

Messenger and Visitor.

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Messenger and Visitor.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1887.

SPECIAL OFFER.—We will send the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, as soon after the first of December as the subscriptions are received, till January '89, for \$1.50, to all new subscribers. Will not pastors and friends press the canvass just now? This is the best time of the whole year.

OUR INSTITUTIONS AT WOLFVILLE.

We were at a meeting of the Board of Governors on Tuesday of last week. We are sure our readers will be deeply interested in some facts in connection with the work going on in this great centre of denominational life.

THE ATTENDANCE.

The new freshman class in the College is the largest by far of any in the history of Acadia. There are fifty-one in actual attendance. Two have been compelled to leave, and one will enter in a few days. The whole number in actual attendance in all the classes is 112, with three or four to come in after Christmas. In the Academy there are sixty-one, and in the Seminary sixty. These numbers are nearly up to last year, which was the best year our academic institutions ever had. We are glad to find all the machinery moving smoothly, and the best understanding prevailing between professors and teachers and students in all the departments of Seminary, Academy, and College. Quite a large accession is expected to the students in the ladies' Seminary and male Academy after the Christmas holidays. There will then be a gross attendance in all the institutions of over two hundred and fifty. The question now is not so much how to get students to attend, as how to take care of those who come.

THE RELIGIOUS INTEREST.

There is nothing that gives our institutions a large place in the hearts of our people like the deep religious influence which abides there. Our people may well watch with eager interest their spiritual condition; for they have as much to do with the tone of life in our body generally as anything else. The young men who go there are to be the pastors of our churches in the future; the young men and ladies who go forth with culture and minds are to be leaders of very many of our communities. The type of life developed in our ministerial students of Acadia will be the type they will communicate to the churches. The kind of aims and purposes which control the conduct and shape the plans of the others that attend, will remain with the most of them to govern their after lives, and determine whether the influence yielded by them in their leading positions shall be elevating or otherwise. The thermometer which is to register pretty accurately the cold or warmth of the church life of the future is on college hill. The spiritual pulse beat there is to be throbbing through the denomination like that of the heart through the body. It is this thought which presses with great force upon the hearts of the professors. It is this which should stir the hearts of the Christian students with a sense of the gravest responsibility. It should also lead all our people to give their warmest sympathies to those who are in these positions of high trust, and to keep our institutions held up continually before the mercy-seat of the God of all grace and power. As we said at the beginning, every indication of the religious condition of our institutions of learning must be scanned with the deepest interest.

We spent one evening looking upon a few of the Christian students. We found that very many of these had been praying during the summer that this might be a year of great grace to the students generally, and they had gathered together with a good deal of yearning over their unconverted fellow students. The general prayer meetings on Wednesday evenings have been of more than ordinary interest. In Chipman Hall and in the new academy building the students have a half-hour prayer meeting each evening of the week, which are very sweet seasons. Many of the unconverted students attend, especially at the Academy. There are quite a number of the students who speak to the unconverted personally about their souls' welfare in their rooms and on opportunity offers. As to other the case, some of the Christian students, in their absorption in study, are mourning over a loss of business of feelings

This is one of the dangers of a student's Christian life. There is need of watchful aim. The great aim for which all study is pursued should be kept constantly in mind. There should be time left sacred for the "still hour" of scripture reading, meditation and prayer. All opportunities for unselfish service should be improved. While the mind is given up to earnest study, the keen sympathy of the heart with life and for life should be maintained.

As must be expected where so many are congregated, and where, on the one hand, the religious influence is so pronounced, there are some who are pressed into pronounced opposition to what is good. The case of these should be as a burden upon the hearts of their Christian fellow students and of very many outside the institutions. On the whole, from what we learned from many quiet inquiries, our heart was gladdened greatly by what we learned, and we felt to thank God anew for the many noble Christian workers on the hill, and for the strong, wide-spread, and far-reaching influence having their source at Acadia.

THE WORK OF THE STUDENTS.

