

Messenger and Visitor.

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WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18th, 1896.

A CHANGE OF FORM.

With the first of January, 1897, a change is to be made in the form of the Messenger and Visitor. A smaller page will be adopted and the number of pages correspondingly increased. This step will involve some additional expense to the publishers. It was not determined upon without very careful consideration and it is being taken simply with a view to making the paper still more valuable and acceptable to its readers.

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL.

Some of the United States newspapers regard with amusement and an air of lofty pity the simplicity of some Englishmen who had begun to apprehend that the outcome of the late presidential contest might be a civil war.

the issue without thought of other than constitutional opposition to those whom the voice of the nation has chosen to be its rulers. But as one reads certain influential journals, even now in the hour of their triumph, one cannot but ask himself what would have taken place, if what seemed quite possible had really occurred and Mr. Bryan—by a small majority let us say—had been elected president.

"It is nominal head was worthy of the cause. Nominal, because the wretched, rattle-pated boy, posing in rapid vanity and mouthing resounding rotteness, was not the real leader of that league of hell. He was only a puppet in the blood-murdered hands of Albiged the Anarchist and Deba the revolutionist and other desperadoes of that stripe.

COUNSELS OF WISDOM.

That passage of the Book of Proverbs which constitutes the Bible lesson for next Sunday, as well as the larger sections of which the passage is a part, is full of wise counsel which every young man will do well to cherish and give heed to all the days of his life.

The counsel given is comprehensive, covering, in a general way, the whole duty of man in his relations to God and to his fellow man. It calls first for reverent acceptance of the law and the commandment of wisdom. The teaching of wisdom treasured in the Sacred Word, declared by the living prophet or revealed in nature, gathered by experience, impressed upon the heart by the spirit, whatever a man's conscience approves as a sure word of truth, that let his heart keep, as a commandment of God. The man who has listened to the voice of wisdom will be expecting and desiring guidance from above.

The counsel of wisdom touches also the duty of man to his fellowmen. How shall I behave toward others? will seem an important question to every young man or woman who has a purpose to live worthily. The answer is here. Let your conduct be governed by truth and lovingkindness, (for lovingkindness rather than mercy is the word). It surely is a word of large and gracious meaning. It implies that genuine sympathy of kinship which the Heavenly Father feels for His children and which every child of God should feel for his brother man created in the Divine likeness. It stands for that disposition of heart which the Golden Rule demands and that true neighborliness which our Lord's parable of the good Samaritan commends.

purpose and in action—Truth and Mercy—Honesty and Loving-kindness—these are noble words. They stand for things most excellent in human character,—for things which, if they found their rightful place in every human life, this sinful, troubled world of ours would be transformed into a paradise.

It is important to observe the admonition to moral earnestness which is involved in this counsel. The religion and morality here enjoined are evidently conceived of as something much more than a mere veneer for the sake of respectability. They go to the depths of a man's being and call for the best that is in him. These principles of life are never to be lost sight of. They are to be stored in the memory, written in the mind, worn as an ornament and a memento round the neck, engraven on the heart. The service to be given to God is to be more than an offering of good words and pious feelings, it lays under tribute the property of the worshipper and prompts him to render to the Lord the first fruits of his increase. The man of substance who does not honor the Lord with his substance, does not honor him at all.

It is no barren or unrewarded service to which wisdom calls. This is true even if the horizon is not enlarged beyond the limits of the present life. The service of God has promise for the life which now is. Does a man desire length of days, a vigorous fruitful life, prosperity and honor among his fellowmen? These are the gifts of God to those who serve Him. They are found in the paths of wisdom. But does not the servant of God sometimes suffer, is not the good man sometimes sorely oppressed? Yes, there are sometimes these dark providences, dark for the Old Testament saints that for those who live in the light of Christ's Gospel. But this mystery makes room for other invaluable elements in the life of those who serve God,—for faith, submission, trust in a goodness and a wisdom which human understanding cannot comprehend. "Despise not the chastening of the Lord. . . For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth." This seems to have very much the spirit of a New Testament admonition. The divine light of Christ's Gospel seems to shine through it. It has all the sweet strength of a Christian philosophy and perhaps it is a gem all the more to be prized because it is found back among the centuries which lack the fuller revelation of Divine character and human destiny which came with Him who brought life and immortality to light by the Gospel.

