

AVAILABLE RESPONSIBLE TIGHT BINDING RELIURE TROP RIGIDE

The Christian Watchman

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BY PURENESS, BY KNOWLEDGE, BY

LOVE UNFEIGNED.—St. Paul.

REV. E.

B. DeMILL, A. M., Editor

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Original Contributions

For the Christian Watchman.

Studies for the Sunday School.

SUMMER VII.

THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT—THE MASSACRE OF THE INNOCENTS—THE RETURN—MAT. 2: 13-23.

The wise men had returned to their own country, but danger still threatened the infant Jesus. It was feared, however, by another miraculous interposition. An angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph, warning him of impending danger, and gave directions for the safety of the child. "Arise immediately," said the angel, "take the child and his mother, and flee into the land of Egypt, and remain there until I bring thee word, for Herod will seek the child to destroy it." Joseph was not disobedient but arose, took the child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt. There the holy family remained until the death of Herod. Thus early in the life of Jesus, persecutions at the hands of the wicked began. The departure to Egypt and the sojourn there was however in fulfillment of prophecy.

The Lord through the prophet (Hos. 1: 1) had said "out of Egypt have I called my son." This language of the prophet referred primarily to Israel, but the literal Israel was a type of Christ, his history was prophetic of his own. Thus the language of Hosea found its fulfillment in the sojourn in Egypt and the subsequent departure from that land.

When Herod who had been impatiently awaiting the return of the wise men, saw that they had not fulfilled their engagement, he was exceedingly enraged, and more than ever determined to discover and to destroy the infant Jesus. He resolved on the frightful atrocity. He had learned that the Messiah was born in Bethlehem from his diligent enquiries of the Wise men to the time when the star had appeared, he had discovered the date of the child's birth, who was now probably between one and two years of age. Herod then sent his minions to Bethlehem to destroy the holy child and those there might be no possibility of failure they were ordered to slay all the male children in Bethlehem and the surrounding country, who were two years old, or under that age. His commands were remorselessly obeyed, though the monster failed, even at such an expenditure of innocent life, to accomplish the object which he had at heart.

Yet even this massacre had been foreseen by God, and was in fulfillment of a prediction which he had made through Jeremiah the prophet, (Jer. 31: 15) "a voice was heard in Ramah (Ramah was in the vicinity of Bethlehem) much weeping, and wailing, and lamentation, Rachel (the mother of Israel) weeping over her children, and would not be comforted because they were not." This passage is supposed to refer to the first instance to the leading away into captivity of the people of Israel from Ramah by Nebuzardan. (Jer. 40: 1) Rachel the ancestress of the people, and who was buried near Ramah, or Bethlehem, Gen. 35: 19, 48: 7, was represented as lamenting in her grave over the calamity of her people. The evangelist seems to see in the massacre of the innocents, the event which the language of Jeremiah pointed.

Some time after this fearful tragedy Herod died. An angel now appears in a dream to Joseph in Egypt to inform him of the death of Herod and to direct the family to return. The angel said, "Arise take the child and his mother and go into the land of Israel for they have sought the life of the child are dead." Joseph arose and took the child and his mother and departed from Egypt and came into the land of Israel. He intended to return to Bethlehem, but when he heard that Archelaus reigned in Judea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither. Archelaus inherited the bloodthirsty and tyrannical disposition of his father and might well excite the fears of Joseph. While uncertain whether to proceed, he was directed by a communication from God in a dream, and avoiding Judea, departed into the country of Galilee. He took up his abode in Nazareth where he had dwelt before the birth of Jesus. This return to Nazareth took place in fulfillment of what had been predicted through the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene." There is no prophecy in which these words occur, but the prophets predicted that the Messiah was to be humble and despised. Ps. 22: 1a, 53: Nazareth was an insignificant town, and the term Nazarene one of reproach, Mat. 26: 96-7; John 1: 46-7-52. In this way the language of the evangelist must be understood.

All the prophecies which related to the birth, infancy, and early childhood of Jesus had now been fulfilled. The holy family were to enjoy repose in their own city Nazareth. Here the childhood of Jesus was passed, and without any of those supernatural incidents which might have been anticipated from the extraordinary circumstances which had transpired. It does not seem that the child Jesus attracted particular attention. It is only related of him that he grew as other children, in body and in mind. He was however, was beyond his years, and excelled all the boys and girls of childhood. He was an eminently holy child, and it is emphatically recorded that the grace of God was upon him. A. B. C.

For the Christian Watchman.

The early life and training of the Apostle Paul.

The early life of this celebrated Apostle cannot be otherwise than a subject of the deepest interest and importance to every student of the Sacred Scriptures. But in order to present anything like a living picture of the early career of Paul, we must not only be conversant with the scripture narrative in its fullest form, but must lay aside our experience of modern life, and live the while in the ancient world. We must follow him in his varied career, and enter into his trials, his joys, his sorrows, and his triumphs as he acted. We must have before us a Jewish family in a Hebrew home in Tarsus, see before us a young Israelite at school, his instructor, and all the modes of training. We must grow up with him, converse with the same people, and enter into all the forms of society.

The parents of Paul were Jews, and his father at least, was of the tribe of Benjamin—as seen in Phil. 3: 62 where Paul says that he was "circumcised on the eighth day of the stock of Israel," and the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews." He was a Pharisee also, see Acts 23: 6.

As the parents of Paul were situated in a country whose inhabitants were so zealous in the whole circle of Greek literature, we might infer without any improbability that they would speak the Greek language. Thus they would be Hellenists in speech, though not necessarily Hellenists in thought.

Among those numerous emigrations from Judea, which occurred either by compulsion or by the voluntary enterprise of the people after the Assyrian conquest, the ancestors of Saul had left their father land for the fertile plains of Cilicia, where they found a home more profitable on account of the various sources of intercourse with other nations. On some of these occasions the ancestors of Saul are supposed to have settled in Tarsus (Antiochus the Great). During this period which intervened between this emigration and the birth of Saul, his own parents had acquired a very respectable rank in society.

