

Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER,
VOLUME LX.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR,
VOLUME XLIX.

Vol. XIII.

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 1897.

No. 22.

Contents.

EDITORIAL.	
Paraphrase.	1
The Grounds for Prohibition.	4
Notes.	4
CONTRIBUTED.	
Sermon—The Home.	2
Delightful Studies in the Word.	3
Sanctum Spiritus.	3
Prohibition and the Scripture.	5
The Power Behind the Elector.	5
A Watch on the Door of the Lips.	5
STORY PAGE.	
A Home Run in Indiana.	6

Tariff Revision.	
THE YOUNG PEOPLE.	
B. Y. P. U. Daily Report.	7
Prayer Meeting Topics.	7
B. Y. P. U. Notes.	7
FOREIGN MISSION.	
W. B. M. I.	8
F. M. Notes by the Secretary.	8
THE HOME.	10
THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.	
Lesson II.—Paul's Advice to Timothy.	11
From the Churches.	11
Marriages and Deaths.	13
The Farm.	15
News Summary.	14 and 16
Notices.	12

The War and the Turks. As the war correspondents get back into their own country, where their writing will not be subject to the censorship of Greek or Turkish officials, we shall no doubt obtain an account of the war more intelligent and trustworthy than those contained in the despatches sent forth from the fields of battle or the camps of the opposing armies. One London correspondent who has already returned, having been with the Turkish army through the campaign, represents the war as a small affair. "The battles resulted in few prisoners, fewer wounded and still fewer killed." The significant fact in connection with the war as this correspondent, whose name is not given, represents, is the mobilization of a great army by Turkey. "It means Turkey's readiness for a great war. It means her determination to show the Christian powers that Turkey is no longer willing to play the part of dunces in the European school. Turkey has seen little Greece successfully defy the concert and wage war without permission, and she means to profit by the example. She feels her power and strength, and imagines that her former docility was a grand mistake. She means to hold every inch of Greek territory gained in the war, and intends to throw down the glove and challenge the powers to take it up. This is the most serious situation Europe has seen in nearly thirty years. It may pass off harmlessly if the timid Sultan dismisses his present advisers, but it seemed to me that the temper of most of the men of the ruling class was altogether in sympathy with this newly developed spirit of independence and pugnacity on the part of their country. On every side I heard Turkish officers boast that Turkey meant to keep the land bought with Turkish blood; and those Europeans who hold relations with the Turkish government told me that Turkey had been crazed by the new power she feels thrilling in her veins and means to assert a new relation towards the rest of Europe." As to the character of the Turkish soldiery, this correspondent says: "The Turkish army is the most admirable peasantry I ever saw. The soldiers are the most docile, tractable and easily governed men imaginable. They are brave to the last degree, love to fight, are indifferent to death, and carry fearful wounds without a groan. It is a half-clad, half-fed army of calm but fanatical heroes. But the Turkish side has its grave faults, and these will be told when the correspondents escape the censor's hands. Then we shall hear how the Turks disgraced the Greek dead on the field of battle, how the Turkish government has emptied every captured Greek town of its valuables, and how inhuman even the patient Turkish private becomes when there is a chance to loot for himself. I know that looting is persistently denied, yet I saw it with my own eyes. . . . I saw miles of pack loads of the contents of houses in the captured towns and villages seized by the Turkish government. What the government left the soldiers took."

It seems desirable in the general interests of the country that a protective trade system is good for Canada may prove to be well-founded. For such a system is like some plants in that it is much more easily introduced than eradicated. Such plants, it is true, are not apt to be held in much favor. They are generally classed as noxious weeds which it is the interest of the farmer, and his laborious duty, to exterminate. The present Finance Minister of Canada and his colleagues are declared opponents of a high tariff, but evidently they are not finding it easy to make progress in the direction of free trade. A government would need to be very strong indeed which should venture to array against itself the aggregate strength of the interests, many of which have grown into more or less formidable proportions during a somewhat extended period of protection. Besides, a Finance Minister may hesitate on other grounds to cut off the sources of life from a pampered industry which however, he judges, ought never to have been called into existence. The amendments to the tariff bill brought down by Mr. Fielding in the House on Tuesday last indicate that since the introduction of the bill, concessions in several instances have been asked for and granted in the interests of protected industries. As the St. John Globe says, "the protectionists have not been idle, and by letter and by delegation they have vigorously impressed their views upon the minister. It cannot be denied that several of the changes now made are in their interest." There are other instances in which modifications have been made with a view to greater general acceptance. A change has been made in the tariff bill as originally presented in regard to books, which are now placed in two classes. Novels, or literature of a similar character, unbound or paper bound, will pay a duty of 20 per cent., while the better class of books will pay 10 per cent. This is a concession which will be of considerable value to book buyers. The taxing of all dutiable books at so much per pound, as in the old tariff was, however, a far more simple plan, and on the whole was, we should think, much to be preferred to the present arrangement. In reference to the section of the tariff bill intended to secure preferential trade with Great Britain, since it had been held by Sir Charles Tupper and others that existing treaties between Great Britain and Germany and Belgium would nullify this section, Mr. Fielding explained that the Government still adhered to the opposite view, but in view of the discussion that had taken place it had been thought well to provide, by an additional subsection, "that the governor in council may extend the benefits of such reciprocal tariff to any country which may be entitled thereto by virtue of any treaty with Her Majesty." Another amendment to the tariff bill, and one which will be generally approved, is in connection with the "combine clause" and provides that, before the Government shall take action on that clause, they shall refer to a judge of one of the higher courts the question as to whether or not the combine exists of the character contemplated by the resolution.

