

# Messenger and Visitor.

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CHRISTIAN VISITOR  
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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1896.

Those of our readers who receive the *Messenger and Visitor*, without having ordered it, must not think that it is necessarily a Christmas gift. The paper is sent to you at the suggestion of some friend, for one month. Read it carefully, please, and subscribe for it. You will enjoy it during '96.

—THE *Commonwealth* is the name of what is virtually a new Baptist paper, though it is also issued as a continuation of a paper called the *Repositor*. The *Commonwealth* is published in Philadelphia and aspires to be recognized as the Baptist paper for three States, containing 150,000 Baptists. With such a constituency its continued existence and prosperity should be assured. The new paper makes a good appearance and its contents are attractive. It has 24 pages of the size of the *Watchman*.

—A STORAGE battery for street car service which should render unnecessary the unsightly and dangerous trolley wire has long been a desideratum. It is stated that a New York street car company believe that they have discovered a storage battery that will meet the requirement. It is claimed that a newly charged battery will run for sixteen hours, and without being too heavy for use on street cars, will evolve a speed of twenty miles an hour if necessary, when exhausted the battery can be replaced in one minute. Practical experiments made with this are said to be quite satisfactory.

—The death is announced of H. Thane Miller, President of the Mount Auburn Institute, a woman's college in Cincinnati, widely known for his power in Christian song and oratory. President more than once of the International Young Men's Christian Association of the United States and Canada, a man loved wherever known for his genial and whole-souled Christian character, interested and, so far as possible, active in every Christian movement of his day. For many years Mr. Miller has been afflicted with blindness. His faculty of happily blending wit and pathos in his public addresses and his wonderful gift of song brought him into great prominence in connection with large religious gatherings.

—The results of six months use of anti-toxine in diphtheria cases at the civil hospital Montreal, have just been published and the facts bear evidence to the value of the treatment. Out of fifty cases of diphtheria admitted to the hospital during the half year there were six deaths. Thirty-four of these cases were treated with anti-toxine and among these there were four deaths. Out of twelve cases that did not receive the treatment there were two deaths. The percentage of deaths was therefore something over 16 in the cases treated without the anti-toxine and over 11 per cent in the cases which received that treatment. While the numbers seem too small to justify any very confident conclusions as to the value of anti-toxine it may be said that the results noted in Montreal agree with those reported in other cities.

—It appears to be quite certain that the Manitoba government will make no compromise on the School question, or at least none that involves the establishment of state-aided separate schools. The following comes from Winnipeg as an authorized statement of Premier Greenway upon the subject:

"The government have had under consideration, at various times, the Order-in-Council of the Dominion Government of July 27 last, inviting action to be taken by the Legislature of Manitoba to remove the alleged grievances of the Roman Catholic minority in relation to education. It has become perfectly clear that no concession by the Legislature will be regarded as a solution of the difficulty or as removing the alleged grievances unless such concession admit the principle of and re-establish state-aided separate schools. Upon the question of the re-establishment of separate schools the government will make no compromise."

—AN American paper tells of a strange custom of a quasi-religious character, which obtains in the mountain districts of North Carolina, of prescribing funeral sermons years after deaths and burials. Elaborate preparations are generally made for these occasions, the "mourners" and all their friends going out to the church—generally a rude board country structure—and making "a day of it," carrying large quantities of food and feasting in great style. At the funeral services just prescribed one of the incidents was the "cooking of eleven hams" for the occasion. It is a custom so old that no one knows its origin, and while it is not practiced so frequently as in ante-

bellum days, it has by no means become extinct. Another odd custom, which survives also in the mountain country, prevails in a section of South Carolina—that of publishing the death notices of persons on the first anniversary of the death. Nearly every week the *Charleston News and Courier* contains the obituary notice of some person who died exactly one year previous to the date of the paper containing the notice. This custom is as distinctive of the locality as that of prescribing deferred funeral sermons in North Carolina.

