

Messenger and Visitor.

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—THE New York Examiner in its new form, which it took on with its issue of Oct. 18, presents an excellent appearance and its contents are, of course, as valuable as ever. The Examiner's new page is about the size of the Independent's, and considerably larger than that of the Watchman, the Outlook and the Congregationalist. The Standard of Chicago announces its intention of adopting the smaller page form.

—A St. John evening paper quotes Mayor Robertson as saying that the sparring exhibitions which have of late been given in the Mechanics Institute are, in his opinion, becoming very like prize fights, that many complaints concerning this matter have been made by citizens, and that it is certain the general sentiment of the community is against such exhibitions. We should say, from the accounts given by the daily papers of these performances in the Institute, that they are becoming very like prize fights indeed. When a man is knocked down four times in one round and struggles to his feet with blood streaming from nose and lips, it certainly looks like a serious business, and when this is done under the eyes of the police it appears to be quite in order to enquire whether prize fighting has become one of the recognized institutions of the city, and whether such brutal exhibitions are among the things to be tolerated.

—A few months ago the National Baptist newspaper, of Philadelphia, was discontinued for lack of sufficient support and was merged in the Examiner, of New York. A report of the meeting of the Philadelphia Baptist Association recently held states that "many of the churches deplored the discontinuance of the National Baptist as our city and church paper." These expressions are said to have called forth from a brother present the remark that "it is all very well to profess love for the National Baptist, but love won't run a newspaper; it must have cash." The remark is quite as true in other latitudes as in that of Philadelphia. It is very pleasant indeed to have appreciation and kind words, but to produce a good newspaper requires a constant outlay; and how are the demands to be met unless the paper is paid for as well as taken? A single subscription unpaid for two or three years is a small thing in itself, but a thousand or two of such unpaid subscriptions becomes a very serious matter for the publishers.

—THE Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec met at St. Thomas, Ont., Oct. 18. The last received issue of the Toronto Baptist has an interesting report of the proceedings to be continued in its next issue. As the report is prepared by our Ontario correspondent, our readers will, no doubt, in due time receive some account of the doings of the Convention from the same source. We may note here, as gathered from the Baptist, that the Convention was royally entertained by the St. Thomas church. The president for the current year is Mr. J. S. Buchan, of Montreal, and Rev. D. M. Mihell was re-elected secretary. The reports of the Boards in charge of education, home missions and Book Room and publication work showed that these interests are in a healthy condition. A proposal was presented to change the time of meeting of the Convention in order that the professors and students connected with the denominational schools might have opportunity to attend. A Montreal paper states that the Convention is to meet next year in that city in May.

—PROBABLY the most remarkable artesian well in these Maritime Provinces is that which Mr. S. H. White, of Sussex, has had bored on his premises during the present summer. After boring about 240 feet a vein of water was struck having sufficient pressure to send it high above the surface. When we visited the well a few weeks ago, quite a stream of water was flowing from it. The location is on elevated land southward of the town, and the water which the well yields is said to be sufficient in quantity to supply half the houses in the place. Unfortunately the water is not the best for household purposes, as it is alkaline and also quite strongly impregnated with sulphur. This gives it medicinal qualities, but of course gives it also an unpleasant taste. For ordinary household purposes, except drinking and cooking the water is said to be quite suitable. Sussex lacks a water system which it is not easy to supply unless the problem can be solved by the sinking of artesian wells. We learn that there is talk of further experiment in that direction.

—THE financial condition of Italy, which for years past has been regarded as almost or quite desperate, appears not to show any indications of improvement. When parliament meets, which will be shortly, the prime minister, it is said, will have to report a deficit of \$15,000,000. Premier Crispi has not been able to effect the economies in the cost of administration which he had promised. There seems to be no practical way of reducing the expenditure materially, except by curtailing the appropriations for military purposes, and this, from Crispi's standpoint, is out of the question. It is stated that parliament will be asked to increase the burden of taxation by some \$8,000,000 or \$10,000,000, and it is hoped by economical measures to reduce the expenditure by \$5,000,000.

