

# Messenger and Visitor

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SAINT JOHN, N. B. WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 1895.

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On our 8th page of this issue you will find a full size cut of our PRINCE. Read what we have said of it in our last week's number. We are sure very many of our young people will avail themselves of this rare opportunity to possess this beautifully bound Bible, with all the helps it contains for Bible study and Christian work. What a valuable present this would be for a friend—and at so very little cost.

With characteristic vigor and with strong assurance of the soundness and truth of Baptist principles, Rev. D. G. Macdonald, as will be seen by his letter in another column, is pushing his campaign in Guyboro' and calling upon the leaders of the dominant religious body there to defend their principles and pronouncements by an appeal to the Scriptures and sound scholarship, or to renounce them. We trust that the trenchant blade he wields in the name of the Lord may cleave a way for a larger measure of gospel light and truth than has yet been received in that part of the province. Bro. Macdonald has put out a tract, entitled, "Some Errors Stated and Refuted," in which he deals somewhat more fully with the subjects under discussion than he has done in his letters published in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR.

The anti lottery law passed by the United States Congress during the late session appears to be making itself wholesomely felt in crippling that evil business. With the express offices as well as the mails closed to them, the managers of the lottery business are not finding it easy to communicate with the thousands of foolish people all over the continent who are quite willing to become their dupes. As a consequence the steamer that has been plying monthly between Honduras and Tampa, Fla., carrying notices of lottery drawings and other lottery matter made no trip in April, and there was no drawing. The lottery has in its employ lawyers of the keenest ability who may be trusted to find a way to evade the law if any is discoverable, but so far they appear not to have been successful in making such a discovery.

The closing exercises of the Presbyterian Theological College, Halifax, were held on Wednesday evening of last week. The report of the Senate indicates that the institution has had a prosperous year. There have been forty-eight students in attendance, which is the largest in the history of the school, and the graduating class numbers eight. The attendance has been more regular than usual and the students have been diligent and successful in their work. The recent appointment of Dr. Gordon has proved most satisfactory to both faculty and students. The college has supported a missionary in Labrador during the year. The library has been improved by the addition of 120 volumes and by a better system of arrangement and distribution, making it much more serviceable. Arrangements have been made for the holding of a summer school in July, for the benefit of students and of ministers who may be able to avail themselves of its advantages.

A very sad drowning accident occurred last Friday afternoon in a pond near the bank of the Kennebecasis, opposite Gondola Point. Two little girls, children of Mr. John McCavour of St. John, were the victims. They were sitting in a carriage in a shed, when the horse either of his own accord or because one of the little girls had taken the reins, backed out, and having started in the direction of the pond, jumped in, carrying the carriage and children with him. Before help could reach them both little girls were drowned. The horse appears to have been startled by the ringing of the ferry bell. The children were in charge of Mr. John P. Wells, who, with the consent of their parents, had taken them out for a drive. Great sympathy is expressed for Mr. and Mrs. McCavour in their sad loss. No blame seems to be attached to Mr. Wells in the matter who was much attached to the children and who, of course, is greatly distressed at the sad occurrence.

At the St. John Ministers' conference on Monday morning last, there were present pastors Gordon, Gates, Daley and Corey. We were sorry to learn that Dr. Carey was unwell and had not been able to preach on Sunday. Rev. David Crandall, who had been spending a week or two at Greenwich Hill, was present and spoke of the use of the people in that locality. Pastor Gates reported that four had been baptized at Germain Street, since the conference met a fortnight ago. He had visited Wolfville during the week and was pleased to report a "great work of grace" in progress there. Pastor Gordon

a week ago Sunday spent the day at Le-preux and other parts of Bro. Stackhouse's field and found a deep religious interest prevailing. At Dipper Harbor he baptized 14 candidates. He had baptized one the evening before at Main street. It was now fully determined that the new church would be built. Pastor Daley had baptized one at Lein street a week ago Sunday. Pastor Corey had baptized five at Prince William Sunday morning and nine at Fairville in the evening. Over sixty had been received into the Fairville church during the winter. The Fairville friends find it necessary to enlarge their house of worship. It is expected that work on it will commence soon.

