

Papal Nuncio at Paris, Mgr. Loranelli, still remains at his post. Whether or not the incident will have any more serious results seems at present writing uncertain, but if it should lead to a denunciation of the concordat and a consequent severance of church and state in France, it would doubtless be to the advantage of both.

—Apart from any question as to the religious observance of the day, it is certain that those who go to church on Sunday escape the many perils which those who spend the day in pleasure seeking are liable to encounter. The number of lives sacrificed every summer in connection with Sunday excursions is lamentably large, and the grief and loss thus caused to families and communities are sad to contemplate.

The War.

There have been the usual crop of unconfirmed rumors during the past week in reference to movements with-

in the theatre of war, including a report that a Russian force, 15,000 strong, advancing toward Feng Wang Chang had fallen into an ambush and had been severely cut up by a Japanese force of twice its number, the Russians losing 4,000 men in killed and wounded and 1,000 prisoners. As this rumor has not been confirmed, it is probably an invention of the newsmakers. There is, however, trustworthy news of great importance. At present writing full official reports are still lacking, but it is known that a great battle has been fought in that part of the Livotung peninsula where the Falien Wan Bay on the east and the Kin Chou Bay on the west leave but a narrow neck of land. The town of Kin Chou and the heights to the south and westward were strongly fortified and held by the Russians. These positions were some 30 miles from Port Arthur and formed the outmost defences of that stronghold. As a preliminary to this final assault upon Port Arthur the Japanese must first take Kin Chou and the fortified heights around it. After careful reconnaissance of the Russian positions, drawing the fire of the enemies batteries, thus locating their guns and securing information as to their calibre, the Japanese attack Kin Chou on May 24. The fighting appears to have continued through Tuesday and Wednesday, and on Thursday the Russians were driven from Kin Chou, and after very severe fighting, they were also dislodged from their fortified position on Nanshan heights to the southward of the town. Artillery played an important part in the battle. Several Japanese warships in Kin Chou Bay cooperating with the land forces, but the Nanshan heights appear to have been taken by a frontal attack of infantry. It is probable that under the existing conditions a flanking movement was impracticable. It is represented that the position was one of great natural strength and strongly fortified, with artillery on the crest of the hills and rifle pits on their sides protected by mines and barbed wire entanglements. The Russians seem to have thought the position almost impregnable, but the indomitable bravery and endurance of the Japanese who returned again and again to the attack finally carried the day, and were driven back. There is no report as to the losses sustained by the combatants. The Japanese loss in this engagement is said to have been not less than 3500 men but they accomplished their purpose in breaking down the outer defences of Port Arthur and the way now appears open to them to within twelve miles of the city. This recent victory of the Japanese is regarded as more important than that of Yalu.

The Baptist Anniversaries at Cleveland, Ohio.

BY W. B. DOGGS.

The American Baptist Missionary Union; the American Baptist Home Mission Society; and the American Baptist Publication Society, with their affiliated Societies, hold their anniversaries at the same time and place each year. This year they were held at Cleveland, Ohio, from May 16th to 24th.

THE PLACE.

This large and beautiful city of Cleveland, the Queen of the Lakes, is finely situated on the southern shore of Lake Erie, and has a population of 435,000. Its splendid avenues and boulevards; its massive public buildings; its palatial private residences; and its vast commercial operations; are an astonishment to the stranger. A few facts will emphasize this. The city covers thirty-four square miles; the five great suburban electric railway systems which centre in Cleveland have a total of 538 miles of tracks; the city has 300 churches; more than 100 benevolent institutions; and 30 colleges and professional schools. It has 3,300 manufacturing establishments, with \$100,000,000 capital and employing 75,000 skilled workmen. It is the largest iron ore market in the world. In the year 1902, no less than 16,982,545 tons of ore were received here. The famous Euclid Avenue is ten miles long, and is paved throughout. The number of automobiles rushing through the streets goes up into the thousands. There are many more astounding facts about Cleveland, its shipping, its banks, its commerce, etc.

The principal place of meeting of the Anniversaries was the Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, of which Dr. Charles

A. Eaton, a son of Nova Scotia, is pastor. Meetings were also held in one of the large Armories of the city, and in several of the twenty-one Baptist churches. A very cordial and humorous address of welcome was given to the delegates by Dr. Eaton, in the course of which he said, while dwelling with some pardonable pride on the greatness of Cleveland, that the population of the city was 435,000, but that if we include its large and important suburbs, viz., Chicago on the west, Cincinnati on the south, and Buffalo on the east, the population is very large indeed.