In the country around about Wolfville. There has been a great change in this respect. Two years ago, when we gave an account of the fields in the near vicinity, there was little to record. We remarked then on the unused forces there were in the Christian students at the College, in connection with openings in different places. Now there are six places regularly supplied by students as a matter of fact. Back of Gasperaux field and along its skirts they hold services at Morain's and Rogers Mountain, Hardcraze and Newville. In the first of these places, souls have already been saved. Services are also held at Lower Horton and at the Poor-house, while a large part of the working force in the village mission, is all drawn from the institutions. On each Monday the Christian students meet to give reports of the labors of the preceding Sabbath, and to arrange for the work of the next. These are often seasons of great interest. In addition to the results of all this work on the communities where it is expended, its reflex influence on the students themselves, in keeping them in contact with the tremendous realities of the soul's welfare and in quickening their whole inner lives, must be very great. As our readers pursue these lines, we are sure the interest of very many will be aroused on behalf of these labors to the praying point.

WHAT SHALL WE SAY, IN CONCLUSION, AS TO THE NEEDS OF OUR INSTITUTIONS?

This subject may not be so interesting or inspiring as the points already dwelt upon; but it ought to be, because the needs are but the necessary results of the very progress in which we rejoice. For a dead child nothing further is needed than a coffin and graveclothes; but for a live growing boy or girl there are constantly increasing needs, as varied and as great as the life and growth which calls for them. Yet what parent would wish his child dead or condemned to the life of a dwarf, because of the toll which has to be paid as he advances along the way to fullness of manhood or womanhood? And shall any of our people complain because the splendid growth of our institutions brings clamorous needs and demands? Shall we not rather thank God for the success, and give our whole gladness to meet the imperious needs which it ever brings? Neither let us complain of the law which makes success but the forerunner of greater need; because, if the need is supplied, it still greater success. The need to be supplied is but the empty space where the supply is but the stepping-stone upward to greater heights. Besides, a success which cost us nothing, and did not make any demand upon our energies, would be like money gained without labor: it would not be half appreciated, and it would prove in the end a very doubtful blessing, if not a curse. It is the sacrifices of our people for Acadia in the past which has given her place in their hearts, which has secured the present large attendance. Should we from this time on be relieved of effort, we might be emptied of our interest in her, appreciation of her special work, and her progress might be stayed with the stay of self-sacrificing effort on her behalf.

But has not the present large attendance and the other forms of growth and success been in answer to prayer? They are just what we have been praying for, and shall we say that the agreement of results with our prayers is not God's answer to them? If this, then, be a God-given success, it must follow that God wishes us to supply the need growing out of it. To refuse to do this would be to show the basest ingratitude, treat His grace with contempt, cast from us a great opportunity, and trample under our feet a possibility which God very seldom places in the hands of a people.

WHAT ARE THE FACTS?

In recognition of the sacrifices of many noble men in the past and present, and in answer to the prayers of several generations, the current of students is setting toward Acadia as toward no other institution in these Maritime Provinces. A freshman class of over fifty, with a fair prospect of others nearly if not quite as large tramping on its heels, means that it lies within our reach to have in a few years as many, perhaps, as two hundred in our arts course at the College alone. We wish it were possible to make our people feel what it means for our denomination to have the

chief part in moulding the educated intelligence of this fair land of ours, placed within our reach. Does this not mean that the high possibility is ours to shape and give direction to the chief controlling force of the future? To shape and mould this under a controlling Christian influence means untold things for the truth as we hold it, for the church, and for our country. For us to look on listlessly while an opportunity like this is allowed to slip away from us, would be the folly of follies.

And yet, unless our people generally rally to the rescue of Acadia in this Jubilee year, to all human probability this is just what will be done. We may as well face the situation: Acadia has gone as far as she can on her present limited income. Even the present advantages afforded students cannot long be maintained unless help comes to her. If she does not continue to give to students advantages equal to other institutions, the flood of students will cease and turn elsewhere. If that should be allowed once to happen it would be one of the greatest disasters which could happen. It would take one generation at least for her to regain her lost prestige. Such a thing is hard to gain; it is, perhaps, more difficult to regain.

