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TO ADVERTISERS.

For Advertisements relating to Books, Sales, Articles of General Consumption, Situations, and Appeals for Philanthropic and Religious objects, the Visitor, which has a circulation of over 1600, can be scarcely surpassed. The terms are on the same scale as our contemporaries, and a reduction is made on Advertisements repeatedly inserted.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is our wish to insert no communication whatever without knowing who the writer is. Those of our Correspondents, therefore, who wish the letters or the intelligence with which they favour us to be published, will best promote that object by attaching their names, which will be considered sacred.

CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1852.

The letter we publish from our venerable Brother in Christ, the Rev. Joseph Crandall, will be read with delight by many. It reminds us of the wonderful success that attended the evangelical labours of the Baptist Pioneers of these Provinces. They were a remarkable class of men, raised up by God to do a mighty work. Their toils and labours in the cause of truth were abundant, their privations many: but the blessing of God upon their self-denying labours afforded them an ample reward. The most of them now sleep in the dust, but their names are engraved, as by the finger of God, upon the heart of tens of thousands scattered over these Colonies. They have a monument in the affections of the people more imperishable than the Pyramids of Egypt. A few of these aged veterans of the cross still live. Elder Crandall is one of this number. He tells us that more than four score years have passed over him, and yet he is enabled to preach Christ and him crucified, as the only Saviour. For more than a half century he has stood as a faithful watchman upon the walls of Zion, has been instrumental in leading many a poor sinner to Christ, and in greatly enlarging the spiritual kingdom of our Saviour; and yet like the holy Apostle his only desire is to know Christ and to be found in him, not leaning on his own righteousness which is of the law; but that which is of God through faith. In this clear, comprehensive conception of the doctrine of justification by faith alone, is to be found the secret of the marvellous success which attended the exertions of our predecessors in the Ministry. It dwelt in their minds not as a speculative theory; but as a living, practical fact, presenting to the sinner the only foundation of human hope; and at the same time opening the only source of spiritual conformity to God's will. Having felt the power of this truth themselves, they were prepared to say to all, who would turn the grace of God into lasciviousness, "Show me thy faith without thy works, and I will show thee my faith by my works."

We sincerely hope that Elder Crandall will be enabled to accomplish his purpose in making a visit to the City at an early day. Many will rejoice to see his face, and hear his voice in the sanctuary once more. We trust he will furnish the Church with a record of the glorious displays of the divine mercy, which he has witnessed in his day. Such information is of priceless value, and will be pondered by future generations with intense interest.

We greatly rejoice in the success which has attended the indefatigable labours of our highly valued brother, the Rev. J. Francis, upon the Island of Cape Breton, in prosecuting his Endowment mission. The noble manner in which our brethren there have come forward in the cause is a withering reproof to some of our wealthy churches, that withhold aid from the present movement. Cape Breton has been regarded by Nova Scotia Baptists for many years past as presenting a most interesting field for missionary culture. Very few churches upon the Island are able to sustain the stated preaching of the word amongst themselves; and yet we are told they have subscribed £650 towards the endowment of Acadia College. Why have they done so? Simply because they regard the Institution as desired, and adapted to supply the Provinces with a class of men, who shall be qualified to fulfil efficiently the sacred duties of the Christian ministry.

Would that all our churches saw the subject in the same light. If they did, not one of them

would fail to be liberally represented in the Endowment Fund.

We call especial attention to a paper signed "An Agent," and beg to assure our friends generally, and the Agents in particular, that this is a matter of so much importance, that, unless they do as this worthy Agent recommends, the paper must be discontinued. It is a work that needs a pull—a strong pull—AND A PULL ALTOGETHER.

We call the attention of our readers to the notice of the postponement of the York County Total Abstinence Society, lest any of them should be disappointed. This is a noble work and will always have our hearty concurrence.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"Lucille," next week; "Arthur" is under consideration; "A," on the Baptisteries of Italy has been received, and will appear on the first page next week.

LETTERS RECEIVED.—From Mr. John S. Colpitts, with remittance; Mr. C. W. Dimock, ditto; Abel Washburn, ditto; Amos S. Cary, ditto; J. Shaw, by Father Willis, ditto.

Correspondence.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

ACADIA COLLEGE ENDOWMENT.

DEAR BRETHREN,—I have received a letter from brother Francis, dated "Strait of Canso, Cape Breton, Dec. 8," in which he says: "I have now nearly fulfilled my mission on this Island; the result thus far is £650, particulars of which I will forward in my next. I am greatly indebted to our esteemed brother, the Rev. Hugh Ross, of North Sydney, and others, for co-operation and assistance."

