

Messenger and Visitor.

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1894

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—ANOTHER OF OUR aged ministers has passed away from earth. Rev. Obed. Chute, of Siewiatka, N. S., died on Thursday, Feb. 1st, at the very advanced age of 83 years. Mr. Chute for some years past had not been engaged in the active work of the ministry, and for some time had been in failing health. Rev. A. C. Chute, of Halifax, is a son of the deceased. A suitable sketch of the life and labors of our departed brother will be published in another issue.

—It is stated that the yearly drink bill of New York city is \$20,000,000. There can be no doubt, we suppose, that the general health and well-being of the people of New York would be increased, if this 60 million dollars worth of liquor, instead of being drunk, were poured into the Hudson. At the same time there are many thousands of people in New York who find it hard enough to get food sufficient to keep soul and body together. Strange sort of world this we live in!

—A COLONY of Waldenses from Italy have emigrated to America and are making a home for themselves in North Carolina. In explanation of the movement their pastor says: "It is because our valleys are so narrow, and our young people drifting into France, chiefly into Marseilles and Nice, are surrounded by many temptations endangering their faith and morality. We prefer to imitate the old Puritans, and go abroad in order to keep our faith and our simplicity."

—DR. JAMES O. WELLING, president of the Columbian University, Washington, D. C., a Baptist institution, has tendered his resignation, to take effect in October next. His reason for resignation is ill-health and a desire to complete some literary work on which he has long been engaged. Noticing Dr. Welling's resignation, *Zion's Advocate* says: "Our Baptist educational institutions few have achieved greater distinction than Columbian University. Much of the present prosperity of this university, which now has nearly a thousand students, is due to the earnest, unremitting labors of Dr. Welling."

—REV. DR. ARMITAGE has been engaged to supply for three months the pulpit of the First Baptist church, Boston, left pastorless by the resignation of Rev. P. S. Moxom, D. D. Dr. Armitage is now 74 years of age. He was pastor in New York for forty years, and is known to many as author of a valuable history of the B-rites. Concerning Dr. Moxom the Hartford *Secretary* says, that the vari-ous rumors in regard to him are to be taken with a large grain of salt. "His old friends are confident that a field will open to him worthy of his fine abilities and full of opportunities for usefulness. He has a host of true friends in the Baptist denomination who pray that this may be the case."

—THE funeral of Mrs. F. H. Little Robinson, widow of the late Rev. Samuel Robinson, took place on last Thursday afternoon from the residence of Mr. Ira Cornwall. Services in Brussels street church were conducted by Pastor Carey, assisted by Rev. J. J. Baker. Mr. Carey made some appropriate remarks, alluding to his acquaintance with Father Robinson, the first pastor of Brussels street, whose death took place in 1866, and whose services had been so largely blessed to that church and to the Baptist cause in this city. Mr. Carey spoke also of the Christian character of the deceased with whom, however, it had not been his privilege to have very much acquaintance, and also of the kind ministrations of the friends with whom it had been her lot to spend the last years of her life.

—ROCHESTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY continues to attract a good number of our young men who are studying for the ministry. The following named graduates of Acadia are now pursuing their theological studies at Rochester: E. E. Gates, J. J. W. N. Hutchins, A. C. Kempson, J. J. W. N. Hutchins, A. C. Shaw. A number of these young brethren are personally known to us, and we have no hesitation in saying that they are first-class men. The six first named will finish their course at the Seminary in the spring. The remaining three are in the junior class. Newton too, as in the past, still attracts our maritime young men. From Bro. Bill's communication, which appears in another column, it will be seen that there are at least eight Acadia men at that institution. We do not now recall the names of many of these, but no doubt they will all give a good account of themselves.

—For all throat and lung diseases, coughs, colds, asthma bronchitis, etc., Norway Pine Syrup is a sure cure.

—REV. DR. MONTAGUE, of Newton Centre, is quoted by the *Watchman* as saying, in an address delivered before the Baptist Social Union of Boston, that the failure of the Brooklyn Tabernacle had arisen from the fact that the attempt had been made to gather people into the church in masses, while the training of individuals to Christian service and benevolence had been neglected. It is inconceivable that a debt of \$200,000 should crush a church of more than 4,000 members. If Tremont Temple church had not been trained to burden bearing, it would have been killed twenty years ago.

