

Lay Preachers.

Long since we came to the conclusion, that the world's conversion to Christ demands a self-sustaining, as well as a paid ministry. The latter has a most important place to fill in the church and in the world; but the former is indispensable to the universal diffusion of the gospel of Christ.

The Christian World speaks of a tradesman of Nottingham, by the name of Varley, who is exciting a good deal of interest in London and other places by his earnest unfoldings of the Gospel of Jesus.

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Rev. G. M. W. Carey's Lecture in Germain Street Baptist Church, on Thursday evening last, was a pleasing success. His theme, "St. Patrick," was discussed by the lecturer in a style which indicated a very thorough investigation of the history of Ireland's tutelar Saint.

Mr. Carey having had access to some of the principal Roman Catholic writers, we presume that his sketch is much more reliable than the above. In his admirable lecture he informed his hearers that the leading Roman Catholic historians show that Patrick was from Britain, in the North of France.

Preparing himself for his great work, he returned to Ireland; preached the gospel with great success; multitudes believed and were baptized. Patrick formed them into churches and ordained a bishop over every church.

An earnest request is made that our brother will repeat this lecture, and we sincerely hope that he will consent to do so.

The Rev. C. H. Corey, A. M.

DEAR BRO.—A letter which I received lately from Brother C. H. Corey will be properly placed before your readers, as he is one of your own men. Bro. C. is laboring among the freedmen, under the auspices of the American Baptist Home Missionary Society, and is stationed at Charleston, South Carolina.

He says:—"During the year 1866 I organized five churches, established six Sunday-schools, and presided at six councils for the ordination of ministers. The churches organized now range in membership from one hundred and fifty to one thousand.

At the commencement of the war there were about 35,000 colored Baptists in this State, most of whom are seeking to be organized into separate churches.

I think the feeling towards me and my work is improving. There are places which last year I dared not visit, to which I can now go in perfect safety. Persons who last year reviled, this year are friendly and take me to their homes.

The people among whom I labor are poor, and yet make great sacrifices for the cause. In some instances they worship under trees, amid the ruins of devastated cities, or in the woods.

A few weeks since I rode fourteen miles by night, (not daring to go by daylight, as there was no garrison,) and found the brethren awaiting us. They built a fire in the woods, and there we organized a church, ordained our deacons, and installed our pastor.

Allow me to make two or three observations on this letter. 1. Brother Corey is a worker. Some thoughtless persons have said that colleges spoil young ministers; and, doubtless, cases do now and then occur in which grave bishops lay their hands on "schools that cannot teach, and will not learn."

It will be seen by reference to our obituary list that Mr. Phinney, of Wilmet, N. S., has gone to his rest. She was one of the noble band of Christians who constituted the Nictaux Church, when, in the infancy of our ministry, we were called to preside over it.

Correspondence from Charlotte County. DEAR EDITOR—It may not be uninteresting to some of the spinners and weavers, who read your interesting Journal, to know that we have some industrious people in Charlotte County, and that home manufactory adds to the independence of the country.

Mr. Martha Towle, wife of Horatio Towle, of Oak-bay, St. David's, has, within the last six months, (in addition to household duties) woven over three-quarters of a mile of twilled cloth of the usual width of homespun, in an old-styled loom, 300 yards belonged to one person; 1825 yards is the whole.

We do not send this forth as a challenge, but if any have beat it, we should like to hear of the fact through you. We wish to notify our sister churches in the County of Charlotte that the Baptist Quarterly Conference will take place at Beacomb, second Friday of April, or 12th day, at 2 o'clock, p. m.

With the exception of a few funerals, I have not been able to attend any public services since October last. The medical gentlemen denominate my complaint pneumonia, disease of the lungs. I am better, and expect a partial recovery if the Lord will; if not, His will be done.

I am much gratified, and congratulate my worthy Brother Davis, after his toil and faithful labor in getting up the life and times of the Rev. Harris Harding of happy memory, to see such men as Rev. Dr. Crawley and Tupper coming forward with their commendations of the work, and speaking of the labours of the author with such becoming approval.

Having had some acquaintance with the author, and subject of the memoir, and their differences of administration and style, I was not expecting so like a picture of the departed as I found it to be.

Buy the book brethren, it brings times past to present view, brings distant objects home.

Will the Christian Messenger copy as much of the above as refers to Bro. Davis' work.

A. D. THOMSON.

Donation to Rev. William Harris.

The friends of the Rev. Wm. Harris being desirous of expressing their appreciation of his services as a Minister of the Gospel, met at the Public Hall in Lower Kingsler, on Wednesday evening, the 13th inst., at 7 o'clock. There were, I should think, about one hundred persons present, including about twenty from Fredericton.