Though the Apostle has alluded to his father, nothing is said of his mother, whose studies and teachings would be especially interesting, and history would be full of many pleasing incidents in the early life of Saul. He speaks of a sister and sister's son, who was a Christian, and attended him while a prisoner at Jerusalem, Acts 23: 16-22.

Birth Place. Tarsus, the capital of Cilicia is situated, about three miles from the River Cydnus, which rises in mount Taurus, flows in a Southerly course and empties into the Mediterranean Sea. This city was said to have been founded by Perseus the son of Sipter and Dana, famed for his exploit at another place on the shore of this part of the Mediterranean. More authentic history however refers to its earliest foundation to Sardapanus king of Assyria, who built Tarsus and Archelaus in Cilicia 900 years before Christ. Its origin is by others ascribed to Triptolemus with an Argive colony who is represented on some medals as the founder. These two stories are made consistent with each other on the supposition that the same place was successively the scene of the colonizing influence attributed to them. It is said also that it was founded by Sardan, a wealthy and eminent person from Ethiopia, who at some early period not specified, is said to have built Tarsus. It is celebrated for its school and eminent men. Strabo says "that in all that relate to philosophy and general education, it was even more illustrious than Athens and Alexandria. According to Piny and others it was a free city. It had the privilege of being governed by its own magistrates, and was exempted from the occupation of a Roman garrison and received special benefits from Julius Cesar and Augustus.

quotations from the Old Testament. Kopp reports that forty-nine were cited from memory, and Black thinks that every one of his citations, without exception, is from memory. He adds that the Apostle's memory reverts to the Hebrew text as well as to that of the Septuagint.

As Paul belonged to a family of very rigid philosophical principles, he would not consent to any very intimate connection with the Greeks, and, therefore, we may infer that his progress in Greek when very young, could not have been great. Also, because he was not near any other school than at Tarsus, nor had been instructed by any other teachers than those of his own parents or friends.

The second pre-requisite in Paul's educational course to entering upon the study of the law seems to be in accordance with an old Jewish custom, which was nearly as binding as law, namely to learn a trade. When the question was asked by a Talmud writer "What is commanded of a father towards his son?" "To circumcise him, to teach him the law, to teach him a trade." Rabbins Judah says: "He that teacheth not his son a trade, doeth the same as if he taught him to be a thief." Rabbins Gamaliel saith, "He that hath a trade, to what is he like? he is like a vineyard that is fenced." The parents of Saul in compliance with this custom, selected the trade of a tent cloth maker. This cloth was manufactured of the hair of the shaggy rough haired goat. This animal was very common in Cilicia. The cloth manufactured in Saul's native province was called cilicia. We could not infer that Saul never made any other kind of cloth than that manufactured in his own country, for after he became an Apostle, we read of him engaged in the occupation of a tent maker with a certain Jew named Aquila in Corinth, the nature of which occupation was probably similar to that which he had been accustomed to in Tarsus. At such a trade so prevalent in his country Paul would at an early age have gained some means of becoming acquainted not only with men from the various districts in Tarsus, but also with those who traded thither from other nations. He could while a mere child become familiar with the stirring scenes of life, and study the various traits of character.

As the Jewish maxim required children to be in the Mishna at ten, this Mishna or text of the Jewish Talmud, contains the body of the Hebrew laws, traditions, a compilation of the Hebrew laws, traditions, or by authority of their doctors, or by custom. His training in the Mishna would consist then in hearing the law read in the synagogue, listening to the mature discussions of learned doctors; and when the habit of questioning and answering was permitted to children, the effect upon the young mind of Saul must have been well adapted to increase profundity of thought, penetration of mind and active perception. We can almost imagine we can see before us the young apostle seated before these gray headed Rabbins, asking questions which would hardly indicate striking marks of great genius, for it is natural to suppose that a mind so powerful as the apostle Paul's would show its features very early. But the third branch of Saul's education, would be pursued at Jerusalem, being in its nature more systematic. According to Tholuck he was between 10 and 13 when he was sent to Jerusalem and remained there until 30 or 33. It is the opinion of some critics that he did not go to Jerusalem until the age of 30 and after the ascension of Christ. It would seem needless to enter into any detail here in describing the feelings of young Saul when about to leave the scenes of his childhood. To one that is susceptible of tender feelings, strong impressions, and enthusiastic as he was, this would be an epoch in his early life, important and long to be remembered.

The last means adopted by his parents preparatory to the profession of Rabbi at length arrived. He was sent to the Holy city, the land of his forefathers, to receive his education in the schools, and thus to be trained up a learned Rabbi "at the feet of Gamaliel." The apostle's age was remarkable for its learned Rabbinical schools, in which the Jews in imitation of the Greeks had their seven wise men, called Rabbins; of this number were Hillel, Simeon and Gamaliel. Hillel was the father of Simeon, and Simeon the father of Gamaliel.

Of this seven Gamaliel is the only one who has been honored with the distinguished title of Rabbi. It is supposed that this is the same Gamaliel spoken of in Acts 5: 34, who stood up in council and pleaded the cause of Peter and the other apostles, who were then arraigned before the council for preaching to the people in the temple. "He was had in the reputation of all the people" and we could infer from his conduct towards the apostles that he showed a character much to be revered for its honesty and liberality. He was a prudent and sagacious counsellor and called the "Beauty of the Law."

