

Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER
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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR
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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1894.

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—“The total number of newspapers published in the world at present is estimated at about 50,000, distributed as follows: United States and Canada, 20,984; Germany, 6,000; Great Britain, 8,000; France, 4,800; Japan, 2,000; Italy, 1,500; Austria-Hungary, 1,200; Asia, exclusive of Japan, 1,000; Spain, 850; Russia, 800; Australia, 800; Greece, 600; Switzerland, 450; Holland, 300; and others 1000. Of these more than half are printed in the English language.”
—Literary Digest.

—The Union Signal calls attention to a circular issued by Hon. Henry Faxon, showing the superior condition of Quincy, Mass. (a city without a saloon) over those where that evil industry is tolerated. During the twelve years since saloons were voted out, this town has grown in population eight per cent, and its property valuation has increased 120 per cent. At the same time the cost of supporting the poor has decreased fifty-seven per cent. The obvious inference is that, if material interests were the only ones to be considered, a city does a wise and prudent thing when it “votes out” the saloon.

—The chance of a visit from the swift and deadly cyclone is one of the unpleasant things which the dwellers in the middle and more western regions of the United States have to reckon with. The disasters reported from this cause have been, we think, somewhat less numerous this season than in some previous years, but the tornado which recently swept through portions of northern Iowa and southern Minnesota appears to have been one of the most destructive on record. The loss of life was very large; it is estimated that eighty or more persons were killed outright and many others injured; some of them will die. In Keosauqua Co., Ia., alone 26 persons were killed and forty injured, and all along its course the storm left a track of death and desolation. The destruction of property was, of course very great.

—FATAL accidents are very frequently reported in connection with the running of electric street cars. In the crowded streets of cities the danger from this cause is great, and it should be insisted upon in the interests of the citizens that railway companies shall take all practicable precautions, so as to make the peril to pedestrians as little as possible. A fender of simple construction to be placed on the front of electric cars has been invented, and it is claimed that its use would in almost every instance prevent a fatality. The cost of a fender is comparatively small, it is easily placed in position and managed, and yet from the lack of it, it would seem, fatal accidents are continually being reported. If the car fender is as valuable a safeguard as we are led to believe, it seems clearly to be the duty of every city to demand that the cars run through its streets shall be provided with such an attachment.

—During the present summer the Canadian Pacific Railway Company have tried the experiment of irrigating an acre or two of their land at Moose Jaw, with the result, as reported, that while all the surrounding country was parched with drought, the irrigated land produced a luxuriant crop of the finest quality. This will be easily believed by those who have seen the results obtained by irrigation in Colorado or California. There is not the slightest doubt that where water for irrigation is available the finest of crops can be grown on the fertile prairies of our own North-west where the natural rainfall is insufficient. The question is—Will it pay to irrigate these dry sections either every year or in dry seasons? Considering the great extent of land which produces more or less abundant crops without irrigation, the large expense which irrigation in most instances involves and the present and prospective condition of the wheat market, it does not appear to us probable that irrigation will be employed extensively in the Canadian North-west during the present generation.

—The running of the C. P. R. trains in the Rocky Mountain section of the road by electricity derived from the abundant water power of that region has been spoken of as if this proposal had assumed the character of a definite scheme which in a very short time would be realized. This impression thus given to the public, it appears, is due to the enterprise of those very enterprising people whose business it is to put news into circulation much more than to anything which the C. P. R. authorities are proposing to do.

When a Montreal Star reporter the other day asked Sir William Van Horne about the matter, he said: “Yes, that has been suggested. There is no doubt that it could be done and done well. The only question of any importance is this: Can we put out the necessary capital for the works and expect the proper return by way of interest. We are considering that question, rather each director for himself than as a Board. For myself I don't mind saying at once that the scheme is financially not a practical one. Certainly not at present.”

—Excavations amid the ruins of ancient civilizations continue to afford matter of both scientific and popular interest. Dr. Charles Waldstein, of the American school of Archaeology at Athens, has had some 250 men under his direction excavating on the ancient site of the temple of Hera, midway between Argos and Mycenae. Referring to this a writer in Zion's Herald says:

“The old sanctuary on this site was burned B. C. 423, but a new and more splendid structure was erected in its immediate vicinity, and adorned with a gold and ivory statue of Hera, the work of Polykleitos of Sikyon, the famous rival of Phidias. This second temple lasted until the middle ages. Both sites have been laid bare. Not only has complete information of the architecture of these shrines been reached, but works of art have been brought to light almost equal in importance to the discoveries of Schliemann. Still more interesting, and possibly more important, are the results of the explorations on the ruins of Niffer, near ancient Babylon, which have been going on since 1887, under the direction of Dr. Peters and Prof. Hilprich, of the University of Pennsylvania. The temple of Bel, the first shrine to the god ever systematically excavated, has been dug out to its foundations. Evidence has been gained from inscriptions that this city was 1,000 years older than scientists had believed, and that the antiquity of the human race must be carried back to a period at least 4,000 years before Christ. Our Minister at Constantinople, writing to the State department on this subject, says: “In the number of tablets, bricks, inscribed vases, and in the value of uniform texts found, American enterprise equals, if it does not excel, the explorations of Layard at Nineveh and Rassam's excavations at Abu-Habba. The enterprise has revealed an antiquity for the human race nearly ten centuries older than science had knowledge of before. The religion, government, habits of life, and, to a great extent, customs, of men who lived 4,000 years before Christ are revealed by the inscriptions which are now being translated here and arranged by Prof. Hilprich.”

PASSING EVENTS.

THE summer is gone and the autumn has come with its shorter and cooler days and its longer evenings. Forest and grove are ablaze with leafy splendor, which soon must fade. For a little, nature seems to pause to hold a harvest festival before the chilling blasts and the cold rains shall come and the whole landscape grow brown and bare under the influence of approaching winter. The summer which is bidding us its farewell has been a pleasant and fruitful one in our fair land. Crops have been fairly abundant. The hay crop which is most important, was remarkably so, and was secured in excellent condition. The grain crop, taken generally, has probably been about an average. Small fruits, especially strawberries, were abundant, and the larger fruits are fair. The root crop, on account of the drought which has generally prevailed during the latter part of the summer is expected to be much below the average, but will not be by any means a failure. Pastures, too, have suffered severely for lack of rain, to the serious injury of the beef and butter interests of the country, and the long drought of the latter summer was favorable to the spread of forest fires, so that the destruction of property from this cause has been unusually large. Taken altogether the season has certainly been one which affords great occasion for thanksgiving to the Giver of all good for the abundant blessings received. Speaking generally of the eastern part of the continent the summer of 1894 has been characterized by an extremely light rain-fall. While the drought has affected eastern Canada to some extent, it has been most severely felt in New England and the middle States. Regarding the condition of things in Massachusetts the Springfield Republican says:

“We are now able to discern the terrible effect of the dry summer, for when the forests should be showing glorious color they are absolutely brown and bare. The drought-scorched sides of the Holyoke range, brown all over, the leaves abandoning life when they should be embellishing it in gold and red and crimson, hang on the trees without a tinge of red ornamentation—barren and desolate. There is no more melancholy spectacle than

this long range, from the Belchertown hills to the south peak of Tom, despoiled of all the charm of autumn, registering the cruelty of the sunburn and the default of the rain. We lament the devastation of forest fires, but no fires on Holyoke or on Tom that have occurred within memory have destroyed so many trees as the drought has destroyed this year. No doubt some of the trees have retained a meagre flow of sap that now since the fall rains have begun will be augmented sufficiently to save their lives, but they will suffer a retardation of growth. For many thousands of trees, however, the edict of death is issued.”

The effect of the drought in that region is also seen in the drying up of springs and brooks and the lower condition of greater streams which have been forced this summer at points where they had never been known to be fordable before. The water power at Holyoke has failed this summer for the first time in the history of that great manufacturing town.

MONTREAL has been making preparations to dispose of its scavenging by burning. The new incinerator has been built at Gregory dump, beside the little river St. Pierre. The height of the chimney is about 170 feet, and the cap on the top is about ten feet square. There are six cells for burning the refuse on each side, each cell having a heating surface of 30 feet. The full burning capacity of the furnaces is calculated to be 150 tons of refuse in 24 hours. The wagons containing the refuse matter will be driven into an upper flat and their contents dropped into hoppers above the incinerator. Those who visit the place will find near by, what to some will be an object of not less interest than the sanitary institution above described. It is an old mansion, and on its outer wall is a marble tablet of the antiquarian society telling that here stood Fort St. Gabriel, and that near this spot Pere LeMaistre was killed in an ambush of the Iroquois on August 26, 1661. The great front door opens into a hall and thence directly into what must have been a magnificent drawing room, which is now a stable where 24 horses are stalled. Out of this room one passes by a massive archway into what is supposed to be the dining-room, the embayed windows of which overlooks the rushing waters of the once pure and pellucid St. Pierre. Upstairs are many rooms that once were sleeping rooms, but are now used for the storage of hay and grain, etc., while above these again is the attic with closely boarded windows where “rats and mice and such small deer” hold carnival. A witness reporter, to whom we are indebted for the facts given, is moved by what he saw to say: “From seventeenth century scenes of high emprise and chivalrous act; from blood-thirsty savage and soldier missionary—even from later eighteenth century calm and rural quiet, the babbling stream beside and the mountain-wooded to its very top in the distance—is a long step to the present conditions, with its dirt, disorder and general uncanny appearance. Was there no other available property under the sun? To think that this spot should have been turned into a dump, with a bone boiling factory alongside—and smelling—Horatio!”

