

CORRESPONDENCE.

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

St. John, June 5, 1848.

DEAR SIR—I have, as you are aware, spent some ten days in this city and vicinity in prosecuting my agency for the American and Foreign Bible Society. During that time I have been favored with every facility, by the pastors and churches, to lay the claims of the Society very fully before them: and it is pleasing for me to acknowledge, thus publicly, that in each of the congregations which I have addressed, I have witnessed a most cordial feeling of interest in behalf of the great object of the Institution—to give the "Holy Scriptures, faithfully translated, to all lands."

It has given me much satisfaction, also, to learn, what I did not know before I came into the Province, that the Baptist churches have formed a union for the purpose of collecting funds to sustain, as far as possible, Foreign and Domestic Missions,—for the support of supernumerated ministers and destitute widows, and families of deceased ministers—the Education Society, and likewise the circulation of the Scriptures in Heathen lands. The arrangements that have been made, and the efforts which are being put forth by the employment of a delegation to visit each Baptist church in the Province, to collect money for these benevolent and most important objects, are such as, we may confidently believe, will be attended with the most encouraging and salutary results.

It is believed, however, that many who will cordially contribute to the Union the small annual payment requisite to constitute them members, have it both in their power and in their hearts to contribute considerably more, for some one, or all of those objects separately; and it is the opinion of the ministers and brethren whom I have consulted, both in this city and at the quarterly meeting at Norton, held last week, that it may be very desirable for me to visit the churches of this Province generally, immediately after the meeting of the Association, with the view of imparting as much information respecting the operations of our society as possible, and taking up extra collections and subscriptions for the distribution of the unadulterated word of life, amongst the benighted nations of the heathen. This, it is thought, can be done in perfect harmony with the arrangements and procedure of the Union, and with its agents. If this proposal shall be approved and recommended by the Association, the churches of the Province may expect me to visit them in the course of a few weeks hence. Due notice of this will be given them.

Meantime I trust our churches will not forget the vast importance and magnitude of the work in which the American and Foreign Bible Society are engaged. The whole human family are the objects of our christian solicitude. We are laboring as much as in us lies, to give to all nations that Bible which has opened to us the gates of immortality and eternal life, through the knowledge of the only living and true God and Jesus Christ whom he hath sent! Our beloved missionaries who have so long and so faithfully labored in India—who have translated the Holy Scriptures into so many languages, look to our society mainly, for procuring assistance to print and circulate the blessed volume—so do the missionaries in Oressa, Burmah, and China. Germany and other European continental nations are indebted to us for thousands of copies of the precious Bible. Greece, also, is enjoying from our hands the faithful word. The Cherokee Indians—the Kariff and Musketo Indians of Central America—read now the words of life and salvation which have been given them through our benefactions. Thousands of the poor and destitute in the different States of the Union, are reading the Bibles and Testaments which have been sent from our depository, from year to year. From all these nations and tribes our Board of Managers are receiving the most urgent calls for more help! But our treasury is completely exhausted! Their demands cannot be met till our friends shall replenish the treasury.

God in his wonder working Providence is opening all nations for the introduction of the gospel and the circulation of the Bible. Christians!—shall we not redouble our efforts to send them the glorious gospel of the Blessed God!

JAMES FARQUHARSON,
Agent of the Am. & For. Bible Society.

For the Christian Visitor.

MR. EDITOR.—The timely and impressive advice urged by the Prophet Jeremiah, on ancient Israel, Lam. iii. 40., "Let us search and try our ways and turn again unto the Lord," and the same sentiment pressed with equal point by the Apostle to the Gentiles, 2 Cor. xiii. 5., "Examine yourselves whether ye be in the faith, prove your own selves," &c., may apply with as much force and appropriateness to our

times and to many of our churches, as it did to Israel and to the Corinthian church.

Israel, at the time to which the prophet alluded, had departed from the law of their God, and sought with much anxiety and labour for comfort in other sources than in the Lord, their righteousness.—Though our religious privileges, and the character of the dispensation under which we are placed, differ in some important points from the typical, yet the present aspect of many of our churches, bears a striking resemblance to them, and betokens a fearful departure from the law of the Lord, and a want of that devotedness and spirituality which distinguished the followers of Christ in ancient times. Is it not essential, if we would ascertain, with certainty, our position as we are viewed in the light of the Bible, that we honestly examine ourselves, by the heavenly text?

Many considerations would urge attention to this self-denying work. The almost unbounded conformity of professors to the fashions and usages of a giddy world, the schisms and licentiousness of many of the churches, and the increased inattention of the unconverted to the salvation of their immortal souls, forbid inattention to this matter. There is a cause, and why should it not be sought out without delay? and what means can be more likely to accomplish the object than an impartial searching of our hearts before God? Our heavenly Father is not slack concerning his promise respecting his weary heritage, neither is he willing that any should perish in their impenitence and sin. We cannot but conclude from the unchangeableness of the divine purpose, that there is as much disposition on the part of the Father, Son, and Spirit, to save sinners now, as there has been in any former period of the history of believers. Why should we look for the divine approval but in the observance of his own arrangements and the observance of his prescribed plan in the advancement of his kingdom in this world? Before we can consistently look for success we must learn of him and continue in his love. The friendship of the world was, is, and will be at variance with the cross of Christ. The Holy Ghost most emphatically enjoins on believers a nonconformity to the maxims of this world.