—ET. JOHN has reason to be proud of the enterprise of its daily press. The *Telegraph*, not to be outdone by the *Sun*, has also become a member of the Associated Press. The former also intimates that the *Sun's* enterprise in this matter was provoked by the enterprising character of the *Telegraph*. This may or may not be so. At all events they are both very lively and highly enterprising papers. We wish, however, that they might be persuaded to use some what more discrimination as to the character of the news which they publish. It may be that it is enterprising to publish everything that comes over the wires or that falls under the eyes or ears of the reporter, but we feel sure that it is not conducive to the purity of the morals of the community which every high-toned newspaper should certainly wish to conserve.

—IN Brooklyn, New York, there has been in progress for the past two or three weeks a revival of religion which is said to be the most remarkable in the history of the city. The revival had its beginning in connection with services held in the Hanson Place Baptist church, of which Dr. A. C. Dixon is pastor. He was assisted in special work by Evangelist W. Harton, of Baltimore. The interest enlarged and deepened wonderfully, and the churches of the city have very generally shared in the blessing. So remarkable is the movement that New York papers have described it as a religious tidal wave. More than forty prominent houses of worship have been filled nightly, and several open air meetings held daily, at some of which hundreds of people stood in the rain to listen to the preaching. Prominent evangelists are taking part in the work.

—A SERVICE in which many of the people of St. John were quite warmly interested was held last Thursday evening in St. David's (Presbyterian) church. The occasion was the unveiling of a tablet in memory of the late Governor Boyd who had been a member of that church and had taken a deep interest in its work and welfare. The audience, which completely filled the building, listened with much interest to addresses by Sir S. L. Tilley, between whom and the late governor an intimate and almost life-long friendship had existed; Rev. Mr. Bruce, the pastor of St. David's; Rev. Mr. de Soyres, and Rev. G. M. W. Carey, who each bore testimony to the varied worth and nobility of the man whose recent death had been the occasion of such genuine and general sorrow. Music appropriate to the occasion was furnished by the Oratorio Society of the city. The tablet is of marble and bears in black letters the following inscription: "In memory of Hon. John Boyd, Lieutenant-governor of New Brunswick, a member of this church; born Sept. 28th, 1826; died Dec. 4th, 1893."

—AMONG our Baptist pastors, there is no one who is more pronounced foe to the liquor business in all its forms and phases than our highly esteemed brother, R. V. E. J. Grant, of Sussex, and the liquor men of Kings County probably believe that there is no more largely endowed with the qualities required in a persistent fighter. For several years Mr. Grant, with others, has been engaged in warfare against the violators of the Scott Act in Sussex. The fight has been carried on not without much labor and trouble on Mr. Grant's part, and of course not without gaining for him the cordial sympathy of the rum-sellers and their sympathizers. We do not believe Bro. Grant likes fighting well enough to go into and continue such a conflict except for the most conscientious reasons, and we think that the long and courageous battle which he, and those who have acted with him, have carried on against the liquor forces of Kings County has won for them a claim upon the sympathies of all who believe in the principle of the legal suppression of the liquor traffic. A short time since a considerable who had served summonses on certain liquor sellers in Sussex was arrested on a charge of perjury and brought before a certain justice of the

peace, named Morrison, by whom he was committed to stand trial. This charge Mr. Grant and many other persons in Sussex believed to be without foundation in truth, and prompted by the malice of the liquor-sellers accordingly at a largely attended meeting in Sussex certain resolutions were moved or seconded by Mr. Grant, in which the course pursued in the matter by the magistrate was severely censured. These resolutions, it now appears, Mr. Morrison has made the ground of criminal libel against Mr. Grant. Publicly to censure a magistrate for his conduct in the discharge of his official duties is of course a serious matter, and such censure should not be expressed unless good grounds can be shown for it. What justification there was for the statements contained in the resolutions we are not in a position to know, but from what we know of Mr. Grant, we feel sure that he would not propose to a public meeting to pass censure on the official conduct of a magistrate, unless he at least believed that the condemnation called for, was fully justified by the facts. It is possible that Mr. Grant acted hastily in the matter and without sufficient information, but we hope he will be able to show that no real ground exists for the charge of libel which has been preferred against him.

PASSING EVENTS.