—ALLUSION was made in our last issue in a note from Rev. D. G. McDonald to a charge preferred by a Halifax jeweller of questionable repute against Rev. D. E. Hatt, of Shelburne, and his sister-in-law, Mrs. Capt. Hatt. We have also received a further communication in reference to the same matter, but which, under the circumstances, it seems unnecessary to publish. The high character of the accused was strong presumptive evidence of the baselessness of the charge and the facts brought out in connection with the trial must have convinced everyone, as it did the presiding magistrate, that the charge was entirely without foundation in fact, if not also malicious. The character of the person who preferred the charge may be judged from the fact that, being placed on the witness stand and asked whether he had ever brought a similar charge against any person, he declared on oath that he had not; whereupon there was submitted to the court a document, signed by this man, Spokeshire, in which he presented a humble apology for having accused a young lady of purloining a ring, having also offered to withdraw the charge on the payment of five dollars. When this lady—who by the way is a Roman Catholic—heard of the accusation brought against the Hatts, she very kindly of her own accord came forward and placed at their disposal the evidence above referred to. We are pleased to note that in the unpleasant experience thrust upon them, Bro. Hatt and his relatives have had the active sympathy of ministers of different denominations and other persons in Halifax of the highest respectability. We have not the slightest doubt that the accusation brought against Rev. Mr. Hatt and his sister-in-law was utterly baseless, and we cordially sympathize with them in the very unpleasant experience it has been their lot to meet.

PASSING EVENTS.

BROWN UNIVERSITY has entered upon its one hundred and twenty-seventh year; and in connection with this fact President Andrews remarks that "No other institution of learning in the world connected with the Baptist denomination can say this, ours being much the oldest of the now numerous schools for which the denomination is responsible." Notwithstanding the attractions presented by wealthier institutions Brown is still popular with the Baptist youth of the Eastern States, and no doubt deservedly so. Since 1850 its students have nearly trebled in numbers. The total enrollment for the year when complete is expected to be about seven hundred and twenty, which is larger by sixty than that of any previous year. The freshman class numbers one hundred and forty-five, and President Andrews pronounces it to be "of unusually excellent material, containing a great many men of maturity and of serious purpose." The religious meetings of the students are well attended and enthusiastic; the number of those having the ministry in view has increased of late years. Harmony prevails in the management and in the faculty. But with all these encouraging facts and indications, President Andrews, like many others in similar positions, is wrestling hard with the problem—how to make bricks without straw. Considering the needs and opportunities of the institution, its endowment is quite inadequate, and, in spite of urgent appeals, the increments received in recent years are discouragingly small. Among the urgent wants of the university are funds for the library; funds for fellowships; a new chapel; a woman's college building; a new chemical laboratory; a new biological laboratory, and two new dormitories. Pres-

ident Andrews believes that the Baptist youth of the Eastern States cannot be induced in any considerable numbers to go to the west for their education. Chicago therefore does not render it unnecessary that Brown shall be generally supported; for unless adequate provision is made for the education of the Baptist young men of the East in an Eastern Baptist university, "they will continue, as in immense numbers they now do, to resort to Harvard, Yale, Columbia and Cornell." These youths are the choice spirits of the denomination, and it is most important to its interests that they receive their education under Baptist influences. Considering the interest which the Baptists of the East have always taken in the cause of higher education and the wealth now represented in the denomination, one would suppose that the funds would be forthcoming to make it possible for the able president of Brown to carry out his plans for the enlargement of the university's sphere of influence.

