

Messenger and Visitor.

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KING WILLIAM III. of Holland, who was lately deposed because of incapacity, is dead. He was the last male survivor of the famous house of Orange. — Baptists flourish at the American capital. During the last ten years, while the population of Washington has increased twenty-nine per cent., the membership of the Baptist churches has increased seventy-six per cent. — Much loss of property and some loss of life have been occasioned by recent floods in Germany. The year has been marked by many such disasters in Europe. — As a result of the anti-lottery bill the revenues of the New Orleans post-office have fallen off one third. — Influenza is said to be epidemic in some places of northern Europe. It is to be hoped that we are not to have a second visitation of La Grippe this winter in America. — The bulletin lately issued by the Ontario Department of Agriculture, shows that the average and aggregate yield of all crops of the present year were greater than for nine years past, and in the yield per acre the potato crop alone is under the average. — The Montreal Star believes that the recent financial crisis in London may result to the advantage of Canada, as it will likely have a tendency to divert English capital from "shady foreign countries" like South America to the safer investment to be found in Canada and other British possessions. — The Examiner's correspondent, "Neander," says of Rev. F. A. McEwen, the pastor of the Windsor church, "We are sorry to have such a man leave Ontario, but he will be a tower of strength to our brethren by the sea." — Mr. Spurgeon's health is said to be improving. — It is reported from Toronto that the Mail and Express newspapers are to be amalgamated. — The withdrawals from the Post Office Savings banks last month exceeded the deposits by half a million dollars. — Six months' imprisonment await Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien, the Irish leaders, on their return to the old country for conspiracy in the Clonmel cases. — Shibuya Jugiro, a Japanese convicted of murder in the State of New York, is to die by electricity, the United States Supreme court having refused to accept the facts in the execution of Kemmer as justifying the assertion that death by electricity is a cruel or unusual punishment within the meaning of the constitution. — Dr. Gregg, late pastor of the historic Park street church, Boston, has gone to be Dr. Cuyler's successor in New York, and Dr. S. H. Virgin, of New York, has been called to fill the vacancy at Park street. — It is reported that a Rev. Mr. Brown, an Episcopal clergyman, on Saturday last assaulted Mr. O. H. King, a student at Acadia college, inflicting serious bodily injury. Mr. King's offence was that he had sat on the clergyman's hat in the cars of the W. and A. Railway. — Bishop Courtenay, of Halifax, is reported to be dangerously ill. Prayer was offered for him in St. Luke's cathedral on Sunday last.

NOTICES, questions, etc., are sometimes sent us unaccompanied with the writer's name. We cannot promise to take any notice of such communications. — THE MESSENGER AND VISITOR did not bestow unqualified approval on Sam Small, much less commend him as a model for other preachers to imitate, though from a paragraph in the Telegraph of Wednesday last, one would naturally gather that such were the fact. — WE must request the friends who send obituary notices to the MESSENGER AND VISITOR to condense them as much as practicable. It is very natural to extend these notices, but it must be remembered that there are a great many such to appear, and if all these were expanded to the dimensions that some are, a very large proportion of the paper would be occupied with obituaries.

ON our fourth page will be found an article discussing the advisability of establishing a theological department at Acadia. Under the present condition of things, as to theology at Acadia, which we suppose may fairly be regarded as tentative, we see no objection in there being some public discussion on the subject. The writer of the communication referred to is a member of the class of '90, and claims to represent the sentiments of recent graduates and students now at Acadia, as well as a large number of others. There are good reasons why the opinions of the younger men in regard to the interests of the college should receive all due consideration. They represent a class constantly growing in number and influence. This attachment to the college and genuine interest in its prosperity have been attested by deeds as well as words. Further than this we have only to say at

present that we believe there is not the slightest wish on the part of the Board of Governors to sacrifice the Arts course or subordinate it in the interests of a theological department. Those who have given most attention to the practical question of ways and means have believed that the interests of the Arts course would be advanced rather than prejudiced by the establishment of a theological department. The question, however, is one the importance of which demands that it should receive the most serious and careful consideration at the hands of those who are moulding the policy of the denomination. — THE word "county" in a short communication from Bro. J. W. S. Young, which appeared in the "News from the Churches" in last week's issue should have been "country"—meaning the Amherst Shore district. Of course Bro. Young did not intend any reflection on the faithful pastors who are laboring in the different parts of Cumberland county. The mistake was typographical. — WE regret that it was not possible to find room in the last issue of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR for the programme of the Recital in Acadia Seminary, which took place on the evening of Nov. 21. We are informed that the young ladies did themselves and their teachers great credit on the occasion, and the evening was much enjoyed by the large audience present. — WE are glad to see that the Acadia Athenaeum has discarded the pink-tinted paper with which its readers have been familiar for a year or two. The change is very much to the advantage of its external appearance. The literary character of the November issue is well up to the standard of other volumes. The articles on the theological department and the gymnasium are of special interest.

