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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 1896.

—Considering the consistency of the Southern Baptist Convention as to its numbers, extent of territory and the amount of wealth which must be represented in it, the contributions of the Southern Baptists to mission work, Home and Foreign, cannot be regarded as large. The *Journal and Messenger* states that the churches connected with the Convention last year expended a little over \$100,000 on Foreign Mission fields and the Board has a total of \$31,000. The receipts of the Home Mission Board were \$75,000.

—This year as usual several Maritime men are among the students who have acquitted themselves with honor at the final examinations of McGill University. Among these is Mr. A. H. Gordon, son of Rev. J. A. Gordon, of Main St. Church, St. John. Mr. Gordon was the second place in the first year in medicine, and in an examination in the subject of zoology in the arts course, in which he came into competition with students taking highest rank in their classes. Mr. Gordon's paper received by several points the highest marks.

—The annual exercises in connection with the New Brunswick University were held on Thursday last. The graduating class this year numbers twelve of whom seven were ladies. Prof. Dowling delivered an address on behalf of the Faculty, dealing with education as related to the interests of the farming population of the country. Dr. T. H. Rand, of McMaster University, delivered the Alumni address, subject "The Educational Ideal." This able and valuable address we hope to publish in another issue. The honorary degree of LL. D. was conferred upon the Hon. Lieut. Governor Fraser and Hon. Attorney General Blair. It was announced that a residence would be established in the College building at the beginning of next year. A suggestion is also offered on the part of the government looking to the creation of a building for that purpose.

—The annual meetings of our National Societies held this week at Ashbury Park, N. B., says the *Watchman*, "were of great interest and power. The audiences were uniformly large, perhaps on no occasion less than twelve or fifteen hundred people, and several times they were probably twice that. The interest in the great missionary and religious subjects under discussion was genuine and intense. All of the speakers were by no means skilful in setting forth their ideas. Some were prolix and tedious, but the audience was so eager for facts and principles that even these were closely followed. The attention was either the perfection of Christian courtesy or the manifestation of a vital concern in the topics under consideration."

—In another paragraph the same paper says: "The meetings this year gave fresh and gratifying evidence that the unity of Baptists is not imperilled by speculative theological discussions. If the audiences at Ashbury Park afford any test of denominational sentiment, we are at one in loyalty to the central truths of the Gospel. It is useless to attempt to conceal that the Baptists have a right wing and a left wing, as well as the Presbyterians and the Congregationalists, but the devotion to the one cause which moves both wings of the army is so strong that we believe the day is not distant when we shall think that in fighting each other we are contending against the common foe. It is becoming clearer every year that the bond of union among Baptists is not a creed or an ordinance, but the common experience of the spiritual life. Souls that have shared this experience speak a common tongue; in spite of all minor differences they love and trust each other and work for common ends."

—The new church building of the First Baptist Church, Yarmouth, is about completed and the dedicatory exercises, we are informed, are to take place on Lord's day, June 7th. It had been the intention to hold these services on May 24th, but an unlooked for delay in connection with the pews rendered the postponement necessary. A cut of the new building appeared in the *Messenger and Visitor* some months ago. In size, in appearance and in convenience it will be among the best of our church buildings in these provinces and no doubt will be in all respects suitable to the needs of the large congregation and to the work of the church. The dedicatory services will doubtless be of much interest. Dr. Kolstad, of Wolfville, is announced to preach at the morning service and Dr. Moore of Digby Neck, in the evening, and probably a number of other ministers will also take part in the services.

—The annual report of the American Baptist Home Mission Board shows that

the debt of the society has been reduced during the past year from \$108,000 to \$86,000. The total receipts of the year were \$905,949 and the total expenditure \$488,188. The plan of co-operation between the Home Mission Society of the North, the Southern Baptist Convention and the colored Baptists in behalf of missionary and educational work among the negroes, inaugurated two years ago is being received, it is said, with great favor. The report dwells at length upon the work of the educational department. The society has under its oversight 84 schools for the negroes and Indians. The total enrollment in all the schools, both colored and Indian was 5230; there were employed in the colored schools 247 teachers, of whom 115 are white and 132 colored. During the year the society has assisted in the erection of 68 new meeting-houses, 68 American, seven Scandinavian, seven colored, four German, four Indian and one French.