QUESTIONS.

1st. Is the course of a rate-payer in a certain school section justifiable (said rate-payer being a school trustee, and also a Baptist) in ordering school trustees not to dismiss school for to make room for a religious meeting announced at 2 p. m. by a pedagogue, this time being the third time said minister interfered with the public school? 2nd. Is there any law in the province of N. S. that will prevent such minister interfering with the school? 3rd. Is not the above an attempt at annexation of Church and State? 4th. Can the school teacher in question compel said trustee when said trustee dismissed school after trustee ordering not to dismiss till 4 p. m.?

On the face of the matter it would seem unwise, and we should suppose it to be contrary to regulations governing the conduct of the schools, that the work of a school should be interrupted in order to hold a religious service, but without a fuller statement of the facts we should not attempt to give any definite opinion in any particular case. We do not perceive that the religious denomination to which the trustee or the minister may belong has anything to do with the principle involved. As to the legal points involved, and the duties and powers of trustees, the enquirer would do well to refer these to the Inspector of Schools for the district or to the department of Public Instruction.

A GENEALOGICAL GIFT.—Nelson Forrest, one of the Baptist's substantial citizens, has shown his generosity by donating to the Baptist church a house and lot worth \$1,000. The property is situated on Princess street, and was formerly in the possession of H. M. Coates, late of the child's boot and shoe factory. The announcement of this magnificent gift was made at the last trustee meeting, and the necessary papers for the transfer of the property to the church are now in course of preparation. The church is to be congratulated on the possession of the spirit to devote such liberal things.—Amherst News.

A wonderful souvenir has recently been presented to Queen Victoria by a Calcutta firm. It is an album containing fifty-seven portraits of the ruling princes and chiefs of India, and sixty-six views of their capitals and palaces. The photos were taken especially for this purpose. The album is an oblong, 2 1/2 inches, the front cover of Cashmere silver repoussé work figured over with Indian deities, and having on an oval central medallion an inscription. The book cover is of gold embroidery with silver rim, and the back and end linings are blue. The leaves are illuminated in Oriental style, and the photos give a better idea of the social state of India than any six tocks of travel.

Reports from Florenceville and Grand Falls give advice of a big snow fall, for this season of the year. Yesterday at Grand Falls sleighing was the order of the day, while at Florenceville over two inches of snow fell.

Advanced Science at Acadia.

The Halifax Herald published on the 2nd inst. an article by Professor Haley, of Acadia, on the X Rays. The article is illustrated with well executed cuts, showing the power of the rays to be great. The Herald has the following as a summary of the article: "The X rays at Acadia College. Wonderful experiments by Professor Haley. The thrilling experience of seeing the image of one's own skeleton. Prof. Haley has seen through the body of a full grown man and detected the movement of the human heart."

THE X RAYS.

In the history of physical science no incident has excited so general an interest as the discovery of X rays and their effect in shadow photography. By the aid of this new form of radiation we are enabled to photograph objects concealed in the most inaccessible places, the wall, and to lay bare the skeleton of the human body. Appealing, as the discovery does, to our instinct of curiosity, it is not surprising that it has attracted the greatest attention everywhere. Before referring to my own experiments in X ray photography it may be well to mention some of the effects which are observed when an electric current passes through air at low pressure. The usual means of studying these effects are tubes or vacua of glass into which are sealed platinum wires called cathodes. If we connect one of these tubes with a powerful air pump and pass through it a high tension current, it is found that very great changes take place in the character of the spark as the air is gradually withdrawn from the tube. We no longer have the long spark of definite outline, but the vessel is filled with a nebulous glow and a beam of thin rays issues from the cathode, or negative electrode. The region near this terminal, being dark in comparison with the rest of the tube, is termed the negative dark space. The discharge stream of radiation is not called the cathode ray. In proportion as the air in the tube is exhausted this negative dark space expands. Finally, when the remnant of air is only a few millionths of the original amount, the discharge stream of radiation is not visible trace of the discharge stream from the cathode. The glass, however, is lighted up with a beautiful green fluorescence, where the thin rays of radiation is not defined, it is called the cathode ray. It is connected in some way with the formation of what Roentgen termed X rays. Just what happens in the dark cathode region, just what the relation is between the two forms of radiation is not definitely known, though the subject is being deeply investigated. One set of writers held that the X rays are produced when the cathode rays strike against the glass walls of the tube, but the latter differ from the former only in degree, both of them having their origin at the cathode terminal.

