

Messenger and Visitor

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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR
VOLUME XLVII.

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1896.

Agents of the Messenger and Visitor and all having business to do with the paper are hereby requested to take notice of the change in the office of Business Manager. All communications relating to subscriptions or other matters of business and all letters containing money or money orders for the paper should be addressed to A. H. Chipman, instead of to Rev. J. H. Saunders as heretofore. Correspondents are also requested to read carefully the notice at the head of our fourth page.

—It is, says the *Congregationalist*, a singular coincidence that the lamented Bishop Brooks preached his last sermon outside of Boston in the little town of Readville, which is the place whither Dr. S. F. Smith was going to preach last Sunday when stricken down with heart disease.

—The *New York Examiner* proposes, if it shall receive sufficient encouragement, to undertake the publication of a *Baptist Quarterly* at the subscription price of \$2.00 per year, and says—"If at the end of a year it proves a success and the officers of our noble Publication Society deem it advisable to assume its further issue, we will turn it over to them—otherwise continue it ourselves."

—A religious exchange from across the border remarks: When one day last week an eminent and honored clergyman, on being elected moderator of an installing council, suddenly took off his coat and appeared in his shirt sleeves, a theological tussle seemed to be imminent. But as both the candidate and the moderator appeared to agree on all mooted points, the audience concluded that the action of the presiding officer was either accidental or the result of absent-mindedness.

—It is stated that the captain of Harvard's football team, being called to account for failure to make satisfactory progress in his studies, gave as an excuse for his remissness that he was unable to keep up his studies and also give the required time and attention to the practice of football, which latter he held was entitled to first consideration. The University authorities, it seems, had the temerity to take a different view of the matter and to inform the young gentleman that his honorable connection with the institution would depend upon his achievements in the lecture room and on examination day rather than on his prowess on the football field.

—The *Standard* calls attention to the important results to Archaeology and Biblical Science which would probably come with the breaking up of the Ottoman Empire. "The government of Turkey controls the majority of the Biblical sites and districts where material lies hidden of value to the student of the Bible and of ancient history. Exploration and excavation are now made as difficult and as costly as possible to the scholar. The Turk will do nothing himself nor let anyone else do anything for which he is not himself well paid. Great tracts of the east under Turkish rule are in utter disorder, when occasional warfare would produce order in a fortnight and open opportunities to the Biblical archaeologist which are simply overwhelming. What light on the Bible lies hidden under the Turkish bush!"

—It seems that a certain Mrs. Potest has been saying some very uncomplimentary things about Yale University and the city of New Haven. The *Hartford Secretary* thinks that she has been misjudged and too severely criticized by the press. The *Secretary* confesses that Mrs. Potest's statements "will not bear analysis," but contends that "she had a right to her opinion of Yale, though that opinion is very erroneous and unjust." As a principal of ethics this is funny. How could the lady or any other person have the right to think and to publicly declare that a great University is a sink of iniquity—which is about what Mrs. Potest seems to have done—if such an opinion is erroneous and unjust. It would seem to us that Mrs. P. "had a right" to ascertain the facts before she undertook to have and to express an opinion on so important a subject, and the remark applies to a good many other people and their opinions.

—On Thanksgiving Day religious services were held in many of the churches of St. John. In German St. church a union service was held in which the Baptist churches on the east side of the

harbor participated. The congregation was quite as large as was to be expected, considering that the attendance on such occasions usually is and that the morning was rough and unpleasant. But it must be said that the number present was far smaller than it should have been, considering the importance of the occasion and the character of the service. Rev. Dr. Carey was the preacher, who, taking as his text Ps. 116:12, discoursed with his accustomed eloquence and force upon the appropriate theme, setting forth the great and manifold blessings which are bestowed upon us as a people, as families and as individuals, and pointing out the returns which these blessings call for in devout gratitude and hearty consecration to God's service. Pastors Gates and Daley participated in the service. An offering was taken for the Protestant Orphan's Asylum of the city.

—An exchange tells how an over-worked but wide-awake pastor managed to secure an excellent assistant at a very small salary. The pastor wrote:

"I took a new turn on my church and woke up these new subscriptions. At the close of the sermon I said: 'See here, brethren, I want you to employ an assistant pastor; I can't do all the work on this field. I have my mind on an alien one you can get cheap—a grand, good preacher, too. He will preach you fifty-two sermons a year, and deliver full as many lectures. Then he will keep you posted on the movements of all our churches, give you all important news, discuss the Sunday school lesson, talk to the Young People's Union, and help them on their topics. He is very prompt, never misses an appointment, comes rain or shine. Cheap, did I say? Yes, amazing cheap! . . . Here, I will show you the preacher (drawing a copy of the paper from under the pulpit); this is the fellow. See, he is pure and clean, inside and out, and a Baptist of the first water.' At first they looked dazed, stupified, but soon a smile took the place of confusion, and a large number of new subscribers were promptly secured."