—At their Ashbury Park meeting our United States brethren adopted resolutions on the subject of the Armenian outrages, in which they say: "We shall welcome in the interests of humanity the sight of America uniting with Great Britain, and, if possible, with other Christian nations, in demanding that the administration of the government by the Turkish Empire shall no longer be a continued crime against civilization and the rights of man." This is a sentiment which may be taken for granted, the Christian people of the two nations will generally applaud. The difficulties in the way of effective interposition on behalf of the Armenians are no doubt very great. Great Britain could count on little or no help in the matter from any European source. But let all the English speaking people of the world unite their forces in this matter, and their demands on behalf of the Armenians will be heard with respect in Constantinople and in all Europe.

—"Evary now and then," says Philip Brooks, "a conscience among the men and women who live easy, thoughtless lives, is stirred, and someone looks up anxiously, holding up some one of the petty indignities in which such people spend their days and nights, and says, 'Is this wrong? Is it wicked to do that?' And when they get their answer, 'No, certainly not wicked,' then they go back and give their whole lives up to doing that innocent little piece of uselessness again. All the question is not whether that is wicked, whether God will punish you for doing that. The question is whether that thing is keeping other better things away from you; whether it stands between God and your soul. If it does, then it is an offence to you, and though it be your right hand or your right eye, cut it off, pluck it out, and cast it from you. The advantage and joy will not be in its absence, for you will miss it very sorely, but in what it less reveals, in the new life which lies beyond it, which you will see stretching out and tempting you as soon as it is gone."

—The closing exercises of the year in connection with the Mount Allison institutions have been held during the week, and appear to have been of full interest and so indicative of successful work that those exercises are wont to be. Those in connection with the Ladies' College were a particularly attractive feature of the week. That excellent institution evidently fully maintains its popularity with the denomination and with the public. The number of pupils enrolled for the past year was 206, as compared with 180 for the year preceding. The increase, it is explained, is due chiefly to a larger attendance of non-resident pupils who are beginning to appreciate more fully the advantages afforded by the art and conservatory departments. The graduates in Arts were eight, and in music, four. Much regret is expressed at the loss from the teaching staff of Miss Alcorn, who has resigned with the purpose of entering upon work in the foreign mission field. From the college there was graduated a class of 14, three of whom were ladies. Six graduates received the M. A. degree in course. We do not observe that any honorary degrees were distributed. This however is not set down to the discredit of the University.

—In the report of the Executive Committee of the Missionary Union occurs the following statement, which is worth considering by those who think too much is being done for Foreign Missions. The statement is made for the purpose of showing the amount expended by five different missionary societies and the number of converts reported by those societies for 1895. Three of these are in the United States and two in England. The American Presbyterian Board North,

reports 32,000 communicants and \$865,000 expended. The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (Congregationalist) reports 44,000 communicants and \$715,000 expended. The American Methodist Episcopal Board reports 134,000 communicants (including probationers) and \$1,006,000 expended. The London Missionary Society reports 96,000 communicants and \$565,000 expended. The Church Missionary Society of England reports 56,000 communicants and \$1,498,000 expended. The American Baptist Missionary Union reports 190,992 of communicants and \$568,000 expended. These are suggestive figures. The statistics of the Unions show for the work among the heathen: Missionaries, 473; native helpers, 1,543; churches, 4,875; members, 98,030; schools, 1,156; pupils, 27,628; contributions, \$49,234.09. Of the latter \$42,120 is from Burma. And all of this, be it remembered, within 72 years. European missions: Native helpers, 1,149; churches, 908; baptisms, 2,859; members, 97,787; contributions, \$148,899. There are reported in Russia 67 churches, with 17,041 members, and 1200 baptisms; contributions slightly over \$1 per member.

PASSING EVENTS.