Let us consider some other interesting effects. To quote from the paper given by Professor Roentgen before the Würzburg Physical Society: "The cathode ray cover the tube with a thick black coating or a closely fitting mantle of black cardboard. We observe that in a completely darkened room a paper screen washed with lacticum-platinum-cyanide light up brilliantly when the cathode rays strike whether the treated side or the other is turned toward the discharge tube. It is easy to convince one's self that the cause of the fluorescence is the discharge apparatus and not the air in the tube. It was discovered that, just as the X rays can pass through the black cardboard covering the bulb and excite fluorescence, it will also pass through other substances not transparent to rays of ordinary light."

If we place a coin in the center of a thick book and hold the book between the tube and the screen, the coin instantly appears as a dark shadow on the luminous background. A lead pencil shows the long thin lead within the wood. If we place our hand before the screen there appears the dim outline of the flesh and the sharp image of the bony skeleton. What is true of the hand is also true of the foot. The most striking experience of this actually seeing images of one's own skeleton is too unanny to be described.

Roughly speaking, the power of the X rays to pass through a substance is in proportion to the density of that substance; or, stated differently, light objects are comparatively transparent to this invisible agent, heavy ones, opaque. The flesh of the hand, foot, or body, being less dense than the framework of the bones, is less distinct than the shadow cast by the bones. In other words, the rays are hindered for a longer period from passing through the bones than through the flesh, hence a clearer shadow of the bones appears on the screen. A convenient device for observing these effects is the fluoroscope. This consists simply of a funnel shaped wooden box, made light tight, the smaller end of which is open, the larger end covered with card board treated with a fluorescent substance. By placing the object between the discharge tube and the cardboard the shadow thrown upon it is easily seen on looking through the smaller opening. By means of a fluoroscope in any position one may be able to see through the body of a full grown man. In fact, I think I could detect the movement of the heart."

More wonderful are the effects of these rays upon a photographic plate. A shadowgraph of the hand can be obtained by placing a sensitive plate in the ordinary photographic plate holder, resting the hand on the withdrawn slide. The distance of the hand from the bulb, the distance of the plate from the bulb, to give the clearest outline, should be

from six to eight inches. The work can be performed in broad daylight. The time of exposure, of course, varies with the subject and with the intensity of the discharge in the tube. In experimenting with X rays the discharge in the tube is generally produced by the intensity or induction coil, a battery or a dynamo being used to furnish the primary current. One can get fair results with a coil giving a spark of two or three inches. By this we mean that the secondary current of the coil should jump in the air the distance between the electrodes of the coil the above number of inches. To get good results with the fluoroscope one needs a spark of from five to ten inches. The Holtz influence machine may also be used to produce the discharges in the tube, and it is with this that I have been able to accomplish the best results. Through proper gearing and substituting ebonite discs for the revolving glass plates, the machine in my possession is capable of giving a very powerful and rapid discharge. Under proper conditions a spark of seven or eight inches is obtained, the voltage being probably as high as half a million. For a tube I have used a Crooke's tube of very simple construction.

F. R. HALLEY.

Wolville Item.

