

THE FAMILY CASKET
Is issued on the first of every month, at the office of the Christian Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.
SAINT JOHN, N. B., DEC. 24, 1856.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.
Terms of the Visitor, 7s. 6d., per annum in advance, 10s., if payment be delayed over three months.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.
No communication will be inserted without the author entrusting us with his name in confidence.

Acadia College.
Never was there more urgent need for united energetic action in behalf of this valued institution of learning than at the present moment.

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In truth we hesitate not to claim a pure Apostolic descent. Like the first churches, we have never persecuted, though, like them again, we have been much persecuted.

At the last Convention these matters were duly considered and the Rev. John Chase was appointed agent to submit the case to the churches and seek to raise the endowment to £15000.

The Colonial Presbyterian and the Baptists.

What ails our brother of the Colonial Presbyterian? He copies scurrilous matter from British papers about Mr. Spurgeon.

And, first, we will let him into a secret as to our views on the mode of baptism. The article, for instance, with which he has favoured us from the Presbyterian Banner and Advocate, might, much of it have been spared, if the writer had adverted to the circumstance, that with Baptists the radical meaning of the Greek word baptizo is scarcely an open question.

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they want to increase our numbers, and extend our influence, by all means let him proceed with his threatened discussion. Like Israel in Egypt, we grow by opposition, and even oppression cannot crush us.

The Close of the Volume.

Our present issue closes the ninth volume of the Christian Visitor, and the next will be vol. 10, No. 1. It is only fitting that in this last number of the year 1856, we should express our consciousness of obligation to our correspondents, ministers, agents, subscribers, and patrons generally for their co-operation in giving interest and extension to the Visitor.

Controversy will not be courted, but if the sentiments held sacred by the denomination are assailed we shall not shrink from sustaining them to the best of our humble abilities by a manly, christian defence.

With party politics we shall have as little to do as possible, but if at any time political parties are found pursuing a policy detrimental to the social, moral, or religious well-being of the people, the Visitor, as heretofore, will not fail to sound the note of warning.

Musical Entertainment.

PURSUANT to notice given the Oratorio styled DANIEL OR THE CAPTIVITY AND RESTORATION OF THE JEWS was performed by the Choir of the German St. Baptist Church in the large Hall of the Mechanics' Institute on Friday evening last.

Our printer recently enclosed a number of bills to parties in the country for advertising in the Christian Visitor.

The letters from Brethren Francis and Rowe, which appear in our present issue, will yield unmixed pleasure to their numerous friends.

To the Editor of the Christian Visitor. Sir, I perceive that the editor of the Colonial Presbyterian in a recent number expresses an opinion that the time is come when it will be necessary to discuss the subject of baptism in these provinces.

history of the churches and many have been the prudent pious baptist pastors who have wisely declined to advocate what they practice or at least to dispose of the subject as quietly as might be possible.

For the Christian Visitor.

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE, Dec. 3rd, 1856.

DEAR BROTHER:—In accordance with the intimation given in my last letter, I left New York the following morning, (Friday), by the New York and Erie Railroad, and arrived in Louisville, Ky., via Indianapolis, Ia., at 6 o'clock Sabbath morning, the whole distance over 1200 miles occupying only 48 hours.

On Wednesday following I proceeded to attend the Bethel Association to be held in Hopkinsville. The proceedings of this body were conducted with the usual efficiency and spirit.

The Baptist place of worship in Hopkinsville, is a large handsome building. The Female Institution located here, is one of the handsomest edifices in the State.

On Friday following I proceeded to attend the General Association of Middle Tennessee, and North Alabama, to be held in Decatur, Alabama. The devotional and benevolent feeling displayed by this body at their annual gatherings is heart cheering.

The number of Students and Pupils in attendance at the close of the term, was fifty-five, and it affords me much satisfaction to state, that the conduct of the young men, and indeed, of the lads in general, has been worthy of the highest commendation.

Jottings by the Way.

Having arrived at Boston I beheld the city for the first time, where some beautiful buildings raise their massive columns, and the hum of human beings above the breeze like the voice of many waters.

As I advance on my journey the land becomes more fertile and delightful, the scenery changes like the power of magic; the green fields delight the eye, the waving trees bend their majestic heads to the breeze, while the wathing jerseys are significant of death, saying in the solemn language of their fall, our race is run!

Bro. Walker, the corresponding secretary, gave us also an interesting account of his visit to the Kansas Indians, he stated that all that could possibly be done for the Kansas Indians at present under the patronage of the Board has been accomplished, and unless the political strife, prevailing in that region, interrupt their progress, the "Red Man" must be greatly improved in his moral, physical, and social condition.

Bro. Shuck, the missionary employed by the Board to preach to the Chinese in California, is also doing a good work in Sacramento city. Large congregations attend every Lord's day at the Chinese Chapel. He has baptized three Chinese, one of whom is a colporteur and preacher, and gives good promise of usefulness.

With these statements I shall close this letter, inasmuch, as I do not consider it necessary to refer to the questions usually discussed in the secular press as the daily and weekly papers will always be in advance of a written communication.

Baptist Seminary, Fredericton.

The public Recitations, in the large School Room of the above Institution, took place according to announcement. The room was filled with a highly respectable audience, who appeared to take an intelligent interest in the proceedings.

