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The Christian Visitor.

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1853.

The letter from our esteemed Agent, T. H. Randall, contains very gratifying intelligence. We feel thankful to all the friends who have shown him such marked kindness. We knew our Brother to be worthy of the confidence and kind attentions of Ministers and people; but as he was an entire stranger in the country, we had some fears that he might not be as cordially received as one more generally known. We rejoice, however, that his reception has been such as to greatly cheer and encourage him in his work.

We take this opportunity of saying that we greatly need young men, of the stamp of Brethren Randall and Moore, to embark in religious agencies, and in this way to aid in carrying forward the financial business of the denomination. Hitherto this work has been thrown almost exclusively upon ministers, and they have been taken from their proper sphere of labor, to do that which ought to be done by lay brethren. Men called to devote themselves to the labors and responsibilities of the Christian Ministry, should have as little to do as possible with financial matters. They should be allowed to give themselves wholly to their work, that they might employ their minds, their pens, and their tongues, unreservedly, in imparting spiritual instruction to the people. But this cannot be, until we shall find young men willing to renounce some of the more lucrative callings that are open before them, and enter the field of religious enterprise; not so much for the purpose of enriching themselves, as for the sake of doing good. We should rejoice to see a number of our pious, intelligent young men engaged in the Provinces, in collecting funds for our educational and Missionary interests, in establishing Sabbath Schools, distributing books and Bibles, and useful periodicals of different kinds, &c. We believe that such a movement would tend greatly to the furtherance of the temporal and spiritual prosperity of the Province. Young men of our churches, ponder prayerfully this subject.

Dr. Cramp's Letter.

The letter of Dr. Cramp which appears in another column, contains some important thoughts upon our educational interests, which ought to be duly considered by us all. We have long since been convinced, that if we would have our young men educated at "Acadia College," that Institution must be placed in such a position of efficiency as should satisfy the wishes of our young men thirsting for a first rate education. We may talk to our sons as we please about the importance of patronizing the Institutions of their own country, unless we can convince them that they can get as good an education in the Provinces as they can get in the same time in the United States, such of them as have the means will go to the States, and who can blame them? A young man rightly instructed will naturally look upon the years spent in College, as the most important in his life. He knows that a defective education will be a serious drawback upon future success. Hence he wishes to make his College course as perfect as possible; he therefore seeks to connect himself with an Institution adapted to meet his wishes; and if he does not find it in his own land, he will look for it abroad. If he go to the United States his return to spend his life in his own country is always doubtful. Such being the case how important that we should carry forward to completion with the least possible delay, the plan of making "Acadia College" just what it should be.

This we understood to be the main drift of our esteemed Correspondent "B." His object was to arouse his Brethren in the Provinces, to a sense of their obligations to persevere in the noble work in which they have commenced. No man amongst us is more

deeply interested in this matter than Dr. Cramp. He is laboring for it indefatigably both day and night, and we rejoice to add, with every prospect of seeing his labors crowned with the most happy results. His object is not only to place the Institution over which he presides in a most thorough state of efficiency in all respects; but in accordance with the plans adopted by "Brown," "Madison" and "Rochester Universities," so to arrange the course of study as to meet the necessities of those who can only take an English course. This will be of immense importance to such persons as may be called to the sacred Ministry: but who are not so situated as to go through the entire course. To such one or two year's study at "Acadia" would be of priceless value.

The closing remarks of Dr. Cramp's letter should be prayerfully pondered by our Churches, and especially by such of our Brethren as are contemplating engaging in the work of the Ministry. The spirit of the age, and the necessities of our denomination demand an intelligent Ministry. Let all act upon this principle.

We are happy to see the respect shown to our highly valued brother, the Rev. W. G. Parker, by the recent Donation Visit made to him by the people over whom he presides, and by others interested in his ministry. Such a token of good will cannot but be pleasing to the feelings of Bro. Parker, and serve to encourage him to go on with increasing diligence in the work of the Lord. Nothing is so stimulating to a Christian Minister, as to know that he is sustained by the prayers, sympathies, and whole hearted co-operation of his brethren. Unless he is thus supported his hands hang down in feebleness, and his heart sinks in despondency. If churches would have a prosperous ministry, they must so identify themselves with their ministers as to make their Pastor's case their own, feeling that there is no separate interest, that the Pastor and his flock are one.

