

deeper, and more tumultuous. The little sins get in at the windows and open the door for the big house-breakers. One smooths the path for the other. All sin has an awful power of perpetuating and increasing itself. As the prophet says in his awful vision of the doleful creatures that make their sport in the desolate city, "None of them shall want her mate. The wild beasts of the desert shall meet with the wild beasts of the islands." Every sin tells upon character, and makes the repetition of itself more and more easy. "None is barren among them." And all sin is linked together in a slimy tangle, like a field of seaweed, so that the man once caught in its oozy fingers is almost sure to go down.—*Dr. Alexander MacLaren.*

ALPINE TUNNELS.

The Simplon tunnel, which will very shortly be commenced, is another, and the most formidable, of the gigantic railway connections undertaken of late years to facilitate the communication between Italy and the rest of Europe; and the project suggests a comparative note on the existing Alpine tunnels. At the present time the Alps are pierced by three remarkably long tunnels, entering Italy from France, Switzerland and the Austrian Tyrol, respectively, and called, according to the mountain chains that are traversed, the Mont Cenis, St. Gothard, and Arlberg tunnels. Of these, the Mont Cenis, which connects Chambery with Turin, is seven and three-quarter miles in length, and between 3,000 and 4,000 feet above the sea. Its cost was 75,000,000 francs. The St. Gothard tunnel, which connects Lucerne directly with Lakes Maggiore and Como, and so to Milan, is nine miles and a quarter in length, and cost 57,000,000 francs, the diminution in expense being owing partly to the softer strata, but principally to the more rapid progress of the work by improvements in the drilling machines. The Arlberg is shorter than either Mont Cenis or St. Gothard, being only six miles and a half, although its summit level is nearly 1,000 feet higher. By this tunnel a communication is given between Innsbruck, in the Austrian Tyrol, and the Zurich. The last and most formidable rival will be the Simplon tunnel, by which the existing line from Geneva to Martigni and Brieg will be carried through the mountain to Domo D'Ossola, and so on to Pallanza or Stresa on the Lago Maggiore. As this tunnel will be commenced at a much lower level than any of the others, it will necessarily be longer, the rough estimate being twenty kilometres, or twelve miles and a half, and the estimated cost somewhere about 100,000,000 francs. The difficulties of ventilating so long a tunnel, which were once thought insuperable, have been pretty well disposed of by the experiences of St. Gothard, which is lighted by lamps placed at intervals of 1,500 yards; and although the temperature is certainly somewhat high (about 75 degrees Fahrenheit) the traveller feels no discomfort, while the freedom from smoke is far greater than in the shorter tunnels. There are thirty-six of these latter, extending over an aggregate of twenty-five miles, and some of them are so peculiarly spiral that the traveller performs an unconscious corkscrew course under ground, emerging in an entirely opposite part of the defile to that at which he entered.—*Builder.*

REFORMATION PROGRESSIVE.—All genuine reformation is progressive. Vices are not corrected in a day. Reformatory laws are the product of study, conviction, and agitation. Every Christian by his vow of consecration to God is committed to a life in behalf of moral reform. Let every man be at his post and do his full duty, and so hasten the day when all evil shall be brought under subjection to the rule of the Lord of all. That day is gradually drawing on.—*Telescope.*

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

SAINT JOHN ITEMS.

Bro. Capp has returned from P. E. I. One young man added to the church since last report.

Our Sunday-school picnic took place at Nauwigewauk on the 20th ult. The day was fine and the affair very enjoyable, about 250 persons attended.

Bro. P. D. Nowlan of Back Bay preached for us during Bro. Capp's absence.

Bro. B. B. Tyler of New York, is announced to preach for us on Tuesday evening of this week. We look forward to his visit with pleasure.

We are expecting Bro. Ira C. Mitchell to visit us this month. We shall be glad to see him.

Bro. Blenus gave us a call *en route* to N. S. Bro. B. will stay over with us on his return.

The Brethren from St. John who attended the P. E. I. meeting at East Point are enthusiastic over the kind treatment they received by the Brethren there.

G. F. B.

NOVA SCOTIA.

KEMPT, QUEEN'S CO.

The church in Kempt, and the friends who are interested in the church, are making a splendid worthy effort in repairing the meeting-house. They have completed the repairs on the inside, which gives it the air of neatness and comfort. The outside is yet to be finished; the tower is up, but not finished. The repairs of the whole house will cost them \$300, or nearly that. The Ladies' Sewing Circle are helping largely in this work. Bro. Forrest, with others of the friends of the brethren, are taxing the limits of their pockets, and are going even beyond their limits. This church is a mission church, but as yet have received no help outside of Milton church. They need help, and are worthy of help. We sincerely hope they may receive substantial encouragement from the mission work until they are able to sustain themselves. The field is a promising one, and offers every encouragement of success. The June Quarterly was held here. Bros. Ford and Gates did the preaching. A number of brethren were out from Milton, and a number also were present from Digby County, and lent us their aid by their presence and their exhortations. The congregations were large.