IN the death of James Anthony Froude, which occurred on October 20, an Englishman of wide literary fame, has passed away. Mr. Froude was a native of Dartington, Devonshire, and was born April 23rd, 1818, the youngest son of the late Venerable R. H. Froude, Archdeacon of Toyness. He was educated at Westminster and at Oriel College, Oxford. Mr. Froude's early intention was to devote himself to the Christian ministry, and he was accordingly ordained a deacon in the Church of England in 1844. For some time he was connected with the High Church party, and was strongly under the influence of Newman. But Froude, in his intellectual development, took on a rationalistic bias, and his book entitled "The Nemesis of Faith," which appeared in 1845, so clearly marked his defection from the teachings of the Church of England that the book was condemned by the university authorities, which led to his resigning a fellowship which had been conferred upon him by Exeter College. For some years after this Mr. Froude was a constant contributor to the Westminster Review, and in 1856 he began the publication of his great historical work, "The History of England from the Fall of Wolsey to the Defeat of the Spanish Armada." This work comprises twelve volumes, the two last of which were published in 1870. As to the value of Mr. Froude's history, opinion differs somewhat. That it evidences laborious investigation on the part of the author and splendid literary faculty and that it is most readable and entertaining no one questions; but as a trustworthy portrayal of the events and personages of the period traversed, there are many who are unable to accept it altogether seriously. It is charged that Mr. Froude was too strongly imbued with party feeling to be able to present historical facts without imparting to them something of the coloring of his own sentiments. Mr. Froude possessed, in eminent measure, that imaginative faculty which is so essential to all successful historical writing addressed to the popular ear. But the office of the historical imagination is clearly not to invent, but to inspire with life the cold facts which tollsome investigation discloses. It is charged against Mr. Froude that his imagination has sometimes run faster and farther than the facts would warrant, that the dramatic sense in him—the desire to round out the story and make everything in his narrative live and move with natural effect—has led him to employ the imaginative faculty in ways which the sober historian must regard as illegitimate. However this may be, Mr. Froude's historical writings have furnished many with pleasant and instructive reading, and doubtless he has contributed more largely to the popular knowledge of that period of English history with which he has dealt than a prosy, though more exact, historian would have done. It is possible, too, that the work of historical scholars will go to show that some of Froude's portraits of historical personages are more nearly in harmony with the facts than they are now generally supposed to be. As biographer of Thomas Carlyle and editor of the Reminiscences, Mr. Froude is perhaps more widely known than through his historical writings.

SOME of the Southern journals of the United States appear to find a degree of satisfaction in calling attention to the cases of lynching which have lately occurred in the Northern States. Such lawless outbreaks of popular passion occurring in other parts of the

republic do of course afford the Southerner with a *tu quoque* argument, and show that in Northern as well as in Southern States the majesty of the law is not so revered as it should be by all classes of the people. Lynching, too, wherever it prevails, may be taken to indicate that law is not effectively enforced, and that the criminal, by or in spite of, the processes of law too frequently is able to escape the penalty of his crimes. It may indicate, too, that there are certain crimes which are especially exasperating to popular feeling and that wherever such crimes are committed there is a strong tendency to resort to summary processes to execute vengeance upon the offender. If the North has been disposed to address the South in reference to the lawless propensity of its people as from an elevated platform of superior virtue, the fact that lynching is not unknown in the North may fairly enough be employed as a rebuke to an any Pharisaic pride. But certainly neither Southerners nor any other citizens of the great republic can find good cause for congratulation in indications that the disregard of law in the treatment of suspected criminals is becoming more widespread and pronounced. Lynching is a thing to be stamped out of every civilized country—not to be palliated or defended. There is murder as well as vengeance in its spirit. Its practice must tend to promote disregard and contempt for law, to brutalize all who directly or indirectly have part in it, and to lower the moral tone of every community in which it is tolerated. There is also in this lynching spirit which sets law at defiance a contagious element. In almost all large communities, and in many small ones, the impulsive, the unreasoning and brutal elements are more or less largely represented. The facts and details of one popular murder telegraphed throughout the continent suggest and lead to others in other places when popular feeling is aroused by some outrageous crime. For the example which it has been setting the world in this matter the South has much to answer, and if the evil example is now being followed in some of the Northern States, it would seem to be anything but a cause for satisfaction.

