

effectually and successfully among the people to whose Circuit he should be appointed.—But, beyond this, the spirit manifested by his official members touched his heart. He saw the fruit of his labour. He had not toiled in vain. The genuine spirit of Christianity developed itself in the meeting. He was surrounded by brethren who *did* as well as *said*,—who gave a practical illustration of their belief in the truth “the labourer is worthy of his hire.”

While he, good man, rejoiced in the sure and certain prospect of receiving his full disciplinary allowance, the worthy brethren around him appeared equally happy under the persuasion they had done their duty. He saw the reflection of his own happiness in the happiness that beamed on the countenances of the members of the official board.

The money was counted; the silver made up, a pound in each pile; the coppers counted, a shilling in each pile. The twenty pounds were placed before him, ranged with the precision of a small military company.—He was about to take possession, when a slight jostling of the table overthrew the specie columns; and down they came with a rattle, startling to weak nerves. It awoke the sleeper—he rubbed his eyes; and “Lo! it was all a dream!”—*Christian Guardian*.

CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, MAY 18, 1849.

CHURCH COVENANT.

“We also give up ourselves to one another in covenant, promising to conduct towards each other as brethren in Christ, watching over one another in the love of God—reproving, rebuking, and admonishing one another for good as occasion may require; and if we at any time know that any members of the church are guilty of immoral conduct, that we will not expose it by tattling it to others, but will faithfully labour with them, according to the direction of our Lord (Matt. xviii. 15—17) that sin may be put away from among us, and that iniquity may not be harboured in the church.”

In every dispensation and in all countries sincere piety has disposed those possessing it to cultivate communion with each other. This overrules every artificial barrier and will not be superseded by other intimacies. “I am a companion of all them that fear thee, and of them that keep thy precepts;” so said one to whom every avenue for social intercourse was open; and, if solicited to seek other companionship for honour or emolument’s sake, we would say with the good Shunamite woman, “I dwell among mine own people.” Such companionship every christian feels to be indispensable.

To meet this universal want of pious hearts, and at the same time to accomplish other beneficial results, the Saviour has instituted the church relation; nor could we do ourselves or the cause of religion about us a greater injustice, than by despising this gracious provision. For the comfort of the members of a church, and that their duties may be properly performed, great care is necessary on the part of each to cultivate and exercise a kind, affectionate, and brotherly feeling, that shall sustain their mutual confidence. Reproof and admonition, which otherwise would only widen alienations, and provoke ill will, may then be administered with opposite results, and harmony and purity be alike preserved. Setting aside altogether the probability that the self-deceived will find an admittance to the pale of the church, whose delinquencies and inconsistencies will be increasingly numerous, even the most honest amongst the truly converted may be led astray, so that no church can hope to escape these trials, and no person joining a church is justified in expecting that he will meet with no such offences there.—How under these circumstances must we conduct that the least possible harm shall result to the credit of the church and the cause of religion? If deserving a place in the church this question will not be regarded an unimportant one. It was not so considered by the Head of the church. It was a subject for special legislation. Our conduct was not left to our own discretion, affected, as it would most likely be, by our passions and prepossessions. The welfare of our erring brother, the integrity of the church, and the credit of the best of causes all being involved, a person will discover but little piety at heart and little prudence if he will deliberately disregard the teaching and commandment of Christ, who has in the passage referred to, in the Covenant (Matt. xviii. 15—17) laid his injunction upon

us. To do this aright, we must possess a piety of the type described in the sermon on the Mount; indeed we would not imply that there is any other true piety, but only a less or larger measure of this; meek, merciful, pure in heart, peace-loving, and peace-making, to possess and exercise such a disposition will be sure to bring a blessing with it to ourselves, and make us a blessing to others.

But we are not simply urging what we ought to be, and ought to do, but what every member of our churches has solemnly covenanted to do; and considering how little this is observed, how frequently it is broken, who can wonder at the feuds and disorders which so unhappily divide many churches, and at the little influence and credit attending the cause of religion in connection with many others?

There are enough in every community to rejoice over and exaggerate the faults of christians, and at best there will be faults enough to be observed, without any effort at exposure or any heedless tattling on the part of those in connection with the church. These, ever watchful for our faults, are to be convinced by our testimony of the excellency and genuineness of religion, of its happy results upon the individual and upon the community. We must not then be as other men, we must do what other men do not, what is not easily counterfeited. We must love each other’s welfare, bear each other’s burthen, look after each other’s interests and whilst jealously guarding the purity of the church (for without purity the name of a church is a libel upon religion as well as a scandal upon its members,) we must be “kind one to another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.”