It is a pleasant and commendable custom that some churches have of surprising their pastors with the occasional gift of something which will add to his comfort or his usefulness, or to both. It makes the donors happy in the consciousness of having done a generous thing, and the pastor, besides rejoicing in the direct benefit received, is stimulated to do his best by such tangible proof that his people love and appreciate him. The fur coat and cap and mittens have played an important part in this connection, and we have been pleased to observe how generally, through the thoughtful kindness and generosity of their people, our ministers, during the winter months, have come to rank among the fur-bearing animals. We trust that with their rough exteriors none of them have taken, on the temper of the bear, the wolf, or any other unamiable beast of prey. And now that the season of the year is come when the fur garments are carefully laid aside against the return of another winter, it does not follow that the good people of any congregation must be denied the pleasure of gladdening the pastor's heart with something suited to his needs, because the season of furs is past. One minister has lately been made happy, as will be seen by an acknowledgement in another column, by the gift from his people of the new Standard Dictionary, a most useful and appropriate present. Another congregation has doubtless done a wise thing in presenting its hard-working pastor, whose active mind is wont to make too heavy demands upon his not over-robust physique, with a bicycle,—probably the happiest means which the wit of man has yet invented of combining wholesome recreation and healthful exercise. If your minister has grown pale and reduced in physical vigor by his winter's work, get him mounted on a good wheel for daily exercise and see how soon it will put new life into his frame and into his sermons too. Our Baptist friends, Messrs. Burnham and March, here in St. John, who are selling the Columbias and other excellent wheels, will, we doubt not, be happy to assist in the matter.

## PASSING EVENTS.

THE report of the Prohibition commission has been presented to parliament. It is an exceedingly voluminous document containing, it is said, nearly half a million words. It is quite possible that this report contains considerable matter that is really valuable. If the commissioners have employed their time and opportunities to anything like good advantage, this can scarcely fail to be the case. But on the other hand, it is pretty certain that a good deal that is included in this report is matter that the investigations which the commissioners have made, have had the effect of modifying essentially the individual opinions with which they set out, and if they had been asked to advise the government in the matter of prohibition before they undertook the onerous duties of investigation their advice would have been probably about the same in substance, though somewhat less voluminous in form, as it is now after a couple of years and some \$70,000 have been spent in preparing a report. As everybody understood would be the case, the majority of the commissioners pronounced against prohibition, alleging that it would prejudicially affect the industrial and commercial interests of the country. According to such accounts, the contents of the report as have appeared in the papers, these commissioners assert that prohibitory law would prove unduly onerous and therefore, would be impracticable and that on account of the long and unprotected boundary between Canada and the United States the enforcement of prohibition would be impossible. They suggest that in the regulation of the traffic a dominion tax as well as a provincial and municipal tax should be imposed. They also advocate better control of habitual

drunkards and report against saloon licenses and in favor of a high license system. Rev. Dr. McCord was anticipated dissent from the findings of his fellow commissioners and presented another report which we find summarized as follows:

Rev. Joseph McCord, in his minority report on prohibition, says that all the information which the commission has been able to obtain has made it clear to him that the effect of the liquor traffic has been and is seriously detrimental to all the moral, social and material interests of the nation; that the measures employed to "lessen, regulate or prohibit" the traffic have been of value and effective only in proportion as they have approximated in their operation to the absolute prohibition of the traffic in intoxicating beverages; and that the revenue requirements of the country should not be considered a reason for the continuance of an admitted evil, and, moreover, could be met without the continuance of that evil. That the endorsement which the electorate of different sections of the Dominion have given at the ballot box to the principle of prohibition wherever submitted, as well as many petitions, memorials and declarations of the church, courts, temperance organizations, municipal councils, and other representative bodies, make it sufficiently clear that a majority of the people of Canada are in favor of the total prohibition of the liquor traffic.

That it would, therefore, be right and wise for the Dominion Parliament, without further delay, to enact and enforce a law prohibiting the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquors, except for medicinal, sacramental and scientific purposes.