Your worthy correspondent "X," being a member of the congregation, has written very modestly respecting one matter of special interest to the pastor and his family—the erection and occupation of the new parsonage. The pastor, therefore, yields to the impulse to say a word. The house is on the old site—in an all the town—surrounded by the garden and orchard, planted by the late Dr. DeBlois, whose memory is so dear to the people. It is a handsome, commodious house, furnished with every modern convenience, and providing for the pastor a home which leaves nothing to be desired in its comfort and cheer. It is the more creditable to the church that they have undertaken the obligation so cheerfully, seeing that they have also advanced their glebe fund current expenses nearly one thousand dollars during the past year; which advance will be permanently maintained. It is needless to say that the pastor and his family gratefully appreciate the kindness of the people, and hope to make their new home tributary to the furtherance of Christ's work.

The opportunities of this unique field are large, and the outlook full of promise when the church has revised and brought up its collections for denominational objects, financial affairs will be in a high degree satisfactory. Bible study in the church has a prominent place. A good share of the pulp work is accomplished in the Sunday School, which is very efficiently led by Mr. G. H. Wallace, in addition to the work among the younger scholars by a noble band of teachers, Dr. Jones, and Mr. Everett Sawyer cannot well attend to bible-classes. The Christian Culture Course of the B. Y. F. U. is also largely attended. As the result of all this, and the various other activities of the church, we confidently look for substantial results. In the Institutions, Professors, Teachers, and Students, are well into the year's work, and are all hard at it. That there is a widespread desire for a genuine revival is manifest. We trust that the Baptist Brotherhood throughout the provinces might join with the brethren here in remembering this centre of influence in their daily prayers.

As some of our correspondents have been writing up the aged ones, I beg to say that we too have a worthy couple who, if spared, will soon rank as centenarians. On a recent Sunday, Mr. James W. Payant, brother of the late Mr. Godfrey Payant of Windsor, received the congratulations of his friends, on having reached his ninety-fourth birthday. Our brother is somewhat enfeebled and his hearing is dull, but it is quite possible that he may abide in the land good while yet. Mrs. Payant, who has passed her ninety-second year, though somewhat crippled with rheumatism, greets her friends with a strong, smiling face, and with an appearance of vigor which is remarkable in one so aged. God be gracious to His own in the gloaming. T. TROTTER.

Literary Note.

SELECT NOTES. A commentary on the Sunday-school lessons for 1896. By F. N. and M. A. Poloueh, Illustrated. Cloth, \$1.25. W. A. Wilde & Co., Boston. Every student appreciates the pleasure and profitableness of having within easy reach and in condensed form accurate information, striking illustrations, and convincing arguments regarding any subject that he may be studying. It is because the Select Notes furnishes all this and very much more regarding each and every Sunday-school lesson that it has become the most popular book of its class in the world. Every annual issue is an improvement over the preceding volume from every standpoint, and the 1897 edition just at hand fully sustains every possible commendation. It stands unequalled, unapproachable, the peer of all similar books, and its weekly use by over five hundred thousand scholars all around the world prove its positive worth to all Sunday-school workers. We congratulate the author, the publishers, and the Sunday-school world for the book, the annual issuance of which marks a distinctive, appreciable increase of knowledge regarding the Book of all books.

In the course of a speech at Enfield, Tuesday night, Sir Charles Dilke, M. P., asserted three powers had lately submitted to Great Britain a proposal for the partition of China. Great Britain, he added, refused to entertain the proposal.

The evangelists, Messrs. Crowley and Hunt, who for the past few weeks have been holding meetings in Canaan, brought their series of services to an end on Sunday evening last, and early in the week took their departure for Sydney, C. B. Their farewell meeting was very largely attended, it being estimated that in the vicinity of 2,000 persons were present. As the result of their meetings it is said that over four hundred persons have professed conversion.

Report on Denominational Literature.