Seeing then that Gamaliel was such a man, he could not be otherwise than a teacher well qualified to impart instruction to the young Saul, and adapted to brighten and strengthen those traits of character exemplified in his life. The mode of teaching by which Saul was trained at Jerusalem seemed to be chiefly oral. The use of no other book except the sacred writings was allowed, and the system of studying these was

of Scriptural Exegesis. Now Saul took his seat with his young students according to the customary position of the Jews upon elevated platform or on the ground, while the learned doctors, after they had chosen some topic for discussion, taken from some passage of the old Testament, commenced their various interpretations, particular remarks in which were involved, ambiguity of meaning, all of which were carefully considered in all their bearings, and the various conjectures of ancient doctors quoted and discussed. After the subject was thus opened, opportunity was offered to the young students to ask questions as has been before remarked.

In respect to the remark which Paul has made, "brought up at the feet of Gamaliel," various conjectures have been made; without recording these opinions, it may be sufficient here to say, that it has been observed on this passage by learned commentators, that this expression refers to the fashion followed by students, of sitting and lying down on the ground, or on mats, at the feet of their teachers, who sat by himself on a higher place. And indeed so many are the traces of this fashion among the recorded labors of the Hebrews, that it does not seem possible to call it into question.

Seeing then that his life was so well ordered, and his training by a Rabbi so ardent, we cannot wonder that Saul with such a standard before him, "made progress in the Jews religion above many of his contemporaries in his own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the tradition of his Fathers," or that he afterwards possessed a character described in the admirable words of a distinguished essayist, "The energy of his determination was so great that if instead of being habitual it had been shown only for a short time on particular occasions, it would have appeared a vehement impetuosity; but by being unintermitted it had an equilibrium of manner which scarcely appeared to exceed the tone of a calm constancy, it was so totally the reverse of anything like turbulence or agitation. It was the calmness of an intensity kept uniform by the nature of the human mind, forbidding it to be more, and by the character of the individual, forbidding it to be less. The habitual passion of his mind was a pitch of excitement and impulsion almost equal to the temporary extremes and paroxysms of common minds; as a great river in its customary state, is equal to a small or moderate one, when swollen to a torrent."

For the Christian Watchman.

RECOLLECTIONS OF ROME.

NO. IX.

ASSOCIATIONS—THE IMPERIAL PERIOD.

Glory's laurel leaf, and honor's tribute of triumphant song, And the marshalled legion marching with the countless captive throng.

Crowns of Kings, and fallen thrones of conquered kingdoms, gems untold, Jewelled diadems, and captured standards, glittering heaps of gold.

And the pomp of the long Triumph, winding through the city gates, And the pomp of battle trophies from innumerable states.

Bear the treasures onward. Heap them in the Capitoline dome. With this matchless dowry Julius weds the majesty of Rome.

Her Imperial form the crowd of suitors saw with covetous eyes, And the world was rent asunder by their struggles for the prize.

Red ambition saw the prize, and all his legions rushed along, Here the race was to the swift and here the battle to the strong.

Foremost in an age of giants, chief among so many great, Kingly comes the mighty Julius to supremacy in state.

Him the muses loved, their manifold laurel garlands he had won, Clomb with them sublime Parnassus, drunk with them at Helicon.

Unto Julius golden-mouthed eloquence gave the master part, In her music with its magic o'er the sympathetic heart.

Beauty dwelt within his soul, and love for all her infinite forms, He could treasure all unharmed, among a thousand battle storms.

Bowed the populace before him, senators trembled at his nod, And his words inspired the legions like the mandates of a God.

See the wasted old republic, lying at her latest breath, By the hands of traitorous children done to ignominious death.

See in dust the dazzling crown, that once so royally she wore, See in dust the gifts of Freedom and the proud array of yore.

Gleams the light of former glory round her in her dying dream, Freedom passing through the nations with her thrilling trumpet tones, Sowed the seed of man's redemption o'er the wreck of ruined thrones.

And again the legions gather and again the standards gleam, And again the form of Freedom stands within her ancient home, And again the grand old war cry rings around the walls of Rome.

Lo the spirit of the dying for a moment lives anew, Fever thrills of former festing, flashing all her being through.

See—she rises—and in fury, dealing a despairing blow, In that last expiring moment lays the Godlike Julius low!

In her mighty arms enfolding all the conquered realms of War, Still the city marches forward into lands untrod before.

Deserts lone, and lonely regions, echo to her trumpet sound, And the nations know her standards unto earth's remotest bound.

Then advance her stately sails passing o'er the foaming seas, From the glowing Orient onward to the far Hebrides.

Where the hoarse blasts of the Ocean, round the misty headland's roar, And the gloomy northern forests line the ever sounding shore.

Where beneath the torrid skies the arid southern regions parch, Go the ever conquering legions on their never-ending march.

Thrones, dominions, powers and princedoms, dynasties of old renown, Hear the haughty Roman summons and in ruin thunder down.

All around, the long succession of her provinces extend, Unto her a hundred subject peoples reverently bend.

Far away the endless roadways of the Capital depart, All the life blood of the Empire throbbing from the central heart.

Higher yet her eagles soaring leave the world of war behind, Rising up to higher conquests in the lofty realms of mind.

And in nobler fields advancing gather in the city gates, All the intellectual treasures of a hundred conquered states.

Not enslaved by them but bearing all to the imperial dome, Scattering all their golden graces o'er the iron mind of Rome.

More than all I see the Hellenic soul in freshened beauty bloom, Rise again to life undying from the darkness of the tomb.

When the harp was hushed in Hellas, Rome takes up the lofty strain, And the symphonies immortal wake to endless life again.

Rome takes up the harp of Greece and strikes through all the sounding strings, And again the Lyric music in its ancient grandeur rings.

Rome takes up the harp of Greece and sweetly tones a lighter lay, And in wondrous variations dies the enchanting sound away.

O, I hear the burning accents born on the Athenian shore, Rising in the Roman Forum ringing on for evermore.

Once again the Epic music sheds its infinite sympathies, Sound anew the song of heroes, sung by grand Maconides.

Once again the thoughts of sages up to heavenly thrones arise, Which of old in Academus, beckoned mortals to the skies.