MR. GLADSTONE has recently addressed to the bishop of Chester a letter in which he declares himself opposed to local option as a method of dealing with the liquor traffic. Instead thereof he advocates what is familiarly known as the Gothenburg system as the only effective means of dealing with the evil, and declares that for a long time he has been of this opinion. It is putting the matter very mildly to say that these declarations of Great Britain's ex-premier have been received by his political friends, and especially by those who are working for temperance reform, with no little surprise. Local option was one of the planks in the platform on which Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues made successful appeal to the people of Great Britain in the last general election, and the government is fully pledged to pass a local option law. No one should find fault with Mr. Gladstone for endorsing local option, even though he did not regard it as an ideal principle in respect to temperance reform, if he considered it the best upon which the strength of his party could be united. But having with his colleagues accepted local option as a plank in his political platform, one could not have anticipated that Mr. Gladstone would feel himself at liberty now to oppose any feature of that policy which when leader of the government he had accepted and supported. The surprise with which Mr.

Gladstone's recent utterance on this subject is received is increased by a remark contained in the letter above alluded to expressing his pleasure that “Chamberlain inactively supports the Gothenburg system.” Sir Wilfred Lawson, M. P., president of the United Kingdom Alliance for the suppression of the liquor traffic, is quoted as saying that if the Liberals now depart from the recognized principle of their party and sanction even moderate drinking under the Gothenburg system, it will be the heaviest blow ever dealt to the temperance cause in Great Britain. His party, he declares, will refuse to accept any compromise.

THE seal catch of the present season was expected to be small in comparison with that of previous years by reason of the restrictions imposed by the Paris Committee of Arbitration in the Behring Sea matter and agreed to by the governments of Great Britain and the United States. This expectation, it seems, has been disappointed and the catch in Behring Sea and the Northern Pacific is reported to be unusually large. Prohibiting the use of fire arms in seal hunting has not operated seriously, if at all, to the disadvantage of the sealing industry. The hunters now agree, it is said, that the spear is a more profitable weapon for seal killing than the shot gun. There appears to have been no difficulty in finding seals outside the 60 mile zone surrounding the Pribiloff Islands. Complaints come from Washington that the efforts of the Paris tribunal to save the seals of Behring Sea from destruction are proving wholly ineffectual.

Sunday-School Convention.

The Annapolis County Baptist Sunday schools met in convention at Paradise on Wednesday, the 12th inst. Nine pastors, 74 delegates and a large number of other B. S. workers were present. The devotional exercises, essays, and discussions were very interesting. The papers were excellent on the following subjects: “The Church and Sunday-school,” by Bro. C. F. Armstrong, of Nictaux; “Feed my Lambs,” by Sister Belle Whitman, of Torbrook; “The Teachers and Scholars,” by Fred I. Goucher, of Melvern; “The relation of the Sunday-school to the church,” by Mrs. G. H. Dixon, of Bridgetown; “What can the B. Y. P. U. do for the Sunday-school,” by Sister Annie Shaffer, of Willamston. An address by Rev. Mr. Eaton on John the Baptist. Revs. Eaton, Langille, Tingley, Locke, Young, White, Allaby and Kinley; Bro. N. P. Whitman, A. Dunn, Elliot, Jackson, Longley, Sister Armstrong and others took part in the discussion of these papers.

The question of Catechism was referred to a committee to report to semi-annual meeting. Rev. Mr. White advocated the course of study by the “Bible Readers Association.” The secretary reported 37 out of 48 schools had forwarded returns, and hoped that the others would report immediately in order to have a correct statement.

From these we learn that there are 2,570 scholars enrolled; average attendance, 2,015; church members, 894; monies contributed for missions, \$98 80; number of conversions, 84; monies raised for school purposes, \$468, etc., etc.