Adopted by the Eastern N. B. Association, and published by request. We, your committee, consider this question one of the most important that come before this association. "This is a reading age." The schoolmaster is abroad in the land. Our school system gives to everyone the privilege of a fair English education, and this privilege is being largely taken advantage of. The literature, then, which is placed in the hands of the young will have a marked effect upon their opinions and character in their life; indeed what one reads will have an influence in changing or modifying our sentiments and views even after we consider that we have settled most things for good. It is highly important then that the literature found in our homes should be that which shall exert its influence in the ways of righteousness, whose teachings shall be pure and good and calculated to lead into all truth.

It is this true literature in general how much more is it our desire to do, we as a denomination supply our constituents. What form then, shall this which we call denominational literature take? First of all, best of all, out of all comparison with any or all other literature is the book familiarly known as the Bible; God's eternal Word, the most uplifting sentiment, the strictest code of morals, the most scathing denunciations of all unrighteousness, the strongest incentives to a life of purity and righteousness are all there. If we want Baptist doctrine where shall we find it? If not there? Have we a single distinctive doctrine, belief or practice not plainly set forth there? If so let us pluck it out and cast it from us, for we desire to believe nothing, say nothing, do nothing, that we have not a plain warrant for from the Master Himself. If men were content to take that Word only as the rule and guide of their lives, and to seek in it alone as to what they should believe and practice, your committee can but think that there would be less diversity in these things in Christian churches today, but neglect of this has brought unscriptural views and practices into the church, and men have studied diligently and written exhaustively to interpret the Bible in accordance with their own views and practices rather than acknowledge the error and go back to the plain, simple Word. It is our duty, therefore, largely the province of what we commonly understand as denominational literature.

There are two institutions which always come in for prominent mention in this connection—the Massachusetts and Vermont and the Baptist Book Room. Of the first we have nothing but words of praise. True to the denomination, true to all Bible truth, to all that makes for righteousness, and practical piety throughout its pages it should be a weekly visitor in every Baptist family throughout these provinces. Our pastors and all who read it and know its worth should have no opportunity of expressing their appreciation. It cannot but be a power for good wherever it may go, and one cannot keep in touch with the denomination, and know its struggles, its triumphs and its needs without the Massachusetts and Vermont. We your committee would extend our personal congratulations to the editor for success already achieved and on best wishes for even better things in the future.

Our Baptist Book Room is also, we believe, doing a good work. One of its principal efforts, as we understand it, is the dissemination of Baptist literature in the sparsely settled and poorer sections of the provinces. This is a good work and deserves every encouragement. We would extend our personal congratulations to the editor for success already achieved and on best wishes for even better things in the future.

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A great deal in this line must be done in the home. It is the imperative duty of every Baptist parent to provide his family with a pure, uplifting literature, and they need not be deterred about the expense of it, for the Bible is the best of all. A great deal in this line must be done in the home. It is the imperative duty of every Baptist parent to provide his family with a pure, uplifting literature, and they need not be deterred about the expense of it, for the Bible is the best of all.

In conclusion we would say that our pastors are the ones to educate their flocks in these things and they should line upon line, precept upon precept, the great importance of supplying their families with a pure, temperance, Baptist literature. Signed, J. H. COLLETT, TRUMAN BIRRO.

November 18

Send in your copies, and subscriptions! Put "please" notes if you wish you in premium can do for the we may sometimes mailies. But, Two weeks more of the special many have come new subscribers though. Boys and earning wages fathers are at work. Note these things is the framing. Am going to send one note. 'Ministry of the came to Church your Visions to you a new subsc reward two of therefore encl one new subsc one new subsc good gifts to each should very m premiums to scribers. Shall we do it?

Edmonton. One of the most ever enjoyed in the present age is a clear, spotless white day morning, of snow or rain, were entertained in the remarks western climate occasional snow that all the of such a season the experience of a life, this about six or seven more gently fall. The passing autumn is encouraging to Alberta; at least, tried. Last year, scores of families a pleasant winter; but this a happy country who left are new adventures in the up to the making a success. Many of these to a great extent come prepared. Grain raised from the local root crops, cereals, grain and early frost. Grain raised from the local root crops, cereals, grain and early frost. Grain raised from the local root crops, cereals, grain and early frost.

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