

# Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER,  
VOLUME LV.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE MARITIME BAPTIST PUBLISHING COMPANY

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR  
VOLUME XLIV.

Vol. VIII., No. 18.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1892.

Printed by G. W. DAY, North Side King St.

—THE New York Herald believes that the coming president of the United States will be neither Harrison nor Cleveland nor Blaine nor Hill, but some Western man as yet unnamed in connection with the presidential office.

—DR. DEEMS, in the *Homiletic Review*, says: "Whether the corpuscular or vibratory theory of light may be maintained, light is all the same. Theories of inspiration may vary, but if there be a God-power in a book or in a cloud or in an ark, men will feel it."

—It is stated that Prof. Schurman, Dean of the Sage School of Philosophy in Cornell University, has been offered the presidency of the university of California. In reference to the matter the *New York Independent* says: "His acceptance, it is stated, depends on an increase of the salary from \$6,000 to \$7,500, and that he shall be permitted to appoint the various committees of the board of regents. The first condition is said to have been met, the second is under advisement." It is otherwise reported that Prof. Schurman has declined the invitation noted above.

—DR. HOPPER is again a resident of St. John. As previously noted by us, the cares and responsibilities connected with the principalship of the U. B. Seminary have been transferred to the competent hands of Dr. de Blois, and Dr. Hopper is thus happily relieved of burdens which for many months past had been much too great for his physical strength. He has taken up his residence in his own house on Leinster street, and notwithstanding the fatigue incident to moving, he feels that he is already a little stronger than he was a few weeks ago. With rest and good care for a time Dr. Hopper hopes to regain a considerable measure of his strength. We trust that his hopes may be realized and that years of happy and useful service may yet be granted to him here.

—THE psalmist in the 84th Psalm says: "My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord." But, as we heard a minister remark last Sunday in commenting upon the passage, a good many people nowadays do not feel that way about it. On the other hand, it seems to make them faint to think of going to the house of God. They feel much more comfortable elsewhere and are glad of an excuse for staying away. And some of these people call themselves Christians. But if the psalmist's estimate of the value of public worship was right, there must be going different ways. And if people go different ways they are likely to arrive at different places. If one does not love the courts of the Lord on earth, will he be able to join in the worship of Heaven?

—It is not to be taken for granted that the most popular preaching is the best, either as to matter or results. Sometimes people need to be told that which they do not like to hear. Our Lord sometimes spoke that His congregation became offended with His doctrine and forsook the preacher. Mr. Gladstone is reported as saying:

"The class of sermons which I think are most needed are of the class, one of which so offended Lord Melbourne long ago. Lord Melbourne was one day seen coming from church in the country in a mighty fume. Finding a friend, he exclaimed: 'It is too bad! I have always been a supporter of the church and I have always upheld the clergy, but it is really too bad to have to listen to a sermon like that we have had this morning. Why, the preacher actually insisted upon applying religion to a man's private life!' But that is the kind of preaching which I like best, the kind of preaching which men need most, but it is also the kind of which they get the least."

—THE closing exercises of the late session of the Presbyterian College, Halifax, took place in St. Matthew's church, on Wednesday evening of last week. The report of the senate states that this was the 72nd session of the college and the 17th since its reorganization. Of the 28 students who had attended the session, twelve were of the first year, seven of the second and nine had completed the course. Of these nine, six have the degree of B. A., and are, we presume, graduates from Dalhousie. The remaining three hail from Scotland, and appear not to have secured an academic degree. The college has three professors and it is expected that a fourth will shortly be added to the number. Instruction in elocution will also be hereafter a regular feature of the course. Our Presbyterian brethren seem to be succeeding very well in the endeavor to keep their young ministers at home during their theological course. During the last seventeen years the contributions for the college from the churches has doubled, and the attendance of students has more than doubled.

Whether we could succeed as well under similar circumstances is at least doubtful. The spirit of independence which, as Baptists, we so religiously cherish would be pretty sure to assert itself in opposition to any plan of theological education at home which did not offer advantages in all respects equal to those to be secured abroad.