The apostles and their brethren viewed the subject in this light, hence the secret of their joy in the spirit, and success in promoting the interests of pure and undefiled religion in their day. This was their work, they regarded everything else subordinate to this one great object. In adhering to the testimony of Jesus Christ, they suffered the loss of all things. They testified their attachment to the truth by their love to God and a strict adherence to his command. Professors with them, in the absence of these marks of discipleship, were empty and unmeaning sounds. But how different with the mass of professors in our day. We seek our own instead of the things that are Jesus Christ's and have no fellowship with him in his sufferings. The obedience of faith is resting too much on the expediency and prudence of human wisdom, in the place of the positive commands of the King of Zion. In short we are shaping ourselves too much after the spirit and practices of this world. Who then can marvel at our impotency—and the feebleness of the impression produced by us on the community!

Now in the midst of these flagrant departures from Apostolic example, professors are nevertheless looking for the joy and power of the willing and obedient, while secret prayer is neglected, family worship relinquished, ignorance and inattention to the word of the Lord characterizes many of these dreamers of the peace and joy of the spirit of truth. I have been for some time convinced, Mr. Editor, that the inattention of the churches to the discipline of the Lord's house, and their criminal neglect of the Lord's supper, which He instituted for our frequent observance until He should appear the second time, is of great detriment to the churches.—The ordinance, from its very nature, perpetuates and exhibits, whenever observed, the necessity of the atonement, and our interest in it; and the churches that reject the observance of this institution, are not only guilty of depriving their own spirits of the blessings connected with the observance of all things which Christ has commanded, but are likewise criminal in keeping from the view of unconverted men the only institution which exhibits the dying of the Lord Jesus. For this cause many are sickly among us. What reason has any individual to cherish the hope that he is a disciple of Christ while he opposes the commands of the Lord, and sets at defiance the authority of Christ? By this we know that we are the children of God, when we love God and keep his commands. Pastors and Deacons can accomplish much in producing a reformation in these things. Much depends under God on our present movements. Future generations as well as ourselves will be affected by our acts. Let us then awake to righteousness and sin not, for some have not the knowledge of God.

Affectionately yours,

Springfield, D. CRANDALL.

COLPORTEUR CORRESPONDENCE.

The following letter will be read with lively interest; we hope it may prompt many to pray for the Colporteur and his delightful and promising work. The scattering of this precious seed will be a great blessing, and the work must abundantly prosper if the friends will encourage it, and remember it in their prayers. We bespeak again the hospitality of Christians for the Colporteur for his works' sake.

EDITOR.

BOCABEC, May 29th, 1848.

DEAR BROTHER VERY,—I now attempt to fulfill my promise, in reference to the matter of my second number. May 12th, I reached Bocabec, and on the following morning, attended with the Church and visiting brethren to the Quarterly meeting, which was commenced on Friday afternoon with a Church Conference. Saturday a general conference took place at the hour of 11 a. m., there having been a prayer meeting in the morning. Elders Walker, Hall, and Hopkins, being present, and a number of Deacons and lay brethren from the neighboring churches attending, the meeting presented a lively aspect. A good degree of religious feeling was enjoyed in the meeting, and in the report of the delegates from the churches, very interesting intelligence was communicated. Many of the Churches are truly flourishing in this County. Since the last Quarterly meeting, there have been large additions in some of them; among which the 1st St. George has been blessed in an especial manner, and the state of some others has been very cheering. God's cause seems to be progressing, and the institutions that grace Christian society are presenting an appearance that bespeaks the united exertions of the friends of Zion. The Sabbath Schools, under the goodness and mercy of God, are exerting an influence that those parts of the Province that do not possess them are totally ignorant of. A number have come into operation this season with flattering prospects, and many that have withstood the difficulties bearing on the cause for years past, declare the happy effects of individual and united exertion. Although the Church in Bocabec for 8 months has been deprived of a pastor through the heavy afflictions that have fallen upon our dear brother Elder A. D. Thompson, for whom they continue to pray with united hearts, they have maintained their standing since the last Quarterly meeting and are increasing in spiritual strength, and their Sabbath School, lately commenced, promises to be useful, and to increase in numbers. The cause of the Union Society is deeply considered by many here, but owing to the pecuniary depression the funds are small, yet I trust there will be something done worthy of mention. The case of our dear brother Burpe is responded to by this people. Saturday, p. m., Elder Hopkins preached a good discourse from "God is Love." In the evening Elder Walker preached at the lower School House, and Elder Hall at the upper School House, and on Lord's Day Elder Walker again preached from "And when he had received the vinegar, he said it is finished, and he bowed his head and gave up the ghost," while Elder Hall preached at the same hour in St. Andrews. Between the forenoon meeting and Elder Hall's return the time was occupied with religious exercises, when Elder Hall again preached from "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give thee light," when the meetings were brought to a close. The brethren and friends in Bocabec are entitled to the esteem of all attending those meetings, for their carefulness in making all persons comfortable during the meetings, and while they freely ministered to the visiting people, I trust God will minister of his Holy Spirit to them, building them up and establishing them in the faith of Jesus Christ. On Monday I returned to Magaguadavic and proceeded to the Upper Falls. Here is a large village, and an interesting people, to whom I sold 58 volumes, receiving cash £3 7s. 13d.; visited 36 families, prayed with 7 families, and granted to meet expenses 4 small volumes. Thursday, I returned to Magaguadavic, where I sold 54 vols., received cash £4 5s. 13d., having visited 41 families, prayed with 5 families, and distributed at the Upper Falls and at Magaguadavic 372 pages tracts. On Saturday I journeyed to Mascareen, and on Lord's day attended the preaching of Elder Walker in the morning at Mascareen, in the afternoon at Letete, where I gave a report of my labors as Colporteur, and called upon the people to go forward as they