This is far beyond our expectations. Is it not manifest that the blessing of God attends the effort?

Brother Burton is gone to Shelburne and Ragged Islands. The brethren Davis and Stubbert are finishing the canvass in the County of Yarmouth. The brethren Cunningham and Randall are engaged, I understand, in Brier Island. The other agents are doubtless actively employed. Their letters of Jan. 1st, containing the final reports, will be looked for with much interest.

A friend has directed my attention to a letter addressed by Dr. Wayland, in October last, to a gentleman in Cincinnati, respecting educational efforts in the State of Ohio. Dr. W. says—"Theological Schools, by themselves, do not flourish among us. The notion of a Theological School for graduates of Colleges alone, in a denomination where nineteen in twenty of the whole ministry do not go to College at all, seems to me a great mistake. We must have arrangements which are adapted to the mass of the ministry, and which embrace a shorter period, if we hope to act extensively. For this purpose, a Theological School connected with a college would have great advantages, especially if the college were organised upon a liberal plan."

Our friends generally will read this passage with pleasure. It is gratifying to learn that Dr. Wayland's views coincide so nearly with those entertained in these Provinces.

As we hope to recommence our operations here on the 20th of January, agreeably to the resolution passed at the Convention, I shall be much obliged if those brethren, candidates for the ministry, who are desirous of entering on theological studies, will give me early information of their intentions.

I am, dear brethren, your truly,

J. M. CRAMP.

Acadia College, Dec. 17, 1852.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Proceedings of the Foreign Missionary Board, since the Convention.

DEAR BRETHREN,—I send for insertion in the *Christian Visitor*, a statement of the proceedings of the Foreign Missionary Board at its two last meetings, viz.: November 2d and December 14th.

Doubtless those interested in our Foreign Missionary efforts have been expecting to see the result of these deliberations, as it is well known that Bro. Arthur Crawley, our accepted Missionary, has been in the Province for some months, waiting the determination of the Board; and also that a correspondence was in progress with the Rev. S. N. Bentley, of

Liverpool, in reference to his connexion with the Board, as suggested at the recent meeting of the Convention.

Previous to the meeting on the 2d ult., a letter was received from Bro. Bentley, and also one from Bro. David Dimock, of Onslow, mainly referring to the health of Brother Bentley, and the probability of his possessing a constitution adapted to an Indian climate. Though the letters referred to were favourable in their expressions relating to the present health of Bro. Bentley; yet the Board considered it most important to pursue every possible enquiry, and as far as practicable guard against another failure on the score of health. Accordingly on the 2d ult., the subject of the above named letters, as also other information on the same subject, was carefully and maturely considered, and the following Resolutions passed:—

Resolved 1st, That Bro. Bentley be requested to attend a meeting of this Board, for the purpose of conference on the subject of his letter, and that he be further requested on passing through Halifax, to wait on Drs. Sawers and Parker, to be medically examined by them, and Drs. Johnston and S. Fitch be also requested to concur in such examination on his arrival in Wolfville.

2. That if the result of such conference and examination should prove favourable, and Bro. Bentley be accepted as a Missionary candidate, he be then requested to visit the Churches of the Convention in conjunction with Bro. Arthur Crawley, with a view to excite a Missionary spirit, and collect funds for sending them out to such stations as may be selected for them.

3. That the Secretary be requested to write to Drs. Sawers and Parker, of Halifax, soliciting them to unite in a medical examination of Bro. Bentley, with reference to his engagement in Foreign Missionary labour.

4. That the expenses of Bro. Bentley to Wolfville and back to Liverpool, if he should return, be defrayed by this Board.

The above were forwarded to Bro. Bentley without delay. In the mean time, the Board had opportunity for continued inquiry, as also Bro. Bentley had, for weighing the subject yet more maturely, conversing with his friends, and knowing more of what is very important to know, public opinion.

In a letter received on the morning of the last meeting, viz., on the 14th instant, brother Bentley continued to express his doubts, in reference to himself, and strong fears, that he would, as respects his health, be looked upon as not the man, by a large part of the denomination; he however continued to reiterate his willingness to comply with the wishes of the Board, they taking all the responsibility arising on the score of health, unfavorable public opinion, &c.

The case as last presented by brother Bentley was prayerfully considered, and the following resolution unanimously passed.