IF the mandement issued unilaterally by the B. C. bishops of Quebec Province occasioned some surprise by reason of its moderation and the mildness of the terms in which "the faithful" are addressed to their duty in the approaching elections, and especially as to the influence which the subject of remedial legislation in the matter of the Manitoba School Law should have upon their political action, there could be no such feeling in regard to the sermon of Mgr. Lafleche, Bishop of Three Rivers and dean of the B. C. hierarchy of Canada, delivered in his Cathedral on Sunday, May 17, immediately after the reading of the mandement of the bishops. The utterances of Bishop Lafleche were, it would seem, sufficiently definite and forceful to gratify the feelings of the most ardent Catholics. The *Montreal Star*, which gives a condensed report of the bishop's sermon, says that it may be looked upon as the most outspoken utterance yet made on the Manitoba school question and the status of Catholic voters in the Dominion of Quebec. According to the *Star's* condensed report of the sermon, the bishop, after laying down the familiar B. C. doctrine as to the supremacy of the church in the matter of religion, went on to give a course of "opinions contrary to the teaching of the church" which had found expression in parliament during its late session. "The greatest of these errors," he said, "is the error of the error of liberalism. Mind is an speaking of a religious error and not of a party. Liberalism gives the State the right of educating the child. This doctrine is false in every respect. It is not the mission of the State to educate or to uphold the child. In the matter of education the State must second the efforts of the church and favor its beneficial influence. The State must respect the faith and bring up the child up to the matter to which religion may belong. The bishop proceeded to charge Premier Greenway with having broken all the promises he made to the Catholic minority of respecting their rights, and after mentioning the remedial law, said that law is not perfect, no doubt, but it establishes a state of affairs which is tolerable. Unfortunately it was made a political question. It is not a political question, but a religious question, which concerns the sacred rights of conscience. There are four kinds of schools: The Catholic school, where a full measure of religious education is given; the Protestant school, where more or less of it is given, according to the taste of parents; the atheistic school, where God is put out of doors; and the neutral school, which is neither Catholic, Protestant nor atheistic. Where a religion is altogether unknown, and teachers are prohibited from teaching a word of it. This is the worst system of all, since it leads to indifference, which is the cause of the century." The bishop proceeded to speak of the grievances of the Manitoba Catholics, and the judgment of the Privy Council and the action of the Federal government and Parliament. Then said His Lordship: "A French Canadian member, who styles himself a Catholic and who is the recognized leader of a great party, made up of Catholics and Protestants, made the following declaration of principles as to the political conduct: 'So long as I occupy a seat in this House, so long as I fill the post which is now on every occasion when it shall be my duty to take a stand upon any question whatever, that stand I shall not take from the point of view of Catholicism, nor from the point of view of any other religion, but I will be guided by motives which appeal to the consciences of all men, independent of their faith, motives which animate all men having justice, liberty and independence as their end.' This is the most outspoken declaration of Liberalism" (liberalism that is in respect to the authority of the church), "which has ever been made by any member of this House, and is really in this country. The man who speaks this language is a nationalistic Liberal. He formulates a doctrine which is entirely opposed to Catholic doctrine. It means that a Catholic is not required to be a Catholic in public life. This is

a fundamental error which cannot but be fraught with deplorable consequences." Bishop Lafleche accordingly declares that he feels bound to warn his people that, "under the circumstances, a Catholic cannot, without committing a grievous sin, vote for the leader of a party who has formulated such an error so publicly or for the partisans which support him in such an error, so long as they have not publicly repudiated this erroneous doctrine and taken the solemn pledge of voting for a remedial law accepted by the bishops," and exhorts them "to lay aside all party feeling, no matter what it may be, and to judge men and events from the point of view of Catholic principles and Catholic teaching only."

THE deliverance of Mgr. Lafleche will probably pass as good Catholic doctrine among his conferees and subordinates in Quebec. It does not however, it appears, command universal assent even among the B. C. clergy of the Dominion. A priest of Toronto, Rev. Fr. Minehan, of St. Peter's church, has for some time ventured to express emphatic dissent from the doctrine propounded by the Bishop of Three Rivers. In his sermon of Sunday, May 24th, as reported in the paper, he alluded to a certain bishop in Quebec whose utterance, he said, if the reports contained in the newspapers were correct, would only be prejudicial to his own cause. Obviously the allusion was to Bishop Lafleche. He was sorry to see that this bishop had stepped out of his jurisdiction and into the field of politics. "In matters pertaining to the Roman Catholic church," continued the preacher, "the pope was infallible and his mandates must be obeyed, but outside of church life, in science and in law and in politics, the pope had to compete with men of the world. If he should enter into any dispute relating to anything outside of the church he should not try to bring the weight of his office and his religion to bear upon his arguments and help to gain his end. In ecclesiastical matters the church is supreme, but everything bearing upon politics should be left to the electors to pass judgment upon."

AN unusual number of cyclonic storms have occurred during the past few weeks in the central and southern portions of the United States. These storms have been in several instances of an exceedingly violent character and have been attended with immense destruction of life and property. On May 17th, a cyclone or tornado struck the city of St. Louis, and also hit St. Louis on the eastern bank of the Mississippi, with results which are simply appalling to contemplate, and which should inspire a feeling of thankfulness in those who live outside the cyclone belt. Considerable portions of the cities were laid in ruins. A great number of buildings were overthrown, including a number of factories and large public buildings, the electric light and telegraph systems were rendered useless, and the street car service quite demoralized; great destruction was caused among the steamboats on the river and many hundreds of persons were either killed or wounded. The extent of the loss of life cannot be accurately ascertained at present, as many bodies lie buried beneath the debris of fallen buildings and many were drowned in the river. From the reports received, it would appear that 400 or 500 persons were killed and it may be a considerably larger number. Many hundreds were wounded, and in a large number of cases their injuries will prove fatal. The damage to property is of course immense, estimates vary widely, but all agree that it will aggregate several millions of dollars worth.

