

**CHRISTIAN VISITOR.**

**SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1849.**

We have just received the Baptist Almanac and Annual Register from the American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia. It appears to be more complete and its statistics more recent than any of its preceding numbers. It furnishes the statistics of the Denomination in all parts of the world; all their institutions and organizations for religious effort, for benevolence and for education, their Colleges, Theological Institutions, Periodicals, &c. &c. From it we learn that there are—

	Churches.	Ordained Ministers.	Baptized in one year.	Total Members.
England,	1,428	1,060	2,240	118,239
Wales,	306	230	1,800	23,916
Scotland,	104	65	460	4,458
Ireland,	43	27	85	1,486
<b>Grand Total,</b>	<b>1,881</b>	<b>1,382</b>	<b>10,585</b>	<b>148,179</b>
N. America,	14,432	9,160	51,381	1,039,612
Europe,	1,948	1,432	10,951	150,649
Asia,	112	113	2,109	9,840
Africa,	20	21	181	1,127
	<b>16,562</b>	<b>10,726</b>	<b>64,622</b>	<b>1,201,228</b>

	Colleges.	Instructors.	Students.
In the U. States } the Baptists have, }	15	71	1,409
British Provinces,	2	6	85
England,	5	—	78

There are besides in the United States, 7 Theological Institutions with 20 Instructors and 152 students.

We have now in each of the British Provinces a weekly Periodical. The Montreal Register, at Montreal, Canada East; Evangelical Pioneer, at London, Canada West; Christian Messenger, at Halifax, N. S.; and Christian Visitor, at St. John, N. B.

We saw it erroneously stated, a short time since, that the Baptists in Great Britain had but one Periodical, "with a kind of Supplement." Anomalous as is the policy of the Baptists as a body in Great Britain, they are by no means so far behind the age, and so indifferent to their progress and improvement, as this would seem to indicate. The denomination that with such numbers and ability would be so indifferent to this most efficient agency, would soon be upon the retrograde.

The London Missionary Magazine receives general support from the open communion Baptists. The Primitive Church Magazine is the organ of the strict communion Baptists and is ably conducted, and is receiving an increased support year by year. We wish it was more generally known in these Provinces, as indeed it ought to be, for our brethren, with whom in church order and doctrine we sympathise, are placed in unfavourable circumstances in Great Britain, being obliged to withstand the influence not only of Pædo-Baptists, but also of the great body of open communion Baptists. Besides these is the Baptist Reporter, the organ of the general Baptists, which has a larger circulation than any other Baptist periodical in Great Britain. We hardly ever met with a periodical of the same amount of matter which we read with the same amount of interest as the last number of the Reporter. In addition, there is the Evangelist, the organ of the Scotch Baptists, edited by Elder Taylor, of Glasgow, and which was highly commended at the meeting of the Baptist Union of Scotland, held in Edinburgh in August last.

It will be seen by the statistics above, that our brethren in Scotland hardly equal in numbers the Baptists in New Brunswick—they numbering 4,458; we in this Province, 4,823. They, however, have 65 ordained Ministers, we 46. Their language in regard to their Paper is the same as ours. The Report of their Union reads as follows:—"Much, we know, requires to be done of a more spirited character, both on the part of contributions to its pages, and on the part of the Churches, in increasing its circulation. We beseech our brethren constantly to urge its claims from the pulpit, assured that it may become a mighty instrument of good to our Churches, and to

the cause of truth in the land, in exciting a spirit of reading, and extending and cultivating an interest in the doctrines and spread of the Gospel."

It appears also that a Monthly periodical, the "Friendly Visitor," published monthly from the Evangelist, is put forth in a cheap form, to help in the dissemination of divine truth. This is following the example of their brethren in England, who have now for five years sustained a cheap Monthly Magazine, called the "Church," of 32 closely printed pages, and which has attained a circulation monthly of 1700 copies. This effort, which has been sustained chiefly to benefit Church members, has been so successful, that last July another Monthly, called the "Appeal," of sixteen pages, was commenced, which is specially adapted to the unconverted.