MILTON.

We are having a feast of good things here now. The visiting brethren, who have come with us for a short time, are making things lively for us. Bro. John Houston, from Portland, Maine, and his wife and family, are here. He is giving us some warm-hearted and pointed talks, and his wife, ditto. Sister Clara Freeman is home again for the summer from Liverpool, England. Her earnest, devoted, practical exhortations are just what we need, and are highly appreciated. These, with others who have come home, besides our good and faithful brethren, who are always with us, and are ever ready and active, make our meeting very interesting. Last Wednesday evening was the best meeting I ever enjoyed in our house.

Two have been baptized and received the hand of fellowship since our last report. You see we are having summer down here now both without and within. How nice it would be if we could have summer all the time. But a perpetual summer is coming. Let us all be ready to enjoy it.

SUMMERVILLE.

Another baptism here since our last report. We organized a Sunday-school here a few weeks ago. After the Sunday-school the brethren meet for prayer and exhortation. They are having excellent meetings. They are alive to the interest of the cause of Christ, and are planning great things for

their Master. May their faith increase, and may their hope of still greater success be realized. Thus our little county of Queens is more than holding her own. She is moving on slowly in the Lord's work. I. M.

P. E. ISLAND.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

of the Disciples of Christ, of Prince Edward Island, was held with the Church of Christ at East Point, commencing on Saturday preceding the second Lord's day in July, 1886, and closing on Monday following.

The attendance was good, the hospitality of the entertaining congregation liberal and cordial, and the meeting in all respects pleasant and profitable. The preachers in attendance were B. B. Tyler, of the city of New York, corresponding editor of the *Christian Standard*; Donald Crawford, editor, and T. H. Capp, co-editor of *THE CHRISTIAN*; O. B. Emery, of Montague, and Ira C. Mitchell, of Charlottetown. Two of the Barnes' family, of St. John, N. B., were in attendance. The first session was held at 5 o'clock p. m. on Saturday, July 10th, and was devoted to reading the Scriptures, exhortations and prayers.

At the morning session on Lord's day B. B. Tyler preached, and in the evening Ira C. Mitchell. The social meetings were addressed by Bros. Tyler, Crawford, Emery, Capp, Mitchell, Robert Mellish, and Bro. Barnes, of St. John.

At the business session, on Monday, Bro. O. B. Emery was elected Moderator, and Robert Stewart, of Lot 48, Secretary. The next annual meeting meeting was appointed to be held at New Glasgow, beginning on Saturday preceding the second Lord's day in July, 1887.

Bro. Capp made an encouraging report on the publication of *THE CHRISTIAN*, and its liberal support was resolved upon by all present.

The Churches from which reports were made, either in writing or verbally, were Charlottetown, Lot 48, Montague Bridge, New Glasgow, Summerside, Tryon, Tignish.

Bro. B. B. Tyler delivered a brief address on Mission work, and the circulation of tracts and religious papers.

The Moderator, Bro. Emery, made a closing address, and Bro. D. Crawford pronounced the benediction.

Bro. Tyler remained, and preached until Thursday, with five additions by confession and baptism. By invitation of the pastor, Rev. Mr. Cameron, he preached in the Presbyterian church in Souris East, *en route* from the meeting.

IRA C. MITCHELL.
Secretary, pro tem.

UNITED STATES.

BOSTON, MASS.

DEAR CHRISTIAN:—The cause of the Master is indeed encouraging in this great city.

Since Bro. Garrison's return from the west, three weeks ago, there has already been sixteen additions, some by confession and baptism, and others by letter. There are others who are expected to go forward and confess Christ very soon.

Among those lately added is Sister M. Jenks, a lady who is well known in St. John, having labored there for some time as a city missionary in the interest of the Baptist denomination. During the past year she has labored in the same way for the Central Square Baptist church of East Boston.

Sister Jenks, in coming among the Disciples, has been enabled to "find out just what we do believe," and finding out that we believe the *Bible*, she saw no obstacle to prevent her uniting with us.

During the last seven weeks she has visited about five hundred families, and has very materially added to the number of scholars in the Sunday-school, as well as to the number of hearers in the congregation. May God bless her in her noble work. D.