Peary will Try Again. Lieut. Robert F. Peary whose name is widely known in connection with his polar expeditions has obtained a five years' leave of absence from his duties in the United States navy for the purpose of making another attempt to reach the North Pole. It is stated that he will start north on July 8th on a preliminary trip, the object of which will be to make arrangements for another and final trip next year. Lieut. Peary's northward voyage this year is to be made in a St. John's sealer. He will be accompanied by two or more scientific parties who will go with him to some point near Melville Bay. Lieut. Peary's object in his preliminary trip will be to communicate with a colony of Esquimaux at Whale Sound, who are known as the Artic Highlanders. Mr. Peary has lived with these people and gained their confidence and affection. He will pick out six or eight of the

most intelligent young men in the colony and prepare them to take their families north with them and establish another colony which a year after will be his base of supplies. At this village, which they will found, they will work throughout the year collecting meat, furs, bearskins to be made into trousers, sealskin boots, sledges and other supplies, and collecting and training a pack of the best Esquimaux dogs obtainable. Lieut. Peary will be accompanied on this summer's trip by his wife and three-year-old daughter, but on the main expedition Mrs. Peary and the child will remain in this country. The journey this summer will be from Boston to Cape Breton, where the ship will take on coal, through the Gulf of St. Lawrence to Belle Isle, and up the Labrador coast to the mouth of Hudson's Straits, then to Resolution Island, and across to the South Greenland coast, to Melville Bay, and finally to Whale Sound, which will be reached in the latter part of July. The return will be made in September.

The Atlantic Fast Line. On Friday night, just before the adjournment of the House of Commons, the terms of the Atlantic Fast Line contract were laid upon the table of the House by Sir Richard Cartwright. An Ottawa despatch gives the following summary of information in reference to this important subject:

Four steamers of 10,000 tons gross register and cargo capacity of 1,500 to 2,000 tons are to be provided; two by May 31, 1899, and the other two by May 1, 1900. They are to sail between Liverpool and Quebec and Montreal in summer, and the contractors have the option of choosing between Halifax or St. John in winter, making their choice before the date for the commencement of the service namely, May 31, 1899. At this date they are to put on two steamers and give a fortnightly service and a weekly service from 1st May, 1900. The vessels are to be 526 feet and have a speed of 500 knots a day, or 21 knots an hour, and are to be in every respect equal to the best Atlantic steamers, such as the *Lucania* or *Campania*. At least 500 tons of cargo capacity must be provided, with cold storage. The draught when loaded for sea is to be 25.6. They are to have a capacity for 300 first, 200 second and 800 steerage passengers, the steerage passengers to be carried at a rate of not more than \$15 a head. The contractors are to provide a fast tender, constructed like a torpedo boat, to meet the steamers on approach to Canadian ports and act as pilot. The steamers are prohibited from calling at any foreign port or taking another subsidy from any foreign country or municipality. This prevents the steamers from going to Portland or elsewhere and is a very important clause. The subsidy is to be 154,500 pounds from Canada and 51,500 pounds a year from the Imperial Government. The penalty for not being ready to sail on the day named is 500 pounds a day for each subsequent day's delay. The company is to deposit 20,000 pounds, of which 10,000 pounds is to be cash which they forfeit if not ready to begin service on May 31, 1899, and weekly on May 1, 1900. No discriminating rates are to be charged against Canadian railway routes. The contract covers the usual conveyance of mails. Sir Richard Cartwright gives notice of a resolution ratifying this contract.

Peace Delayed. Although Greece has accepted the intervention of the Powers and an armistice has been arranged between the belligerents, no very marked progress toward the establishment of peace appears to have been made as yet. The effect of the war on Turkey has been to strengthen the national spirit and to encourage the government to make demands which the majority of the Powers will be quite unwilling to concede, but which they may find it very difficult to refuse. The advisers of the Sultan are represented as pressing for the retention of Thessaly permanently or at least until an indemnity satisfactory to the Porte shall have been paid by Greece. It is reported that 7,000 troops are being added to the already very formidable Turkish army in that province, which does not indicate a yielding disposition on the part of the Sultan, and while the Powers formally maintain the position taken in regard to the terms of peace, the sincerity of both Germany and Russia in the matter is said to be doubted and any sign of dissension among the Powers will, of course, encourage obstinacy on the part of the Sultan. The despatches state that in Athens much anxiety prevails as to the intentions of the Turks, and that it is suspected that negotiations for peace are being delayed in order that the Turkish commander may lead his army to Athens.