The following is a list of the subjects, authors, and reciters:

- 1.—Moral Culture, Original, M. J. L. Reed.
2.—On Man, Original, Mr. T. Scott.
3.—An Interview with an Old Bachelor, Original, Mr. R. Provan.
4.—The Quarrel of Brutus and Cassius, Shakespeare, Messrs. W. J. Blackeney and E. Hopper.
5.—The Bashful Man, Towner's Reader, Mr. J. Jones.
6.—Rivers and Sir Harry, False Delicacy, Masters G. Todd and A. Atherton.
7.—Breathes there the Man, Scott, Master G. Hall.
8.—Birds of Passage, Mrs. Hemans, Master C. Harit.
9.—Edward the Fourth and Warwick, Masters C. O'Connor and G. Howard.
10.—The Vassal's Lament for the Fallen Tree, Mrs. Hemans, Master J. McPherson.
11.—John Day, Hood, Master A. Blair.
12.—Stemmelherb's Overture, Byron, Master J. McNeill.
13.—Duck's Long-Tailed Coat, Anonymous, Master T. Johnson.
14.—Pity for Poor Africans, Couper, Master C. Paisley.
15.—He don't Propose, Anonymous, Master F. Stentford.
16.—Cassibanda, Mrs. Hemans, Master J. Babbie.
17.—The Song of the Sword, Anonymous, Master C. Weeks.
18.—The Election, H. Moore, Master G. Gunter.
19.—The Tempest, Anonymous, Master C. Ormsby.
20.—That Same Old Girl, Anonymous, Master J. Colter.
21.—The Song of the Shirt, Hood, Master R. Watta.

Specimens of drawings were exhibited, which had been executed by several of the lads under the instruction of Mr. Munro. Besides drawings in pencil, and black crayon, there were some in coloured crayons, which had a very good effect, and attracted considerable attention.

The duties of the School will be resumed on Monday, 5th January, when, I trust, a goodly number of young men, who intend to apply themselves to study, will encourage us by their presence.

C. SPURDEN.

the bank of the river, covered with beautiful cedar trees. Some parts of this elevated land is broken up, forming the appearance of a cone surrounded with terraces, flushing with green and decorated with a great variety of beautiful flowers, which form the paradise of Canada. Here the art and skill of man has embellished the rugged wilds of nature and caused the tender flowers to bloom amidst the wild roar of tumultuous waters. Nature and art blend their beauties on the gigantic banks of Niagara, while the tall cedars wave their noble branches over the vast precipice. Truly the whole scenery around this place is magnificent.

The next morning I left in the cars for Brant where Father Oakley resides, the former agent of the Bible Union. Here I received much valuable information connected with my agency. I stopped at St. Catharine's, and Besseville. In the former place the people all sit at prayers, when they sing they turn their backs to the ministers. Here I met St. John's christians, Mr. Thomas and wife. I found their house and hearts open to receive me, and like Bunyan's pilgrim, it was a godly refreshment. I found I was acquainted with almost all her friends; she was pleased to hear about Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

News of the Week.

Serious fire!

Dear Mr. Editor,—When I reached Dumfries on Tuesday last, (16th inst.) I learned with much regret that the day previous a fire broke out in a large barn owned by John Gouin, Esq. The wind was blowing a gale, so that notwithstanding the most vigorous efforts the building was soon consumed.

Your readers I am sure will sympathize with our esteemed friend and brother Gouin, in this his loss. Many I trust will manifest their sympathy in a tangible form. Brother G. keeps one of the most respectable and comfortable Temperance Hotels in the province. It is a pleasant stopping place for travellers.

Prince William, Dec. 18, 1856.

The line of Railway is now staked to the intended terminus, and as soon as possible it is intended to lay the rails and run a locomotive out in the five mile house. The rails are already laid in as far as Mr. Robert Jardine's. The number of men engaged on the road is being increased.

The inhabitants of Chatham Miramichi are taking steps to have the town lighted with gas.

The Bazaar in aid of the funds of the New Wesleyan Church Exmouth street, was held in the German St. Church on Wednesday and Thursday last.

On Friday morning last a fire broke out in the cabin of the Ann Archibald, lying at Sand Point Carleton, and in consequence of the lowness of the tide it was with great difficulty extinguished. The vessel is much injured.

THE WEATHER.—The weather during the last week has been intensely cold. On Thursday morning last the thermometer stood at 25° below zero in St. John; at Fredericton 20°; Woodstock 30°; Sackville 10°; at Halifax zero; Boston 6°; Calais 16°; at St. George 26° at nine a. m.; at noon 5°; on Friday nine a. m. 22° below, noon 6° above.

FIRE AT HILLSBORO.—Four Persons Burned to Death.—By a Telegraph Despatch from Hillsboro we learn that a house was destroyed by fire at that place on Wednesday evening, and that two men by the name of Glen, a woman named Mr. Allan and a child, were burned to death. No further particulars known.—News.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Geo. Kerr, George L. Hatheway, Charles Parley, Hugh McMonagle, Esquires, and Professor James Robb, M. D., to be Commissioners in pursuance of an Address of the House of Assembly, to report as to any improvements that may be deemed advisable in the application of the present Grants to Agricultural Societies to objects likely to produce more permanent and advantageous results than heretofore to the Agricultural Interests of the Province.

John C. Vail, Esq., to be Registrar of Deeds for King's County, in the room of Thos. C. Sharp, Esquire.

By His Excellency's Command. R. D. WILMOT.

Secretary's Office, 13th December, 1856.

FIRE.—A fire broke out on Thursday morning at 9 o'clock, in a house on Union Street, occupied by Mr. Lawton, and owned by Lewis Burns, Esq. The engines were soon on the spot, and subdued the fire before much damage was done to the building.—Nbr.

ALARM OF THE SLAVEHOLDERS.—The City Councils of Nashville, have passed a law directing the employment of a police force, day and night; forbidding negro schools and negro preaching; forbidding all assemblages of negroes after sundown; authorizing the arrest of free negroes from other countries, and the arrest of free resident negroes, if found in suspicious circumstances. A great deal of business is felt in the city as well as in the country.