with military hosts. Does the Lord intend to punish a nation for sin, he sends forth his feeble soldiers, the caterpillar, the locust, the canker and the palm worm. How imperceptible their individual depredations, but their coöperation how appalling! Before them the whole country may be as the garden of Eden, behind them it is a dreary, desolate wilderness. And often famine and pestilence coöperate with war, and the land is swept of its inhabitants. And what says the remedial system, in all its manifestations, its types, figures, precept, promises, laws, ordinances—its priests, altars, victims, offerings—its holy times, places, persons, events—its law, its gospel, its history, its prophecy, its prayers, its songs, its feasts and fasts, its personal, family and public worship! What say its angels, apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers, bishops, deacons? It is one great moral and evangelical coöperation of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—of angels, apostles, prophets, martyrs, positive and moral institutions, as necessary to the moral and spiritual renovation of man. With such evidence before us, we must plead for coöperation among all the subjects of Messiah's kingdom, in whatever pertains to its enlargement, prosperity, and ultimate triumphs. We want coöperation—some are afraid of its power, others complain of its inefficiency—still we go for the coöperation of Christians—practical, whole-hearted Christians; we go for the coöperation of all the members of the church of Christ, wherever they may be located, for their coöperation in heart and soul, in prayers and contributions, in efforts, in toils, in struggles for the salvation of their fellow men at home and abroad. The church, the whole church, for the evangelizing the whole world, for this is to be her aim. God has given her this task (rather conferred on her this honor); we need devoted, spiritual, heavenly-minded evangelists—men called of God and possessing the necessary qualifications—but we need the same kind of citizens in the churches, who send them forth as their apostles to the world. We need coöperation, not only to send out missionaries, but also to diffuse knowledge by books and religious periodicals—we want all the intelligence, piety, moral feeling, liberality, which Christianity inspires, commands and enforces upon all the household of faith.

But most of all we want the peculiar liberality and arithmetic of the Christian Institution; according to Paul "as the Lord has prospered every Christian in his trade or calling, so let him cast into the Lord's treasury." Jacob promised, if the Lord would prosper him, he would surely give a tenth to

the Lord. (See Genesis 28th ch. 22d verse.) If the example was followed, the Lord's treasures would not be empty; our benevolent institutions would be abundantly sustained, and the Lord would bless us in both temporal and spiritual things. But professing Christians too often count their gain loss, and their loss gain; this is doubtless one reason why they complain of barrenness of soul, and darkness of mind; for Jehovah has said "they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed;" and "there is that withholdeth more than is meet, and it tendeth to poverty." May the Lord pour out on us the Missionary spirit, and may the knowledge of the Lord soon cover the earth as the waters cover the channels of the great deep.

Yours truly,
JAMES TRIMBLE.
Jerusalem, Nov. 30, 1848.

For the Christian Visitor.

Springfield, 24th Nov., 1848.

Dear Brother Very.—The protracted meeting for this place, notified in the *Visitor*, was attended on Saturday the 18th instant. It commenced at 2 o'clock, P. M., and continued until Tuesday evening. Six ministering brethren were present, and the preaching, exhortations, and prayers were appropriate and well received by the church and congregation. Although part of the time it was stormy and bad travelling, still the meetings were well attended; yet we felt it, for it prevented some of our ministering brethren from being with us, who were much interested in the Norton Missionary Board Fund. As we received no reports from them that had taken missions, we could not attend to any business relative to the Board. On Tuesday evening, we held a Temperance Meeting, which was very interesting indeed; 32 signed the pledge, some of them were men in years, who had never joined the Society before. We feel happy to say that the Temperance cause is on the advance in this place, and we cannot but pray that God would follow it with his blessing, in the conversion of many in this land, and bring them into the Church of Christ. And we trust those meetings, which the people have enjoyed in this place, may be like bread cast upon the waters, that they may find it after many days.

J. RING.

BRUNSWICK, Me., Nov. 21, 1848.

DEAR BROTHER,—

I rejoice in the efforts which you are putting forth for the more extensive diffusion of Bibles and Religious knowledge, in your Province, by means of Colportage, and I rejoice to read in your very welcome *Christian Visitor*, about the movements and labours of dear brethren with whom I had the privilege and happiness of making acquaintance in my late visit to the Province. I now can read your paper with a double relish, especially when anything is said about those brethren whom I know. I think I see and hear them when I read about them. I felt as if I were one of Elder Robinson's auditors the other evening when he was lecturing on Church music. I can conceive a large household in Germain Street, listening while he demonstrated from the Bible how evidently it is the duty of all the Saints to make a joyful noise unto the Lord—to sing forth the honour of his name, and to make his praise glorious! I felt too, as if I were in the midst of a company of brethren after the public service, who waited to transact business for the Lord. The faces of many dear devoted brethren, then present, I have no doubt, seem quite familiar to me. Oh may your Churches be filled with such brethren—men who are constant in attendance on the services of the sanctuary—men of prayer—men who cheerfully give their time and their alms to the cause of our common Saviour. May the Churches in Saint John long co-operate in brotherly union, in helping each other, and in helping the general interests of Zion! May her watchmen lift up their voice together—what an influence they will assuredly exert for good throughout the whole Province. May the Lord keep you all humble, and make you to abound more and more in every good word and work to do his will!