Officers for ensuing year: Bro. S. V. Jackson president, Bro. L. W. Elliott secretary, vice-president same as last year with the exception of Bro. Readman Newcomb for district No. 5. The executive committee, viz: Bro. A. D. Brown, O. P. Goucher, Jas. Whitman, J. C. Potter, Joseph Bent.

Ministerial Conference.

The St. John Baptist ministerial conference met on Monday, Pastor Gordon in the chair. Bro. Baker offered prayer. Reports from the churches followed:

Main St. had baptism on Sunday and a crowded house. Fairville looking hopefully forward to the coming of Pastor Corey. Carleton pastorless but correspondence going on in view of a pastor. Leinster St.—Bro. Baker expects to leave the city during the week. This will leave another church vacant. Bro. Baker has served well and faithfully this church and his going will be a great loss to the city. A committee was appointed to prepare a minute expressing the esteem in which Bro. Baker and Kempton are and have been held by the St. John conference. German St.—Pastor Gates reports large congregations and good interest.

Rev. Malcolm Ross.

I wish to bear testimony to the righteousness of the life of “Father Ross”—as we always called him. I fully realize his name needs not any word from any man to establish it, for where he was known best he was loved most. Still I feel grateful for having come into contact with a life so pure and a mind so possessed with the spirit of our Lord, and wish (if possible) to add to the fragrance of his memory.

It was in the year 1889 that I accepted the call to North River, Clyde River and Long Creek churches on P. E. I. and began work. But I was disappointed when informed that an old Baptist minister lived at Long Creek and had been a favored pastor. I had never heard of him before, and did not know such a man lived. To say I grieved in spirit and was filled with sadness is to put it mild. For some years previous I had been in a similar position and my experience was of such a nature that it was absolute torture even to think of its repetition. But from the first day I met Father Ross until I left the island I loved him. He was certainly a “father” in the gospel to me. Kind, courteous, sympathetic, in touch with all the modern movements in religious work, and always ready to extend a helping hand; when his strength was so far gone that the pastor. I look back and thank God that I was called to meet him and know his life and labors; for such an experience gives us greater confidence in God's grace, and inspires us with a desire to be truer, better men than ever before.

Father Ross was a great man of prayer. So much was this recognized by his brethren, that it became a regularly understood fact that Father Ross should pray. And so it came about wherever he went, on all occasions, he was called upon to offer prayer. I wish I could describe some of the prayers I have heard him offer, but feel without the voice and accents the pathos and pleading spirit of the now enraptured servant of God, it would be useless. His mind was full of God's truth. He was a plain teacher of the Word; but even when his strength was so far gone that it was an effort for him to climb the steps, he preached with wonderful power and freedom.

Every person liked to hear him. All denominations would be there if they knew Father Ross was going to preach. But it seems to me that I never met a man that the people liked so well to see in their homes as they did Father Ross. No one could speak such words of sympathy and comfort, and very few had a better gift of presenting Jesus Christ out of the pulpit than he.

And the strangest part of it all was that for fifty years this servant of the Lord could have lived and labored in his community and retained the good will of every person I believe. Now that he is gone, one of the strongest links that binds the present with the past is broken, and perhaps God may think it best to send us into the other world in years from P. E. I. has been so generally mourned as Father Ross.

But still sorrow is turned into joy when we know the crown that the righteous Judge will give to him in that day, for he has turned many to righteousness and will have many stars in his crown of rejoicing.

To his sons and daughters and very many friends I would simply say that death to him was such a glorious release, such a transition, that some of us would bring him back if we could. Let us rather heed his course, follow his example, imitate his life of simplicity and faith and be ready to meet him over there.

F. D. DAVIDSON.

Literary Note.

The Delinquent for October is called the Autumn Number and contains an unusual large number of articles on interesting subjects. In addition to the regular matter there is a special article of much value to mothers called Fitting out the Family for Autumn and Winter. There are also articles for the house keeper on Seasonable Cookery, Hints on Serving Peaches, Appricots and Plums, and The Use of the House. Life and Work at Mount Holyoke College are well treated by a recent graduate. The second paper in the Kindergarten Series opens up the study in an interesting way, and there is a practical contribution on Millinery as an Employment for Women. The relations between Mother and Daughter are concluded in this number, and in How to Live Wisely, the subject of Illness and What Not To Do is ably discussed. Instruction in Artistic Handcraft is given in Venetian Iron Work and the Uses of Crepe and Tissue Papers, and entertainment is provided in a Halloween, German and Chrysanthemum Party. Around the Tea Table is as gossip as usual, and there are papers on Knitting, Netting, Tatting, Lace Making, Crocheting, etc., etc.

The subscription price of the Delinquent is one dollar a year; single copies fifteen cents each.