—EVERY week and almost every day brings reports of new and terrible atrocities perpetrated by the Kurds upon the Armenian Christians. The Turkish soldiers, instead of affording protection to the defenceless people, join in the massacre, and are declared to be in many cases even more aggressive than the Kurds themselves. A massacre is reported to have taken place at Kharput no longer ago than Nov. 16 in which hundreds if not thousands were slaughtered. It is stated that American buildings were fired upon and that a shell burst in the house of Dr. N. H. Barnum, an American missionary, though fortunately none of the household were hurt. The value of missionary property destroyed at this place is estimated at \$100,000. It is also stated in this connection that a Canadian missionary named Martin, a native of P. E. Island, was terribly beaten and afterwards imprisoned in Fekkeh, near Padjin. It does not appear that any missionaries or other foreign residents have been killed. The Turkish authorities have had the fear of foreign governments before their eyes and have given to citizens of other countries the protection that is denied to Armenians.

—THAT St. John is to be the winter port for the present year at least of a trans-Atlantic line of steamers has become an assured fact, the Beaver line, a Canadian Company, having secured for this purpose a grant of \$25,000 from the Dominion government. The work necessary to provide the necessary shipping facilities and connection with the C. P. railway is being pushed forward. In this connection it is to be noted that the much-talked-of British Canadian fast trans-Atlantic steamship service appears now to have a much fairer prospect of realization than ever before. It is announced from Ottawa that the Dominion government is informed that Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, has given assurance to the High Commissioner for Canada that the Imperial government will support a fast service between Canada and Great Britain to the extent of £75,000 per annum. The Imperial government, it is stated, will require that the vessels shall be of the highest class, of not less than 30 knots speed and that tenders shall be invited for the service. The offer thus made taken in connection with that of the Dominion government of an annual subsidy of \$750,000 for such a service would appear to be quite sufficient to secure its realization. Mr. Chamberlain, it is said, is of the opinion that the service can be furnished for a somewhat smaller subsidy than is thus provided. We presume, however, that a good many hard-headed people will consider that a 30 knot British Canadian line on these terms is little other than a very expensive luxury.

For Spasmodic Coughs—Minard's Honey Balsam.

PASSING EVENTS.

PROM the reports that come from Constantinople it would appear that the Sultan has at last become thoroughly alarmed. It has dawned upon him that the condition of affairs in the Empire which he has so long misruled has become one of extreme gravity both for himself personally and for his government. The situation with which he now finds himself confronted is one that demands serious treatment even from him. He begins to perceive that it is no longer safe or possible for him to permit the liberties and lives of the best of his subjects to be sacrificed to murderous malice and brutal lust. He has awakened from his dream, but too late. His repentance at best is but the result of fear, the perception that the powers of Europe, and what is back of them, the outraged public sentiment of the Christian world—especially that of England—can no longer be trifled with. Accordingly the world has before it the strange and unprecedented spectacle of the ruler of the Ottoman Empire sending a letter to the Prime Minister of Great Britain on account of a public speech delivered by the latter and piteously begging him to make another speech to say that he, the Sultan, is desirous of executing the reforms which he has promised, pledging his word of honor! that he will keep you posted on the movements of all our churches, give you all important news, discuss the Sunday school lesson, talk to the Young People's Union, and help them on their topics. He is very prompt, never misses an appointment, comes rain or shine. Cheap, did I say? Yes, amazing cheap! . . . Here, I will show you the preacher (drawing a copy of the paper from under the pulpit); this is the fellow. See, he is pure and clean, inside and out, and a Baptist of the first water.' At first they looked dazed, stupified, but soon a smile took the place of confusion, and a large number of new subscribers were promptly secured."

—Every mechanical contrivance in the world proclaims the limitations of physical strength in man. The fact that people do not believe that no other man understood as he did the source of power in Christian service, and how to appropriate that power by going directly to the source for his supply for every need. The apostle in the eighth chapter of his Epistle to the Romans leads us right up into the holiest places of the Christian's training school. He tells us that those who are in Christ have "no condemnation." He shows us that we are "sons of God," and "joint heirs with Christ." He makes it plain that we can know that we have been "fore-known," "predestinated," "called," and "justified," and that we shall be "glorified."

—The Spirit helps our infirmities by freeing us from the law of sin. The law that works as inevitably as the law of gravitation or any other law of God; that the commission of one evil deed makes the next evil deed easier to commit; that the fostering of one sinful thought will enlarge a habitation for other evil thoughts; that the Spirit breaks the law of death, that invincible and constant degeneracy that is too potent in the world to need description. The Spirit is the essence of life and His presence in the heart insures constant growth.