In reply to Deacon Lockett's request, we beg to say that we can't do as he wishes at present, as we have so much matter on hand. We advise our Brother to go forward as the Apostles did, preaching the Gospel, and reminding the Disciples, as they are gathered together, that it is their duty to look out Men possessing the gifts and qualifications laid down by Paul in his Epistles to Timothy and Titus, and get set in order as soon as possible. This subject may call forth thoughts from our correspondents, which we will insert as soon as we have room.

We are thankful to state that the Churches in the City and environs keep up their nightly meetings. Through the grace of God some in each Church came out and confessed the Lord last Lord's day morning. Brother Robinson baptized 1, brother Bill, 5, brother Harris 1, and brother Clay 1. Let these facts stimulate the brethren, to an individual, to pray without ceasing.

REVIVALS.—A correspondent of the N. Y. Baptist Register speaks of revivals in Galway, Half Moon, Gloversville, Stillwater, Milton, Schuylerville, Clifton Park, and Saratoga Springs, all within the Saratoga Association, and all marked by tokens of great interest and large additions to these.

MOUNT VERNON, OHIO.—Rev. J. B. Sackett, writing to us from this place says:

"The Lord has been gracious to us in Mt Vernon recently, and granted us a little reviving in our bondage. I have recently had the privilege of baptizing twelve young persons, one of whom is my own daughter.

How great must be the joy of parents when a beloved child is made alive from the dead. Give God the praise.

A REVIVAL AT ELMIRA, N. Y., is in progress. Rev. Mr. CHANDLER, pastor of the Baptist church, baptized eighteen converts last Sabbath, making thirty in all who have been received by baptism within the last few weeks.

REV. C. J. HOPKINS, of Greenport, Long Island, has just closed a series of meetings, during which a very large number were hopefully converted and added to the Greenport church, of which he is pastor.

COOPER'S PLAINS, N. Y.—We learn by a private letter from this place that a precious revival is now in progress. The pastor Rev. C. A. Newland is assisted by Rev. James Parker, of Hornby. Let our readers remember this people, and pray that the work may not cease.

In a letter written last week by our venerable Brother Dr. Maclay, we learn that he is much encouraged in the Lord's work. He mentions a fact, however, that we wish to lay before our readers, as reminding us of an awful visitation from the Lord in the days of his

prophet Elisha, as recorded in Kings ii. 23, 24.

The fact to which the Dr. alludes is this—speaking of Brother Stilwell, of Canada, who was some years ago baptized by him, he adds:

"The Lord has lately crowned his ministry with great success. In his address at the annual meeting he mentioned a remarkable fact: that in the midst of a revival of religion in the field of his labors, great opposition and hostility were manifested by the enemies of the Cross of Christ; and one of those men more daring than his followers was desirous of showing his contempt of the ordinance of baptism, and went into the river in the presence of the multitude and dipped himself under the water, but he died in the act, and did not come out of the water alive. Bro. Stilwell preached his funeral sermon next day. Great fear came upon all who witnessed this dreadful scene, and the word of the Lord was magnified, and many were added to the church."

It will be seen by the following editorial remarks, which we extract from the *Christian Messenger* of last week, that our esteemed brethren who conduct that useful periodical, highly approve of the steps taken in the Home Missionary department by the brethren in St. John. Those brethren have witnessed the happy results of Missionary labour, especially in Nova Scotia; they have invariably manifested a lively interest in this branch of Christian enterprise, and their remarks on the subject have always been worthy of consideration. Probably in no spot in creation has the same amount of means been attended with a richer blessing, than the amount expended in Domestic Missionary work in Nova Scotia, including, as the field does, the Islands of Prince Edward and Cape Britain. By means of this agency large numbers of precious souls have been converted, many churches established, and probably not less than 20 ministers raised up to declare the unsearchable riches of Christ, and we are satisfied that a like blessing will attend all similar efforts in this good cause.

No person capable of comprehending the wants of New Brunswick, but must highly appreciate the recent organization in St. John. Its plan is simple; but rightly conducted, it will be found to be all powerful to supply the immense number of destitute districts in this growing Province with the means of salvation. Let the denomination combine its strength in one unwavering determination, not to rest until every destitute village, town, and neighborhood in New Brunswick shall be enriched with the invaluable blessings of a faithful ministry. We have been thinking with deep interest on the rising village of Shediac, and our Brother Scott, as we stated last week, was expected to survey that section, and report upon its necessities. We are happy to learn that our brethren in Sackville are feeling deeply on the same subject, and that they have taken an important step in the work of preparation towards establishing the ministry of the word there. We hope Bro. Scott will see how the people of Shediac themselves feel in relation to the matter, and what they are disposed to do to accomplish so important an object. It is delightful to see brethren at a distance interesting themselves; but the persons on the ground must become interested, or but little can be done to purpose.

