

aid of salvation to his fellow men, and to beseech them, in Christ's stead, to be reconciled to God. This can only be done by the action of mind upon mind. It is a case in which the mind of one man seeks to exert an influence over the mind of another. To accomplish this result, it is obvious that disciplined is more powerful than undisciplined mind. We are taught by Christ, that we are under obligations not only to use, but to improve every talent committed to us, that we may have the more to consecrate to his service. The slothful servant was condemned because he returned his talent just in the condition in which he had received it. This is the universal condition on which we are allowed to hold every gift entrusted to us. But if this be the universal rule, how emphatic is its application to intellectual gifts, the most valuable of all the talents with which we are entrusted. Hence, every disciple of Christ is under the most imperative obligations to enlarge his knowledge; to cultivate his faculties to discipline his mental energies; that he may have the more to devote to the service of the Master. A wilfully ignorant christian is a contradiction. He is a barren fig tree. He is the indolent servant who returned his talent, which he had kept wrapt up in a napkin. When the Master shall ask what he has gained by trading, what will he reply? Brethren the law of the Lord is exceeding broad, and it would be well for us if we more frequently contemplated the universality of its application.

[To be continued.]

#### To Subscribers.

TERMS OF THIS PAPER.—7s. 6d. per annum in advance. 10s. if payment is deferred three months. No subscriptions will be taken for a shorter period than 6 months; and in no case will less than 5s. be charged for a half year.

#### To Advertisers.

For Advertisements relating to Sales. Articles of General Consumption, &c., the Visitor, which has a circulation of over 1800, can be scarcely surpassed. The terms are on the same scale as our contemporaries.

## The Christian Visitor.

SAINT JOHN, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1853.

### The Howard Settlement, Quaco.

On Saturday last we drove to this Settlement, and visited the 2nd Saint Martins Church—which has been for some time under the care of Elder Jackson, but is now without a Pastor. We sincerely hope our valued Brother Smith will visit them as often as the duties of his own Church will allow him to do so. They are a deeply interesting people—and we were delighted to hear, have always, as a Settlement, been united and happy amongst themselves. This is good news—for UNION IS STRENGTH. We were much pleased with the young men—they are fine young men, and we pray God to bless them and make them blessings. We would say to them, let "Aspire" be your motto. Ambition is generally proportioned to men's capacities; "God," a certain writer says, "seldom sends any into the world with an ambition to attempt great things, who have not abilities likewise to perform them." Young men! mark these words! Let it be your ambition to excel in Divine knowledge and virtue, that you may serve your generation according to the will of God. This idea, though on different grounds, took possession of Johnson's mind. He says:

"Ambition, scornful of restraint, E'en from the birth, affects supreme command, Swells in the breast, and with resistless force O'erbears each gentler motion of the mind; As when a deluge overspreads the plains, The wand'ring rivulets and silver lakes Mix undistinguish'd in the general roar."

It may be no less dangerous to claim, on certain occasions, too little than too much.—There is something captivating in spirit and intrepidity, to which we often yield as to a resistless power; nor can he reasonably expect the confidence of others, who too apparently distrusts himself.

The Howards were, we understand the first settlers, these, with the Floyds, an influential family, received us with the utmost kindness and treated us with great liberality. One of the aged sisters, a Mrs. Floyd, surprised us a good deal on Lord's day, by reading a Bible of the smallest print, without glasses! She has passed the age generally allotted to man on this earth, and is now in the enjoyment of health and all her senses, and what is remarkable, though not a solitary case, she sees better than she did some years ago.

We preached twice to the Church on Lord's day, and received from the clerk as a donation, \$7, which we have placed to the credit of the Bible Union. We spent a very profitable evening with several members of the church at Mr. R. Floyd's, and we are thankful to say, obtained 5 Life Members for the Bible Union, viz—Deacon Floyd, Mr. Robert Floyd, and three of Mr. Howard's sons, and also a donation from a fine young man, a Mr. David Brown. We also obtained six NEW SUBSCRIBERS TO THE *Christian Visitor*, all of whom paid in advance. For so small a Settlement we think this does them much credit, and we pray God to reward them. We most reluctantly took our farewell, with an assurance on our part, D. V., of visiting them again the 2d Lord's day in January.

We beg to say to Deacon Floyd who kindly acts as our Agent for the paper, that we have requested our Publisher to direct the Bundle in future to be left at Mr. Robert Floyd's, as that will be more convenient to the Stage Driver.

D. V., we intend to spend next Lords day at Norton and Hampton, and the 1st Lords day after that we can, at Saint George.