You must have seen from *Zion's Advocate* and other sources, what God is doing in Europe, and what our Society is called upon to do. The prefixed Circular, I am sending to every Baptist Minister in Maine, as well as to many of the brethren. You will no doubt give it publicity, if you have not done so before this reaches you. I trust the brethren in the Provinces will not be behind in responding to brother Onckens' appeal.

In regard to the state of things in Maine, they are much as they were. We very much need

an increased measure of the spirit of Jesus—devotion to God—deference to His will—attention to His institutions—the love, the self-sacrificing, benevolent spirit of the blessed Jesus! Let us all pray and strive for this. "Then one will chase a thousand, and we will put ten thousand to flight." Present my Christian love to all the brethren.

Yours (in great haste) most sincerely,

JAMES FARQUHARSON.

[Copy of a letter to James Farquharson, Agent of the A. & F.B.S.]

AMERICAN FOREIGN BIBLE ROOMS,
New York, November 6, 1848.

Dear Brother:—Since the publication of the Periodical for October, we received from Bro. Oncken a letter addressed to our Treasurer, in which he urged upon us a proposition to allow him, at our expense, immediately to print and circulate in Austria 50,000 copies of the New Testament, at a cost of \$5000. It was an earnest appeal, and it deeply affected our hearts.

This week we received a letter from him, addressed to the Corresponding Secretary, dated Hamburg, October 13th, 1848, from which we make the following extracts:

"My stock of Testaments is nearly exhausted, as the circulation, both of Testaments and Bibles, is progressing with unexampled briskness. We are at present selling more at the depot in one day than at previous periods in a month."

Four new Colporteurs have also been appointed, one in East Friesland—one in Mecklenburg—one in Baden,—and one in Hesse, although as yet I do not know how to support them permanently. But the favorable openings demanded it."

"The stock of Bibles will also be exhausted, before the present edition can be printed. I need therefore all the aid the Board can possibly give. My appeal through Bro. Colgate, in behalf of Austria, will have been before the Board ere this reaches you, and I trust God will have influenced the hearts of our dear brethren for a favorable decision. I renew my appeal now. Beloved brethren, pity the millions in Catholic Austria, without the bread of life."

After mentioning that a devoted brother had been sent to Vienna with scriptures and tracts, carrying several hundred copies of the former published by this Society, he adds—

"They are already in the hands of Roman Catholics. God will surely make good His promise, and accompany the precious seed with His gracious influences."

We believe, my dear brother, that nothing which we can add would increase the force of the foregoing appeal of Brother Oncken. The Board are endeavoring to make up for him the sum of \$2000 to go by the next steamer. They wish to send him a larger sum in a short time. Can you render any aid?

Respectfully and affectionately,

Your friend and brother,

Wm. H. Wyckoff, C. Sec.

2. TEMPERANCE.—We noticed in our last the visit of J. C. Winterbotham, Esq. Temperance Agent, from England. He lectured again on Wednesday evening to a crowded house, and deeply interested and delighted the audience. His subject "The power of Total Abstinence principles to elevate mankind." We have no disposition to draw invidious comparisons,—we have heard many able lectures on Temperance.

—We have noticed a great variety in the talents of different lecturers, and in their methods of illustrating the subject,—and we have often joined in the exclamation, "This is the best lecture we ever heard." Our little town has been of late favored with several good specimens of the talent and power which are urging forward this philanthropic and heaven-born institution. The Hon. P. S. White, whose dignified aspect, commanding eloquence, and wonderful versatility, held his hearers enthralled in the public assembly; and whose refinement, amiableness, and affability, rendered his private conversation at once so pleasing and so instructive, is evidently a man with whom few can be compared. His visit to Charlottetown, and his efforts in the cause, will long live in the memory of many; but if any of us had been tempted to the conclusion that no other man could succeed after him, we have been most happily mistaken. Mr. Winterbotham is an Englishman, the son of a Baptist Preacher. His father had resided in Canada West for the last eight years, and labored as a missionary among the Tuscarora Indians. He himself has been employed by the British Temperance Association, for several years past, to labor constantly as an Agent. His business was to travel from place to place, deliver lectures, visit from house to house, distribute tracts, and in every proper way promote the moral elevation of his countrymen. He is a member of the Baptist Church, and occasionally preaches. He intends to make the tour of these provinces, to pay a visit to his father, and then return to his family, unless he should find some inducement to continue in America. We believe he intends visiting Halifax. It might be considered out of place for us to enlarge further upon his talent as a lecturer. We are persuaded, however, that there will be but few who shall have the privilege of hearing him, once who will not wish to hear him again, joining heartily in the chorus of his melody, as he sings his concluding strains.