A NEAT pamphlet containing a sketch of the life of Andrew Fuller, the famous Baptist preacher and theologian, was lately issued from the press of Messrs. J. & A. McMillan of this city. The pamphlet is entitled "The Pioneer Secretary of Modern Missions." Its author is the Rev. W. J. Stewart, Secretary of our Baptist Foreign Mission Board. This little book will be found to be a very readable and interesting sketch of the life of the man whose name is inseparably associated with that of Carey in the pioneer work of Baptist Foreign Missions, and we hope it may be widely read. Copies may be had by application to Rev. W. J. Stewart, St. John, price 10 cents, post paid.

WHAT WITH DROUGHTS, CYCLONES, BLIZZARDS AND INDIANS the western region of Dakota can scarcely be a pleasant land to live in. It is not surprising to read that agents from that country have lately been in Manitoba for the purpose of selecting good farming land sufficient for three hundred families who will remove thither from Dakota in the spring. — THE CAUSE OF IRISH REFORM is at present floundering in a tempestuous sea, and its future is not easy to forecast. It seems almost certain now that Parnell will not, under any circumstances, resign. The cause has owed much to his wise and able leadership. His power to move and mould public sentiment and to organize forces is so great that, even with all the powers now arrayed against him, if he persists in his present course, he would probably soon be found with a formidable following in parliament. But his persistence in this course must mean the wrecking of the hopes of home rule for the present. It is certain that there can be no further coalition between Parnell and Gladstone. It is thought not unlikely that the veteran statesman will announce that the prospect of carrying home rule in his life time is hopeless, and that the Liberal party will accordingly be re-formed on the old lines. Davitt is reported as saying, "Either Parnell must go or Gladstone. Should the Liberal party abandon the cause of home rule, that cause will be practically at the mercy of the present Tory government. That government will be returned with an increased majority at the next general election; and the people of Ireland will then have nothing to look forward to but a continuation of Lord Salisbury's policy." Mr. Davitt further declares that Parnell misled him to believe that he was able to come out of the O'Shea affair without a stain upon his honor or reputation, and says he will never again have anything to do with Parnell. The Irish Roman Catholic authorities say that it is necessary that Parnell resign, and they will use their influence against him publicly unless he does so. At latest accounts advice was being eagerly awaited from the home rule

leaders in America, and if Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien shall coincide with Davitt, McCarthy, Sexton and the other leading spirits in the party, Parnell will be left with but a feeble following. — THE latest in reference to the Parnell fiasco is a Chicago despatch of Nov. 30, which says that the views of the Irish M. P.'s in America were that day cabled to London. They acknowledge Parnell's services to Ireland, but condemn his present action, and say his course forces them to choose between their leader and their cause. They also express the hope that Parnell will not insist upon retaining the leadership. It is said that Harrington declined to sign the manifesto. — TO WHAT EXTENT the reports of a threatened uprising of the Indians have been of a sensational character, it is not easy at present to determine. For a day or two despatches have been of a less alarming character, and it is said the situation is improving. The condition of affairs, so far as we can gather, is about this. The Indians have no special grievance and the season of the year is unfavorable for their taking the warpath, but they have become more or less possessed with a craze about an unexpected "Messiah," and in some places, by their "ghost dances," they have wrought themselves up to a temper in which it is for them the most natural thing in the world to fight. Under the circumstances, everything is likely to depend on how they are treated. If the settlers and the military authorities exercise due prudence and forbearance, there will probably be no outbreak. The Indians will go into winter quarters and the excitement will subside. But the Indians are no doubt in a very sensitive condition, and the situation may be regarded as critical. If the counsels of imprudent or unscrupulous whites should prevail on the one side, or those of bad Indians on the other, a savage and cruel war is likely to result. So far the Indians north of the international boundary have remained quiet. The Indians of Canada have been treated more humanely, and therefore have given much less trouble than those of the United States. How they would behave in case of a general and fanatical uprising of the more Southern tribes is difficult to predict.