THE course pursued by those members of the Nova Scotia Legislative Council who on Tuesday last voted in direct opposition to the written pledges which they had given to the government to support a measure for the abolition of that chamber, is meeting with a good deal of pretty severe and, we think, well-merited, public criticism. The *Halifax Morning Chronicle* in an editorial in its issue of Jan. 31st, condemns with a good deal of emphasis the course pursued by these honorable gentlemen, and in so doing, no doubt, voices a great deal of public sentiment, both within and without the party of which it is the organ. We quote from the *Chronicle* as follows:

"With regard to those gentlemen who were not pledged to any specific course of action on this question while differing from them we have a thing to say. We have a right to assume that they acted conscientiously, even though some of them have changed their minds since they voted for abolition on a previous occasion. Our query—if we may so style it—is with these gentlemen who voluntarily pledged themselves to support the abolition measure and then broke faith with the government which appointed them and repudiated their pledges by voting against the abolition measure. We concede to them the right to change their views, but if they felt their present views were incompatible with the assurances they gave when they were appointed, they should have handed back their trust unmarshaled to the power which appointed them.

We cannot subscribe to the doctrine on which they base their action, that because some body says so it is unconstitutional for legislative councillors to be hampered by pledges, therefore they are absolved from those pledges. That we regard as a subterfuge utterly unworthy of gentlemen who occupy the high and honorable position of legislative councillors. Be side, rightly or wrongly, we take no stock in the constitutional plea, regarding it as having been made to order for the occasion and for the purpose which has been accomplished. We say nothing of the responsibility of the Holmes-Thompson government who repudiated their pledges by voting against the abolition measure, but we must express our deep and sincere regret that seven of the gentlemen appointed by the existing administration should have acted in a similar manner. We regret it for their own sake, because in their business and social relations they have always enjoyed the reputation of being honorable men; and because it compels us to differ so seriously on an important matter from three gentlemen, a few of whom have long been—and we hope still are—our intimate personal friends. And we regret the wholesale repudiation of pledges which took place in the council chamber yesterday, because of the opportunity it affords the people of saying—and many do say it—that no confidence is to be placed in the pledges of a public man. We speak strongly on this question because, altogether apart from its political aspect, it is regrettable that honored and trusted public men, should, not by mistake, but deliberately, do that which must tend to unsettle the confidence of the people in public men of any party occupying positions of trust and responsibility. We feel that these gentlemen have made a grave mistake which, ere long, they will deeply regret."

THE *Pull Mall Gazette* created some thing of a sensation the other day by announcing in quite positive terms that Mr. Gladstone was about to retire from public life. Nothing that would seem to foreshadow Mr. Gladstone's retirement had occurred, so far as the public had been informed, and in this

point of view the *Gazette's* statement seemed improbable. On the other hand it is quite easy to believe that in the case of a man eighty-four years of age, something may occur at any time to indicate the impossibility of his continuing to carry so great burdens and responsibilities as those which now rest upon the shoulders of Great Britain's premier. The report of Mr. Gladstone's intended retirement is generally scouted by the Liberal journals. Mr. Gladstone, who is resting at Biarritz, has been heard from through Sir Algernon West, who is with him. The *Pull Mall Gazette* professes to see in the statement authorized by Mr. Gladstone a virtual confirmation of his own statement that he is about to resign. To most persons, however, there will probably appear to be more of denial than of confirmation of that report in the prime minister's utterances. But Mr. Gladstone seems willing that those who find great comfort in believing that he intends to retire, should enjoy that satisfaction. It is admitted to be true that "for many months past his age and the condition of his sight and hearing have in his judgment made relief from public affairs desirable." But he is careful to add that the situation "remains exactly as it has been." Then the statement concludes with the following somewhat delicate utterance, which it is well said in Mr. Gladstone's best style of ambiguity, and shows, if it shows anything, that the premier is as much himself as ever. It declares that "he is ignorant of the course which events important to the nation may take even during the remainder of the present session of parliament, and he has not said or done anything which could in any degree restrain his absolute freedom or that of his colleagues regarding the performance of the arduous duties now lying or likely to lie before them."