—MANY of our readers will recall the fact that in the early summer of 1893, a vessel named "The Fram" under the direction of Dr. Nansen left the shores of Norway on a polar expedition. The idea of Dr. Nansen was to sail northward as far as possible, and then, permitting his vessel to become imbedded in the ice, to drift with the great ice floes supposed to move northward into the open polar sea and then again southward by the coasts of Greenland. "The Fram" was supposed to be built with strength sufficient to resist the pressure of the ice and was provisioned and otherwise equipped for a voyage of some years. The vessel was last seen about the first of August, 1893, in the region of Yugorak Strait, whence she vanished from the knowledge of all but her own crew in the icy solitudes of the northern sea. Some days ago, a brief despatch was cabled from Europe saying that Mrs. Nansen, the wife of the intrepid explorer, has received at Christiania a message from her husband, sent by a carrier pigeon, saying that the Nansen expedition is doing well. This is to be set down as very remarkable indeed if true, but as the despatch referred to seems to lack confirmation the story must probably be regarded as the creation of some enterprising news maker.

—THERE are indications that in the Southern States there is being developed a more pronounced public sentiment against lynching. While the best people of the South have no doubt condemned the outrages of the mobs upon the negroes and the Southern press has not, except in exceptional instances, defended them, there has been lacking the positively and strongly condemnatory attitude toward the doings of mob law which is necessary to discourage the perpetration of those deeds of lawlessness and brutality. Now in several Southern States efforts are being made to obtain the enactment of more stringent laws against mob violence and to secure to those accused of any crime the right of legal and impartial trial. The passage of such laws is a good thing so far as they go, but their value will depend on their being enforced. No doubt there are now in all these States provisions sufficient to secure every person, uncondemned by the legally constituted courts, in the peaceable enjoyment of life and property, if only the existing laws were properly observed.

—WHATSOEVER Professor A. H. Sayce of Oxford writes on the subject of Archeology and the bearing of the facts which the spade has brought to light in Eastern lands on Biblical criticism cannot but be received with respect. In an article in a late number of the *Contemporary Review* dealing with that subject, Professor Sayce says:

"Oriental archeology can go further than prove that Moses could, after all, have written the Pentateuch, and that the narratives contained in it are derived from documents contemporaneous with the events they record. It can further show that there is no one else so likely to have written it as the great leader and legislator of Israel, to whom after ages agreed in ascribing the written law. If I were to be asked if I believed that Moses wrote the Pentateuch, I should answer that such a belief seems to me to involve considerably fewer difficulties than does the contrary belief of the 'Higher Criticism' of our course. I should answer that such a belief seems to me to involve considerably fewer difficulties than does the contrary belief of the 'Higher Criticism' of our course. I should answer that such a belief seems to me to involve considerably fewer difficulties than does the contrary belief of the 'Higher Criticism' of our course."

—We observe by an article which appeared in Saturday's issue of the *Telegraph* that Mr. W. Chapman has been applying "the deadly parallel" to some published lectures of Mr. J. M. Lemoiné, of Quebec, as compared with certain passages in Mr. James Hannay's excellent

History of Acadia, and it must be confessed with very crushing effect to Mr. Lemoiné. This gentleman, it should be said is a member of the Royal Society of Canada, and wears literary laurels thick upon his brow. From our point of view this purloining of Mr. Hannay's work is an exceedingly mean piece of business for Mr. Lemoiné. We are interested, however, in the *Telegraph's* view of the matter. Some little time ago we remember that our esteemed contemporary maintained, in opposition to our humble opinion, that it was quite permissible and even praiseworthy for a preacher to appropriate as his own the sermon of another, if he found that it expressed what he wished to say better than he could express it himself. It occurs to us therefore that perhaps Mr. Lemoiné should not be too severely judged in this matter. Perhaps he had read and received the *Telegraph's* doctrine on this subject and had applied it in the preparation of his lecture. This view of the case, however, does not appear to have occurred to the *Telegraph* as it roundly denounces Mr. Lemoiné's action as a "literary theft." This seems to us to be righteous judgment, but why it should be considered more condemnable to steal a lecture than to steal a sermon we cannot well make out.