had done in the United States therein, and also endeavoured to call the attention of the people to the cause of Sabbath Schools here. In the morning following I journeyed with a load of books upon my back to the Back Bay, where I visited 8 families, distributed 75 pages tracts, 3 Missionary Heralds, sold 33 vols.; received £2 8s. 43d., prayed with three families, and returned the same evening to Letete, rejoicing in the presence of God, and feeling that the people were progressing in the divine life in the sustaining of their prayer meetings and Sabbath Schools. May God abundantly pour out of his Spirit here and bless this rocky region with the consolations of grace. Tuesday 23d, I again travelled on foot with books, round the creeks and over the ledges of Letete, bearing in my soul the weight of my business, and recommending the people to the word of life and salvation; sold to-day 26 vols., received cash £1 3 10; visited 15 families, and endeavored to recommend them in prayer to God, leaving with them 81 pages tracts. The people here are determined again to get up their Sabbath School. Commenced a subscription for a \$10 Library, which I think will be accomplished in good time, and had the pleasure of seeing the people again resolve to support their prayer meeting on the Lord's day in the absence of the Pastor. Wednesday, I visited the families in Mascareen that I could get to with my carriage, being unable to travel on foot so much, and sold 14 volumes, granted one Sabbath Manual, distributed 6 Christ. Mes. and received cash 15s. 8d. Thursday I journeyed to St. George, and on Friday to Bocabec, where I now write. Hoping that God will bless my humble endeavors, I remain, dear Brother,

Your sincere friend and brother,

JAMES V. TABOR.

P. S.—I enclose herein £9 0 0, making in all during my visit in this neighborhood £25 10.

J. V. T.

DEAR BROTHER VERY,—I observed in reading the Visitor for May 24th, that my letter of the 1st of May to the "St. John Domestic Missionary Board" is stated to be a report of eleven weeks Missionary labour performed since the first of February. Such is not the case, it is a report of four weeks Missionary labour performed since the first of February, during which time I collected £1 7s. 6d. By giving this a place in the Christian Visitor, you will oblige your Brother in the bonds of Christian love.

JAMES TRIMBLE.

Greenwich, K. C. June 4, 1848.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—The President, by a message to both Houses to-day, invites the attention of Congress to the situation of Oregon. He transmitted a memorial and documents just received from the inhabitants of the territory, reporting that powerful tribes of Indians have commenced hostilities against the settlers, and that the tribes in the vicinity have formed an alliance with those in the upper valley of Columbia, for the purpose of carrying on hostilities against the settlements.

The President recommends that a territorial government be established over Oregon, without delay; that authority be given for raising a volunteer force, and also a regiment of mounted riflemen; term of service to be limited to twelve months, unless sooner discharged; land bounties to be granted to the soldiers, with a view to the promotion of the settlement of the country. The President urges that the force be raised and organized and put in the field before winter sets in.

WASHINGTON, May 29, 1848.—Despatches have been received from the city of Mexico, which speak with entire confidence of the ratification of the treaty.

Mr. Sevier had gone to Queretaro, determined to push the negotiations to a close. Mr. Clifford was still at the capitol. Both were extremely sanguine of a speedy and favorable termination of their mission.

A private letter has also been received here, speaking confidently of the ratification of the treaty.

NEW YORK, MAY 31—12 M.

The steamship United States, Capt. Hackstaff, arrived this morning, soon after 6 o'clock, in less than 14 days from Liverpool.

FROM AUX CAYES.—Capt. Jordan, of brig Pearl, arrived at this port yesterday morning, reports that the city of Aux Cayes had been invaded, and taken by the "Pickets," or Mahogany Cutters. A general revolution had taken place, and the inhabitants were flying for their lives. Robbery and murder stalked every where abroad. The Pearl, while in port, was filled with women and children, imploring the protection of the American flag. One of the firm of Blanchard, Denocher & Butens, came passenger in the Pearl, having fled for his life. All persons under 60 years were ordered under arms. Business was at a stand and general ruin was looked for, unless some foreign power interposed to save the population from a lawless army.—Boston Atlas.