THE English and European news of the past week though not generally of a startling character is not without interest. The Egyptian incident alluded to last week continues to excite some interest in England, but advice from Cairo indicates that there is no apprehension of immediate trouble with the Khedive who, it is stated, stoutly disclaims any intention of offending England in his criticism of the English regiments in Egypt. The report of the Royal Labor Commission is about to be presented to Parliament. It is stated to be in favor of maintaining the principle of self-help, and of non-interference by the state, recommending the voluntary principle in matters of arbitration and conciliation, and opposing the policy of entrusting special tribunals with legal powers to enforce decisions. The report of the commission, it is anticipated, will be far from satisfactory to the Parliamentary Labor party and the Socialists. The cabled reports that the Lords would not likely set themselves in opposition to the Commons on the employers, liability bill, are not borne out by the facts. On Monday the Lords, by a vote of 125 to 22, resolved to insist upon the amendments to the bill which the Commons had rejected. These amendments were regarded as destroying the value of the bill, the action of the Lords is tantamount to its rejection, and thus in this matter also the House of Lords is squarely at issue with the Commons.

The French court of appeals has sustained the sentence of death passed upon Villant, the anarchist, who threw the bomb in the Chamber of Deputies. The power to pardon or to commute the sentence to imprisonment lies with President Carnot, but it is considered certain that he will not interfere, and Villant will doubtless pay the penalty of his crime at the guillotine. The 35th birthday of the German emperor was celebrated on Jan. 27. The demonstrations were, no doubt, all the more enthusiastic because of the recent reconciliation between William and Bismarck. Whatever political significance, if any, the renewal of friendship between the Kaiser and the Chancellor have taken pains to indicate that it does not mean any change in his relations with his present prime minister, Von Caprivi. At a reception given by the emperor on his birthday, he left his throne to converse briefly but with ostentatious heartiness with the Chancellor. The fact is said to be that Von Caprivi not only retains to the full the confidence of the emperor, but also enjoys the friendship of the Emperor and the Empress Frederick. The commercial treaty with Russia, which

an avenger Von Caprivi will introduce in the Reichstag, is expected to receive the endorsement of that body. It is also understood that the treaty finds favor with Prince Bismarck as being in harmony with his policy of cultivating friendly relations with Russia.

In Italy, and especially in Sicily, the condition of affairs has become more quiet, but Premier Crispi finds it necessary to employ a vigorous policy toward the disaffected forces of the nation. He is endeavoring to improve the financial condition of the government by economy in public expenditure, and proposes to save in the military budget seven million lire, in the marine budget four million, and in the public works budget five million.

THE Wilson tariff bill has passed the House of Representatives on Thursday by a majority of 63. Notwithstanding that the income tax bill was added to the tariff bill, which is generally considered to lessen its chances of becoming law, the majority by which it has passed the House is larger than even the friends of the bill had of late anticipated. The vote shows, of course, that some democrats approved the bill, but their number was not as great as had been expected. The bill has now gone to the Senate, where the real tug-of-war must take place, as the great parties are there much more evenly divided. In the House the populists supported the bill; if this example is followed in the Senate, and if the democrat senators are solid for the bill, there should be a majority of some seven or eight in its favor. But the "ifs" are rather important especially in the case of the democrats. The New York senators may think the opportunity to score a point against the President too good to be lost, and there may be other defections from the democratic ranks sufficient to secure the defeat of the bill. The republicans may be depended upon to oppose it. All that can be predicted with certainty in the matter at this writing is that the bill will occasion in the Senate a lively fight, the result of which is doubtful.

WELLESLEY College has lost its president, Miss Helen A. Shafer, LL.D., whose death occurred, after a brief illness, on January 20th. Miss Shafer was born in 1839 and was educated at Oberlin. The earlier years of her career as a teacher were spent chiefly in St. Louis, where she made a reputation through her attainments in the higher mathematics. It was as professor in this branch of study that she was called to Wellesley in 1877. On the resignation of president Alice E. Freeman in 1888 Miss Shafer was chosen to succeed her. In this position it would appear that she has shown administrative ability of a high order, and has rendered very valuable service to the college. She is spoken of as a woman of exceptional intellectual powers with large and well-defined views on educational subjects. She was also, we are told, a person of symmetrical and beautiful Christian character. "She won first the respect and confidence and then the affection of her pupils. She cultivated in the college, perhaps unconsciously, certainly with rare success, an atmosphere of unaffected cordiality among the students, which made every visitor feel at home and gave an impression of quiet earnestness and unity of aim among all connected with the college."

Personals.

Pastor D. G. McDonald, of Halifax, writes us that the name of the brother who has been assisting him in evangelistic work is Owen, not "Owens," and that he comes from Tunbridge Wells, England. Pastor McDonald speaks highly of Mr. Owen and commends him to any of our churches which may desire to secure the services of an evangelist.