Thus the church would become a happy household, and every week’s enjoyment of its privileges would make it dearer in our estimation; and He who has espoused the church might as in the Canticle express his regard: “Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners.”

If the several life members of the American and Foreign Bible Society will authorise the Editor of this paper by letters *post paid*, or by private conveyance within the ensuing month or six weeks, to procure their quota of Bibles or Testaments, and state, if they have a choice, whether cheap Bibles or Testaments be procured, he will take the trouble of importing them altogether, and thus make the charge light upon each. If any are willing to make a donation of their quota to the Colporteur committee, he would be glad to be informed. If any members have not received their certificate of membership, they can also be procured, if authorised. It is generally understood, probably, that those who have commenced to make themselves life members by annual instalments are not entitled to a yearly allowance of books until their life membership is complete by the payment of £7 10s.

The *Christian Times*, from which we have selected the accounts of the Baptist anniversaries in London, gives the speeches delivered at the several meetings, some of which are of the highest order, and we hope in future numbers to lay some of them before our readers. Next week we intend giving an account of the anniversary meetings in New York, which commenced last week. Benevolent and religious associations have so multiplied, that the half of April, the whole of May, and a week or more of June, is devoted to the holding of the anniversary meetings in London; and nearly as much time also is occupied in the States, though the meetings are distributed between New York, Boston, Philadelphia and other principle cities of the union.

LETTERS RECEIVED.

Rev. J. H. Tupper’s remittance was duly received; letter from Mark Young with remittance; one from Rev. W. Jackson, with remittance; Rev. S. Elder, with remittance; Alexander T. Paul, with remittance; Rev. D. Crandal, with remittance.

YORK AND CARLETON MINING COMPANY.—At a meeting of the Stockholders of the York and Carleton Mining Company, held at the Company’s Office in this City on the 8th inst. the following gentlemen were appointed Directors:—Messrs. James Smith, Thos. Allan, John Owens, Henry Vaughan, James R. Tupper, N. S. Demill, Allan McLean, James Harris and Thos. Vaughan. And at a subsequent meeting of the Directors: Mr. James Harris was elected President; Mr. James Smith was appointed Treasurer, and Mr. Thomas Vaughan Secretary.

RELIGIOUS ANNIVERSARIES OF THE ENGLISH BAPTISTS.

The *Christian Times* of April 27, is much occupied with the details of these several Baptist Anniversary Meetings, as the leading feature of the week.

The annual meeting of the members of the Baptist Missionary Society for the transaction of business, was held at the Mission-house, Moorgate-street, on the 24th ult. at 10 a. m. To this meeting all subscribers of half-a-guinea a-year, and upwards, are admissible. The attendance was much more numerous than on former occasions, in expectation of some discussion respecting the projected incorporation of the Society.

From the very general opposition to this measure it was laid aside entirely.

An important resolution respecting the Trust-Property of the Society was proposed by the Rev. W. Robinson of Kettering, pursuant to which a special committee were appointed to enquire and report next year.

Rev. J. P. Mursell and Rev. E. S. Pryce of Gravesend, brought forward motions, the effect of which taken together, would be to make a complete change in the constitution of the Society, by the substitution of a system of church representation for individual membership. The usage of the Society and also the state of the law require a year’s notice to be given before such motions can be entertained.

The Society still owes a debt of nearly £5,000. Upon the new committee, are the names of several gentlemen who distinguished themselves by their opposition to the proposal of incorporation.

MEETING AT EXETER-HALL.

The Annual General Meeting was held on the 26th ult. at Exeter-Hall. The great hall was crowded on the occasion. The chair was filled by Samuel Morton Peto, Esq., M. P. Many distinguished individuals were upon the platform. After an impressive address from the chairman, Rev. Joseph Angus, the Secretary read the Report. The total income of the Society for the year ending April, 1848, was under £23,000. A sum inadequate to support the present number of Missionaries, carry on the Schools, and provide for the expense of the large number of volumes of the Scriptures printed. Increased contributions are required even for the present work.

Rev. Nathaniel Haycroft of Bristol, moved the first resolution, which was seconded by Rev. J. Jordan, the Vicar of Enstone.

The Rev. Mr. Boaz, formerly a Missionary at Calcutta, and representing the London Missionary Society, also moved a resolution with a most admirable speech which was received with great applause. Rev. Mr. Sutton of Orissa, and the Rev. W. Barton, a Wesleyan Missionary from India, also addressed the meeting.

This meeting adjourned to the evening of the 27th ult. at Finsbury Chapel, when Dr. Leifchild and others would continue the proceedings. In connection with the collection the Secretary reported the receipt of a cheque of £250, as the subscription of Mr. and Mrs. Peto, and £100 for the Mission at Calabar.

