

CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1849.

PHYSICAL FORCE vs. FORCE OF ARGUMENT.

We must credit to the progress of intelligence the freedom from persecution enjoyed by so great a part of the Christian Church at the present day; and the only hope we have of the entire abandonment of religious intolerance and persecution is founded upon the rapidly extending educational privileges of Christendom.

None have so much occasion to dread the extension of educational facilities whether by Institutions or by the Press, as those who are wedded to erroneous systems. Thought agitated and excited by these agencies develops truth, and truth demonstrated and established, relieves its friends from all shame and fear.

In this view of the subject the friends of religion may see that it is both their duty and privilege to promote education: "Love her, and she shall keep thee." * * * Exalt her, and she shall promote thee."

Those who oppose education and complain of the tyranny of numbers or of authority, or of wealth may here see the absurdity of their position; they are perpetuating the foundation of this despotism, and despise the only agency through which it ever was, or ever can be broken up.

It may be gratifying to our brethren in Nova-Scotia to learn that we of New-Brunswick are to be left wholly in the shade, where we supposed ourselves to be quite in the advance; if they rejoice however, we certainly rejoice with them.

At the suggestion of brother Bill of Nictau, we sought a Tender from the publishers of the Christian Messenger for publishing the Minutes of the Convention; the Tender was made and accepted to publish 1500 copies of 24 page Minutes for Six Pounds; and to have them ready in a few days after receiving the copy.

P. S. We shall distribute the Minutes for New-Brunswick as soon as they arrive; where there is opportunity for sending them we will do so. Where there is not, they will be left at brother D'Mill's store, Market-square.

Rev. S. Elder will resume his articles on the Sabbath School in our next and complete the series by three or four more articles. We were pleased to learn from brethren at the Association and also at the Convention that these excellent articles had been appreciated; the thanks of both these bodies were publicly tendered to the author.

A severe storm detained the Admiral in Boston, so that she could not leave port for 24 hours after her usual time. Notice of the detention, and also of the hour of her sailing was communicated by Telegraph that the Maid of Erin might not leave here with passengers till a proper hour for meeting her at Eastport.

We regret that the two Sabbath Schools which have been formed during the past season by brother Wills were not reported in the Minutes. One of these schools is at Dipper Harbour, the other at Lepreaux, and they contain together about 50 to 60 scholars.

An interesting school has also been sustained at Loch Lomond, which was not reported; and we are glad to hear that the signs of improvement in that settlement are very encouraging, they have an excellent Teacher amongst them in brother Gouldrup, who besides superintending the children at School, adopts every practicable method to encourage temperance and industry among parents.

The following Financial Account of the Charlotte County Domestic Missionary Board was not presented at the Association on account of the absence of brother Williams from home at that time; it consequently failed of being inserted in the Minutes, and we now publish it at their request.

Table with financial entries for Charlotte County Missionary Board, 1848. Includes items like 'By bal. in Treas.'s hands', 'amt. rec'd. from General Union Board', and 'DR. To paid Mr. M'Leod error in his account'.

Correspondence.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Moncton, Sept. 29th, 1849.

DEAR BRO. VERY.—I will give you a few particulars of what has come under my observation within a short time in connection with my labours in this place. The first is the sickness and death of Mrs. Mary Weldon, whose remains we lately conveyed to the silent tomb.

In reflecting on such circumstances as this we see the importance of the Lord's people following the teaching of the word and Holy Spirit of God upon their hearts. Young converts cannot be too careful in these respects; we have reason to fear that we have many in our congregations who like our young departed sister are putting off the commands of Christ to a more convenient season.

D. CRANDAL.

OBITUARY.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

DEAR BRO. VERY.—By your insertion of this document in your valuable periodical you will confer a favour on the widow and fatherless children of this brief notice.

Captain William Dickson, the subject of this brief notice was born at Hopewell, N. B. Sept. 4th, 1790. He was the subject of early impressions, when about five years of age, from the good counsel and Godly instructions of his dear mother at that early stage of life.

But as it is common with all the human family naturally to incline to folly and vanity, those impressions wore off from time to time, and from time to time were again revived, as it is written, "He that hath begun a good work in you will perform it to the day of Jesus Christ."

In his 20th year he became united in marriage with Mary, eldest daughter of Nathaniel and Ann Brewster, late of Hopewell, deceased.

Captain Dickson commenced a seafaring life in some short time after his marriage, in which he continued until his death.

Some thirteen years ago, in the providence of God he was located under my ministry at which time it pleased God to revive his work in his soul, and he was brought fully and firmly to rely on the merits of Christ for Salvation. I then had the pleasure of burying him with Christ in baptism, together with one of his sons and four of his daughters, one of whom has since taken her seat above, and subsequently I have baptized another of his sons.