THE DELEGATES AND VISITORS.

There are about a thousand delegates present, including the officers from the headquarters of the various Societies; the District secretaries and pastors and representatives of churches from Maine to California; foreign missionaries from Burma, India, Assam, China, Japan, the Philippines, and Africa; and home missionaries and colporteurs from the wide fields of the west. Among the foreign missionaries present none is more revered and beloved and listened to with more enthusiasm than Dr. Ashmore of China, who went out first fifty-four years ago.

SOME PRINCIPAL FEATURES.

The reports of the missionary bodies, and the discussions on missions in their manifold bearings, both in the general societies and in the Woman's Societies, awakened and sustained a very deep interest. Missionaries from the various far-distant fields came with their thrilling words and strong appeals, and the delegates will take back with them to many churches impressions and convictions which they will pass on, and which will bear fruit in the coming days.

Twenty-one young men and several young women under appointment to the foreign field, were presented and spoke briefly. They are a remarkably promising company of young missionaries, strong, sensible, spiritual, full of high purpose, loyal to Christ and true to the gospel of the crucified one. Some go to interior China, some to Japan, others to the Philippines, still others to Burma and Assam, one to the Industrial School at Ongole, and one to run a mission steamer on the Upper Congo.

TWO NOTABLE ADDRESSES.

Among the chief addresses delivered may be specially noticed one by Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall, President of the Union Theological Seminary, New York, on The Christianization of the World. Dr. Hall was the third lecturer sent abroad under the auspices of Chicago University in what is known as the "Barrows Lectureship," founded by the late Mrs. Haskell. This Lectureship was an outcome of the Parliament of Religions held ten years ago at Chicago, and it provides that once in three years some man qualified for the position shall be sent out to deliver a course of lectures in India, designed chiefly for educated non-Christians, setting forth the great fundamental truths of the Christian religion. The first of these lecturers was Dr. J. H. Barrows, the prime mover in the Parliament of Religions; the next was Dr. Fairbairn, Principal of Mansfield College, Oxford; and the third was Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall. Each of these men spent several months in India delivering a course of lectures in the five university cities, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Allahabad and Lahore, and also in other large educational centres.

Dr. Hall's address at Cleveland was a most eloquent and masterly setting forth of the work of Christianity in the Orient. He dwelt at some length on certain very profound impressions which his sojourn abroad had made upon his mind.

1. The essential unity of the human race, in spite of such divisive influences as inaccurate knowledge concerning the east; the striking contrasts which appear on the surface, race prejudice; and national egotism.
2. A fresh sense of the relation of the fundamentals of our holy religion to the race of man.
3. That it is possible to separate the essence of the Christian gospel from any denominational interpretation of it.
4. A sense of the untrammelled cosmopolitanism of the mind of Christ.

The three mighty gifts which the army of apostolic missionaries have taken to the east are, a body of doctrine; an ideal of character, and a type of experience.

Missions in the east are about to enter upon a far grander scale, in which shall be much more fully recognized both the ability and the privilege of the Orient to interpret and apply Christianity for itself, and to give to it an oriental instead of a western type and character. This brief and imperfect outline gives but a faint idea of Dr. Hall's splendid address.

A remarkable paper was given by Dr. A. H. Strong, President of Rochester Theological Seminary, entitled "A Denominational Outlook." For nearly two hours the attention of the great audience was enchained by his utterances. He defined in the clearest manner the great essentials of the Baptist position, claiming that the central, distinctive thing for which they stand is a spiritual church. He then briefly reviewed the history of the denomination in the United States for the last century, and took a calm judicial view of its present position and prospects. Cautions were uttered regarding certain dangers arising from great prosperity and increase in wealth; and exhortations were given as to the need of care in guarding the churches from an unregenerate membership, the supreme importance of spirituality and genuine loyalty to Christ; and a definite, joyful looking for the Lord's return. These things coming from this master in Israel produced a very deep impression. It was voted to recommend the three societies to unite in publishing an initial edition of 100,000

copies of this great address for wide distribution.

It is impossible within the limits of this communication to give anything like a full outline of these important meetings. One impression which they have made upon my mind is that the great body of our people is still sound and true and loyal to Christ and his gospel. Whatever disintegrating influence modern speculation may have had in some quarters it is plain that the great heart of the denomination still responds very emphatically to the old and yet ever new gospel of Christ crucified. The churches would still rather hear the glorious tidings of redeeming grace than all that modern thought has to offer. And the churches are ready to respond to the claims of world-wide evangelization when they are supplied with the needed information. If there is inactivity some one is to blame for failing to interest the people in this mightiest of all enterprises.