POLITICAL sentiment in St. John at the present time is of too diversified a character, it appears, to find expression through the ordinary party channels. Accordingly, besides Messrs. Haasen and Chesley, who represent the government interest, and Messrs. Ellis and Tucker, who are the candidates of the Liberal party, we have Mr. D. J. McLaughlin and Hon. Wm. Pugsley in the field as independents. These gentlemen are supposed to represent especially the interest of St. John in respect to the projected fast Atlantic steam service, and they appeal to a pretty strong feeling prevailing among the business men of the city that the declared policy of the government unfavourably affects St. John from the opportunity of competition for the advantages of being the Canadian winter port. It is held that if St. John possesses advantages which would induce a company tendering for a fast Atlantic service to prefer it as a winter

port to any other, the city should be allowed the free enjoyment of those advantages. It does not appear that, in regard to the winter port question, Messrs. Pugsley and McLaughlin take different ground from that of the Liberal candidates, but the former are declared anti-remedialists in which they differ from the candidates of both the regular parties. We do not hear that any of the candidates are pledged to support prohibition. Mr. McLaughlin is in general accord with the Liberal party and Mr. Pugsley has generally been considered a Conservative. He was last year a candidate in the Conservative interest in King's county, but withdrew in favor of Mr. Morton, who was also the nominee of the Prohibition Convention of the county.

Home Missions.
WILL THE BOARD CLOSE THE YEAR WITHOUT A DEBT?

This is the question that is now being anxiously asked by those on whom the burden of this work rests.

As an answer to this question let me say that if about \$1000 can be put into the Home Mission Treasury, between the date of this writing and July 31st, the year will close without a debt. Whatever the receipts shall be short of this will be a much debt.

We make this statement not for the purpose of inducing you to withdraw from other objects and to give to Home Missions, but to show the need of more generous giving to all the objects as included in our denominational work.
A. COXON, Treas. H. M. B.
Wolfville, May 28

W. B. M. U.
NOTO FOR THE TEAM
We are laborers together with God.

Contributions to this column will please be sent Mrs. J. W. Manning, St. John West, N. B.
PRAYER TOPIC FOR JUNE

For Brother and Sister Covey at Parliamety, this great blessing may attend their work and that those who wish to emulate Christ may have the hindrances removed. That all our associations may be directed by the Holy Spirit and their influence all for the advancement of Christ's kingdom.

The meeting of the W. B. M. U. in connection with the Western Association of N. B., will convene at Nictaux, on Saturday afternoon, June 13th. Verbal reports from Societies and Mission Bands will be called for. Our county Secretaries for this Association are: Mrs. F. R. Foster, Yarmouth Co.; Mrs. Dykeman, Digby Co.; Mrs. Burnaby, Queens Co.; Mrs. A. F. Brown, Shelburne Co.; Mrs. J. W. Brown, Annapolis Co. We hope to hear from all these sisters. A question box will be on the table and it is hoped the interest will be so great that it will be filled. Let there be a large attendance, and a large collection.

A. E. JOHNSON,
Prov. Sec'y N. B.
The County Convention of the W. M. A. B. will convene at Greenwood, Lower Aylesford, June 11th. Business meeting in the afternoon at 2:30 and public meeting addressed by our returned missionary, W. V. Higgins, in the evening at 7:30 o'clock. The president and provincial secretary of the W. B. M. U. are also expected to be present. Will the sisters pray that these meetings may be accompanied by the Spirit's power, and result in an increased missionary interest in our county.
Mrs. R. E. GULLISON,
Cor. Sec.

By request of the Annapolis County secretary of the W. M. A. B., Mrs. J. W. Brown, a large number of the members of that Society here, with interested sisters, held a special meeting in Mrs. R. Sanford's hall, on May 19th, in behalf of the interest of the society and to see how we were gaining in our work. The Society was opened by Mrs. J. W. Brown present secretary, who in a few heart-felt words told of her love for the work and her interest in the various societies engaged in prosecuting the well begun labor. Mrs. J. T. Eaton former secretary, and Mrs. B. Kinley of Paradise, addressed the society, and gave us an idea of the workings of their own and other societies, also expressing themselves well pleased with the enthusiasm manifested in ours. Our president, Mrs. P. J. Chute, gave an account of our society since its reorganization, and the spiritual blessings she had received while laboring in and for the society. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, followed by a roll call, each member appropriately responding to her name. Prayer by several sisters and singing, closed a very profitable and earnest service, leaving a deeper impression on each one present concentra-

ting the work in store for them in the salvation of perishing souls.