Rev. W. W. Corey being called upon, responded in a few appropriate remarks, which were well received. Rev. W. Harris followed, expressing the great pleasure he had in meeting so many kind friends on such an occasion.

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The Temperance Revival in Fredericton. Mr. Editor—I presume your readers will understand that the Temperance Revival, mentioned in my last communication, is in Fredericton. The name, probably, was omitted in the hurry of the moment.

We have five prosperous Divisions within a radius of twenty miles from the city. In addition, we have some lodges of Good Templars, and several total abstinence societies in this County.

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A Graphic Description of Henry Ward Beecher by a correspondent of the Christian Times and Witness.

Being called to New York on a late Sabbath, to attend the funeral of a dear relative in Dr. Sarles' church, I concluded to spend the day there. Deacon Edmund Fish was a consistent member of the above church, a most exemplary and devout Christian, who had walked in nineteen years, from 12,000 to 15,000 miles, as his pastor said, in attending the meetings and doing his duties as a member of the body.

The edifice is plain and old-fashioned. It does not seem very large, but it is compactly seated, and the galleries are spacious. It is rather noisy now, as the people are entering, and those within are going up. There is no special air of reverence for the time of place.

The point of the discourse (upon the words, "It doth not yet appear what we shall be, &c.") was that we know little of the hereafter. But for its being Mr. Beecher, some things would be considered not on the square as to orthodoxy.

The sermon began at 11.30, and closed at 12.35. I should say one-half of it was written, and the rest thrown in at the moment. The most beautiful and perfect passages were written and elaborated beforehand, except in a single instance, (as I judge) Order was not specially regarded, and the discourse was in no way remarkable, but yet good in its general effect beyond question.

At a quarter past ten, I found the church-going-touring down the street towards "Beecher's" pretty freely; the vestibule I found full, and some police were there to keep order. Lines of strangers stood waiting for pew-holders to get their seats, so they could be let in; as no one, without a ticket, gets through before service begins except pew-holders.

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Rev. William Coleman, of Petiteddie, has spent a few days with his friends in Portland, and has rendered valuable service in the meetings both to pastor and people. He is laboring, we regret to say, under bronchial difficulty to such an extent as seriously to interfere with his pulpit efforts.

We are happy to inform our readers that we have made arrangements for correspondence by a talented writer, who left by the last boat en route for London, Paris, Rome, and other continental cities. He will be at Paris (p. v.) at the opening of the great exhibition, and will tell us of the wonders of the occasion.

We regret to say that Hon. A. McLeod has been exceedingly ill for some days from internal hemorrhage. The prostration is still such as to occasion very serious apprehensions in the minds of his family and numerous friends in reference to his recovery; but we rejoice to add that his medical attendants still express hope.

Secular Department.

COLONIAL. The suspension of the Westmorland Bank is an event that is deeply regretted. We hope, for the good of all concerned, that this break down is only temporary.

On Saturday last the Legislature of our sister Province opened its session, when the following speech was delivered by His Excellency Governor Williams. It is short but comprehensive and definite. Here it is:—

While these colonies have been subjected to the threats and in some instances to the invasion of lawless men, our Provinces has been exempted from any attack, and although our local forces nobly responded to the call which was made upon them, in the early part of the year to arm for the purpose of defence, happily no necessity occurred to require their services to repel an invader.

The exigencies of the Province of New Brunswick rendering it necessary for a time to withdraw a large portion of Her Majesty's troops from this garrison for the protection of that Colony, it was with the utmost satisfaction that I was enabled to fill their place for garrison duty by portions of the Halifax Volunteer and Militia Artillery and the Volunteer Battalion, and to mark how well that service was performed.

The Public accounts will be submitted to you without delay, and will exhibit the finances of the country in a state of unprecedented prosperity.

Large as was the revenue of the previous year, the accounts will show the gratifying fact that it has been greatly exceeded by that of 1866.

In accordance with a resolution of the Legislature passed last session, the Commission of Paris Exhibition was organized, and by the labors of the gentlemen comprising this Board a large number of valuable articles exhibiting the varied resources of the Province have been collected and sent forward to Paris, and it is confidently expected that the results of this exhibition will be of material advantage to the best interests of the Province.

Owing to financial difficulties in the money market of Great Britain last year no progress was made in the construction of the Windsor and Annapolis Railroad, but it affords me much pleasure to state that by a new contract made under the provision of a law relating thereto, this important work has been put in hand, and it is confidently expected that its early prospect of satisfactory accomplishment.

Great progress has been made in the construction of the Picton Railroad, a portion of which has been already opened for the accommodation of the public, and it is fully anticipated that it will be completed at the time mentioned in the contract.

The papers and reports of the Joint Commission to Brazil and the West Indies will be laid before you, and it is hoped that much good will result from the efforts made to extend the commerce of the British North American Colonies with those portions of the globe.