THE 34 young men under the appointment of the Board during the past vacation, did much faithful work, and so far as we have heard, gave excellent satisfaction. They have reported about 150 baptisms. On five fields quite extensive revivals were enjoyed. Other students not under the appointment of the Board enjoyed revival blessings, so that we think we are safe in saying that over 200 have been added to our churches as the result of the labors of our students. — THE expenditure of the Board on account of this student work will be about \$1,000. The importance of this work to the young men themselves, in enabling them to prosecute their studies is made apparent by the fact that the young men that we could not employ are not able to return to school this year for want of funds. — A part of Sunday before last was spent at Brooklyn, a little church about seven miles from Wolfville, where we saw much to afford encouragement and satisfaction. A little upwards of two years ago we found them much discouraged and everything presenting the appearance of decay. Aid was promised on condition that they make up a certain amount to sustain student labor throughout the year. The amount named seemed large to them, but one woman had faith to believe that it could be raised, and raised it has been, and more. Last Sunday I found them worshipping in their meeting-house made almost as good as new by thorough renovation within and without. Upwards of twenty have recently been added to their number, and they have a good Sunday-school, which they intend keeping up all winter, though their membership is much scattered. They are now the religious force in that community.

WE wish to call attention to the following statement that occurs in the last report of the H. M. Board to the Convention: "After the best possible grouping has been made and the dependent churches and mission fields have done all that can reasonably be expected of them, your Board needs an annual income of at least \$12,000 to enable it to make anything like adequate provision for this work." Will not everybody who reads this do what they can to bring the income up to that amount?

Financial assistance has already been promised to 35 fields and as many more will need assistance if men can be found to care for them. Seeing so much opportunity for labor and such good results following faithful labor, it seems too bad to be prevented from undertaking the work. — ONE of our faithful missionaries, who has always been willing to endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ, and who so wisely and well laid the foundations at New Glasgow, has been compelled to quit the Scott's Bay field and seek rest in a warmer climate. Rev. D. Freeman leaves to-day for Florida. — BY some means the church at Quebec discovered that we had the right man at New Glasgow, and thinking their need the greater have made a vacancy that is not easy to fill. Bro. Dykeman did excellent work for our cause not only at New Glasgow, but in Pictou County generally. — REV. R. B. Kinlay, our missionary on the Alberton field, P. E. I., has listened to the call of the Wilmot church, and taken up his abode in Paradise. We are sorry to lose this good brother from the mission field, but glad to see that brethren who serve for a term of years on wide and hard fields are rewarded by being called to more compact circuits and better salaries. We expect, however, that the churches that take them will make suitable returns by greatly enlarged contributions to the Home Mission Funds. — THE partial breakdown of the health of our esteemed general missionary, Rev. I. Wallace, has interfered with our plans. But God's ways are better than ours. Brethren that were hoping to have his assistance must take courage and march forward without him. "It is nothing with God to help whether with many or with them that have no power." — A. COXON, Cor.-Secy. — Hebron, Nov. 26, 1890.

W. B. M. U. — INasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me. — PRAYER TOPIC FOR DECEMBER. — For our Home and Foreign Mission Boards that such wisdom may be given them as will cause the work to advance in every department. — AN Appeal — FROM MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED LADIES, MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE HELD AT SHANGHAI, CHINA. — To the Christian Women of the British Empire, the United States, Germany, Canada and all other Protestant countries.—Greeting: — We, the women of the Missionary Conference now assembled in Shanghai, come to you, our sisters in Christ, with an urgent appeal in behalf of the one hundred millions of women and children of China who "sit in darkness and in the shadow of death." — The work of women in China has been prosecuted at the oldest stations for about fifty years, at first chiefly by the wives of missionaries, but in later years single ladies have largely augmented this working force. There are now ladies engaged in educational, medical and evangelic work in China. Much has been done by them, many lives have been uplifted from the degradation of idolatry and sin, many sad hearts comforted, many darkened minds enlightened, and much solid good effected. But our hearts are burdened to-day with love and pity for the millions of women around us, our sisters for whom Christ died, still unreached by the sound of the gospel. — Beloved sisters, if you could see their sordid misery, their hopeless, loveless lives, their ignorance and sinfulness, as we see them, mere human pity would move you to do something for their uplifting. But there is a stronger motive that should impel you to stretch out a helping hand, and that we plead—the constraining love of Christ. We, who are in the midst of this darkness that can be felt, send our voices across the ocean to you, our sisters, and beseech you by the grace of Christ our Saviour that you come at once to our help. — Four kinds of work are open to us: 1. There is school work in connection with our various missions which in many cases the men have handed over to the women in order that they themselves may be free to engage more directly in evangelic work. 2. There is a work to be done for the sick and suffering women of China, in hospitals, dispensaries and homes, for which skillful physicians are needed. Most of this work can be better done by