On Thursday evening Mr. W. was initiated into the Order of the Sons of Temperance, and left next morning in the *Sophia* for Poughkeepsie. *Advertiser P. E. Island.*

INTELLIGENCE FROM THE MISSIONS.—The Union Monthly Concert in Park street Church, Boston, was fully attended on Sabbath evening. Rev. Dr. Adams communicated interesting intelligence from the Sandwich Islands we learn that at nearly all the stations, there has been more than usual interest. The number admitted to the churches, during the two last years, has been 2,250. The whole number of communicants, is now 23,846. In the general revival, fourteen children of the Missionaries had united with the church. Some of these are looking forward to the gospel ministry, and will rise up and take the place of their fathers, and preach the unsearchable riches of Christ to that people and to those who may reside on those shores.

The Sandwich Islanders are advancing in Christian liberality. The contributions collected for benevolent purposes during the past two years are greatly in advance of what has been done in former years. The principle of systematic benevolence is taking hold on the hearts of the people. They begin to feel it not only a duty, but a privilege to give.

The educational prospects of the Hawaiians are represented as steadily improving. And the state of public sentiment in relation to the use of intoxicating drinks is remarkable. "The king, the government and the nation," say the missionaries, "adhere to the principles of temperance; and the whole body might not unaptly be designated as one great temperance society." *Boston Recorder.*

MUNIFICENT LIBERALITY.—At a meeting of the Church and congregation worshipping at the new Baptist Chapel at the North End on Tuesday evening, the account connected with the erection of the edifice was submitted, and showed a balance of nearly or about £500 due Mr. John W. Barss, the enterprising individual chiefly interested in this praiseworthy undertaking, and its original promoter. The building, it was understood, had cost about £800. The site upon which the building is erected was the property of Mr. Barss, and upon the church and congregation, securing to him the balance, less his own subscription, it was understood that he would make a deed to Trustees of the property, to be held for the benefit of the Church and Congregation, &c. The building is neatly and plainly finished, well lighted with gas, and the pews or seats free, an exception, we believe, in this respect, to every other place of worship in the city. Imagine the surprise and utter astonishment of all present, when Mr. Barss arose and informed them that he was prepared to execute the deed, that his claims were cancelled, and that the edifice was henceforth the property of the church and congregation. It was expected Mr. Barss was going to do something handsome, but this overwhelming liberality took all parties by surprise. It seems he had not made any intimation of his intentions previously, and the modesty he displayed in the manner of his donation, enhanced it in the estimation of all present. Such acts deserve notoriety which their authors frequently desire should be withheld. *Com. Recorder.*

SHIP BURNED AT SEA.—Abstract of the Log of the British barque *Blakely*, Capt. Trotter, arrived at this port yesterday, from Cardiff, (Wales) Nov. 18th (civil time) at 5 P. M., discovered a ship on fire bearing E. N. E. Bore up to her at 8 P. M., made all sail, passed round her, tacked and stood across her stern. Found it to be the wreck of a large vessel burnt to the water's edge. No appearance of any of her crew, boats, spars. Kept showing lights and beating and going round her several times.—Capt. Trotter and Mr. Allies, the first officer took her to be a steamship. *Journal of Commerce*

FROM ST. THOMAS.—A letter from St. Thomas of Nov. 10, to the New York Evening Post, contains the following:—

The harbour is guarded by quarantine boats to keep out the cholera.

It is very sickly here at present—there are from 12 to 18 deaths daily.

A number of planters have died of late, with grief and a broken heart: not so much on account of the loss of property since the emancipation, as the ingratitude and cruelty of their people—many of whom are aged, infirm, sick, and entirely dependent on their former masters. Their daily food, clothing, dwelling, a doctor, medicine, and finally a coffin, grave and burial, come out of the poor master's. This, together with the prospect of a good crop, and nobody to gather it, has proved most disastrous to a number of planters, especially the more aged and wealthy.

MELANCHOLY FACT.—A New York Journal says there are thirty thousand persons, men and women, in that city, at this time, who either cannot get work to do, or are compelled to do it at prices bordering on starvation.

We understand that the Corporation are in progress of arrangements with Wm. Scoville, Esq., for the purchase of his valuable private residence in Germain street, and grounds lying in the rear between that and the Country Market, in order to the extension of the latter establishment through to Germain street. The arrangement will afford a large amount of accommodation to the public.