## PASSING EVENTS.

IN the Nova Scotia House of Assembly the committee on privileges presented a majority and minority report on Mr. Cahane's charges in respect to the alleged misappropriation of road monies. It is hardly necessary to say that in these reports the committee was divided according to the party affiliations of its members. The majority report, entirely exonerates Messrs McPherson and McDonald, members for Cape Breton Co., from any misconduct, and says that "not a syllable of evidence was offered to justify the belief that one single fraudulent item appears in the road returns from the County of Cape Breton." In the case of Victoria County certain irregularities of a somewhat serious nature are found to exist in connection with the returns of the expenditure of road monies, and a searching investigation by the government is recommended. At the same time it is noted that the inspector declared on oath that the whole of the money had been honestly spent, and it is held that nothing wrong has been proved against Mr. Fraser, the member for the County. The minority report takes an entirely different view of the whole matter, declares the charges proved, and calls for the expulsion of the members for Cape Breton and Victoria. Little value can be assigned to these contradictory reports. One may be true and the other false, or both may be true in part, but anyone who wishes to reach a conclusion in which he can feel confidence must study for himself the evidence given before the committee of privileges in the course of the investigation.

THE Presbyterian *Witness* puts the history of the affair between the Nova Scotia Legislature and Mayor Thomas, of Truro, so tersely and clearly that we cannot do better than quote its words: "Mr. Thomas is mayor of Truro. As such he sent some documents to some member or members of the House that reflected on Mr. Lawrence, member for Colchester. He withdrew the documents when he ascertained that they ought not to have been forwarded. The House ordered him to appear at the bar and he did so appear. A resolution was adopted mildly censuring him for his conduct, and he was ordered to appear at the bar that this resolution might be read to him by the Speaker. Acting on the advice of his lawyer, Mr. H. McD. Henry, he left the town without appearing at the bar. The House then ordered him to be arrested and brought back to Halifax. He was brought back under arrest, and on Saturday night, verging on midnight, he was sentenced by the House to the Halifax prison for forty-eight hours. On Monday morning Mr. Henry brought the matter before the Supreme Court, and the Judges, having heard all the facts, set the prisoner free on technical grounds. Mayor Thomas was thus set free about five hours before the expiration of the sentence of forty-eight hours. Much excitement has been caused by the unfortunate incident—an incident of which nobody is proud."

We think with the *Witness* that there is much to be regretted and nothing for anybody to be proud of in connection with this singular incident. It is to be regretted that Mayor Thomas should have sent to the House anything which could be regarded as an infringement of the privileges of a member of parliament, but as he did not intend any offence against the law or infringement of parliamentary privilege, and as he signified his desire to withdraw the offensive expressions, it is to be regretted that the matter was brought to the notice of the House. It is to be regretted, too, that having come before the House, it could not be considered apart from the political relations of the persons concerned, and that the members must array themselves along strictly party lines in their attitude toward Mayor Thomas and his conduct. It is to be regretted that Mr. Thomas refused to obey the summons of the House that he might listen to the very mild vote of censure that had been adopted by that body in reference to his conduct. In regard to the subsequent proceedings we have little to say. Everyone will acknowledge that parliament should have the power to defend itself from any invasion of its dignities and privileges and those of its members. The imprisonment of a respectable gentleman, occupying an honorable position was, however, a step to be avoided if possible. As to form of procedure, the imprisonment of Mayor Thomas has been declared illegal by the Supreme Court of the province. There

appears to be a good deal of uncertainty as to just what constitutes a breach of parliamentary privilege and what the duties and powers of the legislature are in such a case; but as Mayor Thomas has instituted a suit at law against the members of the House who voted for his imprisonment, placing the damages for unlawful imprisonment at \$25,000, we may hope that as a result these matters will be more clearly defined.