MARY E. BANKS, Sec. Treas.
Something to Talk About.

Sunday, June 25th, 1895, on the beach at Brighton, England, J. Hudson Taylor, unable to bear the sight of a large congregation of over 1000 Christian people rejoicing in their own blessings, privileges and securities, while 880,000,000 of people in China alone were perishing in their sins and for lack of knowledge, poured out his soul to God abandoning unbelief and all apathy, and surrendering himself to God for service to a perishing world. Wondering along those sands at midnight, he boldly asked God for 24 fellow-workers, two for each of the eleven unoccupied provinces of China and two for Mongolia. Both laborers and the funds were provided in answer to prayer, without appeal to man and one year later this band set sail for the Middle Kingdom.

At the end of the first decade (1876) 87 workers were in the field. At the end of the second decade (1885) all unoccupied provinces but two, Kwangsi and Hunan, were held by resident missionaries. During this period, at the very hour of darkest midnight, the Chfoo Convention was unexpectedly signed and China thrown open throughout, and liferaft and exploration followed. Within three years (1885-88) 116 new missionaries, including the Cambridge band of 7, offered, and at the end of the decade there were 225 in all the field.

The third decade (1885-93) was marked by more thorough visitation and evangelization, with consolidation. In 1887, in direct answer to prayer for 100 more workers, more than this number willingly offered, and £10,000 provided for outfit and passage money. It is noticeable that when this new addition was first asked of God praying was at once offered in advance for blessings to be given. In 1888 the American branch was formed in Toronto, and 7 years later, 39 missionaries had sailed from America. At the close of 1893 over 600 missionaries were on the field, and in this third decade woman's work had come to the front in a marvelous way. "Well may one exclaim, 'What hath God wrought through one man in answer to prayer!'"

Faith is a grace that the Lord loves to crown. Verily, the China Inland Mission is a marvel. It is a rebuke to all our unbelief, and an answer to all our fears. The God of missions still lives. Do we really pray? Where is our faith?

Christ's Witnessing Kingdom.
6 (A Missionary Tragedy).

REMEMBER! Isa. 11:1-10; Ps. 2:7-10; 22:37-41; 78:69; 134:3; 138:2; 145:7; 148:14; Zech. 3:8-10; Matt. 24:14; 28:19-20; John 3:16-17; 8:12; 12:38, 40; Rom. 4:18; 11:13-27; 15:5-10; Phil. 2:9-11.

It often seems to us as though the kingdom of Christ would never extend over this earth, so extensively do sin and ignorance abound. But the Word of God never fails, and Christians may carry on the work of the Lord with hope. No effort for Christ are really lost. In the end he will triumph. It is 104 years since William Carey, inspired by the needs of the heathen world and the duty of Christians, to carry the gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth, went forth as the first foreign missionary from English shores. At that time there was scarcely one page, paper, or Mission land where the gospel could be preached with safety. Since that day what hath God wrought! In recent times the Tuluhas have come to Christ by thousands. In North India some time ago twenty thousand converts were awaiting baptism. While there were not more than three hundred converts to Christianity in all India a hundred years ago there are now about two million. But numbers alone give us a very inadequate conception of what Christ has done for India. His religion is fast changing the customs of the entire people for the better and providing an education far millions. Nor are these converts from heathenism the worthless creatures some skeptics, who spend a few weeks in India with their whole attention centered on their work, would have us believe. Sir William Muir says, "They are no shams or paper converts, but good, honest Christians, and many of them of a high standard." But India is but one of the many countries in which the kingdom of our Lord is advancing. Look at Burma. Judson arrived there in 1800. He lived to see over seven thousand native Christians baptized and the entire Bible translated into the Burman language. By 1880 the Karens in Burma were willing and able to give over \$1,000 to promote missions. The land is dotted with churches. Similar encouragement comes from Madagascar, Hawaii, and Fiji. Dr. Williams thinks that in fifty years all China may be evangelized. Christ gives us a part in the work of widening his kingdom. We may do it, by money, by prayer, and by personal service.

"Is it nothing to you, O ye Christians? Dare ye say ye have sought to do? All over the world they wait for the light."
And is it nothing to you?" —Selected.