Does anyone ask, is this danger imminent? It is no use shutting our eyes to the fact that the response thus far to the appeal for the Jubilee offering of \$50,000 has not been reassuring. The few wealthy people we have as yet have given little or no encouragement; that they will give handsomely, it becomes more and more apparent that success must come, if at all, through a grand general rally of the rank and file of our people to the rescue. As yet these have not been generally stirred. The time is gliding by swiftly, and the crisis will soon be upon us. This is the time when the money is coming in to the farmers. It has been a prosperous year. No time is to be lost. Will not all respond to the appeals made, and still to be made? Our forty-four thousand Baptists can do it easily if they but will. Let the stream of contributions of five and ten dollars of whatever sums, large or small, our people can give to this object, so stamped with the divine approval, so vital to the progress of our denomination, be sent flowing in on Brother Cokoon, and let it begin at once.

THE WEEK.

The principal political news of interest the past week has come from France, where there has been continuous excitement about the scandal case, the defeat and resignation of the Rouvier ministry and the Presidency. M. Wilson, for bartering decorations, has been forced to leave the palace. The late ministry only lasted a few months, but was longer than many that have been in France of late. It never was thought to be a strong cabinet, but managed by making continual changes. Great difficulty has been experienced in getting a new set, owing, apparently, to the growing unpopularity of President Grevy, and the consequent unwillingness of ministers to work under him. Many demanded of the President that he should resign, though but two years of his term of office had expired. He held out strongly for some time, but has had to succumb and has given notice of his intention to resign immediately after sending to the senate and chamber a formal address defending himself and declaring his retirement forced by the impossibility of governing the country. Grevy, who is an old man, it is said, appears greatly aged in the last few days. The President resigning in the middle of his term, the new President will be elected by the senate and chamber. There is much excitement and discussion as to who will be the successful candidate. M. Ferry now appears to be the favorite. The great number of parties in France complicates their politics so that it is hard to foretell, a great deal depending on very uncertain alliances.

British politics and affairs in Ireland have been rather quiet. There was a slight riot in Limerick on Sunday, caused by the police dispersing a crowd gathered to witness the unveiling of a statue to commemorate the hanging of the so-called Manchester martyrs. The police seem to have lost their temper and showed up in a bad light. A new step in enforcing the coercion act has been taken in arresting a man at Ennis for selling copies of a paper that had been proclaimed, "United Ireland." Balfour says O'Brien will not be forced to wear prison dress if he refuses and that he has sheltered himself under a medical opinion that his lungs are delicate and his heart's action weak.

More Irish national leagues have been proclaimed and more members of parliament are to be prosecuted. Davitt, in a speech at Carlsruhe, declared that the Irish alone could settle the land question with the landlords. He hoped that support would be withheld from any land purchase scheme proposed in England even if suggested by Gladstone. The Irish agitators continue to receive help from America, \$10,000 being lately forwarded. One hundred and thirty Greenwood tenants have been reinstated. The arrears of rents were reduced £7,500.

Lord Dufferin's tenants in County Down want a 40 per cent reduction on an extension of time.

At the annual meeting of the National Union of Conservatives at Oxford, Admiral Bartlett, M. P., presided. A thousand delegates were present, representing England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland. A

resolution in favor of fair trade was carried by a large majority. A resolution in favor of the reform of the English of which was adopted unanimously.

The German parliament, called the Reichstag, recently opened. The speech from the throne included the following: "Germany in its foreign policy has successfully endeavored to strengthen the peace of Europe by cultivating friendly relations of all powers by treaties and alliances, aiming to avert the dangers of war and jointly oppose unjust attacks. Germany has no aggressive tendency, no wants to be satisfied through victorious wars. The military organization of the country is not calculated to disturb the peace of her neighbors by arbitrary attacks. Germany is strong in parrying surprise and defending independence, wishes to become so strong that she can face with composure every danger."

At the close of the reading, Herr Wedell Piesdorf, president of the body, called for cheers for the emperor, and they were given with enthusiasm. The president, in opening his address, alluded to the serious nature of the illness of the crown prince. The grief of the country over his death would be great. It was voted to send messages of sympathy and affection to both emperor and the crown prince.

