

An erroneous impression might exist that the opinions expressed by a few members of the House of Commons in the recent debate on Canada were those of the majority of the house.

Mr. H. SHYMOUR, M. P., in ascending the rostrum, said he considered that Mr. Galt had given a satisfactory explanation as to the misunderstanding which had taken place in this country.

There is a prospect of an abundant harvest, especially in the buckwheat department.

The late Father Crandal early commenced his evangelical labors in this section of the Province, and his remains slumber in the grave-yard near the old meeting house.

For the Baptist and Visitor. Hints to Ministers. I mean young ministers, of course, who necessarily have much to learn, and whose success depends upon their determination to learn all that is to be learned from every available source.

RESOLVED by the New Brunswick Baptist and Christian Association, at its Annual Session, at Keswick, Sept. 24th 1862.

WHEREAS—The CHRISTIAN VISITOR has been for years recognized as the Denominational Organ of the Associated Churches of the Eastern and Western New Brunswick Baptist Associations, therefore:

Resolved.—That said recognition be continued by the Churches of this Association.

New Brunswick Baptist AND CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, SEP. 4, 1862.

Editorial Correspondence.

HILLSBORO, Sept. 1, 1862.

The press of Convention matters prevented us last week from noting our visit to Shediac. It was short, but interesting and healthful. The progress of Shediac has not been so great as some sanguine people at one time anticipated, but it is steadily advancing, and will ultimately, we doubt not, become a place of commanding importance.

The religious interests of Shediac, we regret to say, are not progressing. The Baptist church is again without a pastor. Good was done during the pastorate of Elder Coleman, but want of support compelled him to leave, and they have had but little Baptist preaching since he left.

Mr. S. Wilbur advanced several hundred pounds towards the erection of the Baptist Chapel at Shediac, and as yet no system has been adopted to refund the money. An efficient ministry in the place would do much towards rendering the people amenable, so that friend Wilbur could be partially relieved from this source.

The salutary air of Shediac, combined with the advantages of bathing in the salt waters of the Gulf, we found to be highly conducive to the improvement of health. This with the generous hospitality of the Wilburs and other kind friends, rendered our short stay exceedingly pleasant.

At the close of the Convention, we had occasion to visit St. John. Having done so, we returned in time to spend Friday at Salisbury. Our esteemed agent there, J. S. Colpitts, Esq., prevailed upon us to accompany him to see a number of friends on Visitor business.

There is a prospect of an abundant harvest, especially in the buckwheat department. The late Father Crandal early commenced his evangelical labors in this section of the Province, and his remains slumber in the grave-yard near the old meeting house, where for so many years he proclaimed with fidelity to God and man the unsearchable riches of Christ.

I mean young ministers, of course, who necessarily have much to learn, and whose success depends upon their determination to learn all that is to be learned from every available source. To such I submit the following sensible remarks, which, of course, I am not the author.

SELECTION OF A TEXT. Most young preachers find this difficult. Hours, sometimes even days, are consumed in search of what is deemed a suitable text. Much of this may be avoided by the following methods:

1. Reading the Scriptures; note down in a book, kept for the purpose, every passage which strikes your mind forcibly.

2. Read commentaries; especially suggestive ones, as Whedon's and Henry's, and such works as "Gummins's Scripture Readings." By so doing one can scarcely fail to supply himself with texts in great abundance.

3. Determine upon the subject on which you ought to preach. This is a vital point at any rate. For no sermon can do much good that is not adapted to the wants of those to whom it is preached.

4. Never indulge a propensity for uncommon or queer texts. These require much time to find them, and make him who uses them appear very ridiculous.

And now, permit me to suggest in addition to this, that when you have selected a suitable text, and one that makes "complete sense of itself," don't crucify it and put it to an open shame, by "taking from it" what it never had, or "founding upon it" what it is entirely unable to bear.

Such a course will soon gain for you the respect and confidence of your people. Your congregation will grow, and become more and more interested.

It is uncomfortable being in a church that is so densely crowded, that all the standing-room is occupied. If any of our brethren the ministry are troubled by such congregations, and cannot do dull preaching enough themselves to reduce them to a comfortable size, that kind of prosy sermonizing which leaves vacant seats may be procured without great expense or trouble.

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With respect to the finances, the Committee report that in their statement last year they had to record with gratitude that, notwithstanding the extreme severity of the winter, whereby the cost of all articles of subsistence was greatly increased, the receipts for general purposes were £2,853 in advance of those of the previous year.

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city has ever received, with the exception of the Jubilee year. The total expenditure for the past year has been £32,943 2s. 3d.

Progress of Missions during the present Century. Truly marvellous is the progress that missions have made within the present century.

The above must suffice for the present. I have many things to say to our Churches and Ministers,—and will say them—in all kindness of course—as I have opportunity. Fredericton, Sept. 1862. Spres.

English Baptist Missionary Society. The seventieth annual meeting of the Baptist Missionary Society was held at Exeter Hall in May last.

The larger of these sums is, after all, but a fiftieth part of the national taxation for 'year, and is mainly drawn from the middle classes. When once the higher and the lower classes begin to own proportionately the same impulses, there will be a greatly increased extension of the present missionary field, wide as is the area which it now covers.

Let us be, in the mean time, thankful for the work that is being done. Missionaries are maintained alike in the tropics and in the frozen regions of the pole.

This is only an illustration of the general advance of missionary enterprise; and many more striking illustrations might be furnished. Polynesia, or the islands of the Pacific, for example, have been in great part, in the course of the century, delivered from a dark, debasing, and sanguinary idolatry, and are now enjoying the civilizing influence, the domestic happiness, and the spiritual blessings which Christianity imparts.

