

taught you, ye shall abide in him." I am happy to say that the dear people among whom I labour enjoy a good degree of harmony, and appear to be growing in grace, and in the further knowledge of Jesus Christ. Before long I trust, some additions will be made to the Church: there are several of the congregation who, I am convinced are Christians, but who from the want of proper knowledge, from misapprehension of what constitutes a true disciple, and fits them for the privileges of Church membership, are kept back. How remarkable it is that what seems to be a trifling error in sentiment; a misconception of duty, is so fatal to the comfort and usefulness of Christians! Ignorance is a more serious evil than many imagine." (To be continued.)

TERMS OF THIS PAPER.

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CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 1852.

We have again to announce with thankfulness, the return of the Rev. Dr. Maclay to St. John. The last week our venerable and beloved Brother visited the Churches at Canning, Maugerville, and Fredericton, and preached in each, and on one occasion, *three times in one day*. He occupied the Pulpit in Brussels Street on Wednesday evening, and that in Germain street last night. It is truly astonishing to witness the energy of this aged servant of God, and edifying in the extreme to listen to the sound and gracious words that proceed from his lips, and to follow him in his labours of love in the BIBLE CAUSE, for which only he seems to live, and for which he expresses himself willing to die. He obtained fifteen life members last week, and one more yesterday, which, with previous life members, and other donations, amounts to upwards of \$1200.

These signs of life in this glorious cause greatly encourage the Doctor, and he wishes us publicly to express his thanks to all friends, and to say he earnestly desires a continuance in their prayers that he may labour whilst it is day.—May we all follow his example of zeal in the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ! He left us this morning for Nova Scotia, and intends, D. V., to preach on Lord's day at Bridgetown in the morning, and at Wilnot in the afternoon; on Monday, at Clarence; on Tuesday at Shafner Settlement; on Wednesday at Nictaux; on Thursday at Aylesford; on Friday and Saturday at Pleasant Valley; on Lord's day at Billtown in the morning, and Canaan in the afternoon. On Tuesday and Wednesday he will be at Wolfville, on Thursday at Windsor, and the following Lord's day at Halifax.

Sailing of the Brig Australia.

This noble vessel, being ready for sea, was taken in charge by the steamboat Commodore, about 5 o'clock, P. M., on Wednesday the 11th inst., and was towed out as far as the Island, where she remained until Thursday morning, when she spread her canvass to a favourable wind, and proceeded down the Bay. She is a splendid new brig, measuring upwards of 200 tons, is well fitted up for the accommodation of passengers, and is amply supplied with provisions for the voyage. She carries about 70 persons, besides her crew, making altogether, upwards of 80 souls. There are a few females and some children, but the most of them are young men, who have left their friends and country, in anticipation of a better land, where they hope to obtain a living with less labour, and where they can find a shorter road to the acquisition of wealth. We hope in this they may not be disappointed. As a whole, they are a worthy class of industrious young men, of good moral habits. Some of them are professors of religion, and members of christian churches. It makes us feel sad to see so many of our young men, the hope of our country, leaving our shores with but little prospect of ever returning to us again. The question is frequent, *asked, why do they go?* Is it because they are idle and worthless? not so. Is it from a vain curiosity to see the world? no. Is it because they have less love to their friends, and less attachment to their native land than oth-

ers? No. They cling tenaciously to their relatives, and to the home of their childhood. But they see before them in their own land a life of laborious toil, and poor returns for it. Hence they are disposed to go in search of a country, where labor is better rewarded, and where life has more enjoyments. Whether they will find it or not remains to be proved; but can we blame them for the search? we blame them not. But we would remind them if they pursue the wealth, or the happiness of this world, as their chief good, they make a sad mistake, and the results will be deplorable in the extreme. The wise man had tried all the resources of worldly riches and enjoyment, and his conclusion is recorded in that impressive passage, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity and vexation of spirit."

The admonition of our Redeemer, "Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness," is of universal application. May our friends, bound for Australia, take heed to it, and govern themselves accordingly.

Many fervent prayers will be offered incessantly for the speedy arrival of the Australia in the port of her destination, for the health and safety of all on board, and for their happiness and prosperity in that distant land. May heaven's sweetest blessings descend upon them temporarily and spiritually, for time and for eternity!

It is gratifying to know that Capt. Seely, master of the Brig, is a gentleman of sober habits, and that full confidence is felt in his nautical skill. We are happy to hear that the vessel has a surgeon on board; but we exceedingly regret that a Minister of the gospel could not be secured until it was too late to make suitable provision for his comfort. Let us earnestly pray, that in the absence of the stated ministrations of the gospel, they may have the ministry of the ever blessed Spirit, in powerful exercise in their hearts, to unite them all in the love and service of God.

