

in the negro race—but such barbarity can never be justified on this ground, for it would be impossible for one such slave to devour in a day more than what would be worth a single penny, remembering especially, that they were all under the immediate eye of an overseer. Some of the colonists carried their cruelty to a great extent. One in particular is remembered with horror to this day: his plantation was near the Capital, his name was CARADEUX. When he had a pleasure party at his house, and that was very often, he used to amuse his guests in the following manner:—After the business of the dinner-table was over, a slave was placed at a distance of 30 steps with an orange on his head, the gentlemen present would exercise themselves in firing at the orange, while the white, delicate young ladies, daughters of the planters, would look on and see one poor creature after another fall either lifeless on the ground, or be borne away to their miserable huts with wounds and broken limbs, from which they were likely to suffer all the days of their lives. Sometimes many would be shot down, one after another, before the orange could be brought down. This same wretched man used to have his slaves, for the smallest offences buried a little above the waist, and then feast his eyes on the sufferings and dying agonies of the poor creatures. Such, or similar conduct, is said to have been common in all parts of the Colony. While the black population was in this condition, everything to a superficial observer, appeared to be prospering amazingly in the country. Beautiful walks and roads were made at immense labour and expense—Fields of sugar-cane, covering many acres, met the eye in every direction. In the middle of the plantations, a magnificent building, looking more like a palace than a private dwelling, reared its elegant front—here dwelt the master and his effeminate family, and here prodigality, licentiousness and festivity, were carried to their extreme height—passion, pride and lust were glutted to satiety. The writer has seen the remains of scores of these once splendid dwellings, all now deserted and in ruins, having been torn down and burned by the enraged blacks, when they first broke their chains, and poured out their vengeance upon those who had so long ill-treated them.

At the time to which we refer, the towns were nearly as well built as any in Europe. Cape Fraçais in particular, was named by the French colonists *Petit Paris*, from the miniature resemblance it bore, or was supposed to bear to that celebrated City. Here were found Theatres, Ball-rooms, Cafes, and everything of that kind which is supposed by the Frenchman to be an essential of life. Festivity and amusements of every kind were nightly indulged in, by the white population, while the degraded Africans were far off in the interior holding their midnight meetings, where they were swearing to take vengeance on their oppressors, and to set themselves free. The following, translated from a work recently published in French, gives a correct idea of the state of the Colony, when the French Revolution broke out.

"The forced labour to which the slaves were condemned, produced an extraordinary prosperity at St. Domingo. The country was in an admirable state of cultivation, the hills and the valleys were covered with rich plantations, belonging to a numerous and gay white population. Spacious roads ran in all directions, both sides of which were enlivened by sugar-establishments, and by fields of sugar-cane, the hedges around which, were trimmed with beautiful uniformity, and these often extended further than the eye could reach. Every now and then was seen a beautiful *Chateau*, surrounded with terraces, ornamented with all kinds of flowers of those tropical climes. The tops of the highest hills were occupied by white families owning thousands of slaves who were kept under and in order, by the most rigorous measures. The white man was a privileged being whom God had created to rule. The planters met alternately in each other's mansions, and partook of the most splendid repasts. There were found in these parties all the luxuries and pleasures of Europe. Musicians, Singers, Dancers, Actors—all were assembled to enliven the nightly festivals of these extensive dealers in human beings. All the towns were filled with the products of Europe, whilst during the whole year, from morning to night, were to be seen upon the various wharves, large piles of Coffee, Cotton, Dye-Woods, &c. The cultivator, bending under the weight of the whip, made the colony thus prosperous, and his groaning never once interrupted the brilliant fetes of the planter. The colonists were in general so rich, that many of the poorer, but proud and haughty *Aristocrats* of France were glad to form alliances with these descendants of the ruffian Flibustiers and Boucaniers, and when one wished to designate a very rich man he would say, 'Il est aussi riche qu'un Creole.'

At this time, (about 1785,) there were annually taken to St. Domingo, no less than 30,000 negro slaves—20,000 men, and 10,000 women and children.

There were in the colony in 1789, no fewer than 709,642 slaves; free people of colour 56,666; whites only 46,000; making a population in the French part of the island of 812,308 souls. The Spanish part contained but 125,000 altogether,

so that the whole of the population was about 937,308.

The commercial state of the country may be judged of by the following statement put forth at the time. There were 792 Sugar establishments, 3,099 Indigo do., 2,810 Coffee, do., 705 Cotton do., 173 Rum do., 33 Brickmaking, do.

The exportations were estimated at upwards of \$866,000,000; and during the same year upwards of 1,300 vessels left the Island laden with Colonial productions. Such was the prosperous state of things when the signal of revolt was given, and when the terrible and bloody strife began, which ended in the offering of whole hcatombs of victims, and brought about the independence of the Haytien Nation.

W. T. CARDY.  
Carleton, St. John N. B., 19th Novr. 1851.

## Correspondence.

For the Wesleyan  
Yarmouth Circuit.