THE magnificent harvest which the North-west was blessed last year is having the effect of attracting immigrants in unusually large numbers to that portion of the Dominion. Land sales have been unprecedentedly large, and it is probable that the present season will witness a much larger influx of population to the great prairie sections of Canada than any previous one has done. This is encouraging, and there seems no good reason to doubt but that this increasing tide of immigration will continue from year to year. Of course the North-west has its drawbacks. The extreme cold of its winters and its blizzards may be counted as quite constant sources of discomfort. Drought and frost during the summer are contingencies, and to what extent they will injuriously affect the interests of husbandmen is a question which cannot yet be determined with any great degree of certainty. The experience of recent years, however, goes to show that the Canadian North-west is a better country for the farmer than large parts of the States of Dakota. If reports are true, there is a considerable movement of population from these States across the national boundary. It is probably not claiming too much for Manitoba and the Canadian North-west to say that the conditions for pioneer farming are more favorable there than in any section of the great Republic. As the farming lands to the South become more and more fully occupied, and as the resources of our North-west become more fully developed and made known, it seems inevitable that the central and western portions of Canada shall receive a large influx of population. Many are going this spring from the older provinces. This does not, of course, add anything to the population of the Dominion, but it is more satisfactory from a Canadian point of view than that our people should go to the States. It is also desirable in the interests of the country's future that at least a considerable nucleus of the population in these newer sections should be of Canadian birth. The people from the older provinces may be expected to be the leaders in the political, educational and religious movements, and to exert an important influence for good in moulding the destinies of the new provinces. While the natural conditions in Manitoba and the North-west appear to be so favorable, it is certainly unfortunate if artificial barriers are established or permitted to exist. The Canadian Pacific railway, by its enterprise, has done much, though at an immense cost to the Dominion, to open up the country for settlement. But it is charged, and the charge appears to be unanswerable, that "our national railroad discriminates in freight rates against the Canadian farmer in favor of his rival in Minnesota and Dakota." And when to this is added the fact that the farmer's ploughs, harrows, rakes, reapers, mowing machines, wagons, furniture, and indeed almost everything he needs in order to make a home for himself and develop the resources of the country are subject to a duty of 35 per cent, it is apparent that artificial conditions go a good way in the direction of counterbalancing the natural advantages of the country.

IF the problem of aerial navigation should be conquered, as some sanguine scientist appear to think it soon will be, it would doubtless modify the conditions of human life in some important respects. Prof. F. W. Very, of the Allegheny Observatory, in a lecture on aerial navigation, lately delivered at Pittsburgh, took the ground that a system of rapid transit through the air "will materially affect the vital issues of politics, as great airships can import and export all kinds of materials and drop them down just where they are wanted, without interference from the revenue officers of any country." There would seem to be force in this, if aerial navigation is regarded as an accomplished fact. Of course the revenue officers would be able to be "up in a balloon" too, but it would be exceedingly difficult for the swiftest and best armed aerial-cruiser to overhaul a ship, not confined in its movements to a single plane, as on the sea, but having the run of space in all its four dimen-

sions. Perhaps, then, that Mugwump journal is right which advises that "it is for the interest, therefore, of those who profit by the McKinley tariff to take immediate measures to suppress all efforts of inventors and scientific men to turn the atmospheric highway into a pathway for travel and commerce. Roger Q. Mills himself appears to be far less formidable as an enemy of the tariff than Prof. Langley of the Smithsonian Institution, Hiram Maxim and other scientific men who are endeavoring to solve this great problem blindly regardless of the interests of the Republican party." Then when all tariffs shall have been abolished and every restriction upon trade and intercourse between the nations removed, when the products of every clime are being dropped at every village and hamlet by means of aerial lighters waiting on the great ships that shall traverse the pathless atmosphere in world-encircling voyages, then the narrow policy of the protectionist shall perish and the views of the free trader shall be abundantly vindicated.

ONE of the enterprises, the success of which it is a pleasure to notice, is represented in the trades schools of New York city. These schools were inaugurated some ten years ago for the purpose of giving to boys, at a moderate cost, the opportunity for mechanical training. The movement was occasioned, it is said, by the exclusive policy of the trades unions, which kept down the number of apprentices, while admitting journeymen from foreign lands. The attendance at these schools during the past year numbered 541, and it is the testimony of the superintendent of the House of Refuge on Randall's Island, that the schools have had a sensible influence in lessening the number of delinquents at that institution. A gift of half a million dollars, lately received from Mr. Morgan Pierpont, will afford a permanent endowment for the schools and permit the enlargement of their work.

THE epidemic of Anarchism, which lately broke out in southwestern Europe, continues to rage with unabated violence. Especially is this true of Paris where, in spite of numerous arrests, the bomb throwers and incendiaries continue their fiendish work. Ravachol, the notorious criminal, who exhibited a wholly diabolical disregard for human life, and boasted of his crimes before the court, has met with unexpected leniency and received only a sentence of imprisonment for life. This gives rise to what seems a justifiable suspicion that the judge and jury had been intimidated. Great excitement and no little terror are felt in Paris according to reports; and many people are said to be leaving the city. So far as indicated by despatches received at time of writing, May Day, from which much was feared, has past off without any serious disturbance.