We are pleased to see by Brother Porter's letter, which we publish to-day, that our Brethren in Canning have come forward cheerfully in support of our Home Missionary Movements. We have no doubt that such will be the case with all our churches, so soon as the matter is fairly brought before them. There are urgent calls upon the Board for Ministerial supply from the Grand Falls, Restigouche, and other places. Will the churches furnish the means?

We have just left the house of death—Sister Rethburn, a member of the Portland Church, whose husband died about 18 months ago, now sleeps in Jesus. She had been ill only two days. She was sensible to the last, and expressed the most perfect resignation to the Divine will, and died happy in the thought that she was going to be with the Lord—Rev. xiv. 13.

We have much pleasure in inserting the following. These are the *Revivals* we like to hear and read of, because such converts are likely to stand. May many such revivals spring up!

R. T.  
"A writer of the New York Observer, states that during the summer and autumn there has been some special religious interest in the neighboring church of West Needham. More than twenty individuals, all of them young, have hopefully embraced the Saviour, and consecrated themselves forever to his service. Ten of this number have already publicly professed their faith in Christ, and others will probably do so at the next successive communion seasons of the church. *The work has been characterized by great stillness and solemnity, and by deep searchings of the heart* Strangers, who have been casually present on the Sabbath, have remarked something quite unusual in the appearance of the congregation; not in any high wrought excitement, but in that earnest and fixed attention, and that profound silence which makes the slightest rustle felt to be an impropriety, and which is an indication of the special presence of the Holy Spirit. The good work still continues, and prayer is made without ceasing of the church unto God, that he will yet do greater things than these"

Elder Thomson presents his thanks to Mr. Munro for his letter. He begs to say to the Hillsboro' friends that he has seen the Post Master General, who says the papers are regularly sent from this City, and he begs that those who do not get their papers will hand in their names, that the matter may be searched out and rectified.

We request that our respected Agent, Mr. Ford, will inform us whose papers are not sent regularly, as the Post Master General says there should be no irregularity in the Sackville office, and he wishes to be informed when any papers are not delivered. He has just appointed an office at Wood Point.

We shall insert upon our Family page next week a Thanksgiving Crumb from the Puritan Recorder, for the family fireside. We hope it will be read in every family. It is like "apples of gold in pictures of silver."

We beg to say that the Money of which the Rev. Mr. Francis speaks, never reached us.

Elder Thomson was appointed by Elder Scott to collect funds towards defraying the expenses of building the Baptist Chapel at Shediac. He has sent to the Treasurer there all the funds he has collected—but as some who engaged to give subscriptions have not done so, he hopes they will send their subscriptions to him immediately to enable him to attend to the following order which has been handed to him. This is a pressing case, and worthy the consideration of all our friends.

Sir,—Please pay to Mr. Laban Lawrence, the sum of Five Pounds, it being for a Stove for the Baptist Meeting House in Shediac, and oblige yours.  
Shediac, Dec. 8th 1853. Lemuel W. Barber.

Some of our Friends complain that they do not get their papers regularly. If they will state the precise time they should reach their destination we will then see the Post Master General J. Howe Esquire, of whose gentlemanly conduct and attention to our wishes we cannot speak too highly.

We call the especial attention of the Churches to that part of the Sermon we are publishing that appears on our first page this week. It speaks loudly too to the Missionary Board.

We beg to inform General Frauton of Fort Fairfield, that his paper has been regularly forwarded from the Post Office.

We have deeply sympathised with our publisher this week; all his children and one of his men have been laid aside by sickness. This will account for the paucity of original matter and general information in this week's Visitor.

MONEY LETTERS.—D. Nicholas, by Mr. John Marsters, 7s. 6d.; D. Crandall, Bend, 15s.; Lewis Keith, 8s. 9d.; Joseph Blakeney, 20s.; Rev. A. Mutch, £1 18s. 9d.; Thos. Heffer, St. John, 7s. 6d.; Thos. Stiles, Hopewell, 7s. 6d.

#### OBITUARY.

The sudden decease of Mrs. Hall, the wife of the Rev. William Hall of Windsor, N. S., is a painful and startling event. We are informed that her babe was about a fortnight old. She appeared to be very comfortable, and no fears were entertained of this afflictive visitation, when, to the astonishment and grief of all, she was suddenly summoned to the invisible world. Her husband was absent at the time, engaged in a Mission at Pictou, N. S., which served to render the event peculiarly distressing. Surely there is but a step between us and the grave.

Our departed Sister was the daughter of our valued friend Isaac Knight, Esq., of St. George. Her two children were suddenly called from her by death some twelve months ago. It is an affecting thought that the Mother should so soon join her infant babes in the "better land." We truly sympathise with our Brother Hall in his sad affliction, as also with the parents and relations of the departed. May the rich promises of their Redeemer be their solace and their joy in the time of their trouble! The fact that God has done it, is adapted to hush every rising murmur, and bow the heart, tho' full of anguish, in humble submission to his will.