Pastor Gates, of German street, though his health has improved somewhat during the week, is still confined to the house, and will not probably be able to resume his pastoral duties for a week or two at least. The pulpit was supplied last Sunday by Rev. J. W. Manning. —THE Brampton, Ont., *Conservator* says: "The Baptists of Brampton are to be congratulated on securing such a worthy successor to the Rev. Mr. M. Kay, in the person of Rev. W. J. Stewart, of St. John, N. B. Mr. Stewart is a clear and forcible speaker and will no doubt endeavor himself to the congregation." The *Conservator* prints Mr. Stewart's first sermon in Brampton. —By using Hall's Hair Renewer, grayed or discolored hair assumes the natural color of youth, and grows luxuriant and strong, pleasing everybody. —The bronchial trouble from which the ear has been suffering, has abated. —The Early Spring tries Weak Lungs, which should then be fortified by a liberal use of Putner's Emulsion—only 50 cents a bottle, at all Druggists. —Many can testify to the great healing properties of LARDER'S LINIMENT.

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:
"Lord what will Thou have me to do."

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. Baker, 211 Princess Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYERS FOR FEBRUARY.

Thanksgiving for the good news from Chicago and Montreal, prayer for a steady increase of the blessing, and that we all be happy may be ready to receive it.

The Central Point.

We pity the poor Chinaman who, in his ignorance, believes that his China is the centre of the earth, and that all other countries are insignificant tributaries to his own. Perhaps we make the same mistake in our religious life. We imagine that we, with our civilization and white faces, occupy the centre in God's affections and in His plan of salvation, and that the lines of dark souls stretching far around us, are of little consequence. We tremble when we say, What if we should be lost! What if our husbands and children and friends should be lost! but we give ourselves little concern over the eternal death of the dark-skinned millions. Sisters, let us try to discern our true position; we may be like the Chinaman, not as near the centre as we think.

The New Hebrides.

This group of islands is fast being won for Christ. Williams, Gordon, Nisbet, Turner, Geddie and Inglis did not labor in vain, although the blood of more than one of these noble missionaries stained the coral shores. There are now eighteen missionaries and two hundred native teachers on the islands. Dr. Paton is urging a reinforcement of five new missionaries and their support, believing that such a staff will be sufficient to bring the new Hebrides to the feet of Jesus.

From Mrs. Armstrong.

We do not hear directly from missionary sisters as often as we should like, but the *Missionary Review* for February contained a most interesting paper on caste women in India, written by Mrs. Armstrong, now in Burma. Referring to the humiliated influence of women, Mrs. Armstrong writes: "I remember a case in point—a wealthy and influential high caste man, who I have no doubt is a converted man, and who was baptised by my husband some years ago. This man was remarkable for breadth and strength of character, a man of sterling worth and great independence. He was practically king in the district where he lived, and he thought he was able to be a Christian and make his household either submit or leave. He was wealthy, had two wives and a large following. When he came to the house of the native preacher to ask for baptism and to offer himself to the church, a crowd of retainers came with him, among whom were his two wives weeping and tearing their hair. One of these was to whom he was strongly attached—beat her head against the wall of the house until they had to hold her to keep her from killing herself while she declared she would kill herself rather than be baptized. The rest of the household said that if he, in his wisdom, thought it best to be a Christian, they would not gainsay it; he was greater than they, they would be what he was. So they cooked his food and ate with him as before, and treated him as well as they knew how. It was not in human nature not to feel flattered with all this deference to his opinion. For about a year his conduct was exemplary, but soon the heathen influence by which he was surrounded began to tell upon him. His wife and other relatives made trouble when other Christians came to eat with him, and defiled the dishes. It was only a matter of eating and drinking, and he thought it hard not to conform a little to their wishes when they had borne so much for him. He was strongly attached to the wife who had remained with him, and her influence induced him to withdraw more and more from intercourse with other Christians. He said that he knew it was wrong, but he was really worried to death. After a while his other wife came back to the house unbidden. Again and again he promised to break away from them all. He believed in Christ, he worshipped Him only and wanted to follow him; but he said he saw there was nothing to do but to build a small house for himself and to live there alone—that he could not be a Christian and live in his heathen home. This man's case is a remarkable one, because he had sufficient authority for a time at least, to compel his household to submit to him, but they conquered in driving him out at last."