The following extract from a letter received from an esteemed brother in Liverpool, England, which, although not intended for the public eye, breathes such a spirit of genuine piety, that we cannot deny ourselves the pleasure of giving it to our readers. It exhibits in a most impressive light, the solemn obligation that rests upon the christian Church to arouse herself to the fulfilment of the duties of her Godlike mission. Australia is very properly mentioned as presenting an inviting field for culture by christian missions. A new world of wealth is suddenly thrown open in that far off region, to the enterprise of man; and tens of thousands of immortal beings are rushing to acquire the precious ore. The old world is pouring its surplus population in immense numbers into that land of promise. The United States and the British Colonies are doomed to see multitudes of their most promising young men, embarking from their ports, bound to Australia. How many of these are going to publish the glad tidings of redeeming love, to plant the tree of life, and to bring poor sinners to Christ? we have reason to believe the number of such is exceedingly small. Lawyers, doctors, artists, merchants, agriculturists, and mechanics are taking possession of the land of gold, inspired with the hope of making their fortunes in a few short years. Who is taking possession of it in the name of the Lord? Have not the Baptists of British America a part to perform in cultivating the moral wastes of Australia? We are now making some changes in our foreign Missions. Suppose we were to turn our attention to the *wilds of Australia*, and send forth some faithful labourers into that distant vineyard? Are not souls as precious there, as they are in the mountains of Burmah? It is true, Australia is not associated in our minds with the early missionary experience and labours of Judson, and his coadjutors. We cannot think of it in connexion with chains and fetters, imprisonment and bloody sufferings, bitter tears and the ashes of sainted dead; but we can think of it as one vast missionary field whose hundreds of thousands are congregating from all sections of the globe, and where the power of the cross must be felt upon an extended scale, or *multitudes*, upon *multitudes*, will soon go from the region of glittering gold, to the flames that shall never be quenched, and to the prison house of eternal woe. The burning thirst for wealth, by which many of these adventurers are actuated, is just as ruinous to the soul, as the worship of a dumb idol, nay, more so. What but the plain and faithful exhibitions of the gospel of Christ can change that ardent

passion for gold, into a sincere desire for the true riches? The preaching of the gospel is the means, that God has ordained for the renovation of the human heart, and for the salvation of the world. The command of our risen Lord is, that *we shall preach it to every creature*. Let the Baptists of these Provinces ask themselves the question, are we not called upon, in the providence of God, to publish this glorious message to the perishing, and the lost in the gold fields of Australia?

Liverpool, 23d July, 1852.

My Dear Brother Bill,—I have to thank you for your kind and valued letter of 29th June, received a few days ago, and rejoice to learn that you are well and occupying a field well worthy of your best energies and exertions in the cause of Christ. I can freely enter into your feelings on leaving the beloved people of your late charge at Nictaux, and doubt not you have pursued the right course. The Lord of the vineyard will provide for his flock there, and I trust make your labours in your new sphere abundantly useful and successful. Truly as you say a great work has to be done. Wide and effective doors are being opened on the great continent of America. But where are they not, my brother; at our own doors in Liverpool; the fields are white unto harvest, and all over my own beloved England; the cry from the "dark places" of continental Europe is send us help; Ireland seems disposed to cast off the sable pall of Popery, and the vast emigration to the gold fields of Australia and California, seems to say to the Church of Christ, arouse thyself to action, send forth the heralds of the Cross, marshal your forces, and take possession of the earth in the name of the Lord. Great movements are taking place, the world appears on the move—it seems certain that large portions of the globe which have hitherto been little thought of and known, are about to become great countries and largely populated. I refer to Australia and California. It is impossible at present to estimate the results that are to flow from the gold discoveries there, but I think it is clear they will have an important bearing on the history of the world during the remainder of its existence. The islands and countries adjacent to each will be opened up, and who can tell the influence that will be produced on China and the heathen world: among the thousands that have flocked and will flock to these modern Ophirs many of the Lord's people will be found, from whom it is to be hoped the truth will be made known, and the ordinances of the Lord be observed; but till the Spirit be poured out from on high the world will remain a moral wilderness, and the Churches but mere oasis therein. Let us pray for this. Amidst the occupations of business I daily feel more and more the need of His refreshing influence. Deeply do I deplore the sad calamity that has plunged you all into sorrow, I knew none of the unfortunate brethren individually, yet for brother Very I had conceived a high regard and loved him for his work's sake,—now he rests from his labours and his works do follow him. Well might the Apostle say, sorrow not as those without hope. The Christian's hope is full of immortality, and though to the worldling such awful dispensations are truly terrible, yet without being callous to the solemnities of such mysterious Providence, the Christian looks with the eye of faith far beyond the fleeting scenes of earth, follows their happy spirits to Emmanuel's Land, and the General Assembly of the Church of above; knows that all is ended well; that great purposes are to be accomplished thereby, and that though the earthly house of this Tabernacle is dissolved we have a building of God, a house not made with hands eternal in the heavens. May the Lord sustain and comfort the dear relatives, and may the Churches be solemnized and profited by this mysterious Providence! Well, soon we shall follow; may we prove faithful, and when the Lord cometh have our Lamps burning, with oil therein. Remember me very kindly to dear brother D., I often think of and long to see him. I sometimes cherish the hope of coming out again to the Colonies, I should like dearly to see you all, but if this be not the case, oh! that we may meet in another and far better world.—How sweet the thought! We are having additions from time to time, and I think good is doing in our midst. At Byron street also we are progressing. Mr. Dawson, our minister, labours faithfully, and, like you, has left a large Church in the country to labour in the wide field of Liverpool.