## THE GREAT TOBACCO ESTABLISHMENT

W. G. McDonald, the millionaire tobaccoist of Montreal, was partially destroyed by fire on Thursday evening last, involving a financial loss of half a million dollars it is reported, and also, as is feared, the loss of several lives. The financial loss is Mr. McDonald's as the property was wholly unincorporated. The building at the time of the fire about 800 persons were employed, and more than half the number women and girls. When the fire burst forth a terrible panic ensued. The means of egress by the stairways and elevators were cut off, or the employees believed this to be the case, and the windows being enclosed by wire netting, the girls who were nearly all on the fourth story became frantic with fear. Their shrieks, as they beat against the iron screens of the window, praying the crowd to do something to save them, were heartrending. After a time one of the iron lattices was torn off, and then one of the girls jumped to the roof of a building and was plucked up insensible and with her back broken. Others followed to the number of thirty, several receiving injuries which are expected to result in death. The terrible disaster naturally caused great excitement in the city and much indignation was expressed by the employees and their friends on account of the way in which the former had been caught in a death-trap. It appears that the screening of the windows is required by the government to prevent the smuggling of tobacco products on which duty has not been paid. The building had been constructed with broad stairways and elevators, which were supposed to afford sufficient means of escape in case of fire, and much pains had been taken to make the building fireproof. It would appear that too much reliance had been placed in the fireproof character of the factory, and the employees had been prevented from leaving the building after it was known to be on fire, by the assurance that there was no danger, and when the flames suddenly got beyond control a panic ensued, and the employees were held back by the officers in charge from passing rapidly out by the stairways for fear of a great jam and crush on the stairs, in which many lives would be sacrificed. The matter will of course be the subject of investigation which should be of a thorough character.

## THE BYE ELECTION CONTEST FOR QUEBEC

West was reported last week to have resulted in the returns of Mr. Dobell over Thomas McCreery by a majority of seven votes. But a recount has changed Mr. Dobell's majority into a minority, and now it seems it is Mr. McCreery who has a majority of seven. And so the man who was expelled from the House and subsequently sent to prison for his corrupt dealings is re-elected and sent back to parliament. It is in the strong Irish element in Quebec West that McCreery owes his election, and it is evident that honesty is a virtue little valued in politicians by at least the larger half of the constituency which will have the discredit of being represented by Thomas McCreery. It is hard to say whether the consistency or the representativeness in such a case is the more disputable. It is evident, however, that such a result to demoralize the other. The bad politician corrupts the constituency and then the corrupt constituency demands an unscrupulous representative who will do its bidding.

## A Message from Chili.

I recently spent several weeks at Canoso, enjoying a delightful visit at the home of Bro. J. R. Creed, and acting meanwhile as a supply for the church, left pastorless for the time by the removal of Bro. Bowie to Sydney in '78, when I spent my first summer as a "student preacher," at Port Medway and Mill Village, Bro. Creed was living at the Port and he and Mrs. Creed opened their home and their hearts to the "stranger" with warm hospitality which it has always been a pleasure to remember, and it was a great pleasure to me to find myself under their roof again, after so many years of so many changes. I met with much kindness on every side, and not only from our own people, but from others as well, and came away feeling that the Canoso folks give good heed to the apostolic injunction, "Forget not to show love unto strangers." (Rev. Ver.) I was glad to find a good degree of spirituality and activity in the church, the social meetings being well sustained, the Sunday school flourishing, and the Young People's Society large and energetic. Indeed, the simple and earnest devotion of many of the brethren and sisters was very refreshing, and I felt that I, rather than the church, was being benefited by my visit.

During my stay Bro. Creed kindly gave me the reading of several letters from his second son, Fred, who is now living in South America, and it is of these letters that I wish to speak. It is they that form what I have called "A Message from Chili." I wish to speak of one of the most wealthy London families. Most of these poor men are young, many being under 25, while a few are under 20. The houses they live in are not only to be described, they are generally filthy, infected and infested with vermin. They are in a state of such a wretched condition, that it is to help any of them, or even for them to help themselves. There is no cheap and decent boarding or lodging house where one could send a man he wishes to help. Now all this has been our problem, and it has often been in our prayers. It was evident that a man was needed who could go to the whole thing, and have the moral and spiritual room in the district, lifting in contact with the people, helping those who really could be helped, and protecting the rest of us from false appeals for aid. One who could hold meetings every week, and have the place open as a reading room during the day.