From the above, we can judge what are the sentiments of the Baptists in Great Britain in regard to the circulation and the multiplication of papers, and their numbers and influence as a Denomination will be proportionably increased by them. And what if by the multiplication of papers their Proprietors and Editors cannot enrich themselves, and thus make a gain of godliness, what then? Is this their end and purpose? If so, let the number be restricted, and all attention be given to one, however impossible it may be for it to advocate the variety of local interests, and answer the wants of different sections of the vineyard. But we mistake greatly if this principle will be sanctioned by Churches or Christians generally, and their policy in this case will coincide, we doubt not, with that pursued in sustaining the Ministry. Wherever a Minister can be creditably sustained, let there be a Minister; the cause of truth and of Christ demands it, and this should be the great end in view; so wherever a religious paper can be creditably sustained, let there be one, with its freight of matter, local and general, to meet and sustain the greatest possible interest in regard to religious and general intelligence.

Let business papers be conducted for profit, it is a business agency like any other mercantile operation, and if it does not pay well, or at least promise such emolument as the same investment in other pursuits, no one will be surprised if it is relinquished; but an eye to pecuniary emolument in furthering a religious enterprise is another matter; it is wrong in principle, and will work evil to the cause and not good; jealousies and envyings, and all the unholy progeny of lustful competition will be brought in to agitate and disturb the peace of Zion.

There are now no less than 23 well conducted weekly Baptist papers in the United States, besides 17 monthly periodicals, 1 semi-monthly, 1 quarterly, and the ably conducted Christian Review, now a bi-monthly. Of these, no less than 6 are in New York State, and 16 in Massachusetts. And where, over the whole family of Baptists, shall we find more general intelligence amongst the members, more steadfastness in the faith, more well-directed effort for the cause of religion, a more rapid increase in numbers, or more liberal consecration of property for Missionary purposes than in those two States? And their policy is rapidly becoming the policy of the Christian world. With but one paper for a Denomination in a country, there would need be vast emoluments to command a proper amount of talent and information to make it up. But now every Editor, by the system of exchanges, has the almost gratuitous services of as many and as able writers as he chooses, the multiplied papers bring their vast variety, and lay them at his feet, and we do not hazard much in saying that there is now a greater demand for taste and discrimination in selecting, to make up a good paper, than for talent in writing. We have pursued this matter to a

greater length than was intended, but we hope our ministering brethren and our agents will be confirmed in their opinion of the desirableness and necessity of carrying the Christian Visitor to the door of every Baptist family, and to all others who can be affected by the intelligence which it communicates; they will thus promote general intelligence, and by bringing the treasures of the most pious and gifted minds to the houses and hearts of the great body of our people, may depend upon seeing the most desirable results.

We hope, now that the channel of communication is once more open, that Brethren who have been favored with success in their labours and who have seen the pleasure of the Lord prospering amongst them, will communicate it for the joy of others. During the months of December and January the Free Baptist brethren were receiving numerous accessions at Long Island, upon the Main River; we believe something like 100 were baptized. Rev. J. A. Smith, also, at Wickham, has baptized 10 or 12. We have heard frequently of the progress of the cause at Hillsborough and its vicinity. An interesting work of grace is in progress, and between 30 and 40 have been recently baptized. Our last verbal accounts were very interesting; we hope to receive by our next more particular and definite information. Bro. Francis has been labouring in connection with the Pastors in that vicinity for some three months past. We hope whilst the smiles of the great Head of the Church thus rest upon these favored sections, that a corresponding interest will be manifested for our religious enterprises, and that our list of subscribers may be extended. Brethren will not forget that in this way they may now assist in sending the Gospel both spoken and printed to many who could have it in neither form otherwise.

We were permitted to enjoy an interesting baptismal service at Portland on Sabbath morning last. Three disciples thus putting on Christ, who after the baptism were received to the fellowship of the church.

**ELECTION.**

The election ordered by the Sheriff for a Member of the Provincial Parliament, to take the place of the Hon. R. L. Hazen, who has gone from the House of Assembly to the Legislative Council, was held in the several Wards on Tuesday of this week, and resulted in the election of Mr. Barzillai Ansley, which was carried by a large majority, Mr. Ansley receiving 117 votes above both other candidates combined.

It is gratifying to see the ready acquiescence of the opposition in this result, and we presume the personal worth and respectability of the successful candidate makes submission to defeat quite easy and tolerable. The candidates, before the election, and upon the declaration of the result, have exhibited we believe the greatest courtesy towards each other, evincing their title to the respect of all.

We are sorry to record in this connection a Riot with the loss of life, which occurred in Cooper's Alley, nearly in front of Mr. James Nethery's, on Tuesday evening, about dark. It was occasioned by some persons being seen entering his shop armed with pistols. The mob having collected the police were unable to preserve the peace, and some shots were fired in several directions, and Mr. Robert Busby, a butcher, resident in Portland, was shot by a ball, and almost immediately expired.