"The C. Visitor contains a notice of the formation of the N. B. Baptist Home Missionary Society at St. John, on the 21st inst., with the proceedings and resolutions on the occasion, which are highly interesting to all who have at heart the necessary provision for enlarging and sustaining the Gospel in that important and increasing province. We feel that we can hardly say too much on the subject of the importance of Domestic Missions. We have again and again brought under the notice of our readers in the C. M. the comparative neglect of this mission in our own Province. Altho' here and there in particular sections of the country, and among some churches, there has been from time to time a proper feeling awakened which has led to partial action, yet it is most evident that since the division of the Association and the consequent breaking up of the old Home Missionary Society, a want of united and well sustained effort has prevailed in the Denomination, which is working highly injurious effects to our best interests. We cannot say that we have any very definite plan to offer, nor do we know that we are the proper source from which such plan should emanate. The N. B. brethren have adopted a course certainly worthy of our consideration—perhaps most deserving of our own imitation. If some of our leading brethren of the ministry

and other influential members of Churches, would come together and agree upon some course of action, and present it to the public for their consideration, it would doubtless lead to some useful result. We cannot by any remarks of ours hope to bring this about, except by awakening a kindred feeling in the minds of others. So large a variety of objects call for our attention, each having its peculiar claims, and each demanding our immediate consideration, that we are sometimes at a loss to know which is most pressing and deserves precedence at the moment. With others of our brethren it is different. Their minds are not unfrequently confined to some special object to which circumstances may have directed their thoughts, and which wholly engross their minds. To effecting such object they very naturally and very properly direct their sole time and energies. Are there not those among us who can take up the subject of Home Missions and endeavour to retrieve it from its present disorganized, and inefficient state? It only needs, we feel satisfied, the energetic action of a few of our leading men; as no one can imagine for a moment but that a real interest in the matter lies deeply seated in the hearts of our people and our churches. We need scarcely here repeat what we have so often said, that on the success of these missions depends in a large measure almost every other branch of Denominational operations, and the ultimate prosperity of the entire Body. Our St. John Brethren are making a good step in advance. Do not let them shame us in a matter of such vital moment.—*Christian Messenger*.

MONEY LETTERS RECEIVED.—Rev. Wellington Jackson, St. Martins, 15s; Amos S. Cory, Cambridge, 8s. 9d.; J. H. Harding, Shippegan, 10s.; Samuel Wilbur, Buctouche, 5s.

Correspondence.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Acadia College.

DEAR BRETHREN,—Generally concurring in the views expressed by your correspondent "B," I think he has fallen into some mistakes, probably from inattention or want of information, and it appears desirable to correct the same.

"B," I am willing to believe, is a friend of Acadia College. If so, I must express my surprise at his statement that certain young men have gone to the United States instead of coming here, because "they cannot get" education at this Institution, and because it is not "as it ought to be." Those young men might have studied the Classics and Mathematics in this College, quite as successfully as they are now studying elsewhere, and by doing so might have created in their respective neighbourhoods a deeper and more extensive interest in the Institution, and materially expedited the Endowment. Their identifying themselves with other Colleges not only weakens our education interests here, but induces an imitation of their procedure, the influence of which cannot but be very prejudicial.

"B" must be aware that our transition state here is entirely owing to the want of funds. We are waiting for the completion of the Endowment. The Board of Governors could not invite professors till they had a reasonable prospect of being able to pay their salaries. They are fully resolved not to get into debt any more. It is now confidently expected that in a short time the endowment will be secured. When that is accomplished, Professors will be appointed, and I entertain the hope that at the opening of next Term it will be found that the College is furnished with a respectable staff of instructors—in a word, that it is what "it ought to be."

With regard to candidates for the ministry who may not be able to take a College course, provision was made nearly two years ago. The following arrangement was agreed to at a meeting of the Board of Governors held in June, 1851, and duly published in the *Christian Visitor* and the *Christian Messenger*:

"Persons desirous of joining the Classes in any of the courses of study, may do so, on paying the usual fees for those Courses, and submitting, while so engaged, to the laws of the Institution; and candidates for the Christian Ministry, who may be advised to omit the study of the Latin and Greek languages, may enter the College for the purpose of obtaining an English Theological Education, and join any of the Classes, as aforesaid, and on similar conditions."

There are "diversities of gifts" now, as