About two years since, and while the Rev. R. Weddall had the superintendency of this Circuit, a Society was formed, called "The Wesleyan Mission-House-Aid-Society"; the object of which was to supply the Mission House with furniture, without trenching upon the Circuit Receipts for the support of the Minister. The Society consists of a number of ladies, who meet each alternate Tuesday; in order to make a variety of useful and ornamental articles for an annual Bazaar, the proceeds of which are to be applied to the above purpose.

The first annual Bazaar was held last winter, when the sales realized the handsome sum of £28 1s. 4d.; which sum, after deducting the incidental expenses, was appropriated in the purchase of furniture. It is intended to hold the second annual Bazaar early in the coming winter. But the ladies, not satisfied with this, thought something more might be done, and in anticipation of their Bazaar. They, therefore, resolved to have a tea meeting; which was fixed and announced in the *Herald* for the evening of the 4th inst.: to be held at what is called "The Puritan Hall"; a building situated in the centre of the town, and which we now occupy as a third place of worship on the Lord's-day.—We have a good deal of zeal for which we cannot be sufficiently thankful; but we had some who expressed fears about the matter; as, "Tea meetings were getting out of fashion"; "There would be a few people there"; "There would be but little interest felt in such a project." But our indefatigable Society had too much zeal to be retarded by such tiny objections.

The Hall was arranged as well as its limited area would allow; and fifteen ladies covered the tables with the richest viands; and in such abundance, that some of our kind ladies were obliged to take their good things home unpacked, there not being people enough to use them; or room enough on the already crowded tables, to place them. The Hall was filled, and precisely at six o'clock, about 300 persons sat down tea, after singing the grace to the tune of *old hundred*, in which almost every individual seemed to join.

After tea, Mr. JOHN RICHARDS was called to the Chair; who gave a statement of the object of the ladies in getting up the meeting. He observed, that social meetings of this kind were not only interesting, but could, and in the present instance would, be productive of good, inasmuch as thereby their minister's house would be furnished; and that without aid from the funds of the Committee; and that every shilling obtained in this way, was in fact so much contributed to the missionary cause.

A lecture was then delivered on "Popular Superstitions," based on Duet. xviii. 9—15, in which it was shewn, that of the nine abominations mentioned in that important text of scripture, eight of them are practised in our own day, and in our own land; although in several instances known now by other names. That modern *mesmerism*, for instance, is quite identical with the practice of the ancient *enchanter*, mentioned in verse 10, and which God has said is an abomination—that ancient and modern *charming* are also identical; and that Christians so far from sanctioning those and similar practices, ought to unite in order to banish these relics of heathenism from the face of the earth.

An excellent article has recently appeared in the *London Watchman*, (Oct. 15.) headed "Mutual Affinities of Error. The Delusions of the Age," in which some of these "delusions" are called "medical heresies"; and the following remarkable sentence occurs:—"The medical 'heresies,' 'phrenology,' 'mesmerism,' 'ultra 'hydropathy,' and 'homœopathy,' all favour each other, and are very commonly embraced by the same individuals."

The lecture although it occupied more than two hours in the delivery, was listened to with great attention. The Rev. Mr. Brady also addressed the meeting, when after a vote of thanks was given to the ladies, and also to some persons who took part in the preparations and business of the evening; the Doxology was sung, and the Rev. Mr. Brady closed the meeting with prayer. The amount realized was £12 16s. 2½d., which,

after deducting the incidental expenses, will leave a balance of about £11 to the funds of the Society.

WILLIAM WILSON.

Yarmouth, Nov. 24, 1851.

For the Wesleyan.

From the Travelling Agent of the N. S. Bible Society.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—In compliance with your request, I here present to you some brief notice of my recent tour through the northern and eastern parts of the Province, as Travelling Agent of the Bible Society.

Since I left the city on this Mission, I have visited thirty-six places, where Branches, in connexion with the British and Foreign Bible Society, are in operation. Four of these were formed while on this tour. I have also attended forty-one public meetings, held expressly for the advancement of the Bible cause, besides several others which had an indirect bearing upon this object.—The value of these operations can be estimated only by the results which have not yet transpired. In general, however, the most lively interest was evinced by those who attended, especially where considerable numbers could be gathered together; but this was sometimes rendered difficult, and in a few instances rendered impracticable, by local circumstances and the pressing claims of other objects; yet I have invariably found, that where this could be fully exhibited, its important claims were freely acknowledged, and cheerfully responded to. Many of our meetings seemed to be very effective, and would have been considered interesting in any place where the Bible is received and known. A few particulars in reference to some of them may not be deemed irrelevant.

In Economy I was ably assisted by the Rev. Mr. Watson, and favoured with the opportunity of holding our meeting immediately after an interesting service, which he had conducted in his Church, in connexion with a "Fast-day." The presence and blessing of God were attested by the spirit manifested. Though no collection of contributions was expected to be made at the time, nearly two pounds was paid down, and means were adopted for a general collection, to be made throughout the settlement before the end of the year. One person who happened to be present from a distant part of the country, and seemed to partake of the general interest, at a subsequent meeting held in his own neighbourhood, laid down half a sovereign, expressing a hope of doing more at a future opportunity.