All the Colonial agents in London, except the representatives of West and South Australia, had a conference at the Colonial Office on Tuesday last, with Mr. Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, with the result, it is stated, that Mr. Chamberlain agreed to appoint a commission to arrange the details of the construction of the proposed Pacific cable. The commission is to be formed by the appointment by the Imperial Government, Australia and Canada of two delegates each, and the commission will proceed with its work as soon as possible. The representatives of Cape Colony and Natal were absent at the meeting and Mr. Chamberlain remarked that the presence of the representatives of colonies having no concern in the project in its present form was an evidence of solidarity and sympathy. He expressed the opinion that the project promised a fair prospect of remunerative return upon the capital required.

"The Spirit also helpeth our infirmities."

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Report of Thirty-eighth Semi-Annual Session of the Farmouth County Sunday School Convention.

Held at Old's, Yarmouth County, N. S., Oct. 24th, 1896.

This session of the Convention was a notable one, marking, if not a new era in this department of Christian work, at least an important step in advance. Both the morning and afternoon meetings were fully attended, the number of delegates present being unusually large. The report of the county visitor, who had been appointed at the Spring session of the Convention, opened up a new field of thought and discussion.

A paper read by pastor R. H. Thomas on the question, "What degree of prominence should be given the subject of missions in the Sunday school, and how may the missionary spirit be inspired and sustained?" and an address by pastor Tingley on "Consecration; what it is and what part should it have in a Sunday school teacher's life and work?" were of absorbing interest, and produced lively and profitable discussion. Both subjects had grown out of the visitor's experience in going over the field, and were especially interesting in view of the present status of the schools.

The visitor's report also gave rise to the discussion of other subjects, and the unanimous passing of resolutions recommending to the schools,

1. That they resolve themselves into Mission Bands, with the use of mite boxes in collecting monies for missions. (The essential feature of this plan is that collections are taken by means of these boxes in the classes every Sunday.)

2. That they adopt the envelope system as superior to any other for collecting money for school purposes.

3. That the system of tithing be heartily endorsed, and brought into general practice.

Discussion brought out the fact that remarkable results had already been attained by some of the schools having made a beginning in the line of these reforms.

Reports were received from all the schools in the county but one, (20 out of a possible 21) and a spirit of hopefulness and persevering earnestness seemed to characterize them as a whole.

As the work of the county visitor cannot with advantage be prosecuted during the winter months, the question of continuing the office was left in abeyance till the Spring session.

P. D. KINNEY, Sec'y.

Church Edifice Fund.

During the last two years the debt resting upon the General Treasury of the Home Mission Board has been so great that it has not been thought best to say much about the Church Edifice Fund.

We wish now to call the attention of our churches and Sunday schools to this department of our Home Mission work. We are sending out the outline of a concert exercise suitable for Christmas time, which we hope all our schools will use and send the collection to us for the Church Edifice Fund. If all will do this, we shall be able to respond to some of the appeals for help that have come to us from those who have no suitable church home. The good that can be done by these donations is well set forth in the words of a brother in N. B. who has recently written me of the large addition in one of his churches. He says, "If the Board had not given that \$50 I do not believe we would have any interest in this place today." Could the Board have made a small grant this Spring we would now have a good place of worship in a community where it is much needed.

Look out for the concert exercise and do not fail to have the concert, and send in a good collection.

A. CONROY,
Cor. Sec'y H. M. B.
Wolville, Nov. 18.

W. B. M. U.

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

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

PRAYER TOPIC FOR NOVEMBER.

For our North West Mission, the laborers there and for a large number of souls.

Also that those in India who are kept back by their own countrymen from coming out boldly.

SPECIAL REQUEST FOR PRAYER.

That the Holy Spirit will lay upon the hearts of the Pastors and membership of our churches the service of the 120,000 Telugus who have been committed to our charge.

We are greatly pleased with the interesting accounts of Thanksgiving services, held in connection with our W. M. A. S., and hope they will stimulate others to do likewise. These meetings cannot fail to do good and increase the interest in our Mission work.

Let us be encouraged by the fact that during the last quarter more money was contributed by our Societies than in any corresponding quarter since our existence. Shall we not strive to raise enough money this twenty-fifth anniversary year to send out six young ladies who will be ready to go in the autumn. The monthly Union prayer meeting of the W. M. A. S., of St. John, will be held in Leinster St. church, on Thursday, 28th, at 3.30 P. M.

