

ing upon the roof of the palace (which overlooked the whole city and country,) when he exclaimed, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of my kingdom, and by the might of my power, and for the honor of my majesty?" (Dan. iv. 30.) This haughty question was answered in the same hour by the fulfilment of his second dream, which Daniel had interpreted the year before, though he refused the instruction of God. He had seen a vision of himself, no longer as the head of gold; but as a strong, high, wide-spreading tree, which shewed the way in which his empire had increased, but at the same time should have convinced him that it was all perishable greatness: for the tree might be hewn down, so as to be level with the grass of the field. He was told also that the Holy One was watching him; and if he refused to acknowledge the rule of the God of heaven, he must learn that he was under it by painful experience. Daniel warned him to break off his sins by righteousness, and his iniquities by showing mercy to the poor; if, perchance, it might be a lengthening of his tranquility. The poor captive Jews were doubtless treated with great severity in Babylon; for the Lord said by Isaiah, "I was wroth with my people, and have given them into thy hand, thou didst show them no mercy; upon the ancient hast thou very heavily laid the yoke" (Is. xlvii. 6). And by Jeremiah, "Israel is a scattered sheep, the lions have driven him away; first, the king of Assyria hath devoured him; and last, this Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, hath broken his bones" (Jer. i. 17).

It appears that some of the Jewish children were even dashed to pieces against the stones of Babylon. (Psalms cxxxvii.)

The judgment upon Nebuchadnezzar ought to silence all who boast of their power and honor. For seven years he was deprived of the understanding he had abused, and became like one of the beasts of the field (Dan. iv). At the end of that time he was restored to his right mind, and made a public confession of the dealings of God with him, in a letter addressed to all the subjects of his empire. It ends with these striking words, "Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise, and extol, and honor the King of Heaven: all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: AND THOSE THAT WALK IN PRIDE HE IS ABLE TO ABASE."

The year after this, Nebuchadnezzar died, B. C. 579.

The Lord said by Jeremiah, that all nations should serve this king of Babylon, and his son, and his son's son, until the very time of his land came; and then many nations and great kings should serve themselves of him, or of that which belonged to him. His son, Evil-Merodach, succeeded him in the empire; and the first act of his reign was to release Jehoiachin, the king of Judah, from the prison in which he had been confined nearly thirty-seven years, and to place him at his own table. But from the character and conduct of the king of Babylon, this could have been no real blessing: indeed, he made himself so hateful to his subjects, that they put him to death at the end of two years. Neriglissor, one of the conspirators, made himself king; but was killed in a war with the Medes four years after when the empire returned to Nebuchadnezzar's grandson, Labynitus, called Belshazzar by the Jews. His reign was to be the last, according to the prophecy quoted above; and the judgment upon him and upon Babylon I shall relate, when I have given you an account of the power which had been rising up to destroy and to succeed that of Assyria.

☞ We are thankful to inform our friends in the sister Province, that the Captain of the steamer *Maid of Erin* has kindly consented to take charge of the packet of papers for Windsor, Wolfville, and Cornwallis. He will leave them at the Post Office, at Windsor, on the arrival of the boat.

☞ We have received some papers condemning the "*Spirit Rappings*," but as we have already given space for two long letters upon this subject, we cannot at present admit any further communications. We are opposed to it to our very souls, and think every believer should set his face against this refuge of falsehood.

☞ To our respected Agents, and Subscribers in general:—*Having to pay our Publisher a large sum during this month, we trust that all monies now due will be sent in.*

ERRATA.—In the article "A Unionist," *Christian Visitor*, June 24th, paragraph 3d, for "other revisions" read "other versions;" for "raised text" read "sacred text;" paragraph 4th, for "given the" read "given them."

MONEY LETTERS RECEIVED.—Rev. T. W. Saunders, £2 5s; John S. Trites, 6s; Amos S. Corey, £1 8s 9d; Mrs. R. Steves, 10s.

Correspondence.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Central Nova Scotia Association.

DEAR BRETHREN,—Our Association commenced its sittings on Saturday last, in the usual manner. The contents of the letters from the churches were of varied interest, but I am sorry to say that the statistical returns were by no means encouraging, the *nett* increase being but 45. Perhaps this is not to be wondered at, when the want of ministerial labour is considered. Several churches are without Pastors, or are to be compelled to be satisfied with an inadequate share of pastoral attention. It cannot be expected, under such circumstances, that great success should be achieved. Our churches will not prosper till they set a higher estimate on pastoral care, and show their sense of its value by more prayer and better support.

Sermons were preached on Lord's day at the two Baptist places of worship, and at Dartmouth: the brethren Hall and Shiels preached at the Methodist chapels. Father T. S. Harding, preached at the North End meeting house in the morning, and also on Tuesday morning. The people flocked to hear him, and listened to his "sound doctrine" with earnest and very serious attention. How delightful it is to see a servant of the Lord "still bringing forth fruit in old age!"

The Foreign Mission occupied considerable attention on Monday. Brother Arthur Crawley having from the beginning devoted himself to the Burmese Mission, and the American Baptist Missionary Union having declined to co-operate with us, by allowing our Missionary to labor in connection with one of theirs, Brother Crawley felt it to be essential to the accomplishment of his purpose to ask for a release from his engagement. There was some diversity of opinion on this subject. Some of the brethren thought that we should yield to circumstances, allow our young brother to enter the service of the American Missionary Union, and transfer to that Society our surplus funds, to be applied to his support. Others objected to that course, and advised a retention of our funds till Providence should point out some way in which they could be usefully employed. The Foreign Mission Committee struck out a middle path: they advised that the Board should accept brother Crawley's resignation, and transmit to the American Union a portion of their funds, for his support, expressing a hope that by this means our interest in brother C's future progress would be sustained, and that the intelligence communicated from time to time respecting his missionary efforts would keep alive our sympathy, and perpetuate the connection between him and these Provinces. They also recommended that suitable arrangements should be made for sister Burpe's support. The Committee's report was adopted.

A public meeting was held on Monday evening, when the claims of the Domestic and French Missions were advocated by several brethren, in an impressive manner. The necessity of enlarged domestic operations is apparent to every one; but *where are the men?* The churches must pray the Lord to "thrust forth laborers," and they must seek out, encourage, and sustain useful talent.

Education was thoroughly discussed on Tuesday. The favorable prospects of the College, arising from the success of the Endowment scheme, afforded much satisfaction. The Academy is manifestly in a very flourishing state. By God's blessing we shall yet see good times.

The religious destitution of the Roman Catholic Gaelic population, on Cape Breton Island, was brought under the notice of the Association, by Brother Hugh Ross, and it was resolved to establish a mission among them as soon as funds could be provided. Bro. Ross was appointed Agent to collect and employ funds for that purpose.

The business of the Association was brought to a very harmonious conclusion on Tuesday, soon after 6 o'clock, P. M. At 8 o'clock the

body is wounded. There are some hopes of her recovering.

I find that a number of my old friends have been called away to stand before the Judge of all the earth, many of them in the prime of life. I feel it to be a solemn call, saying, "*be ye also ready.*" If it were not for our afflictions and bereavements, we should take such a firm hold of this world that it would be a fearful thing to die. But when affliction breaks our grasp, and the joys of life are rendered uncertain by the approach of death, it enables the Christian through his Saviour to