These were conveyed by the president and vice-presidents, to whom the emperor said the ailment of the prince was a severe visitation in view of his high position and great abilities for continuing and directing the policy of Prussia and Germany in a manner which would have enabled the emperor to close his eyes in peace. What Providence might further decree could tell, but it was the duty of all to bow to God's inscrutable will. Universal sympathy was a great consolation. He desired peace, although Germany was perfectly prepared to meet attacks. He expressed regret at the proposed resignation of M. Grevy.

There has been a great drought in Indiana Territory, Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas for seven months, and this has been followed by fires which have destroyed millions of dollars worth of property.

The Conference of the English and American Commissioners upon the fisheries question is now being held at the department of state in Washington. Many newspaper correspondents have gathered to find out what they can, but an effort has been made to keep matters secret, and to this end Secretary Bayard has announced that anything that may be published about the work of the commission will be without foundation.

The principal topic of discussion in Canada appears to be Commercial Union, a scheme to have unrestricted trade between the Dominion and the United States, all custom houses along the line being abolished and a common tariff against all other countries adopted by each. Many who do not go this length are advocating reciprocity in a greater number of articles than now pass between the countries free of duty.

The Labor commission does not seem to be attracting much attention. It is at present sitting in Toronto. There seems to be some difficulty in getting witnesses.

Chicago Letter.

THE FIRST SNOW STORM of the winter is sweeping over the city while I sit today, Nov. 19, writing in my study. It is very pleasant here, beside the books, in the cheerful room, beside the bright fire. All the more pleasant because of the cold and the storm without. But winter has come early, and what of the thousands of poor in their cheerless abodes with coal at eight dollars a ton? One of the city papers says they should have laid in a supply for winter in the early fall when it was not so dear. That seems a little like adding insult to misery. "The destruction of the poor is their poverty." The rich did lay in their winter's coal, but how could the poor? The coal, like almost all the necessities of life, is controlled by rich syndicates, which make fortunes out of the people's needs and miseries. Monopoly cannot be the legitimate inheritance of any man or any class of men. Governments should protect the weak and the helpless from the avarice of the powerful and rich. As Ruskin says: "It is assuredly just that idleness should be suppressed by energy; that the wider influence should be possessed by those who are best able to wield it; and that a wise man at the end of his career, should be better off than a fool. But for that reason is the fool to be wretched, utterly crushed down, and left in all the suffering which his conduct and capacity naturally inflict? Not so. What do you suppose fools were made for? That you might tread upon them, and stone them, and get the better of them in every way? By no means. They were made for wise people to take care of them." This question of the relation of the rich to the poor is one that Christianity is bound to discuss. It is not unworthy a place in the pulpit. "The word of God is not bound."

AN ATMOSPHERE OF GLOOM.

pervaded the city for a week—the week preceding the execution of the anarchists. From the first, almost everyone said, "Hang them," but as the end in the dreadful tragedy drew near, many shrank back appalled at the thought of putting seven men to death. Men believed these seven were guilty—as the three law courts had decided—and that they ought to

be severely punished, but they shrank back in horror from that relic of barbarism, that blot on our Christian civilization, the scaffold! Then there were all kinds of threats—the air was full of them—threats of assassination, of massacre, of riot; now they were planning to blow up the water works and fire the city, or they were planning to seize all the arms in the armories, &c., now they were preparing to use the gas mains to blow up all the houses in the city, &c., &c. All these sensational rumors, enough to make chills creep up a timid person's spine, the daily papers seemed to delight in circulating. They embellished every issue with horrid wood-cuts of the portraits of the condemned men, of the jail, of the gallows, &c., &c. O, what reading for little children! O, what pictures for gentle women! O, what a week! Thank God it is past. The law has been carried out. The city still stands. The roar of traffic is still heard in the streets, and men breathe more freely because "sentence against an evil work" has been carried out. That these men were guilty and deserving of the extreme penalty of the law, there can be no doubt.

HERE AND THERE.