Mr. Creed proceeds to speak of the coming of Iquique of a man who seemed fitted for such work, and the opening of such a mission room, and under date of June 14th, describes the first meetings held, at which about thirty of the class were "fishers" were present, and entered heartily into the services. He then says: "The work is bound to be successful, and will be, with the blessing of God, and with many dark days of discouragement, and some of weakness and weariness, but we are determined to 'trust and not be afraid,' by the Lord Jehovah is our strength and song, and we have become our own souls." What ever comes "therefore with joy shall we draw water out of the wells of salvation." As for funds, I don't know whence they are to come, though we know of some ways of raising them, but like the Twelve we go out, two's among the people, living among them, teaching them, and distributing bibles. The poor here seem to be regarded by the rich as of another world, and bound to them by few, or no ties of common sympathy. Some one must go to them and live among them and help them, or they will die in their sins. They are horribly depraved and ignorant, most of them, yet are natural-ly bright, and quick to learn. Those who can read receive tracts, and tracts, and the only need for men—missionaries in the fullest sense of the word, not such as would be satisfied with having a comfortable home, and a school to attend, and teaching those who may come to them, but going out among the common people, preaching repentance and salvation, and trusting in God for their maintenance, or if their faith is not equal to such a task, receiving their support from home, at least, until they would be very successful. These people are ripe for the Gospel, but no one seems to have the Gospel to give them. Of the 2,000,000, or more, people who live there, only a few have ever heard of the way of salvation, or who ever will hear of it, except through such preaching as I have mentioned. Sometimes I pity the people so much that I could almost make up my mind to go myself. And remember that Chili is the most advanced of all the South American Republics. Of the darkness and degradation and desolation and woe of the rest of the continent who can speak? And this to be said of 25,000,000, or 30,000,000 people, for whom, as we all are supposed to believe, Christ died!

Mr. Creed while interested in this way in the needs of the country and the continent, did the work that lay at his hand among the English speaking people from home, at least, I understand among the comparatively respectable and approachable classes. In a letter dated at Iquique May 30th, '94, he speaks of a new and more difficult mission which he and his fellow-workers were undertaking.

"For some time past we have had our eyes on the worst slum of Iquique, a place where English sailors ashore on leave are continually drifting, a locality full of the lowest run holes and worse. At least three or four of these dives are kept by English-speaking people. They are real cesspools of Satan, which the work of the church has not yet touched. This slum is a Jericho which we have viewed in the distance, but until now never walked around it, with a view to finding a place whence to 'blow the trumpet.' The railway people were bad

enough, this seemed many times worse. These dives are full of a class most difficult to deal with, some of them men who have long ago renounced all honest and industrious ways of making a living, 'spongers,' 'bummers,' 'loafers,' 'beach-combers,' 'ragamuffins,' nearly all of them drunkards and gamblers, and many of them diseased and dirty. Most of them are runaway sailors, and the rest are poor fellows who have chased their lusts down from one grade of society to another, till they reached this, beyond which there is no depth to which a lost soul can go, while yet in the flesh. The elements of this mass of human corruption are constantly changing, its conditions remain the same. Men can stand such a life very long. The number of such outcast Englishmen varies between 30 and 70 or 80. At present there may be some 60 of them. They include, of course, men in all stages of mental rotteness. Some of them work, but gaining small wages, have to live in these low, cheap houses, where they are robbed and plucked and finally yield, more or less, to the violence of their passions. Some come here for work and falling to get it, fall into the clutches of the dive keepers, who perhaps will 'shanghai' them, that is, make them drunk and ship them as sailors, receiving so much per man from the captain for their pains.

In fact, any one who has made moral or financial shipwreck, or both, is a fit candidate for the Iquique slums. A few months ago a man died there who was said to have been at one time one of the richest men on the coast and a member of one of the most wealthy London families. Most of these poor men are young, many being under 25, while a few are under 20. The houses they live in are not only to be described, they are generally filthy, infected and infested with vermin. They are in a state of such a wretched condition, that it is to help any of them, or even for them to help themselves. There is no cheap and decent boarding or lodging house where one could send a man he wishes to help. Now all this has been our problem, and it has often been in our prayers. It was evident that a man was needed who could go to the whole thing, and have the moral and spiritual room in the district, lifting in contact with the people, helping those who really could be helped, and protecting the rest of us from false appeals for aid. One who could hold meetings every week, and have the place open as a reading room during the day.

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## W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:  
"The strongest character is not his hands but weak for your work shall be rewarded."