The Mayor by the assistance of the Military, soon afterwards restored quiet once more, and the mob dispersed.

We presume the daily press not much at fault in their comments upon the inefficiency of the City Police. Proper municipal regulations and a vigorous Police may certainly prevent such disgraceful outbreaks.

It is of course gratifying to us personally, and will be so to our friends, that the Petition of the Western New Brunswick Association, has been favourably entertained; and a special Act conferring upon us the privilege of solemnizing Marriage, which by statute is restricted to British subjects, has been passed in both branches of the Provincial Parliament.

We have received and read with great satisfaction and profit the first two copies of the "Journal of Education," edited by Dr. Ryerson, Chief Superintendent of Schools for

Upper Canada, at Toronto, Canada West. We think every School Teacher should have it, and would have it, if they should see it. It is published monthly, newspaper form, 16 pages, for five shillings per annum.

We are glad to find that our new type and dress and improved appearance have given so much satisfaction; it is some compensation for the delay which was occasioned in procuring it. It is wholly new type, somewhat larger, but not being leaded, though presenting a fairer page and more easily read, the Paper contains as much matter upon a page as ever, indeed we find somewhat more, as it averages but two or three letters in a line less, and lines enough more to more than balance.

**COLPORTEUR DEPOSITORY.**

We have suspended for a while our Colporteur advertisement, to give more reading matter, and until we shall get on hand a sufficient amount of new Books; but the books usually sold may be had as last year, and at same prices. There is now on the way from Boston a large invoice of valuable books, including Moral Philosophy and Political Economy of Dr. Wayland, Jenkyn on Atonement, Worcester's and Webster's Svo. Dictionaries, Winchell's Watt's, and Psalmist, Barnes' Notes on Gospels and Acts, also Ripley's Notes, Memoirs of Mrs. A. H. Judson, and of Mrs. J. B. Judson, Pocket Greek Testament, with Lexicon, Johnson's Chemistry, School Books by Pinnock, Blake, Woodbridge, Murray, Dick's Works, Copy Books, Paper, &c. &c.

Also, another lot of the "Pearl of Days." This beautiful production of the Labourer's Daughter in England, is having a most extensive sale in England and in the United States, where five or six editions have already been issued; it contains her autobiography, written by request of the Committee of Awards. Her real name is Miss Barbara Smith, she is a member of the Baptist Church in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England. The price of this beautiful Volume is 1s. 10d.

A number of copies of Macaulay's History of England have been spoken for. We are informed by our Bookseller in Boston that a Boston edition of this work was to be issued the 1st of March, equal every way to the New-York edition, and which will come cheaper. The price of the New-York edition is 10s. per Vol. Orders for either Edition will be attended to.

E. D. VERY, for Com.

We regret to learn by a kind letter from Father Thomas Magee, of which the following is an extract, that he is still in affliction, and as might be expected when so long deprived of his usual resources, in need. We cannot believe that the Lord has exhausted or withdrawn his substance from the care and discretion of his stewards to such a degree that those who are devoting their time and strength in his service may not receive an adequate support, and those in distress and need appropriate relief. We hope some kind heart will extend its sympathies to an aged brother, and that he may be permitted soon to follow his desire in preaching the blessed Gospel, as has been his wont to do. Father Magee will see that the extract from Dr. Ruddock's letter gives place to brother Jackson's obituary notice of his deceased daughter, which appeared in our last.

"I regret that in the Providence of God, it is out of my power to do any thing in that way, although it is in my heart. It was in my mind when first the paper began to be spoken of, to go through this County, and if necessary, through the Province in its service, but the good Lord laid me aside, as you are aware, last year: nor are my circumstances much more favourable this winter. I have not been from home since my return from the Association in Machias; having got my horse badly kicked I could with difficulty get home, had like to lose it, and now that it has got better I am not in circumstances to use it. It seems as if I am worn out, and at least for the present laid aside; but should a living man complain—a man for the punishment of his sin. I wish I could get compensation for services as a delegate, as it would be at the present of great service to me in providing some winter clothing, and releasing me from my imprisonment, which I assure you I feel very irksome. No doubt you have heard of the death of my dear daughter, Lidia P. Collins, and have taken notice of it in your paper. Well I have one idol less, one less hold on Earth, and I trust one more hold on Heaven."