## PASSING EVENTS.

JUDGING by the reports of outrages so constantly coming to us through the press, there appears to be in the Southern States of the American Union in many communities a pretty large class of persons who regard the negro as possessing none of the rights of a citizen, nor indeed as being entitled to treatment such as is usually accorded to human beings in civilized communities. In fact it would be a shame to humanity if a wild beast were so treated as the negro is sometimes treated in the South. If a black man is merely suspected of a serious crime, and sometimes when the crime committed is not of a very heinous nature, a party is organized, the wretched man is caught, and forthwith, without pretence of trial, legal or otherwise, is shot or hanged or burned according to the mood of his murderers; or else is whipped or otherwise tortured to death. The whole country is becoming disgraced by these frequent instances of brutality and barbarism. Perhaps no single case has more strongly stirred the better sentiment of the country than one which has recently occurred in South Carolina. Four prominent men of Colleton County in that state, one a physician, are now in jail charged by a coroner's jury with the killing of a negro man and his mother and almost killing another woman, the wife of the man killed, and all because they were suspected, and probably unjustly suspected, of robbing a church. A prominent Massachusetts paper thus tells the story: "A young negro is suspected of robbing a church. He is found at his home and dragged away with a rope around his neck behind a buggy. Members of the lynching party send back a detachment from the man's aged mother and young wife, a mere girl, whose baby was but five months old. The gallant South Carolinians strip all three of these people naked and fog them with a new buggy track,—laid the leather is worn out on their bare bodies. The man and his mother are dead; the young mother barely alive. This was to make them tell where the property which the man was supposed to have stolen was secreted. None of these victims revealed anything—plainly because they knew nothing to reveal." "And this," it is added, "is in the United States, which some call a Christian nation. Mr. Gladstone, at the time of the Bulgarian atrocities, gave to the ruling race in the Balkans at the time the name of 'the unspeakable Turk,' and the world has caught it up as a fit designation. Shall we be brought to say 'the unspeakable South Carolinian'?" "No wonder that every Christian community in the United States stands horrified at such a story and that the paper from which we have quoted above is moved to say: 'Now let us see justice awake in South Carolina. Let us see these 'prominent men' on trial for murder, the trial pushed swiftly to a conclusion, and the men, if they are found guilty, hanged. If the men named are not the guilty ones, let the guilty ones be found, and that speedily. The patience of the country, of civilization itself, is about exhausted. Unless this sort of thing is stopped in the South, the rest of the world will avoid that region as they would a country smitten by the plague.'"

The distinguished journalist and author, George Augustus Sala, died on December 8th, at his home in Brighton, England, after a protracted illness. Sala was born in London in 1828, but there appears to have been little, if any, English blood in his veins. His father was an Italian gentleman and his mother was a popular singer "of West Indian extraction." His early education was received with a view to his devoting himself to art as a profession, but the literary instinct was strongly implanted in his nature and he accordingly gave himself to journalism and authorship. After being for a time a contributor to some prominent English publications, he founded the *Temple Bar Magazine* to which he contributed two serial stories which afterwards appeared in separate form. He wrote also for the *Illustrated News*, the *Cornhill Magazine* and *All the Year Round*. As war correspondent of the *London Telegraph* in the American war of the rebellion and the Franco-German war he became known throughout the English reading world. In 1876, as special correspondent of the *Telegraph*, he visited Russia, and, travelling from St. Petersburg to Moscow, he proceeded to Warsaw, and subsequently traversed the length of the Empire to observe the mobilization then in process of the Russian army, ultimately reaching Odessa and Constantinople by the Black Sea in time for the opening of the conference on the Eastern question. Mr. Sala was a man of great enterprise and activity, and a prolific writer.

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ON the settled portion of the territory which is in dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela there are, it is stated, 40,000 British subjects who have settled there on the assurance that the country was permanently under British control and who are enjoying peace and all the rights and privileges of stable and enlightened government, which are secured to a colony of Great Britain. These people have a right to be considered as English and would not be justified in sacrificing their interests to the demands of Venezuela, unless that territory is able to show indisputable title to the territory in question. Venezuela, like the other Spanish American republics, is little more than a semi-civilized country disturbed by frequent revolutions and often a theatre of war and bloodshed. At the present time, it is reported, its peace is threatened by internal conflict. These are not reasons of course why justice should not be done to that country in determining the question of boundary; but they are reasons why the British government should not consent, merely for the sake of peace, to sacrifice the liberties of 40,000 British subjects by passing the country over to the dominion of Venezuela. If Great Britain should so treat her colonists she would deservedly forfeit the respect of the civilized world.