But in vain these varied triumphs—Oh, exalted over all, Must these eyes that saw thy glorious rising, weep to see thy fall.

Different far the Golden dream that once may soaring fancy knew, Different far the former visions bright with every glistening hue.

Hope along the path of future ages, cast her luminous beam, And I saw the brilliant forms of fond imagination's dream.

I beheld the conquering Cohorts gathering but to lead the van Of the march of human progress and the brotherhood of man.

Freedom passing through the nations with her thrilling trumpet tones, Sowed the seed of man's redemption o'er the wreck of ruined thrones.

Peace took up her fallen scepter powerless long in battle's rage, And enthroned among the nations ushered in the Golden Age.

Commerce spread her snowy pinions wide upon the favoring breeze, Bearing, hope, and peace, and freedom, fearlessly along the seas.

All the lands across rejoicing under Rome's benignant sway, Anarchy and foul oppression had forever fled away.

Nation fought no more with nation, warriors met in arms no more, Gone were all the rage and carnage, all the hell-born brood of war.

Sudden bursts the glowing vision o'er my disenchanted gaze, And the fair illusions vanish in the gloom of darker days.

Oh, not here the grand fulfillment! Further up the future's height, Wait the hopes of mortals gleaming faintly through the shadowy night.

Many a century of doubt and darkness, many an age of wrong, Many a reign of gross oppression must the hand of time prolong.

Oh not here the heaven born promise; I have all misjudged the age, Farther on the world must wander in the weary pilgrimage.

Further on the world shall wander while her woes shall never cease, Till the reign of force is over, ended by the Prince of Peace.

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The imagination flies up the gaps made by time in these fragments scattered round us, restores the structures which now moulder beneath the soil, and re-creates the desert. These seven hills appear covered over by lofty edifices, and thronged with inhabitants. The Campagna is as the garden of the Lord, and teems with an industrious and prosperous peasantry. The few hundreds who once peopled the Palatine, have become as the stars of the sky, or as the sand upon the sea shore, for multitude.

These were the days when the words "I am a Roman citizen," was a man's only sure defence, and when no fortress, however strong, could defend, no shade, however obscure, hide the enemy of Rome, when the world was but one empire ruled with absolute authority from the seven-hilled city.

Here men lived whose genius afforded a nobler and more durable monument to Rome than the works of the sculptor or the architect—men who were destined to be a power on earth, when the Roman empire should have become a matter of history, and all the magnificence of the imperial city, the broken fragments which we see around us now.

In the plain below Cicero spoke, and his words were destined to linger in man's ears, as it would their speech, and to stir their hearts, when antiquarians should have searched in vain for the site of the Roman Forum. Often did Horace walk along the Via Sacra, to view with delight the splendid productions of art and wealth which met his eye, or perhaps to contrast them with the grander spectacle which nature had exhibited as he viewed her form and hues from his villa in Tivoli. How often too, has Virgil looked upon these scenes, gazing with patriotic pride upon the splendors of the imperial city—or eager to discover for it an origin worthy of its greatness, revert to the days when the Trojan ships came up the river, and the Trojan prizes were welcomed by the sage Evander. At a later period, when Rome was in her decline, Juvenal saw and deplored her condition, and then with a courageous and indignant soul, set forth the stupendous vices of the great city. These, with other great names, will endure, and cause the heart to bound at the mention of Rome, and send men on a pilgrimage to her sepulchre, when, of all her present remains, not one stone shall be left upon another.

How like the capital of the world Rome then appeared. The plains below, the hills around, the vale behind, were encrusted with glittering marbles, sumptuous palaces, imposing colonades, triumphal arches, gorgeous basilicas and stately temples, circuses, baths, and amphitheatres, all these arose in matchless splendor to minister to the taste or pride, or sensuality of the Roman.

How often in those days did the many millions of Rome assemble to view the triumphal processions. How these hills and yonder vales must have rent the air, as some conqueror returned in triumph home. We can almost fancy that we see the long procession, the victorious army, the trembling captives, the treasure-laden chariots, and the exulting victor. The procession enters the city at yonder gate, moves along the Via Sacra, through the plain, passes under the triumphal arch to the Capitoline.

Along the sacred way, Hither the triumph came, and the mingling sound With acclamations, and the staid clang Of instruments, and cars laden with spoil Stop at the sacred stair, that there appeared, Then through the darkness broke ample star-light As though it led to heaven. 'Twas night I had

THE CHRISTIAN WATCHMAN

A thousand torches, turning night to day,
Bleaded, and the victor springing from his seat,
Went up, and kneeling in fervent prayer
Entered the Capitol. But what are they
Who at the foot withdraw a mournful train
In fetters. They are the fallen,
Those who were spared to grace the chariot wheels,
And here they parted where the road divides
One to the fatal board and these to die.

By and by these scenes are less frequent, because there are no more worlds to conquer, but other indications of imperial power appear, more silent but not less expressive of power and dominion. For the huge obelisks, antiquities when Rome was modern, were brought all the way from distant and conquered Egypt, and were at once ornaments and trophies. Or notice the infinite variety of costumes and complexions which appear in the streets or forums—or the baths in the amphitheatre. Here are visitors, ambassadors, or hostages from every nation under heaven. Or look abroad on the Campagna, see the couriers approaching to, or hastening from the imperial city, coming from the vassal kingdoms, or returning to them, bringing expressions of obedience, or bearing the stern impartial mandates.

Legions and cohorts turn of horse and wings.
Or embassies from regions far remote,
In various habits in the Apollin road,
Or in the Egyptian, turn from farthest south,
Syene or where the shadow both ways fall,
Maroe Nileotic Isle, and more to west,
The realms of Bœotia, to the Black-Moor Sea,
From the Asian kings and Parthians, amongst these,
From India and the golden Chersonese,
And utmost Indian Isle Taprobene,
Dark faces with white shaven turbans wreathed,
From Gallia Gadis and the British west,
Germans and Scythians, and Samothracians north
Beyond Danubian to the Tauric pool,
All nations now to Rome obedience pays. A.