IN respect to European news the centre of interest continues to be Livadia, in the Crimea, where the Czar of Russia is slowly dying. Reports as to the royal patient's condition are conflicting. Many of them, during the past week or two, have represented him as being at the point of death, while others speak of him as being able to walk in the garden and as taking a good deal of nourishment. It appears, however, to be certain that the Czar is rapidly sinking under the power of an incurable disease. He may continue a few weeks but further prolongation of life is not to be expected, while the news of his death from heart failure at any time would occasion no surprise. The prospect of the Czar's decease is the occasion of great grief among the Russian people and great uneasiness throughout Europe. There is much speculation of course as to the effect upon the affairs of Europe and the world. The marriage of the Czarowitz is being hastened and according to latest despatches received at time of writing, it has been appointed to take place on Monday, the 29th inst. According to reports it is not a love match on the part of Nicholas, who had already entered into marital relations with a person of inferior station, a beautiful young Jewess, with whom he is sincerely attached. The Princess Alix, too, we are told, has not been able without difficulty to persuade herself to become the bride of the Czarowitz. Her difficulties, it is intimated, are of a religious character, since, in marrying into the royal family of Russia, it is necessary for her to become a member of the Orthodox or Greek church. Under the circumstances it is certainly very credible that even the immediate prospect of becoming Czarina should be to small an inducement to make her willing to renounce and to anathematize the religious faith in which she has been reared, if that faith has represented anything of value to her mind or heart. The dying Czar, it is generally acknowledged, has been a potent influence for peace in Europe, and it is natural that his taking away should be regarded with general anxiety, for who can tell whether a wise man or a fool will succeed to autocratic power in Russia, or whether, when the present ruler shall be gone, Muscovite influence will make for peace or for war. The Czarowitz is said not to be a man of robust constitution either physically or

mentally, and a regency is among the possibilities which are being discussed. But so far events point to the probability that the regular order of succession is to be maintained.

THE news of late in connection with the war in which Japan and China are engaged has not for the most part been of a very important or startling character. The Japanese have now, however, advanced as far as the Yalu River, and a part of the army is reported to have crossed the river on Oct. 24th and put to rout a small force of Chinese. It is reported that the Chinese are in force close to the Yalu River on the road to Moukden. News of a battle is daily expected. It is believed that the Chinese will make a strong fight in defence of the city. The present position of the armies is not far from the boundaries between China and Korea. If the Japanese win a decisive victory here and succeed in taking Moukden, it is supposed their next objective point will be Peking. The Japanese have had things pretty much their own way so far, but it is likely they will meet with a more stubborn resistance than they have yet encountered before they reach Peking. News from the seat of war will be looked for now with a good deal of interest.

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:

"Be ye strong therefore and let not your hands be weak for your work shall be rewarded."

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. Manning, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR OCTOBER.

For our work in the North West, that every month may witness some work.

For our monthly budget, "Tidings," that it may be the means of greatly increasing the interest in our work.—Ps. 20:7.

The Tenth Annual Reports of the W. B. M. U. are ready for distribution. They have reached us earlier than ever before, and we hope no time will be lost in placing them before the societies. Let them be distributed of once to the members and read with care. They contain much of interest to all. These reports are only heard by a few at Convention. We suggest that public meetings be held at which a part or all of these reports be read. Each member of our societies should be familiar with the information they contain.

Our sisters will all be pleased to hear of the recent ladies' missionary meeting held at Toronto. We are grateful to Mrs. Baker for sending us these items so soon, and hope to have frequent communications from her in the column.

The Convention of the W. M. A. S. for Carleton and Victoria Counties convened in the Albert St. Baptist church, at Woodstock, on Friday, Sept. 21st. Meeting opened by singing. The president of the Woodstock society occupied the chair and read 11th chapter of Isaiah. Mrs. W. S. Saunders led in prayer, and a number of others followed. After spending about half an hour in songs of praise and earnest pleadings for God's blessing, reports were listened to from the different societies represented. These were all encouraging; showing increase in membership, offerings and zeal. Rev. J. W. Manning was present and addressed the meeting, giving words of encouragement and praise to the faithful workers.

After some talk on plans for future work, Mrs. M. A. Archibald was elected County Secretary. A resolution was then passed expressing our thanks and appreciation for the devoted services of our former County Secretary, Mrs. I. Schurman, and conveying our best wishes for her future happiness in her new home, praying that the same zeal in missionary work which she manifested while with us, may be carried with her to our sister province.

We regret very much that more of our societies were not represented. Out of eight societies, I think, only four sent delegates.