AS Lord Salisbury's reply to Secretary Olney's note on the Venezuela boundary question has not yet been given to the public, the statements put forth concerning its contents are likely to contain as much of conjecture as of definite fact. It is pretty certain, however, that Lord Salisbury has not admitted the right of the United States government to dictate a course of procedure for Great Britain to follow in this matter or agreed to submit the whole question of boundary to arbitration. Leading English newspapers intimate that the utterances of President Cleveland and his Foreign Secretary on the subject are couched in somewhat ambiguous and doubtful language, and that neither the substance nor the spirit of the propositions made is such as to win for them the ready assent of the British government. The *Spectator* says: "President Cleveland addressed Great Britain in the tone of a master in laying down principles so absolutely. His sentences read as if Great Britain had been ordered to choose arbitration or war. Negotiations will not be carried on in that tone unless the President and the American people are seeking war, a crime of which we would not even mentally accuse them." The *Economist*, treating of the same subject, declares that Mr. Cleveland's words mean that Great Britain must defend what she considers her own soil against any Spanish-American state under the penalty of the United States declaring war. It will probably be found that Lord Salisbury, while quite distinctly declining to have the Venezuela difficulty, or any other such matter, settled summarily by dictation from Washington, has cast his "reply" in friendly and diplomatic language and so presented the subject to President Cleveland that his government will have no excuse for any hasty action unfriendly to Great Britain.

WE heartily favor the movement to erect a monument to Joseph Howe. Monuments to the memory of distinguished men who have so used their

superior gifts as largely to promote the public welfare and win the gratitude of their countrymen are not merely a seemly token of appreciation, but possess an educative value of almost the highest kind. It is perhaps the misfortune of Canada that we have so few men whose names and services stand sufficiently apart from the distracting issues of partisan strife to make it possible to centre upon them the admiring and grateful regard of the people as a whole. More than any one man in the political history of Nova Scotia or these Maritime provinces this condition is fulfilled in Joseph Howe. Not indeed that he was not a party man and strongly and powerfully opposed by his compeers in intellectual force and political influence. Not that he made no mistakes and never went wrong in his views or his courses of action. But more than any other of his contemporaries he was a man of the people. His commanding ability, the power of his oratory, his rich and ready humor, his genial and magnetic personality, above all his honest patriotism and the services which he rendered to the cause of constitutional government in his own province, his loyalty to his Sovereign as his undying interest in all that concerned the welfare of the British Empire insure the name of Joseph Howe a place among the men whose memory the people will hold in honor.

## W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:  
We are laborers together with God.

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

PRAYER TOPIC FOR DECEMBER.

For the work and workers at Bobbitt, that the darkness may pass away. For Mrs. Churchill's school, that those young men who are enquiring the way may find Christ and become good workers in His service. That the power of the Holy Spirit may come upon our Missionaries at their Conference in January.

The monthly Union Missionary meeting of the St. John W. M. A. S. will be held in German St. church Thursday, the 19th of December. Will the sisters make a sacrifice to be present at this busy season? Those who attended the last meeting found a great blessing.

On October 9th, which was Crusade Day and the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Mission Aid Society, a very large and interesting meeting of the Wolfville W. M. A. S. was held. Mrs. Kempton, the vice-president, who presided, announced a prayer topic for the month. After devotional exercises consisting of singing, Scripture reading, and prayers, the president's message was read by Mrs. Sanford. This very helpful message told us that in the review of the past year's work there is much to inspire and encourage, much also to humble and condemn. Crusade Day is beckoning us to "go forward," mission work never called so loudly nor appealed so pathetically to all Christian sisters as now.

Mrs. deBlois spoke of the formation of the society twenty-five years ago by Miss Norris, and of the missionary work done by the founder. A pleasing feature of the meeting was that of the ten members who constituted the society at its beginning, four were then present—Madame deBlois, Bigelow and Morse, and Miss Bars.

Mention was made of the organization by the County Secretary, Mrs. Gullison, of a Mission Band of eighty members at Greenwood. An extract from the corresponding secretary's report was read from Mrs. Corey and Miss Clarke were presented, both expressing thankfulness for God's mercies during the year and increased faith and trust in His promises.

Mrs. Trotter spoke of the Mission circles of Toronto and of the interest shown in missionary work by our sisters in Ontario. Mrs. Bentley spoke of the W. M. A. society in connection with the Northbury church, Mass. Several young sisters who seemed greatly interested in the work might in the future, she hoped, become missionaries. Two children in India are supported by this recently-formed society.