THE importing of bugs does not strike one, at first thought, as likely to conserve or develop the wealth of a country. The thing is being done, however, in California with that expectation. Out of a collection of 6,000 beetles and bugs, gathered in Australia, 300 only reached San Francisco alive; which is considered not a discouraging percentage to survive, considering the absence of normal conditions to which the bugs were necessarily subject during the voyage—to say nothing of the perils of sea-sickness. These 300 beetles Secretary Lelong, of the State Board of Horticulture, estimates to be worth at least \$20,000,000 to the state. In this, of course, he takes into account the fact that these immigrants are likely to have large families. They are, or are supposed to be, predaceous and parasitic insects, and are to be scattered in the orchards, vineyards and fruit gardens of the state to prey upon other insects that ruin the crops of the fruitgrower. The collection was made by Prof. Koebel, who is said to have conferred a great boon on the orange and citron grower of California by his discovery of the bug *Vedalia cardinalis*. The *Vedalia* destroys the "cottony cushion scale," for a long time the despair of California citron and orange growers. Its effect is said to have been to raise the orange product of Los Angeles county, the first year after its introduction, from 781 carloads to 2,212 carloads. We do not know whether our Maritime fruit growers and farmers will think that in all this there is any suggestion of value to themselves. Certainly, if Prof. Koebel could find a few good tough bugs, possessing sufficient vitality to survive a Canadian winter and disposed to turn their attention to cleaning out the canker worm,

the codlin moth and the caterpillar, without making themselves in other respects too disagreeable, our Nova Scotia orchardists could afford to pay a good round price for them. And if a friendly bug could be found, able to dispute dominion with the reigning autoer of the potato field, he would be worth more to the farmers of this country than the greatest trotting stallion that ever entered the course. Some difficulties are encountered in most enterprises, and this does not appear to be an exception. There may be some danger of getting hold of the wrong bug. No one can feel quite sure, perhaps, just what course of action an importation of foreign insects will be pleased to pursue; and when once his bugship has attained to power, it is very difficult indeed to persuade him to abdicate.

## Church Finances.

The following resolution was passed by the First church in Chicago at its last annual meeting:

"All the members of this church shall be expected to bear their fair proportion of the financial burdens of the church, and to contribute according to their ability to its current expenses as well as its general benevolence, either by regular pew or by voluntary subscriptions. At the close of each year the names of all members who in this particular fail to meet their covenant obligations, shall be reported by the trustees to the deacons, who, in case no satisfactory reason for such failure can be shown, shall report the facts to the church with recommendation of such action as may seem proper."

On the above it may be remarked: 1. There must have been a somewhat large number of members in this church who were spending their income on themselves without regard to the obligations of church membership, or the resolutions would not have been judged to be necessary. Is the church named singular in being in this condition?

2. It is affirmed that it is a covenant obligation of every church member to contribute according to his ability to the current expenses, as well as the general benevolence of the church. Is this an obligation of church membership or is it not? If it is not, then what principle is to regulate the action of church members in these matters? If it is an obligation of church membership, then what can be said of the practice of a large number of our church members? 3. If an obligation of this nature really involved in church membership, what shall we say of churches which never take any pains to educate their members to a right apprehension of their duty in this regard? It is to be feared that the example of the Chicago church could not be safely followed in some churches, because the trustees and deacons have such inadequate ideas of what this obligation really involves.

Our denominational treasuries are overdrawn and our plans of church work are narrow, not from lack of means in our churches, but because there is the lack of a disposition rightly to use the means possessed.

## An Occasion of Interest.

The Woman's Baptist Foreign Mission Society has just held its 21st annual meeting in Boston, and I thought a brief outline of the three days' meeting and the work planned for the centennial year might be of interest to some of your readers—women, of course, I mean. Occasionally in my life I have followed some thrilling incident "in real life" or some beautifully expressed thoughts on the shortness of "Time," or the beauty of morality, down a column, only to find I have been reading an advertising dodge. Remembering my emotions on these occasions, it has occurred to me that in order to save the masculine reader from any such misery it would be wise for you to give a suitable heading to this article—have in large type: For women only to read; or, This column not to be read by men. However, dear editor, as you belong to that class, you will know just what heading to give.