Not do these distant missions draw off attention from the less romantic Christian labors that are so urgently needed at home. On the contrary, it is found that the same enthusiasm which hails the noble enterprise of a Livingstone, a Mackenzie, and a Krapf, in Central and Eastern Africa, or of an Ellis in Madagascar, or a Williams in Polynesia, is enlisted by every good work, however prosaic, among the ignorant and degraded in the crowded courts and alleys of our own towns.

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"ten miles to the rear," and from thence to Manassas Junction and the old battle ground of "Bull Run"—and have in their retreats made serious losses, among which the raid on Pope's headquarters and the loss of his official despatches, was not the trifling affair which the telegram would lead us to suppose. On this subject the New York World says:—

OUR GREAT DISASTER IN VIRGINIA.

The rebels could have afforded to pay ten millions of dollars for the results accomplished by their cavalry raid on Gen. Pope's headquarters at Catlett's Station, Friday night. They took possession of our camp, pillaged and plundered to their hearts' content, and besides the lives, money, horses, and personal effects lost, General Pope lost the muster rolls of his army, all his private papers, copies of despatches and reports, memoranda of the campaign and the past a id present condition of the army, copies of all the telegrams which he has sent to Washington since taking his present command, all the despatches received from the President, General Halleck, Gen. McClellan, General Burnside, and the War Department, copies of all the orders issued to his generals of corps and division, all his maps and topographical charts, and in short every record and piece of information which any one could desire to have who wished to know with perfect accuracy and detail the past history and future plans of the campaign, the numbers and disposition of our troops, and the purposes of the War Department and the generalis. If these had all been destroyed by fire the loss would have been most serious, and would greatly have retarded the prosecution of the war.

President Lincoln himself could not tell Jefferson Davis and his generals nothing concerning our army in Virginia which they do not already know. The loss, we repeat, is incalculable. Unless our force is so great, that such perfect knowledge of our purposes by the enemy is no detriment to their successful execution, the whole plan of the campaign must be changed. It will hardly do to say that we are thus strong when the loss met with occurred during a retreat.

This loss is so stunning, and so complete that the report of it would hardly be credited did it come in any doubtful shape. But our own special correspondent, who with all other members of the press was about being excluded from General Pope's lines, was present and a witness of the raid. He and one other correspondent were the only members of the press then and there present. His letter, which we published yesterday, and which created such a profound regret throughout the city, is amply confirmed, not by telegrams from Pope's new headquarters—for it is notorious that nothing can be trusted which comes to the public from that source, and that however eloquent he may be over fictitious victories, he is silent over real disasters—but it is confirmed by his own verbal statements and the statements of others who reached the city yesterday from the field of battle.—[World.

The Federals have just one more retreat to make—from BULL RUN to Washington, a road with which they are pretty well acquainted,—and then they will be just where they started from nearly fifteen months ago! It would not be at all surprising, if the terrible battle of Friday telegraphed by Pope on Saturday, ended in another "Bull Run" stampede for Washington.

The Great Battle.

The great battle of the war is now in progress—not before Richmond but in the immediate vicinity of Washington. The despatches are, as usual, contradictory and unintelligible; but enough is clearly revealed to show that the Federals are the losing side. The transfer of Porter's gun-boat flotilla from the siege of Richmond to the defence of Washington is significant of fears for the safety of the Federal capital, which is within a few hours' march of the victorious Confederates.

It is idle to speculate upon the next movements, and we must only patiently wait their development and the pleasure of the Federal Government to inform us of their results.

BANGOR, Aug. 29.

Confederates hold Manassas and reported twenty thousand strong there. Gen. Kearney, with 1st New Jersey Brigade, reported engaged enemy at Bull Run Bridge, where desperate struggle ensued, Federals being terribly cut up, with loss of many pieces of cannon.

On taking possession of Manassas Confederates captured seven loaded trains of provisions, ammunition, &c. Confederates crossed Bull Run and took possession of Fairfax and Curtis Stations. Enemy also appeared within 12 miles of Washington.

Leesburg is reported occupied by enemy, and prevailing opinion is that a dash will be made on Maryland. It is supposed the enemy got in rear of the Federal army, through Manassas Gap, which was left unguarded.

The enemy it is also reported dashed on Accuquan and Aevius Creeks. A report via Fredericksburg states that Pope was attacking Ewell in the rear.

BANGOR, Aug. 30.

Confederate raid on Manassas Station destroyed half a million Federal Quartermaster's stores. It is supposed they destroyed all buildings, public and private. Meantime Washington is without Railroad or Telegraph communication with the army. Troops are going out from Washington to regulate matters.

Federal troops at Cumberland Gap are in excellent spirits, with provisions for 60 days, and able to hold position. Confederates think to starve them out. The latter number 20,000 West of Gap. Major Leifers, with a portion of Illinois cavalry, totally routed Hick's guerrilla force, beyond Bloomfield, Mo., killing 20 and wounding 60, capturing horses, &c. Survivors scattered in confusion.

French ship, cotton laden, captured off North Carolina, spoken, Boston bound. Pope telegraphs to Halleck from Manassas Junction on Thursday night, that finding enemy turning his right towards Manassas, and forces ordered two days previously from Alexandria not having arrived, he broke camp at Warrenton, marching rapidly back in three columns. McDowell's Corps drove Long street back through Manassas Gap.

Mr. GEORGE FREDERICK YOUNG proposed a resolution to the effect that the almost universal desire of the British public was to preserve and strengthen the bonds which united the British Empire with its North American colonies; and that, relying with confidence on the reciprocal disposition of the inhabitants of those colonies to cultivate the most friendly relations with the mother country, the meeting was of opinion that while it was the duty and interest of the colonists to develop their utmost energies to the maintenance of their independence against foreign interference, it