At the close of the meeting six new names were added to the list of members. Sec'y.

Acadia Miss. N. S.

Knowing how encouraging and interesting the communications are which appear in the *Messenger and Visitor* from sister Aid societies, I thought perhaps an account of the society at Acadia might be of interest.

On March 29th, 1886, our beloved missionary, Mrs. Churchill, while on a visit to her native land, visited this town, and held a public missionary meeting, which was attended by persons from different denominations. So graphically did she

portray the condition of the people in India among whom she had been laboring that much interest was awakened and as a result a Missionary Aid Society was formed including members from the different churches represented at the meeting.

It was not long, however, until Missionary Aid Societies were formed in connection with the other churches and the original society was reduced to about ten members, all of whom were Baptists.

For a time the meetings were sustained but gradually the interest grew less until finally the society ceased to exist so far as the monthly meetings were concerned. Things remained so until by the efforts of Mrs. C. H. Martell, then of Onslow, and Mrs. John Gunn, of Belmont, both of whom are most energetic workers for missions, the society was reconstituted.

During the pastorate of Rev. P. R. Foster, we had most valuable help in Mrs. Foster, who, by her zeal, infused new life into our meetings, which continue to be most successfully conducted by our esteemed president, Mrs. J. P. McDonald, who is ever at her post.

We have had some new members during the past year, and we find by our treasurer's report the sum raised for missions was nearly double the amount given during the year previous. Some who formed part of our number have gone to other places. So, although others have identified themselves with the society our membership remains about the same, smaller than we wish it to be. Still we are not discouraged; but feel to press on. Praying that the Lord will bless every effort put forth for the advancement of missions, and that the light of the glorious gospel which has shined into our hearts may speedily dawn in the lands which are now enveloped in spiritual night.

Mrs. G. H. LAWRENCE, Sec'y.

Nov. 29.

An interesting anniversary meeting was held at Woodstock the first Sabbath in November. The junior flower committee decorated the church. The date of organization and the present year were in white, on crimson ground with Miss Norris' picture in the centre. The pastor presided; the president, Mrs. Archibald, read the Scriptures; the singing was led by Misses Estabrook, Hendry and Wolverson; Mrs. J. B. Morgan read a paper on "The beginnings of our work;" Kate Saunders read a paper on "The work at present and the needs;" Mrs. Hale, who for some years was a missionary in Africa, gave a thrilling address; collection \$10.00.

An interesting and profitable ladies meeting was held during the quarterly meeting in September.

We could not observe Crusade Day at the appointed time, but the following Wednesday we agreed to spend some time during the morning in prayer at our homes. Did some visiting in the afternoon and had a missionary meeting in the evening led by our pastor. The attendance was not large; but those who remained away because it was a missionary prayer meeting missed a great treat. If we do not do more for all our denominational work than we ever have in the past it will not be our pastor's fault—for we are being faithfully taught.

Com.

Point De Vue, N. B.

By removal and death our society has, within the last month, lost five members; another member is sick. For the first time since our society was organized death has claimed one of our members. On Dec. 2nd the Master babe Miss Legeria Hicks lay down her life work and go dwell with her Saviour whom she loved so dearly. Greatly missed she will be; but we know that our loss is her gain; her cheering words and earnest prayers while with us will not soon be forgotten.

The removal of our late pastor and his family in another field of labor has taken three of our members, who for the past year have been with us; we shall miss them but we trust they will be a great blessing to the society to which they have gone.

At the very first meeting of this year, one new member came to us from a society in Victoria, B. C. She has helped us in our meetings for the past two years and now she has made her home permanently with us; we hope much from her.

We trust the Lord will raise up other workers to take the place of those we have lost.

Our meetings are well attended. We aim to raise \$2.00 per member as we did last year. And so remembering past mercies we are not discouraged but trust Him who has helped us thus far to be with us even unto the end.

S. J. T., Sec'y.

Mr. George Graydon, secretary of the Seaman's Friend Society, wishes to acknowledge through the *Messenger and Visitor* the receipt of \$2.00 from Baptist congregation at Hantsport, towards funds of the Society.