The Illinois Baptist State Convention was held this year with the church in Rock Island. The State Mission Society raised and expended during the year, the sum of \$10,360, but it closed the year with a debt of \$8,600. This debt has been slowly accruing for years. It is a bad outlook, but a vigorous effort is being made to wipe it out. The number of additions to the churches during the year has been about three thousand, of which about five hundred have been in Chicago. Most of these additions have been gathered in under the labors of pastors and without the help of evangelists.

The Seminary at Morgan Park has about a hundred students. The new Theological building is nearing completion. It will be the finest structure on the grounds. It is to be called "Blake Hall," in honor of Mr. E. N. Blake, of the Second Church, who has been one of the staunch financial friends of the institution from the beginning.

The ladies of the Missionary Training School are moving for a new building. The School has always been in rented quarters. Robert J. Bardette, the humorist, lectures this evening in the Central Music Hall for the benefit of the building fund. Mr. Bardette is a good Baptist and is always ready to help every needy cause.

Mr. Murphy, the temperance evangelist, is holding meetings in the Union Park Congregational Church. Mr. Moody is in Minneapolis but expects to go South soon. The work in our own churches in the city is very quiet.

Temple Jottings.

Jottings seem familiar, because many years ago in the Messenger, if memory and observation is correct, we started that familiar heading, with jottings from Halifax and the Tabernacle, and to-day it seems hard to adopt the new idea, Temple Jottings. But the fact of our fellowship in the hearts and prayers of so many of the readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR prompts to jot down a few lines by way of reminders and remembrance. We left the Tabernacle for Temple service to-morrow after great searching of heart, it seemed thus the cloud and guiding fire pointed. We are glad it was not prompted by desire of earthly gain, rather a missionary spirit urged us to heed the call and to go where we could see it would be a hand to hand struggle with sin in its mightiness. A sense of weakness made us to quail. Yet recollection of 1 Cor. 1:18, 31 and Heb. 1:1 made us willing to go forward into the conflict. If by honest endeavor in the name of the Lord, the work at the Marine's Temple, just off Chatham Square, can be revived and built up, then present loss and rending from friendships of precious and hallowed memories as the dear old Tabernacle, Halifax, is gladly surrendered for Christ's sake, and we say Thy will be done, in us, for us, and by us. Lord, increase our faith.

The Temple has a name made sacred by much hallowed service for God in years past. Those who know best, tell us of its days of wealth and spiritual prosperity. To-day the building stands grand and stately. The current of sin runs strong around and hard by. Circumstances have removed many of the church, if not all, who had wealth and influence, up town. The influx of strangers, and specially those who speak another tongue, mostly Roman Catholics, with a large percentage of Jews and heathens, with a mixture of all fields, and perhaps what is worse, many who professing to know God have grown careless, if not worse.

It is a hard field to plow and sow. Do we not feel that the gospel plow is being drawn by divine and sovereign grace, and that the vitality of the good seed has been attested under worse surrounding, we should be afraid. But knowing the gospel to be the power of God unto salvation, we have entered into the rocky field around the Temple, expecting to see good results at harvest time. We are a little anxious about Buds and Blossoms, and ask the sympathy and prayers of all old friends, that they may take kindly in this new field, and be the medium of monthly and friendly greetings to our provincial and far scattered friends. We have cause to hope for and expect brighter days at the Marine's Temple. We heard this week that some gentlemen of the Board of Baptists

City Missions are going to show their interest by giving us an electric light outside and some new cushions for the pews within. So sailors and friends generally can look for the guiding light without, and comfortable seating waiting within the Temple. We shall endeavor, by the grace of God, to preach the Word and Gospel so as to comfort saints and win souls.

J. F. AVERT.

Missionary Conference.