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PERSONAL.

Mr. L. J. Ingraham, formerly of Margaree, C. B., a graduate of Acadia University, was ordained to the Christian Ministry as pastor of the Baptist church in Bloomington, Wis., Sept. 10.

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR: “Be ye strong therefore and let not your hands be weak for your work shall be rewarded.”

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

PRAYER TOPIC FOR OCTOBER.

For our work in the North West, that every month may witness souls won. For our monthly leaflet, *Things*, that it may be the means of greatly increasing the interest in our work.—Pas. 26: 7

The friends contributing to the mission-box will be glad to know that it has been carefully packed and is now on its way. We hope it may reach its destination in safety and bring great joy to the missionaries. It will be like a breath from the home land.

Miss Martha Clark left St. John on Friday morning. She will join Mr. and Mrs. H. Y. Corey in Boston, leaving there for England on the 6th of October. Let us pray daily that these missionaries may have a smooth and pleasant journey and be preserved from all harm.

The aid societies of Digby church held their first county convention in Digby church on the afternoon of Sept. 8th. There was a good representation from societies. Sister Churchill being present addressed the meeting in her old-time earnest and convincing manner. All left the meeting greatly helped and encouraged to attempt greater things in the Master's name in the future. Mrs. Churchill also addressed a meeting in Digby Baptist church Sunday evening, Sept. 9th. Her address was highly appreciated by the very large audience present.

E. S. DYKEMAN, County Sec.

LAWRENCEVILLE, ANnapolis Co.

Our society has been much lessened in numbers and in strength by the removal of two of our most active members. In August, God called Sister Randall home to hear the welcome plaudits, “Well done, good and faithful, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.” Our pastor, Rev. J. I. Eaton, has accepted the Clementon church, thus we lose the very efficient aid of his wife, which we have enjoyed for the past seven years. At the last meeting she was presented with the following address:

DEAR MRS. EATON: It is with hearts filled with sorrow and sadness that we have met this afternoon in our society gathering. Sadness, because we know that when next we meet, should we be spared, the one who so long so lovingly and so well has aided the president's work, will be absent. We cannot but be filled with deep sorrow for ourselves, yet we know what is our loss is others gain, and we would not allow our sorrow to root entirely out a spirit of thankfulness that for seven years it has been our honor and privilege to have you preside over us. We feel that the many pleasant, interesting and profitable meetings we have had have been largely, if not wholly, due to your unflinching efforts.

Through you and our dear pastor we have been brought in much closer touch with that grandest of all works—foreign missions—and not we alone, but the church in general, for this you have our heartfelt thanks.

Your removal from us leaves a vacancy in our society that can never be filled; yet it will not only be here we shall miss you, but in the prayer meeting we shall miss a faithful worker, in the Sabbath-school a loving and devoted teacher, and our Mission Band will sorely miss its organizer and ardent supporter.

As you go from us we do not feel that the tie of affection which endears you to us is broken. No! that can never be, love bridges the chasm which distance makes, and ever with the most tender memories shall we think of you and Mr. Eaton.

And now, when the time has come when we are forced to part with both of you, we can only pray that the richest blessing of God may attend both your labors, and that you may be instrumental in winning many souls to Christ.

“The Lord watch between thee and us when we are absent one from another.” “The Lord bless His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee.” “The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.”

In behalf of the W. B. M. U.,

IDA M. NEWCOMB, Sec.

Special Donations to Foreign Missions, Sec-treas. pulpit supply, Havelock, \$6 85, collected by H. Y. Corey; McDonald's Point 94 50, McDonald's One-ner 17 78, Cambridge, Narrows 22 10, Torontown 83 10, Cole's Island, \$1 42, Mill Cove \$1 25, Lower Cumberland Bay \$1 55, Upper Cumberland Bay \$1, Lower Range \$7 15, C. Allan \$2 20, First Springfield \$5 61, Second Springfield \$5 45, Kewick \$2 72, Kingscote \$1 12, Upper Queensbury \$2 28, Lower Woodstock 73 25, Benton \$4 48, Jacksonstown \$2, Jacksonville \$2 59, Woodstock \$2 50, East Florenceville \$3 24, Centreville \$3 15, Anlover \$1 03, Maryville, \$5 82, Jernag \$6 68, Upper Gagetown, Acute, Hampton \$3 58. Total \$85 28.

These amounts have all appeared in the accounts of the Treasurer of the F. M. B. under the head of “Donations,” and reported to the Convention.

J. W. MANNING, Sec'y-treas. F. M. B.