With kindest regard to all friends I remain,

my dear brother, affectionately and faithfully yours,

J. H.

We thank W. H. B., for his paper on "Improvements in Preaching," but think that what appeared in our last number, (29.) first page, from the pen of the Bishop of Oxford, and what appears in this number, under the head of "Faults in Preaching," will supersede the necessity of his last paper. We hope our friend will not feel hurt at this, and that he will in his future communications labor to condense, as we are anxious to insert all communications that reach us that we think will be for general edification.

The Fig Tree writer is under consideration.

We beg to inform our agricultural friends that we have arranged with a responsible party to furnish correct statements of the markets for the future.

Communications have been received from Rev. C. Spurden; S. A. Wheaton, with remittance; I Wallace, with 25 new subscribers.

Received from C. W. Corey, 2s. 6d. for Domestic Missions; do; 2. 6d. for American & Foreign Bible Society.

Correspondence.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

North River, 10th August, 1852.

Mr. Editor,—I arrived here yesterday from Elgin, in the County of Albert, where I spent the last two or three days in visiting the different sections of the Parish. It is delightful to observe the marked improvement that has taken place in that region during the last few years. It is a new country. Two years ago there was no Mail, Post-office, or Courier in connexion with the whole Parish, and scarcely a newspaper taken, or any desire for information manifested by the mass of the people. There are now two Couriers running to and from the centre of the Parish, in different directions. About fifty copies of the "Christian Visitor" are now paying their salutary visits weekly among the inhabitants. And through the exertions of your Agent there, a valuable young brother, there are about eighty copies of the American Messenger, Youth's Penny Gazette, and Child's Paper in circulation also. Roads are being made, intersecting each other, in all directions. The soil is generally fertile. From these facts and from the industrious character of the inhabitants we may reasonably conclude that Elgin is destined to become a very interesting part of the county.

Meetings were held there last Sabbath and crowded congregations gave their attendance.

Upon my arrival here I was pleased to learn that Elder W. Jackson is now successfully labouring at Butternut Ridge, and that there are favourable indications of a revival. Two were baptized last Sabbath. Will our brethren pray that the Lord's work may advance!

Yours affectionately,

I WALLACE.

P. S.—I herewith send you the names of twenty-five new subscribers to the Visitor.—

Cash £3 5s.

Please attend carefully to the directions.

I. W.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

WHAT A CONTRAST.

Reader did you ever see a christian die, and so resign his immortal spirit into the hands of Jesus, and smiling at the bright prospects of what was then beginning to dawn upon him, he as yet, having only a foretaste of the joys that were prepared for him by the great Eternal? If you have witnessed such a scene, methinks that you have seen one of the most glorious sights that this world affords.

How strangely different do persons view death! Some shrink at the approach; shuddering as they fully realize its certainty, and endeavour to console themselves by asserting they are as good as their neighbours, and that God is merciful, that they have been moral persons, and so labour to lull themselves in the cradle of carnal security, until the dread moment arrives when they must close their eyes upon earth, and are unwilling to admit that *mortality* avails nothing, that regeneration is essentially necessary to secure salvation.

What is more awful than to witness the death-bed of one who has spent his golden moments without giving one thought to God.