Rochester, N. Y., May 24th.

In reply to Bro. Hatch, I would say I have not misplaced Prof. Burton. I am not so far behind the times as to be unaware of Dr. Burton's departure from Newton. A weekly reading of the Watchman informed me on that matter. True, time passes so rapidly that I had forgotten the exact number of years, but it is not uncommon or illogical to use the word ten or twelve in the sense of a few years. Bro. Waring's quotation (in his first reply to Dr. Saunders) (from Dr. Burton) reveals the fact, however, that Dr. B. talks about "O. T. Matters," although N. T. Greek is or was his special department of instruction, and that his views as thus quoted, border very closely on a denial of the whole Bible as a supernatural or inspired revelation from God.

I regret Bro. Hatch makes necessary the occupation of space in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR with even these brief details.

ALFRED CHITMAN.

Home Mission Notes.

While talking upon the subject of denominational funds a few days ago, a good brother remarked to me, "I believe it is largely the pastor's fault that more money is not given for denominational purposes. They do not keep the matter before the people. They ask for offerings, but do not tell their congregations what is being done, consequently they are not interested." I would like to ask the pastors of our churches, if this is true? If so, will you please place the needs of our denomination before your people at once, as we are now upon the last quarter of one denominational year, and need all the offerings we can get in order to successfully carry on our work.

NOTES FROM CAPE BRETON, HAWKESBURY AND NABOU.

Pastor McNece who has been carrying on the work on this field, is compelled to lay it down on account of throat trouble as you noted by the last MESSENGER AND VISITOR. Here is a good field for a good man.

Margaree has Pastor A. E. Ingram to break the word of life to them. Pastor and people are happy in their new church home which has recently been opened for divine worship. A new station has been opened at Inverness, the headquarters of the Inverness Railway and Coal Co. Inverness, formerly called Broad Cove, is a rapidly growing town. A very few years ago there was hardly a building there, now there is a town of about 2,500 inhabitants, and every prospect of a bright future. What the H. M. Board would like to do, is to station a man at Nabou, and have him work Port Hood and Inverness in connection with it. The prospect of a good field is fairly good; but men and money are too scarce to think of that at present. So Bro Ingram will open up work among the few Baptists at Inverness.

Sydney Mines.—Under the leadership of Brother A. H. Whitman and wife, the work in this place has gone ahead by leaps and bounds. Brother Whitman began work there last September with a few Baptist families and church members. On the 20th of December a church building was dedicated to the worship of God and a regular Baptist church organized which has since doubled its membership. A large and growing Sabbath School is being carried on superintended by a young man of more than ordinary ability. This is one of the best conducted Sabbath Schools it has been the writer's privilege to visit. It was an inspiring sight to witness the joy and enthusiasm of these brethren and sisters in all departments of their church work. A home for their pastor is the next work to be undertaken by this enterprising little church. A lot joining the church lot has already been secured and building operations are to be commenced almost immediately. As the pastor will have to vacate the house in which he now lives, on the 1st of Oct. and another not to be had for love or money, the only thing to do is to build. The lot and building will cost about \$1300. This completed, this little church will take its place in the ranks of self-supporting churches and will lend a helping hand to others, which it is already doing. This year its denominational offering will surpass that of some of our larger churches. Now brethren, here is an opportunity to help a struggling church to self support. We want to make them a present of their building lot at least, if any one would like to have a part in this matter your offering will be thankfully received by Bro. Whitman, Rev. E. J. Grant or myself.

Homeville and Louisburg Group.—Bro. F. Beattie is much appreciated by this group of churches and is faithfully declaring to them the word of life. It makes one feel sad as he walks the streets of Port Morien and notes the decay of former splendor and prosperity. Business reverses have compelled so many to move away, that the place is only a wreck of its former self. Still one is gladdened by the thought that many of them are helping other churches to carry on their work more successfully than they otherwise would. The present residents are still hopeful that there are better days in store for them.

Gabarus and Forchee.—Our esteemed Bro. A. H. McCabe who has recently been ordained, has been laboring with this people for about one year with a good degree of success. Many have been converted and I trust we will hear glorious accounts from him in the near future. The baptismal waters have been visited by him ere this. My visit to Cape Breton although made in a poor time of the year, while the roads were breaking up, was very pleasant indeed. I shall never forget the kindness shown to me by the people, where ever I went. The Lord is blessing the efforts of his people. The prospects all over the Island are very hopeful indeed.

M. W. Brown.