W. M. A. Society Notes from Bridgetown.

It was not convenient for our Society to recognize Crusade Day in October, so the eighth of November was appointed for that purpose.

In the morning prayer by sisters at home; in the afternoon the regular monthly meeting of the Union was held, with good attendance. Several visitors present, also a representation from Centerville Union. After the usual opening exercises, and roll call, business

was taken up, visitors welcomed and new names solicited. Our hearts were cheered by the earnestness of our friends. The close of this session all were invited to the reception room where tables were spread and sisters in waiting to receive invited guests, of which each member had the privilege of inviting one. Here a social hour was thoroughly enjoyed.

A public missionary meeting was the appointment for the evening, President Huntington presiding. A programme, consisting of music, readings, recitations, also a missionary dialogue (representing three young ladies, each telling their experience in the way of collecting for missions), sufficient to say that each experience was true to life, and was successfully carried out. An interesting feature of the programme being the opening of Thanksgiving envelopes, each envelope containing beside the thank-offering a text of Scripture, or words expressing thankfulness for blessings received. One sister enclosing a five dollar bill as a thank-offering for being twenty-five years a member of the W. M. A. S. of Bridgetown. Although a third or more of the sisters, for reasons best known to themselves, did not respond, the amount raised by the envelopes was \$17.50. Our usual collection was also taken for Home Missions.

Thus closes the record of another Crusade Day. To interest the people in missions, both Home and Foreign, is the object of our Union, and may God's blessing rest upon our efforts and help us each to remember our motto for the year, "Workers together with Him."

The sisters of the W. M. A. Society of the Charlottetown Baptist church held a Thank-offering service on Wednesday evening, Oct. 15. Invitations had been sent to the sisters of the church and congregation, asking them to be present and contribute as the Lord has prospered them. Although the evening was unfavorable quite a large number were present. A programme of readings on Missionary topics, interspersed with music was carried out. One reading in particular might be mentioned, that was the reading of the President's letter in the October "Tidings" containing so much valuable information. It has been appealed to everyone present to be more faithful to this blessed cause of Foreign Missions. Then followed perhaps the most important part of the programme, the opening of the envelopes and reading the texts which were enclosed with the offerings. The reading of so many blessed promises from God's own word could not fail to inspire all with new courage for the coming year and lead all to a deeper devotion to the service of our Lord. Sisters, when we think for one moment of the severe trials which our faithful missionaries are undergoing at the present time, of the perishing multitudes of Telugus who have never heard of our blessed Saviour, of the fewness of the laborers in this part of Christ's vineyard, it seems to us that our hearts, which have been cleansed by His own precious blood, must condemn us that we are doing nothing for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom on the Foreign Field.

Let us arouse ourselves during this coming year. Let us pray as never before, believe as never before, labor as never before, give as never before. Let us persevere in the noble work of the Lord and the God of all grace will give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Not to the strong is the battle,
Not to the swift is the race,
But to the true and the faithful
Victory is counted by grace."

LENA L. COREY.

The Cavendish Aid Society celebrated their 25th anniversary at their October meeting. The president, Miss Margaret McNeill, presided. The following programme was much enjoyed: Reading of Scripture and prayer; by president; Brief history of the Society, Miss Adelaide Clark; Recitation, Miss Annie Clark; Roll call; Recitation, Miss Ethel Simpson; Reading, Mrs. Armstrong's Scripture; Reading, Mrs. Verron, by Miss Nellie McNeill; Paper, Mrs. Sperry; Recitation, Miss Margaret McNeill. Appropriate music was interspersed. The Presbyterian Society having been invited were called upon and Mrs. Archibald responded by a few appropriate remarks. Mrs. J. G. Clark also read a short paper.

The Roll Call was a very interesting part of the programme. All members present responded to their names either by a few remarks or a text of Scripture. There were also quite a number of interesting messages and letters from old and absent members, among which I might mention one from Rev. M. P. Freeman who was pastor of the church and who organized the Society twenty-five years ago, it being the first on the Island. Having no direct word from Miss Clark, missionary, in response to her name "Tidings," written by her, was read by Mrs. Arthur Simpson.

After singing Doxology the meeting was closed with prayer by Mrs. Archibald. Amount handed to treasurer \$15.75. Miss J. C. STEARNS.

—We are pleased to learn from Principal Oakes that Horton Collegiate Academy is enjoying more than ordinary prosperity this term. Seventy-two students are enrolled against 56 at the same date last year, and the term's income will be about \$1,000 larger than that of the corresponding term of '94. Every room in Chipman Hall and the Academy Home is occupied. The students are contented and the order is of the best. The advantages which the Academy offers to students preparing for college are greater, Mr. Oakes believes, than can be secured in the public schools.