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

No doubt many of our sisters are thinking of and praying for our missionary Miss Clark, under the present trying circumstances. On account of the ill health of Mrs. Higgins, she is left alone at Kin-eddy. This is particularly hard for her, being so short a time in India and not yet being able to speak the language. The friends will be glad to read these extracts from a private letter just received.

"You have doubtless heard of Mrs. Higgins' serious illness. We do feel so thankful to the dear Father for sparing her life and strongly cherish the hope that she will soon recover. It is touching to hear the Christians pray for her, she has reached their hearts and gained their respect and love. I have been out several afternoons with my Bible woman; but as I could not understand the language, did not enjoy it as much as I hope to later on. I like the language very much, but realize it will be some time before I can construct a sentence. The construction is so different from our language. I am able now to read words by sight without having the faintest idea of their meaning. The words are pronounced just as they are spelled. My Munch assures me I am getting on wonderfully; but I do not take his word for much, they are given to flattery. He is a teacher in the high school, has passed a normal examination; but he would let me off very easily if I did not keep him at work.

Mr. and Mrs. Higgins left here on the first day of February, so I have been alone as far as white people are concerned, since, not having seen a white face, with the exception of one day Mr. H., made a flying visit to get some things necessary before leaving for Madras. They did me a great kindness by ordering away a Eurasian who was staying in a traveller's bungalow next door to me. He used to get drunk every night, beat his wife and make a dreadful noise. One night she came over to me for protection, with her face all bruised and I took her in. He missed her and could not find her, came over and stormed around the mission house trying all the doors and windows. Two nights I could not sleep until morning. I had no one in the house but the Bible woman, so then I have the garden, and I have a house and a loaded revolver near by so I feel perfectly safe. Mrs. Higgins had a very good vegetable garden, which has supplied us since the first of January. It is drying up now and will soon be a thing of the past. The days are all alike with the exception of Sundays. I don't think I could in any way give you a description of my first week or two alone. The servants could not understand English and my Telugu was decidedly limited. I could not think of the right word, do my very best. It was amusing to see the cook try to make me understand something, the garden would come along to help him out and they would both talk and gesticulate wildly, growing more and more in earnest. I could do nothing but sit back and laugh. They would shake their heads and say "Is lady" meaning she does not understand. The Bible woman can speak English and would come and see for and set us right. I do not know what I should do without her for she is the only one among the Christians that can speak English. I am not lonesome, although alone most of the time. I very seldom see the Bible woman from morning till night. Mrs. Higgins left me the key of his library and told me to make use of the organ so I try both occasionally, but get very little time from my study. The Bible has become more precious than ever since I am alone and have nothing outside to depend upon. The Lord's promises of His presence come to me as my own. He always gives us strength sufficient for whatever work He gives us to do and His "I am with you always" seems especially for me. I am in perfect health, as yet have not felt the heat; but the hot season is not really here yet. My Bible woman and I have gathered together every evening. She prays in Telugu and I in English; but we have blessed times together. Tonight she asked me to read I Peter II, after I finished she said she did like the last verse where it tells of how much Christ did for us. She is a very earnest Christian woman and I feel as much at home with her as if she was my sister.

Notwithstanding a rough cold winter, and bad roads, the sisters in our "Woman's Aid Society" have been faithful. There was only one month that we failed to meet. The meetings have been very profitable and the Master's presence was felt. We hope to do something for "Home Mission" and have appointed a treasurer for that fund. Tidings have been read at our meetings, and I have had and have proved very helpful in stimulating us to greater earnestness in the Master's cause. Our membership is 23, President, Mrs. Oakes; secretary, Mrs. Warren Newsum; treasurer, Mrs. G. Gamble.

On behalf of the Society,  
MARY J. FRIER.

W. H. Theodore Durant, is in custody at San Francisco on a charge of murdering Miss Williams and Miss L. Mont. The case is attracting world-wide attention. Durant was born in Toronto about twenty four years ago and is said to have worked there as a drug apprentice for short time. The family then went west and took up their residence in San Francisco where young Durant took to studying medicine.

Rev. Edward A. Welch, of Gateshead-on-the-Tyne, Eng., has been appointed to the parish of Trinity University, Toronto. The appointment was made by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Durham.

For "Biblewoman—Miss A's Family Pills."