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Christian Watchman.
SAINT JOHN, N. B., SEPT. 18, 1861.

The Association.

The annual Session of the Western Association will be convened at Keswick next Saturday afternoon. The season of the year is favourable, and satisfactory arrangements for the conveyance of delegates and visitors have been made, so that we may anticipate a large gathering. The meetings of our Associations are always interesting, and looked forward to with pleasure, and while this body has no ecclesiastical power, yet its influence which it exerts over the churches is scarcely less than if its resolutions were armed with authority. Here are assembled the pastors of the churches, with those church members who are most interested in the welfare of the denomination, and who fairly represent its spirit and aims. We not only meet with many old acquaintances, and make many new friends, but we become acquainted with the churches, and learn to take a special interest in the welfare of each.

In our intercourse with each other mutual regard and respect are increased, and the ties which connect the various churches, are strengthened. Thus to a great extent is maintained a unity of spirit and feeling. It is scarcely possible to attend an Association without growing in love to the brotherhood, and zeal for the cause. The free and many expressions of opinion given on such occasions never disturb the harmony of the denomination, and can be disagreeable only to the vain, the narrow minded, and the double tongued. We do not expect to have any very favourable reports presented from the churches. The past year does not seem to have been one of religious progress with us. Our numbers do not seem to have enlarged, and we have not noticed any indication that the internal condition of the churches has materially improved since our last Anniversary. Perhaps the political excitement of last spring may have had a tendency to check advancement. We hope that each church in its letter to the Association, will attend to the recommendation previously given to present not only the statistics of the church, but also of the Sunday School. It is also to be noticed that some churches on previous occasions, have endured an

unnecessary degree of mortification from the fact that their epistles have been written with a quality of ink and in a style of penmanship which baffled the skill of the Committee of Examination.

Education and Home Missions ought to be the engrossing subject of consideration, though very probably the time which they deserve, will be taken up in settling some little church difficulties. It is very extraordinary that in this province the Association should so frequently set as a sort of Supreme Ecclesiastical court. Elsewhere churches settle their own difficulties, or in cases of necessity, councils are called from neighboring churches; but in New Brunswick nearly every difficulty finds its way into the Association.

We hope that no complaints will be received from any churches, unless it can be shown that the evil complained of can be remedied by the association only, and that it concerns that body to apply the remedy.

Home Missions.

Unless we make up our minds to do very much more in support of our home missionary operations than we have yet done, we must retrograde. We have been standing still so long that we cannot reasonably expect to remain stationary much longer. We must advance or recede from the position which we have already taken. There are many districts in which are Baptist families, who if cared for might become nuclei for Baptist churches, but who if neglected will inevitably become absorbed by other religious bodies or altogether lost in the world.

There are weak churches, which if assisted, might rapidly advance to independence and influence, but which if neglected will in all probability lose their vitality. There are numerous churches in the province, capable of doing much towards the advancement of the cause, but who do very little. In a few years their energy or apathy will so enfeeble their energies, that they will be regarded only as members of the ground. Christian benevolence and even the instincts of self preservation like demand of us renewed and vigorous effort in support of Home Missions.

The apathy and indifference which we exhibit towards the foreign missionary enterprise would not be so humiliating could it be shown that our energies are absorbed by the work at home, and that we regard New Brunswick as at once domestic and foreign missionary ground.

Our position is favourable to progress, nearly a fifth part of the population of the province is Baptist, and it is to be noticed that this Baptist population is almost entirely of native origin. We are not rich, yet we are not poor. Though not an educated people, yet we are not deficient in intelligence. Our principles are liberal and need only to be understood to be appreciated. Our missionaries receive a welcome wherever they go. We have never spent our strength for naught. Wherever we have toiled we have achieved commensurate success. We evidently have it in our power to do much toward moulding the destinies of this young province. The consequences of present neglect can never be remedied.

Under such circumstances it is painful to notice that while we do nothing for foreign missions, we do very little for the destitute and weak in our own province. It is time that every Baptist in New Brunswick should earnestly inquire, "Lord what wilt thou have me to do?"

For the Christian Watchman.

Mr. Editor, - Your correspondent having a few leisure moments, feels inclined to devote them to the interests of your valuable paper, in giving a hasty sketch of the situation, growth, and future prospects of the pleasant and flourishing town of Woodstock.

This village is situated on the western bank of the St. John river, nearly mid-way between Fredericton and the Grand Falls, and within about twelve miles of Houlton in the United States. A lovely and never failing stream of water divides the town nearly in its centre, emptying itself into the river at this place, affording the amplest facilities for mills and other kinds of machinery. The town is surrounded by a vast agricultural region of unsurpassed beauty and fertility.

Excellent mines also abound in the vicinity, and iron can be manufactured here to any extent and of good quality. Exhausted deposits of clay exist which are being extensively worked by improved machinery, furnishing the best materials for building, in great abundance. Massive structures are rapidly succeeding each other of brick and wood, designed for first class hotels and stores, and the whole place is putting on the appearance of a fine inland city. The citizens of Woodstock are generally men of great industry and business activity, and appear more like the people of the United States than perhaps any other part of the Province. Situated so fortunately in its geographical position, and surrounded by such vast natural advantages, this place is doubtless destined by Providence to be the leading inland town of New Brunswick. Already we hear it spoken of as equalling Fredericton in the extent of its sales and purchases.

