

Buds and Blossoms

AND

Friendly Greetings.

"Israel shall blossom and bud and fill the world with fruit."

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{ WHOLE No. 111.



REV. SILAS TERTIUS RAND.

BORN MAY 18TH, 1810.

His great ambition and most successful work has been in mastering the language of the Mic-Mac, the native Indians of these Provinces, so that he might preach to them in their own tongue and give them in written characters the Word of the Lord. To this end, in 1846, he resigned the regular pastorate, gave up all the comforts, conveniences, prospects and social happiness of a pastor, and devoted a large portion of his life to associations with savages, and such comforts as were to be derived from association with them, and spending portions of a lifetime in the wigwams and in the woods. Writing of his work at that time, he says the condition of the Indian was not materially different from what it was two hundred years previously. It was the policy of the colony to keep them in ignorance and degradation. They were taught to preserve the traditions of barbarism, and on no account to become like white men. But, thank God, all this has been changed in forty years, in spite of opposition and difficulties that were apparently unsurmountable. They are now treated not only as human beings, but as citizens. They have the gospel and other books in their own language, they live in houses, dress, work, and eat like other people, and have property and schools of their own. On this day, he, now being 76 years of age, declares he likes the Mic-Mac more than any other language, and from a very humble beginning and with very limited means he worked and toiled until at one time

he could talk and write a dozen languages. He gives as the reason of his preference for the Mic-Mac language. "Because it is the most marvellous of all languages, ancient or modern—marvellous in its construction, in its regularity, in its fulness, and it is the language in which I have, perhaps, done the most good. It is a language that I have translated the Bible into, and been privileged to preach the gospel to thousands of semi savages. Yes, after leaving Parrsboro, I was pastor of the Baptist churches at Horton, Liverpool, Windsor and Charlottetown respectively until in 1846, just forty years ago, I devoted my life among the semi-savage Indians of Nova Scotia."

His Latin versification has proved him a first class Latin scholar. Altogether his life record has been very remarkable and peculiar.

His strength seems unabated, and to-day he often leaves his home to preach and visit the places and people of his early love. For many years he has lived looking to none save the Lord only for supplies.

PLEASE DO NOT TEAR UP YOUR RELIGIOUS PAPERS. Send them to us and we will use them. Often outside the work in the city we have requests for tracts and papers. Could you not send us a little towards meeting necessary expenses for paper to print on, postage, etc. One dear little girl in Franklin, Mass., U. S., sent a cheering little letter and a nice roll of her papers to distribute. Since making up notes for this month the following letter has come to hand. It shows there is a need and opportunity for this service. Who will help?

FRIENDLY GREETINGS TO BUDS AND BLOSSOMS.—The editor of the *American*, published in Washington, U. S., thus kindly writes. "BUDS AND BLOSSOMS is the name of a magazine published at Halifax which appears among our exchanges. Its name rightly characterizes its contents. It is a family magazine, extensively illustrated, full of anecdotes and historical, literary and current articles, just such as the members of our households delight to read in their leisure moments. Children and old people find in it what both interests and profits. Its selections are all chaste and elevated, calculated to give healthy views of life and cultivate the Christian virtues. If any of our readers are wishing to find a cheap family magazine we advise them to send 6 cents to J. F. Avery, Mizpah Cottage, Halifax, N. S., and get a sample. Price per year 75 cents.

Papers received from Joey Crockford, Annie Wooderman, Jane Templeton, Mary Stewart, Mrs. Crowe and some others who did not send their names.