And I am happy to say that Brother Dickson and those of his family who have professed religion, have been enabled to adorn that profession, himself being a warm hearted and firm supporter of the cause he espoused; he observed a few evenings previous to his death being at a prayer meeting (for he was always there when home from sea) and but few people in attendance expressing his sorrow at seeing so few, he would be glad to attend at all times if he himself made but the third one in the house of God.

On the 20th day of the present month he arrived home in good health and spirits as usual from Eastport, appeared to be in a great hurry to haul in and load with hay for Saint Martin's. On Friday the 21st leaving the vessel in the boat landed on the shore, the tide was then flowing, and came up to his house not exceeding one half mile, attended to some domestic affairs; then said he must go back and look to his boat, he was afraid the tide would be up and he would not be able to get to her, his dear wife wished him to stop for dinner, but he hurried away from his house and family to return no more alive.

Very shortly, as he did not return, the family became alarmed for his safety, and went immediately in search of him, but could make no discoveries with the exception of some of his clothes on the shore. When the tide had ebbed about an hour and a half, he was found a lifeless corpse, laying on his face upon the sand with his hand folded across his breast to the great agony and distress of his dear family and friends. From what discoveries could be made it appears that he had undertaken to wade off and had lost his footing and sunk to rise no more; thus the man after braving the storms, and doing business on great waters

for the term of thirty-seven years came home to find a watery grave at his own door, when no kind friend could save him. Thy judgments are past finding out.

Thus did the heavenly mandate cry, This hour, this moment, you must die.

Captain Dickson was a man well known, well respected and will be much missed and generally lamented, the widow has lost an affectionate husband, the children a kind and indulgent father, the Church of God an humble member, and the community a warm hearted friend and neighbour. His funeral was improved last Sabbath, by the writer from "The Righteous has hope in his death," to a flowing congregation, of deeply affected hearers and a large and extensive circle of respectable friends.

W. S. Hopewell, September 27th, 1849.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Died on the evening of March 22d, 1849, Jacob Hervey Denton, in the 18th year of his age, after a long and protracted illness, which he bore with great fortitude and patience. He resided with his parents at Maquapet Lake, who manifested the utmost solicitude for the recovery of his health. Medical aid was resorted to, in hopes of producing relief, but all seemed to be unavailing and hopeless; it appeared evident that he was marked as a victim of disease and death while in the bloom of youth, and that the most pleasing anticipations of the future must be crushed in the bud ere it had time to unfold its leaves.

He possessed a remarkable disposition of mind while a child; the odiousness of vice wherever discovered seemed to be offensive to him. During his last illness his mind became deeply impressed with his position as a sinner, which brought him into great exercises of mind respecting his future state; he was deeply anxious to avail himself of the conversations and prayers of christian ministers, and other good people, and the great desire of his soul was for the salvation of God which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory; his delight was in reading the sacred word and prayer. His disease was of such a nature as required constant attendance night and day for some length of time, and the severity of his complaint was most intense, and distressing at intervals. Every attention and kindness from the parents and family to render his condition comfortable and easy was uninterruptedly administered. He was convinced that his time on earth was of short duration, and under such impressions his mind became gradually more engaged in the great and glorious doctrines of the Cross of Christ; he could repose his trust and confidence in the merits of a Redeemer and claim as the foundation of his hope the vicarious death and righteousness of the Great Almighty Priest above, often, has he been assaulted by the enemy with sore temptations, and as often the Lord hath lifted up a standard against him, and hath said my grace is sufficient for thee; he seemed to be continually aspiring for more hallowed enjoyments of a spiritual nature; he was not satisfied with the present, but was anxious to realize more, as he drew nearer to the close of life, he evidently appeared to be ripening for this change, the Lord was about to call him from this world; during the day previous to the evening on which he died, he gave symptoms of approaching dissolution, he revived again for a little, and frequently did his mind appear engaged in prayer, occasionally exclaiming in the language of dying Stephen "Lord Jesus receive my spirit," until without a sigh or groan his spirit emancipated from its clay tenement was transported to happier climes, where the righteous forever blessed, shout forth the praises of redeeming love. The funeral was numerously attended by a respectable audience, the solemn occasion was improved by an interesting address delivered by the Rev. Mr. Fitch, from the following appropriate words, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them."

Death is no respecter of persons, he cuts down the young as well as the old, when commanded to execute his office he spares not, the cries of the widow or fatherless are not heard, wealth cannot serve as a bribe to defeat his purpose, the universal decree is gone forth, "Dust thou art, and unto dust thou must return." "As by one man's disobedience sin entered into the world and death by sin." The living are daily admonished of their mortality, that they too must die, the young are often addressed and invited to pursue the path