One thing more needs to be done to open fully its resources, and that is the erection of a good substantial bridge across the St. John River at this point. Such a structure would equalize the value of lands on the eastern side of the river with those on the west, bring millions of wild lands speedily into bud and blossom as the rose. We understand that this subject is already engaging the attention of the first men in the place, and will undoubtedly be brought to the attention of the Government. But we like to learn not only of the material wealth and outward prosperity of a people; but the mental and moral, the religious and the spiritual should more especially engage our attention. Upon some of these topics we are not very thoroughly posted, and therefore cannot be expected to speak with much assurance. Places of religious worship we believe are in abundance, and are amply sufficient for the wants of the people, but unless we were unfortunate in our observation, they are as a general thing but poorly attended. The Baptist church especially, is in a low and scattered condition, and but few come up to her solemn feasts. The people however, seem to relish highly a well delivered gospel sermon, and though, perhaps some that too fastidious in their tastes, would soon rally in giddy numbers around an able and faithful minister of Jesus Christ. Unwished, this people cannot support the stated ministry of such

a man as would be likely to suit them and build them up; and unless aid can be obtained from the mission board to the extent of about one half of his salary, no hope of the speedy revival of the Baptist cause here can be reasonably anticipated. A feeble and spasmodic effort will seemingly do them no good; they must have strong help and that too for several years continuously, or the church will dwindle and perhaps will utterly go down. Now the question is, can the Baptists of New Brunswick afford to lose so important a field and let other laborers enter into it? Shall an important harvest be lost for want of a little means to sustain the husbandman? But it may be replied that already has something been done and much labour expended with but poor and feeble results. Yet in spiritual things we cannot reason from the past to the future, as in temporal matters; for God is mighty and works like himself. He has his appointed instrumentalities, and his set times to favour Zion, in which more can be accomplished in a few short months, than had before been done for ages. Will not some brother in the ministry, who contemplates changing his place of labour, think prayerfully of this people, and ask the Lord, what He would have him do? A missionary in the States once quizzed said to us that he greatly preferred those fields where the least money was to be found, and where the works of the devil were the most numerous, as here an opportunity was afforded, by the grace of God, to triumph over great surrounding difficulties.

Notes on the St. Lawrence.

In agreeable contrast with the general dullness and sameness of Upper Canadian scenery, or rather that portion of it which lies in the vicinity of Lake Ontario, stands out the beauty and diversity everywhere present to the voyager on the St. Lawrence. We were not sorry to have escaped the heat and dust of the city, for the pleasant atmosphere of the boat near the head of the Bay of Quinte. We went on board from a place in the neighbourhood of Belleville, which latter town, though pleasant and somewhat prosperous in its external appearance must yet have been indebted for its flattering name to a considerable degree of partiality on the part of its christeners. The sail down the Bay to Kingston, though a pleasant one and agreeably varied by calls at various small towns along the coast, bears no comparison to that which succeeds it on the St. Lawrence, from Kingston to Montreal. Scarcely has the former city with its fine public buildings and conspicuous fortifications faded from view when we come in view of the "thousand islands," a region of surpassing beauty. We cannot, of course, vouch for the numerical accuracy implied in the name, and, indeed, should be very unwilling to have assigned us the task of verifying it by actual enumeration. But one thing we know that for many long miles our course consisted of windings amidst beautiful islands and inlets of every variety of shapes, and disposed with the most striking irregularity and capriciousness. The stranger suddenly finds himself in the midst of what seems an almost impenetrable forest of trees and shrubbery; he looks about almost in vain to discover the inlet by which the boat had made her entrance; he looks around and sees unnumbered narrow avenues opening up in every direction, very few of them apparently of sufficient width to promise admission; and if he possesses sufficient philosophy to allow his attention to be diverted from the beauty and variety of the picturesque scenery around him, by any thoughts of the future he looks ahead in vain bewilderment as to which of the numerous opening channels he's next to enter, unless by closer scrutiny he searches out the lightest houses and signals which are thickly planted along the route. Occasionally the boat glides out of the labyrinth by some winding outlet and sweeps along for a few moments on the broad bosom of the noble river, for a short distance destitute of these pleasing obstructions. Then not unfrequently a new group of tree clad islands ahead again bounds the prospect, and the inexperienced eye seeks in vain to discover in the distance any opening channel, and is almost constrained to think the voyage in that direction brought to a terminus.

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skillness of the vast North American hunting grounds, or the first canoe disturbed the repose of the great inland waters, when, the territories of the great lakes and the great woodlands having just been settled, the mighty struggle for the right of way to the Atlantic commenced between the giant of the land and the waters. We can almost fancy the mighty St. Lawrence going forth at the bidding of the presiding spirit of the lakes to sweep down every obstacle and establish a course for itself, while the forces of the land are marshalled in deadly opposition. We fancy the giant stream marching slowly onward, now gliding along majestically in its consciousness of power, anon broken into numerous fragments and foaming angrily along the narrow passages opened for itself, while the land genius hold here and there these countless positions, against whose jagged foundations wreathed and surmounted with evergreen in token of defiance, the ruffled waterwings and foam

But we have intruded doubts and fancies upon the patience of the reader till we dare not detain him to speak further of the sail down the stream. Were our pen better at description there is enough of interest and beauty in the passage to fill columns. But as it is we must forbear to speak of the change as we emerge from the forest of islands, of the broad stream flowing more rapidly, of the banks dotted with pleasant cottages and lined by broad acres upon which the thrifty grain is still waving, or the busy labourers transferring the golden sheaves to the wagons of Brockville and Prescott, and the other towns along the shores, the former especially of romantic beauty as viewed from the water. Without even stopping to speak of the exciting passage through the respective "rapids," of the stay over night at the little town of Coleman and the mirage, which clad all objects by the morning's sunlight in the garb of fairy but unreal beauty or even of the fine city of Montreal, with its streets and sudden contrast of splendid buildings and streets excellently paved and cleanly swept, with low miserable huts crowding into narrow and filthy lanes, we gladly hasten on to the westward of the sea and the shore of our native land.

Religious Intelligence.

THE BURMAN MISSION.