As announced, our conference held its third session with the church at Great Village. Here, about thirty years ago, baptism by immersion was administered for the first time in the place. One man professed faith in Christ, in the presence of many bitterly opposed to the plain teachings of God's Word. A church was soon organized which grew in numbers and in grace, but like many others, it has been a source of supply to churches elsewhere; consequently the ranks are now thinner than one could wish. However, in those ranks still stand a faithful witness for the truth: the one who was first baptized, with others of like love for the principles of the gospel. With this band of brethren, our conference held its third session. But what a night! Liberty may be one test of Christianity, Christian courage and fortitude are another. For our second meeting all was favorable; for the third, the darkness of a terrible night was against us. But self-denial for Christ is always crowned with blessing. For the few who met a blessing was poured out. The addresses were of a stirring nature, combined with good doctrine. Truth never falls to the ground unless it is to rise and show itself, perchance it finds soil. We believe the soil is prepared, and may expect in the future to see the harvest.

The water poured upon the ground that night, made abundant rivulets and streams, which filled the river's channel, from bank to bank, giving the water a tremendous impetus toward the sea, so may it be with our efforts to create greater enthusiasm in mission work. May that enthusiasm increase until the consecrated men and women will be as an irresistible river to wipe out the dark stains of superstition and heathenism from the world, and bring refreshing gladness and plenty to our desolate fields at home.

Permit me another line to refer to the work of the women, for without it my report would not be complete. It appears that this church is the result of the fidelity and Christian courage of one woman in adhering to New Testament doctrine. She came to a community entirely Presbyterian. Being a thorough Baptist, she did not yield to the infant heresy. As a result of the training in her own home, and other influences through it, her own professed faith, in the manner spoken of above, became deacon of the then newly organized church, and for nearly thirty years, as deacon and Sunday School superintendent, led in the service of the church, always a right-hand supporter to its pastor. That woman's mission was well filled. Other members of the family became members of the church, also. That was indeed "a lone star mission." Although the star has sunk beneath the horizon, its radiance still shines brightly. Women in those days, even among the Baptists, had not the privileges they have to-day in Aid Societies. Their work was performed before God, in their homes, and with glorious results. Now that they have the double opportunity of doing such work, may we not expect to see much more accomplished than has already been done by them? Some of the sisters in connection with churches in our conference, are doing good work. They meet the Aid Societies when the conference meets, and seek to create deeper interest in the work. Why should this be left to a few? Cannot more spare time? Sisters, the time is not yours, it is the Lord's. Up ye and possess the land with those who are working day and night, to carry forward this great work. Think of a lady travelling twenty-three miles after eleven o'clock at night with her husband in order to promote mission work!

C. S. STARRS, Sec'y-treas.

Great Village, N. B. 17.

Recognition Service at Woods cove.

As the readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR have already been informed, the Albert Street Church of Woodstock, recently extended a call to the Rev. A. F. Brown, of London, Eng., to become its pastor, and the call has been accepted. Our brother's residence and labor with us, though for so short a time, have won him many warm friends, both in his own congregation and in the town generally, while the members of the church are united in their love and esteem for him. On Monday evening, 21st inst., a Recognition Service for Bro. Brown, was held in the Albert St. Church, of which the notice had been given. The evening proved all that could be desired, and the house was filled with an eager and sympathetic audience. It was much regretted that none of the ministers of the other churches of Woodstock were able to be present, although cordial invitations had been sent them. Their presence would have been an assurance of that feeling of fellowship which ought to exist among all workers for the Master, but as we are assured that unavoidable circumstances prevented their attendance, we have no reason to doubt their sympathy and good will.

The Rev. Jas. Mackenzie presided over the exercises in a very efficient manner.

After the service, the church was filled with a very happy and social gathering. The Rev. Mr. Brown, who is a very able and energetic worker, was warmly welcomed by the members of the church. The service was held in a very comfortable and well-lighted hall, and the attendance was very large. The Rev. Mr. Brown is a native of England, and has been in the ministry for many years. He is a very able and energetic worker, and is well known in the town. The service was held in a very comfortable and well-lighted hall, and the attendance was very large. The Rev. Mr. Brown is a native of England, and has been in the ministry for many years. He is a very able and energetic worker, and is well known in the town. The service was held in a very comfortable and well-lighted hall, and the attendance was very large. The Rev. Mr. Brown is a native of England, and has been in the ministry for many years. He is a very able and energetic worker, and is well known in the town.