Rev. A. H. Hayward was present and spoke a few words of encouragement to the sisters, and pointed out several churches where there is no Aid Society, and thought we ought to go at once and organize. Meeting closed with prayer. Would we had more pastors like Bro. Hayward, reaching out the helping hand to the sisters and cheering them in the good work. We find that where the pastor is in sympathy with this work that there is ten fold more zeal and earnestness among the sisters in the churches.

Tuesday, Oct. 9th, being Crusade Day, the Woodstock society looked forward to it with no small degree of

interest, as we had planned a good deal of work for the Master. Six sisters had been appointed to visit in different parts of the town, soliciting new members and calling on the uninterested and sick ones. The day proved wet. The effort will be renewed very soon. One sister out of the six secured three or four new names. And strange to say, at our regular meeting which we held last Tuesday, a dear sister came, bringing with her three new members. She not having been appointed to visit, but out of love to the Master and faithfulness to the work, had induced these sisters to join us; so I think we will be able to report at least eight new members.

In the evening we held a public meeting, a suitable programme being provided consisting of missionary readings, one original paper by Miss Kate Saunders, and music.

Mrs. F. A. Godd delighted the audience with a vocal solo. Also Mrs. W. W. Hay and Miss Ada Hendry added to the enjoyment of the evening by singing a duet. Brother and Sister Mellick were with us. The latter talked to us a short time on the work in the North-west. Collection five dollars.

On Friday Sister Saunders and I drove to Rockland and organized an aid society with twenty-eight members. They have had a society there in the past, but by some means it had gone down. They seemed delighted to be at the work again, all expressing a desire to do all in their power to carry forward this good work. I should have said that we had a delightful season of prayer and praise before we started to organize. They have a knitting circle which meets every two weeks (as they are working hard to pay off a debt on the parsonage) and so they decided to hold their aid meeting on the same day, only every four weeks. There is only one of them who takes the "Link," so I left that work in her hands. I am expecting great things from this society.

M. A. ARCHIBALD.

Woodstock.

Toronto W. B. M. Convention.

It may interest some of your readers to know something of the Woman's Baptist Missionary Convention of Western Ontario held in Jarvis St. church, Toronto, on Oct. 16 and 17. Four hundred women have convened during the hours of two days to hear of the work of the year past and plan work for the year to come. The first day was devoted to the interests of foreign missions. A deficit in this society has made heavy the hearts of all connected with the work; and it was feared that this would render Miss Hatch's return to India impossible. But God has heard prayer and sent an answer of peace. The dollars have come in by hundreds, and Miss Hatch and Miss McLeod are preparing to leave in a few weeks. The receipts of the F. M. Society for the year are \$2,540.08.

The second day was given to home missions. This society continues to do good work, having received and expended during the year \$4,600.08. In addition to this \$1,000 have been raised for the Indian work. I do not know the amount contributed by the societies of Eastern Ontario and Quebec. The farewell meeting to Miss Hatch and Miss McLeod was one of the most inspiring meetings I ever attended. After fine addresses by Rev. Mr. Bates and Mrs. York; our missionaries spoke to us out of the fullness of their hearts. Our hearts were warmed, the noblest purposes in our lives were strengthened as we listened to these consecrated handmaidens of the Lord.

Missionary Stillwell gave to them a warm welcome to the Telugu work. Mrs. Roeker, who served so long in India as Mrs. Timpany—spoke the final farewell words.

It was my privilege to spend the night with Miss Hatch. Together, with my sister, we reviewed the old school-life and talked of hopes for the future. In a hopeful, heroic spirit our missionary spoke of God's dealings with her and her trust in Him for whatever the future may hold. She said: "Let us read the ninety-first Psalm, we always read that in India." We sang:

"Deep waters crossed life's pathway,
The bridge of thorns was sharp;
Now these be all behind me—
O for a well-tuned harp!"

The little room was filled with the glory of Jesus as welling up before His throne. The memory of that night will be to me an inspiration while life lasts. God speed our sisters and all who carry the story of Jesus to a dying people, and let the glory of the Lord fill the whole earth.
IDA BAKER.