The Karens are rapidly advancing in civilization. Ere long they will be a patriotic and civilized Christian nation. Dr. Mason in a recent letter states that they make very good soldiers. A number have been permitted to enlist to protect the people against robber tribes and they fulfil their duties with spirit and bravery.

"When they were sent to make reparation for an outrage on a Bghal village that had been made by a party of the Gay-kho tribe, it is a people renowned; but they were defeated, with the loss of three killed, their village burned, and their chiefs taken prisoners and brought to town. When I was in the jungle last dry season, a village of We-va, beyond the water-shed, who had just become a teacher and commenced a school, was attacked by some wild Bghals, living between them and the Red Karen country. Two persons were carried away captive. I had the matter brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner, and he immediately ordered thirty men of the corps, with orders to obtain the restoration of the captives at all hazards; by mild measures, if possible, but by severe ones, if necessary. The party proceeded to the village of these wild Bghals, who shrunk before them, and at once agreed to the terms proffered, to restore the persons they had taken captive, though they had carried them away and sold them in the northern part of the Red Karen country. A party of the Bghals started off immediately for Karene, on order from the San-bu to have the captives restored by the purchasers without delay, sending one of our assistants to see the order executed, and in a few days, the Karen corps obtained the captives and delivered them to their friends, without striking a blow.

Another party of twenty-five of the Karen corps has just returned from a similar expedition to the unenlightened Sgus-north of the Yung-lo valley, with like success. Under some pretext or another, a band of Sgus, near the tin mines, had stolen away a woman from a peacable Christian village; and on this being reported to the Deputy Commissioner, he promptly ordered off twenty-five men to the scene of the depredation; and they soon succeeded in obtaining the woman, and returning her to her family.

The value of such a corps in keeping the peace among the villages of Yung-lo, and its borders, that have not yet embraced Christianity, cannot be too highly estimated. And it would be easy to organize a Karen force in the mountains that, in the event of war, would be of inestimable service to the Government against the Buddhist inhabitants of the plains."

General Intelligence.

DOMESTIC.

N. B. UNIVERSITY. - Mr. Campbell, the newly appointed Professor of Classical Literature delivered his inaugural on Monday the 8th. It is spoken of very highly. The "Reporter" says: - "Mr. Campbell is well known as a gentleman of no ordinary abilities, and a scholar of high attainments, and all who read his excellent Oration will admit that he has himself been an attentive and persevering student of those branches of Education which he is now called upon to communicate to others."

BAZAAR. - We learn that about \$500 was realized from the Wesleyan Bazaar recently held in Woodstock, which sum is to aid in completing the new place of worship in that town.

ARRIVAL OF EMIGRANTS. - The "Elizabeth" from Londonderry, arrived at this port on Tuesday week. She brought 55 passengers the majority of whom are females. Nearly all are Protestants. The "News" adds: - "We also understand that some twenty-five Bohemians arrived from New York by the Boston steamer on Wednesday. They can scarcely speak a word of English, but have given the Emigration Agent to understand that they intend to go 'up the country.' A few persons of the same nationality arrived here about three weeks ago and went to Sussex Vale where they have friends. These parties will probably take the same direction."

"Yawls! Yawls! Says" "Job! Job! teach-er" was the hoarse expression which told all he felt, and that Job's God was his God. He has an earnest zeal for souls which has often stirred us up to greater earnestness. Humble, prayerful, heavenly-minded. Such is the man I pro-ec-ee as your minister to the Burman. His influence is extensive, he is universally respected. I pay him 15 (Shan rupees) a month, or about \$7.00, this is the very least he should have, and it would be well to add another dollar for travelling expenses. He is to all intents and purposes the pastor of the church here. All look to him and regard his opinion with great respect. He is 60 years old, but possesses an active temperament, which his grandchildren might envy. All his desire is to work for Christ until He calls him home. He will probably, when the church here shall have increased somewhat, be ordained to the work for which he seems so expressly fitted. I shall tell him all your message. I know it will have the effect of making him more zealous and more humble, if possible. I heartily unite with you in the hope that this arrangement will have the effect of bringing the cause of missions nearer to the hearts of all who have suggested it, as well as of all who are ready to co-operate in it. I am confident that if every church would adopt the same plan they would find themselves greatly benefited. I have always been a cordial believer in the "reflex influence" of foreign missions. Such a close and intimate communication with the dark races of the earth keeps alive an interest for the salvation of souls; while the contributor to the support of a missionary who is himself a convert from heathenism, is certainly doing what he can in the most direct possible way towards the evangelization of the heathen."

PARISH-TRUSTEE PIC-NIC. - The Sabbath School children and friends of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Sydney Street, had a very enjoyable social gathering on Friday on the ground Mr. John M. Lotyre and Mr. John Boyd, at Rothsay. There were between two and three hundred persons, young and old, present, and everything passed off to the complete satisfaction of all concerned. - [News.]

ROMAN CATHOLIC PIC-NIC. - The Pic-Nic of the Portland Catholic Sunday School on Tuesday surpassed the most sanguine expectations of those interested in its success. In numbers it was second only to the great Cathedral Pic-Nic. There were on the grounds at one time in the afternoon between four and five thousand, all engaged in innocent healthy amusement. Good order and the spirit of self respect marked the conduct of all, and made the festival as useful a moral as in a physical point of view. - [Freemans.]

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She (England) cannot tell what may be the upshot of our troubles. The British preponderance of Canadian, as of the home British feeling, as with our Government; yet it cannot be disguised that at least half of the public journals of Montreal and Quebec manifest a bitterness towards us, a readiness to find fault, which would be both tantalizing and unavailing, did we not suppose it was an effort to ape the "Times" - to muster back its thunders.