women than by men, and much of it can be done only by women. 3. There is work for us in the families of the church. There are converted mothers and daughters who need to be taught the way of the Lord more perfectly, and to be trained in whatever is necessary for their full development into lively members of the great household of faith. 4. There is a work of evangelization among women, similar to that being done by men among the people at large. It is not claimed that the evangelization of women cannot be done at all by men—but that there is more of it than men can do, there is much of it that will never be done unless women do it, and much that men cannot do as well as women can. There is nothing in this kind of work transcending the recognized Scriptural sphere of women. Women received from the Lord Himself upon the very morning of the Resurrection their commission to tell the blessed story of a risen Saviour. What they did then we may continue to do now. — But you will ask, "Who are needed for this work?" Knowing the conditions of life and work in China, we would answer that: 1. They should be women of sound health, of good ability and good common sense—also well educated—though not necessarily of the highest education—apt to teach, kind and forbearing in disposition, so that they may live and work harmoniously with their associates, and win the hearts of the Chinese. Above all they should be women who have given themselves wholly to the Lord's work and are prepared to bear hardship and exercise constant self-denial for Christ's sake. 2. It is desirable that they should pursue a systematic course of Bible study before coming to China, and have some experience in Christian work at home. Further, we would suggest that they should labor in connection with established missions in order that the good results of their work may be preserved, and that they may have, when needed, the assistance and protection of their brother missionaries. — Open doors are all around us, and though idolatry lifts a hoary head, and ancestral worship binds the people as with chains of adamant, yet with God "all things are possible," and mountains of difficulty melt like snowflakes before the rising of the Sun of righteousness. — God is on the side of His own glorious, life giving Word; we ask you to come in the power of consecration and faith, with sober expectations and readiness to endure hardships as good soldiers of Jesus, and take your share in the most glorious war that was ever waged on earth—the war against the powers of darkness and sin, assured that God will accomplish His own purposes of love and grace to China, and will permit you, if you listen to this call, to be His fellow-workers in "binding up the broken-hearted, proclaiming liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound." — That the holy and loving Spirit of God may incline your hearts to respond to His call is our earnest prayer. — Signed on behalf of the two-hundred and four ladies assembled in conference at Shanghai.

FOR W. B. M. U. — PORTAUGUE and Upper Economy, per Jennie Fulton, F. M., \$10; H. M., \$25; \$12.50; Summerville, per Mrs. A. Young, F. M., \$5.25; H. M., \$7; 12.25; Middleton, per Mrs. Albert Gates, H. M., \$1; F. M., \$6.50; 7.50; Fairville, per Mrs. C. P. Baker, F. M., \$12.20; H. M., \$6.50; G. L. M., \$5; 19.25; Fredericton, per E. J. Phillips, F. M., \$10; 10.00; New Minas and Canaan, per Mrs. Annie Strong, F. M., \$8.50; Lower Aylesford, per Edna Roach, F. M., \$5; 5.00. — Mrs. MARY SMITH, Treas. W. B. M. U. — Amherst, N. S., Nov. 18.

— A COPY of McMillan's Almanac for 1891 has been laid on our table. This neat little volume, in addition to the astronomical tables and other matter peculiar to an almanac, contains an amount of information which renders it invaluable as a handy book of reference on a variety of subjects. — "MY OWN CANADIAN HOME."—At the coming Christmas holidays, for the first time in the history of our country, the school children of Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific, will sing their own National song. This is largely owing to the generosity of The Surprise Soap Co., of St. Stephen, who have presented a copy to every teacher in the Dominion, and to the scholars of the principal cities—in all 95,000 copies.

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