Resolved, That under all the circumstances of the case, and especially in view of the probability that residence in a warm climate will be injurious to his health, the Board do not feel themselves at liberty to advise brother Bentley to engage in Foreign Missionary service, and therefore respectfully decline his offer, at the same time they beg to assure Bro. Bentley of their high esteem, cordial sympathy and earnest prayers, that his labor in the Saviour's cause, in whatever field, may be eminently successful.

After the foregoing, the case of brother Crawley was presented. The Board was pleased with his strong missionary desire, and anxiety to be engaged with as little delay as possible in his missionary work. A previous determination of the Board, to send not less than two missionaries to occupy in conjunction with each other a field of foreign labor, seemed to afford occasion for delaying brother Crawley's departure. The Board carefully examined several suggestions of the brethren relative to the practicability of sending Bro. Crawley the ensuing summer, and the following resolution was passed:—

Resolved, That engagements be immediately entered into with a view to send out Bro. Arthur Crawley in the ensuing summer, and that letters be sent to the Secretaries of the American Baptist Missionary Union, and the English Baptist Missionary Society, requesting information respecting stations most desirable to be occupied, and also respecting the willingness of the managers of either of those societies to co-operate with this Board, by forwarding them the benefit of friendly assistance and advice.

It will be observed that the object of the above resolution, is not to seek a union with other organizations, but the advantage of their experience and knowledge, until our own missionaries shall become acquainted with the different missionary locations, and the mode of conducting missionary operations. It may also be observed, that the Board does not contemplate a departure from its already published resolutions, in sending brother Crawley alone, but most confidently anticipates having a second missionary to join him in the course of another year—we hope that one may yet be had to accompany him next summer.

It may also be important to publish the following resolution, that the churches may be prepared to respond to the call soon to be made:—

Resolved, That brother Arthur Crawley be requested to visit the churches of the Convention, under the direction of brethren William Chipman and H. S. Hunt, and that during his agency, he present the claims of the Union Society, hold Foreign Missionary Meetings, and by all suitable means revive a missionary spirit in the Churches he may visit, and that at all the missionary meetings he may hold, collections be taken up to aid the funds of the Foreign Missionary Board. It was also Resolved:—That brother Arthur Crawley receive the sum of £75 per annum, from the time of the last Convention, to the time of his leaving for a foreign field. His travelling expenses being paid. And that the treasurer be requested to pay the above quarterly.

It was also Resolved:—That the Pastors of Churches where brother Crawley may visit, be requested to co-operate with and assist him.

The above is a statement of the proceedings of the Board since the Convention. Doubtless many who know brother Bentley, and anticipated in him a most devoted and efficient missionary, will feel somewhat disappointed at the result above announced. But in this matter the Board seeking wisdom from above, was guided by the experience of the past, as well as by such existing testimony as made the path of duty plain. Bro. Bentley was doubtless guided to his conclusion in the same manner. In his present location, he has a most inviting and important sphere for christian effort, and as we now view this subject, we must consider that it is God's will that he shall continue to preach the gospel to those destitute places in our own land. May his labours be widely owned and blessed of God.

The Churches will not forget the importance of earnest prayer to God, in behalf of our brother about to engage in the great work of preaching the gospel to the heathen—we need the sympathy and contributions of the Churches; but we especially need the prayer of faith. This mighty christian engine moves not only the hearts of other men, but our own, to higher effort, and more abiding devotedness, the Board would therefore in view of the work they are about to resume, say to the Churches "Brethren pray for us."

We must likewise remember, that the Board is about to assume enlarged responsibility in order to execute the resolutions of the Churches, for this responsibility they expect, and rely upon the contributions of those for whom they act, and should a second Missionary present himself and be accepted by the Board, the funds would have to be greatly augmented before the two could embark for a foreign field of labour. The Board, however, feeling assured that the contributions of the Churches will be adequate, desire to direct the inquiry of our young men, candidates for the Ministry, to the subject of Missions, and will be happy to confer and advise with any who may feel their mind drawn to this most desirable department of christian labour.

In presenting to the Churches the proceedings of the Foreign Missionary Board, we would not forget the case of our beloved Bro. Burpe. Some may not be aware that he with a part of his family, have been compelled to seek the more genial climate of the South. He is yet our Missionary and demands our prayers, our sympathies and support.

You will pardon this lengthened article; it seemed desirable that the whole proceedings of the Board should be, as above, presented to the Denomination. Brother Crawley's arrangements for visiting the Churches will be announced shortly.

Yours in Christian affection,

A. S. HUNT.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

DEAR BRETHREN,—I returned last evening from Charlotte County, £313 14s. 4d. were