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It appears that within the last three months, something over 500 vessels have visited Gaspe Basin, while 43,676 acres of land have been sold in that district since the establishment of the free port. Over 400 Norwegian emigrants have arrived in the course of the season direct from Norway, and have settled in different localities throughout the country. Another vessel is expected to arrive this autumn with two hundred settlers. Several new and extensive wharves are in course of construction at the Basin, while a number of others have been projected. Houses and stores are being erected everywhere, thus giving the most satisfactory and convincing evidence of progress and prosperity. The writer also states that the lead mine in the county has become the property of a number of Norwegians, one of whom was formerly employed in a silver mine of Norway. Their researches have been extremely successful; quite a number of rich veins of lead ore have been discovered, and there is every indication of a valuable deposit of the metal. Traces of copper are numerous, thus giving the most satisfactory and convincing evidence of progress and prosperity. The writer also states that the lead mine in the county has become the property of a number of Norwegians, one of whom was formerly employed in a silver mine of Norway. Their researches have been extremely successful; quite a number of rich veins of lead ore have been discovered, and there is every indication of a valuable deposit of the metal. Traces of copper are numerous, thus giving the most satisfactory and convincing evidence of progress and prosperity.

LIBERIA COLLEGE.

Some of our readers may be aware that efforts have been making for three or four years past to establish on a liberal basis a college in Liberia, the faculty of which should be well educated colored men, and which should not be inferior in its appliances or course of instruction to our most respectable American colleges. Such an institution was greatly needed in the Republic, for there were a large number of pupils in the high schools, who would gladly pursue a collegiate course, if they could have the opportunity. We are glad to learn that this desirable object is now likely to be speedily attained. Commodious buildings have been erected, and paid for; a good supply of apparatus and the commencement of a valuable library made; and a partial endowment obtained for several professors. The Trustees of Donations for Education in Liberia, an incorporated body to whom the Charter of the College confers, at the beginning, the selection of the faculty, met on the 8th of August in Boston, and elected Hon. Joseph J. Roberts President of the Republic, President and Professor of Jurisprudence and International Law; Rev. Alexander Cromwell, a native of New York, and graduate of Queen's College, Cambridge, Eng., Professor of Intellectual and Moral Philosophy, and of the English Language and Literature; and Rev. Edward W. Blyden, the present Principal of the Alexander High School at Monrovia, Professor of the Greek and Latin Languages and Literature. These gentlemen are all residents of Liberia, and are connected with the Methodist, the Protestant Episcopal, and the Presbyterian churches. The organization of classes will take place probably in December. This is a movement full of interest and hope for Liberia. - Examiner.

UNITED STATES.

The North is just now rejecting over a communication from the Emperor of Russia to the U. S. Government, expressive of his sympathy with the Union; at the same time, urging a reconciliation. On this, the Washington correspondent of the Herald remarks: -

"No adequate issue can be formed, out of Washington, of the tremendous sensation that has been caused here by the publication of the letter of the Czar of Russia. It is not too much to say that it is worth a battle gained to us. The members of the Cabinet and all the foreign ministers understand this completely; and it would do you good to see the sparkle in Mr. Seward's eye, and the annoyed expression that frequently crosses Lord Lyons' face, in spite of his diplomatic caution. The frank and hearty sympathy thus expressed by one of the most powerful monarchs of Europe, for the stability and permanence of our national government, is justly regarded by the administration as an indication of what the course of Russia will be if England and France carry out the intentions that they have already too plainly expressed. There is little doubt in the minds of the members of the administration that England and France will both recognize the Southern Confederacy on their first plausible pretext. But if this course on their part should involve us in a war with them, then we can count upon the aid of Russia. The Czar has a long and account to settle with 'the Allies,' and he would want no better opportunity than that of the United States, has always been friendly toward us, and would rejoice in our overthrow. The idea that England will follow the lead of Russia is expressing sympathy with our government, is preposterous. It is much more likely to suppose that she will take the opposite course. But with Russia at our back, we can defy both France and England."

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FIRE. - On Thursday night two small houses at Spurr's Cove owned, by a Mr. Murphy were burnt. Between 1 and 2 o'clock, P. M. on Saturday a house, known as the "Paley Cottage," belonging to the estate of the late Benj. Smith, Esq., situated near the Penitentiary, was burnt to the ground with all the outbuildings, before assistance could be sent from the City. The fire originated among the hay in the barn and thence communicated with the house. The buildings destroyed were worth about \$1000 and were insured for at least \$1000. - [News.]

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UNITED STATES.

The North is just now rejecting over a communication from the Emperor of Russia to the U. S. Government, expressive of his sympathy with the Union; at the same time, urging a reconciliation. On this, the Washington correspondent of the Herald remarks: -

"No adequate issue can be formed, out of Washington, of the tremendous sensation that has been caused here by the publication of the letter of the Czar of Russia. It is not too much to say that it is worth a battle gained to us. The members of the Cabinet and all the foreign ministers understand this completely; and it would do you good to see the sparkle in Mr. Seward's eye, and the annoyed expression that frequently crosses Lord Lyons' face, in spite of his diplomatic caution. The frank and hearty sympathy thus expressed by one of the most powerful monarchs of Europe, for the stability and permanence of our national government, is justly regarded by the administration as an indication of what the course of Russia will be if England and France carry out the intentions that they have already too plainly expressed. There is little doubt in the minds of the members of the administration that England and France will both recognize the Southern Confederacy on their first plausible pretext. But if this course on their part should involve us in a war with them, then we can count upon the aid of Russia. The Czar has a long and account to settle with 'the Allies,' and he would want no better opportunity than that of the United States, has always been friendly toward us, and would rejoice in our overthrow. The idea that England will follow the lead of Russia is expressing sympathy with our government, is preposterous. It is much more likely to suppose that she will take the opposite course. But with Russia at our back, we can defy both France and England."

General Intelligence.

DOMESTIC.

N. B. UNIVERSITY. - Mr. Campbell, the newly appointed Professor of Classical Literature delivered his inaugural on Monday the 8