Twenty-one years ago a few women who thought they loved the Lord and the interests of His kingdom met in the Clarendon street church as the Woman's B. F. M. Society. A few thousand dollars represented their gifts. If Bro. Denovan is right these women trembled as they took upon themselves the grave responsibility of organizing and carrying on this work, and their hearts sank as they thought of the public prayers and the public speaking, but as they were the descendants of those who crossed the ocean for freedom to serve God in the way their conscience dictated, they persevered, and judging by the summary of this year's report, it was the perseverance of the saints. The report closes

with these encouraging facts: 59 missionaries, 131 Bible women, 274 schools, and nearly 8,000 pupils; total amount of money raised during the past year, \$97,933.90. From the first the society aimed to be the auxiliary of the Missionary Union. Funds have not been diverted from the old society. Work which the Missionary Union could not do has been done by women. Women and children have been cared for; it has built school-houses; supported Bible women and teachers; trained young men and women to be efficient workers; it has flooded the Baptist world with missionary literature in a readable form; it has touched the lives and hearts of children at home and abroad with Christ-like impulses; it has picketed and broadened the hearts of the best women in Baptist churches until whenever a pastor wants good practical work done in the church he calls on the foreign mission worker for aid. But this is not telling what was done in Warren Avenue church April 20-21.

Tuesday afternoon, officers with State and Associational secretaries discussed practical questions of the work like these: "What should be the aim and scope of the work for the centennial year?" "What are the duties of Associational secretaries?" "Is it wise for our circles to pledge funds in response to appeals from individuals before the general need of our society is met?" "What provision should be made for our young women while pursuing their course of study at Newton Theological Seminary?" These and other questions were discussed. In the evening a reception was given to the guests and missionaries at Clarendon street church.

Wednesday morning, after a devotional meeting, the annual meeting was formally opened. The reports which followed were full of interest. Growth everywhere. At home, growth in gifts; in wiser methods; in interest in the cause. Abroad, our missionaries have been abundant in trials—preaching, teaching, healing; labors many. A few had fallen and their dust mingles with the country they loved so well.

There was more variety than usual in the addresses which followed the reports. Dr. Emma Cummings spoke of medical work as a means to win souls. Miss Phinney told of her work in translating. Mrs. Burdette and children were dressed in native costume and gave us object lessons in mission life—scenes from school life; singing Telugu hymns; giving the Telugu alphabet with all its peculiar sounds. The little ones took up their parts beautifully. If Mrs. Burdette visits the provinces I hope you may have the pleasure of seeing them give this exercise. Wednesday evening the meeting was given up to the young workers. A delightfully satisfied look crept over the faces of the "veterans" as this meeting grew in interest. Many felt they could now lay the work down as such a strong company of young workers was all ready for service.

Thursday morning, after the devotional meeting, the state secretaries occupied the greater part of the morning. A call was made for a collection and pledges to cover the deficit of the year; in answer \$500 was received. One interesting feature of Thursday was five-minute papers full of valuable suggestions given by ten ladies.

A committee appointed to consider the work of the centennial year recommended that \$200,000 be raised—half as a special offering, and that special committees in each state have this in charge. Their recommendation was enthusiastically carried, and already definite plans are well under way to make the effort a success. A few earnest, loving words from the newly-appointed missionaries were followed by Miss Durfee's farewell words to them and her closing thoughts upon the work of the year before us.

I am sorry not to be able to tell you of the Thursday meeting; of the stirring words spoken by the older missionaries; of the excellent music given by hearts and voices in sympathy with our work, of the votes of gratitude for hospitality which was perfect in arrangement. But when the afternoon session closed the annual meeting, all felt the King Himself had met with us, and His presence and His blessing went out with us. A peering rain did not hinder a full house from listening to Dr. Mable, Mr. Roberts, of Burma, Dr. Banker, Mr. Petridge and Dr. Hovey talk on Thursday evening on woman's work in foreign missions. But I must leave it to the imagination of your readers to think what such eloquent speakers would say on such a subject. If they think what was said was all true they are not wrong. If they think what was said was complimentary, they are still right.

But I hear the clip of editor's scissors and will close.  
O. L. GEORGE.  
Newton Centre, April 29.