JUVENILE AUXILIARIES.

The annual meeting of the Juvenile Auxiliaries in the West of London, in connection with these missions, was held on Monday last in Bloomsbury Chapel. The Rev. W. Brock presided.

A report was read by Mr. Benham detailing the progress of the mission during the past year in Africa, the East and West Indies, Canada, and Europe. The missionary-ship the Dove, which had gone to Africa with several Missionaries, carried out another printing press, by means of which the Bible and other religious works might be printed for distribution amongst the native Africans to a greater extent than at present. The money collected on account of the expedition of the Dove, since June last, was £300, but at least £300 more would be necessary, which the committee had every confidence would be made up by the subscriptions of the children in connexion with the Baptist Schools.

Rev. W. Tucker, B. A. (late Missionary in India) also Revs. S. A. Dubourg of Clapham, K. H. Marten of Abingdon, and R. W. Overbury addressed the meeting, after which a collection was taken up towards which the children contributed their pence with great liberality.

THE ANNUAL SERMON.

On Wednesday morning, the Rev. Octavius Winston preached the annual sermon on behalf of this mission at Bloomsbury Chapel.

BAPTIST IRISH SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of this Society was held in Finsbury Chapel, on the evening of the 24th. R. Harris, Esq., M. P. for Leicester, in the chair.

After the opening address of the chairman, Rev. F. Trestrail read the Report, from which it appeared that the Society had now in Ireland, 15 churches, 15 missionaries, 16 scripture readers; 30 schools, attended by upwards of 2,000 scholars; and that during the year, 138 members had been added to the church, which by deaths and immigration had been reduced to a clear increase of 77 members. The Relief Fund had also, by the blessing of God, been the means of saving many lives.

Mr. Tritton, the Secretary, then read the cash account, from which it appeared that the receipts, during the year had been £2,670 2s 9d and the expenditure during the same period £4,340 11s. 3d., leaving the Society in debt to the amount of £1,670 8s. 6d.—shewing as compared with last year, a reduction of the debt to the amount of £86. The Relief Fund shewed a balance in favour of the Society of £1,382 9s. 3d. Rev. Mr. Berrill moved the first resolution after which Rev. W. Hamilton, of Bellina, in an excellent address, gave an account of the discouragements and of the success of the missionaries, alluding amongst other things to the conversion of Mr. McNamara, once a Catholic Priest, and well adapted now by zeal and ability for the ministry, closing as follows, “He is an eminently useful man; he preaches in the native language, and would be an instrument of much good in the west of Ireland. He who once employed unmeaning ceremonies, is now publishing the glad tidings of Christ crucified amongst his benighted countrymen, and I trust you will enable us to support that man as one of the agents of our Society.”

Rev. J. Bigwood and Rev. J. Burnet of Camberwell, also addressed the meeting, which passed off in a most interesting manner.

BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this Society was held on the evening of the 23d of April, at Finsbury Chapel: and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the attendance was very numerous. Mr. Alderman Challis presided.

After an able address by the chairman which was received with great applause, Rev. Mr. Davis read the Report, from which we gather, “That the number of central stations supported either wholly or in part from the funds of the Society during the year, is 111; the number of subordinate stations is 186, making a total of 297. The missionaries calculate that they preach the gospel weekly to about 23,000 of their countrymen; receiving very valuable assistance in their work from a considerable body of unsalaried fellow-helpers to the truth. In connexion with each principal and in some subordinate stations there is a Sabbath School. Large and small the schools are 115, containing 7,000 scholars; about 1,000 teachers are employed in conducting their operations.”

“Comparatively small as are the missionary congregations—for as soon as they become large, and consequently self-supporting they cease to be connected with the Society—the number of additions to the churches during the year has been 562; the present number of members is 4,345.”

The following is an abstract of the Treasurer’s Report:—

Subscriptions, Collections, and Bequests	£4,644 10 2
Expenditures	4,645 7 11

Balance due to Treasurer, £0 17 9

Rev. A. M. Stalker, of Leeds, J. Branch, of Waterloo-road, Hugh Stowell Brown, of Liverpool, Samuel Green, and George Low, Esq. severally addressed the meeting in very effective speeches.

THE HANSERD KNOLLY’S SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this Society was held at the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle-street, on the evening of the 26th April, James Low, Esq., in the chair. Edward Bean Underhill, Esq., read the Report of the Society, from which it appeared that in the business of publishing the writings of early Baptist Authors, the Society has proceeded to the issue of the fifth volume; and that a sixth, consisting of the Dutch martyrology, may