At Parrsborough also I obtained good help from the President of the Society there, (Mr. Lockhart,) and a youthful minister, (Mr. Gaetz,) was present, and accompanied me to Advocate Harbour. In the latter place, though notice had not been given, and our stay was very short, the meeting was large and influential, considering the circumstances and the place. All present seemed to catch the true spirit of the cause, a very promising Branch Society was formed, and over six pounds most cheerfully subscribed. In Parrsborough the results were scarcely scarcely less gratifying, and nearly the same amount was realized.

At Wallace our meeting, though notified before my arrival, had to be adjourned because so few were present; but on re-assembling, the attendance was large and respectable; and the spirit and feeling appeared to be in full accordance with our object. I was efficiently assisted by the Rev. Mr. Smith, the Rev. Mr. Clay, S. Fulton, Esquire, and others. A subscription was entered into, amounting to nearly eight pounds; two pounds nine shillings and sevenpence of which was paid down. All present seemed to be deeply interested.

Our meeting at Tatamagouche was of a similar character, except that the attendance and the amount subscribed were not so large. The Rev. Mr. Blackwood, the Rev. Mr. Clay, and the office bearers of the Society gave their excellent help; and it is hoped that this Branch also will be increasingly active. These two Societies, as well as those of River Philip, Pugwash, New Annan and others—where meetings of stirring interest were held—are not in immediate connexion with the Nova Scotia Auxiliary, but with that of Pictou, from the Depository of which a large number of Bibles and Testaments have been obtained,—and have been,

and are now being distributed over their several neighbourhoods, and more distant settlements, the fruit of which will doubtless appear, though it be "after many days."—With other Societies connected with the Auxiliary of Pictou, I hope to unite, at their annual meetings which are expected to be held in February.

The meeting in Guysborough, held on the 14th of last month, was exceedingly good. Addresses of great interest were delivered, by the Rev. Mr. Shreeve, the Rev. Mr. McCarty, Stewart Campbell and John Marshall, Esqrs. Much of the Divine presence and blessing was graciously manifested.—Means were adopted for giving effect to the proceedings; not only by a more vigorous extension of influence locally, but also by gathering up contributions in aid of the general funds.

At Sherbrooke, with the excellent assistance of the Rev. Mr. Bayne, who was on a visit there, and the office bearers and others, this portion of the St. Mary's Branch was stirred up to continue its wonted activity in the good cause. All present seemed much interested in our meeting, and there is reason to believe that the Society at large, with the influence of its active President, the Rev. J. Campbell, will sustain its efficiency, and enlarge its operations.

At Manchester, Sydney, Sydney Mines, Margarie, and many other places, our meetings were interesting, and I hope will be found beneficial. At Cape Canso, especially, the Society has been much revived. Our meeting there was very good. Effective addresses were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Peart, the Rev. Mr. Martell, and the Rev. Mr. McCarty. Though the time was long, the interest was kept up to the last. The sum of five pounds nine shillings and twopence has been since remitted from the Little Branch. Two new Societies were also formed, which promise to be very useful—one at Louisburg, and one at Gabarus Bay. In some of the settlements on these rugged shores, there is still much destitution of the Scriptures, and the opportunities for public worship are "few and far between." There is also much depression along the Atlantic coast generally, from the failure of the fisheries—and even in some parts of the interior of Cape Breton, from the destruction of crops by early frosts—the interests of the Bible cause are likely to be sustained and increased, and ere long it is to be hoped that even the most desolate places will be made to rejoice and "blossom as the rose."

Since my return from this extensive tour, I have visited Musquodoboit Harbour, where I had the pleasure of uniting with many excellent friends to form a Branch Bible Society, under circumstances most truly encouraging. A meeting was held in the School-house on Monday evening last, and was ably addressed by the Rev. Mr. Ross, and Mr. Farquhar, the schoolmaster. Rules were submitted and adopted with promptitude and decision—office bearers were as readily chosen—and a subscription most cheerfully entered into, amounting to more than four pounds—though many of the people were from home, and others were prevented attending by the darkness of the night, and the wetness of the roads. The amount of subscriptions, it may be expected, will therefore be considerably augmented.—This is a cause for thankfulness, as a supply of the Scriptures will be introduced, which will be likely to find their way to more destitute places, not far distant.

In the course of a few days I expect, God willing, to commence a tour to the westward, and hope to visit some of the more remote settlements in the mountains, as well as those heretofore visited, to the extremities of the Province in that direction.

Praying that the Lord may control and direct these operations for the promotion of his own glory, and the good of all within reach of their influence, I remain, Rev. and dear Sir, most faithfully yours,

ISAAC SMITH,  
Travelling Agent N. S. Bible Soc'y.  
Halifax, Nov. 20, 1851.

For the Wesleyan.

Rev. B. Knight's Letter.

MY DEAR DOCTOR,—In my last it was stated, that by the good providence of God, I had arrived in safety at the Bend. This designation more correctly applies to a sud-