## Correspondence.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Gagetown, Dec. 6, 1853.

DEAR BROTHER,—I hereby inform you that I am not altogether indifferent to the claims of the N. B. H. M. Society in regard to procuring matter, although I have done but little as yet, on account of the state of the river and roads.

As soon as circumstances would permit, after the great freshet, I went up to Canning to see what could be done in regard to an Auxiliary Society, and after consulting with the Pastor, (Brother Foshay) I found it impracticable at present (from certain circumstances) to organize an Auxiliary, and therefore concluded to exchange pulpits with Bro. F. the ensuing Sabbath, and go round among the people and collect what money I could, and as the organization of the society is in good hands, we would leave it for some future time.

I found the people unchangeable in reference to their interests in the object, although their circumstances have greatly changed, being afflicted with sickness and death in almost every house.

In consequence of bad weather and ill health, from cold, I could not accomplish all that I intend to in that vicinity. Some of their money and liberal men were also absent at the time, while others intend to give, but

were not prepared with means. I send a list of donations received on my mission, amounting in the whole to £13 17 8.

I am happy to state, my conviction is, Canning and vicinity will do more than they engaged to do. I am satisfied that the churches and friends generally, only wait for an opportunity to give to the cause of Home Missions. The subject commends itself to their hearts and consciences, and if a person calls for money, it comes freely. The "Macedonian cry" is too important to repel. I intend to go over the ground assigned me, as soon as the roads, rivers, and lakes permit, if God in mercy preserves my life and health.

I remain as ever,

Yours in Christian Bonds,

T. H. PORTER.

To Rev. I. E. Bill.

#### Letter To Young Christians.

MY DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS,—There will come to you, as to all who have begun the Christian life, trials and temptations; but they will come only as the storm and the shower, for in religion, as in nature, the number of bright days exceed those that are dark and gloomy, and there is more sunshine far than shade. But as friction polishes the steel, and the gold loses nothing in the furnace but the dross, so every ordeal that virtue passes successfully, only makes it shine the brighter. You may regret sometimes, when your mind is not sufficiently guarded, that your profession forbids you to mingle with the votaries of folly, fashion, and pleasure, when the delights of the ball room, the party, and the theatre, are descanted upon in your hearing. To feel thus is not sinful, for you are human; but to yield, makes the sin. When, however, these desires are repressed by your principles, then you will feel that you have achieved a victory. I do not deny that pleasure is to be found in the gay scenes of mirth—that a species of joy may be found in the gay revel, or the witching mazes of the dance—yet how soon does it pass away! Look at that young man in the morning, who last night was the gayest of the flushed revellers: the fierce excitement produced by the wine-cup has passed away—the nerveless limb and dejected face tell of a reaction which far overbalances the delight. Look at that young lady!—last night her voice was sweetest in the song—her feet the lightest in the dance—her laugh was silvery sweet, and her smiles like gleams of sunshine. All eyes were dazzled by her beauty—all lips praising her; but morning comes, and how joyless her face—how hollow seem the praises, the compliments that were lavished upon her—how valueless all, when compared to the approval of one long-tried friend! She feels that she is capable of better things—of loftier, purer enjoyments—and that to live but for earthly pleasure, is to live in vain. Contrast with the former that Christian youth who spent his evening hours in serious, yet cheerful converse, with the wise and good—in storing his mind with useful learning, at the lecture or social meeting, where prayer and cheerful praise arose. Contrast with the other that Christian maiden, who, through the live-long night has been a patient watcher at the couch of pain. How soft seemed her hand to the sufferer, whose burning brow she bathed! How sweet the words of consolation she breathed! How mindful of every want! How unremitting, how tender, her care!—Morn, to her, may have brought weariness, but not regret.

Christian youth, Christian maiden, which of these pictures would you choose for your own? Would you purchase the fierce joy of the reveller at the price of self-condemnation and deep remorse?—or would you dazzle, by a false glare, for a moment, or seek pleasure in hollow flatteries, and pay in deep regret and self-accusation? Or would you prefer to seek the pure, calm joys of virtue and religion—joys which cloy not, which leave no sting behind? Beware of compromising in the least. Your friends may say, "You are a christian, and will not be expected to dance, of course; but you can go and enjoy yourself otherwise." Beware, my young friends, of that lure, and do not countenance by your presence that in which you cannot conscientiously engage, for you will thus not only lose the respect of others, but worse, your own; for those who do not practice our holy religion well know what it requires, and even those who solicit you to join with them will be the first to mark and mention the inconsistency of which you have been guilty should you yield. The christian can well af-