

# Messenger and Visitor.

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HARVARD COLLEGE will receive about \$100,000 from the estate of the late Edward Conant, of Worcester. Twenty thousand bills were introduced into the last U. S. Congress, of which about two thousand became laws. President Andrews, of Brown, believes that Prof. Bancroft's death was accidental. Election by ballot in a deliberative assembly is sometimes attended with difficulty, as the experience of the Illinois legislature, in its attempt to elect a senator, shows. One hundred and fifty ballots were taken without arriving at a choice. The International Missionary Union will hold its eighth annual meeting at Clifton Springs, N. Y., June 10-17.

Our readers will, we know, eagerly welcome the letter from Dr. Goodspeed, which appears elsewhere in this issue.

MANY will rejoice in the good news contained in this paper of the gracious influences being experienced at Wallville. When intellectual culture is accompanied by spiritual life it is well.

It was in Boston that Mr. Moody accepted Christ, and he said the other day that, almost every week since he had been in the city this winter, he had gone down to the old store where he had first heard Christ speaking to him, in order to thank God afresh for the mercy that there reached him, "a swearing and cursing youth." Mr. Moody is an eminent illustration of what the gospel can do for a man in purifying and refining his character, in elevating and enlarging his aims and in making his life a blessing to the world.

REV. DR. PENTECOST who, a few months since, went to India, appears to have found in that country large opportunities for evangelistic effort among English speaking people. He is quoted as emphasizing the need of men of ability to labor among this class, and as saying that there are six millions of educated English speaking native men who, if won to Christ at all, must be won through the speech of the English, through whom they have received their education; and who, if they are not won to Christ and their education sanctified, will become confirmed agnostics, if not atheists, and use their educated powers to agnosticism India.

COLBY UNIVERSITY has organized its freshman class in two sections, one of men and one of women, and, in doing so, congratulates itself that a "very important difficulty" has been "overridden." We do not see, however, why there should have been any difficulty. If the young men and the young women are to receive precisely the same course of instruction, as we are told is the case at Colby, why is it not an advantage rather than otherwise for both sexes that they should meet together? Of the 176 students at Colby, 16 are women, and these, distributed through the classes, unless they are of very different material from their sisters in these provinces, could not have a very demoralizing effect upon the young men.

THERE can be no doubt that the power, purity and grandeur of Christianity as a system of religion is obtaining recognition among educated Hindus who are not yet willing to accept it personally and whose efforts are in the direction of a reform of Hinduism. This appears in the following, from a defense of the Hindu religion recently put forth by Mr. N. Gupta:

"There should be no mistake about our attitude towards Christianity. If we have not embraced the church of Christ, it is certainly not because we cannot realize His greatness. How can we be blind to the greatness, the unrivaled splendor of Jesus Christ? Behind the British Empire, from which the sun never tapers away his face, behind all the mighty powers of Europe, behind modern enlightenment, behind America, behind science and all its triumphs, behind new continents, behind the gigantic dominions of Russia—the greatest of all known to us—of Jesus Christ. There is no sublimer figure in history than Christ on the cross, with that last look of infinite pity and infinite love and that last prayer of forgiveness for those who knew not what they did. His resurrection is surely no fable. He lives in Europe, and America, and Africa, and Asia, as a king and guide, and teacher. He lives in our midst. He seeks to revivify religion in India in all its ancient earnestness. We owe everything—even this deep yearning towards our own ancient Hinduism—to Christianity. If it had not been for the light of this religion, we should never have known how deep we have sunk into the quagmire of superstition. The Brahmo Samaj movement is due to Christianity, and is one of the indications of the revival of Hinduism. . . . Christianity is fulfilling a great mission in India; but its highest mission is yet unfulfilled, or but fulfilled in part. That mission is the rejuvenescence of Hinduism."

## PASSING EVENTS.

A CORONER'S JURY HAVE GIVEN A VERDICT in the case of the deaths resulting from the Springfield explosion. The jury expressed the belief that the explosion was caused from the flame of a shot igniting the coal dust and a certain portion of the gas which might have been present at the time; they also believe that there was an unusual flame from the shot, owing to a slip in the stone; they further believe that the explosion was accidental and exonerate the management from blame. The jury added to the verdict the following recommendations:

First, that in future where 'safety lamps are used and in very dusty places powder should not be used; second, they recommend that in gaseous portions of the mine before the men resume work after dinner, the places should be examined by competent officials; third, they recommend the procurement for the use of the deputy inspector of mines a Shaw machine for testing gas.

FROM THE HON. EDWARD BLAKE'S FAMOUS LETTER recently published, some things are evident and some things are not. Among the things made evident is the fact that Mr. Blake is still distinctly and emphatically opposed to what is called "the national policy" of the present government. His arraignment of that policy is severe. In his view, it has not tended toward unity and national development, but to disintegration and annexation. Its effect, he charges, has been to add enormously to the public debt, to restrict trade, to build up high tariff walls, estranging us from our neighbors and relations on the south, and more and more, to lower the standards of public virtue, producing corrupt and corrupting classes. It is plain also that Mr. Blake is not in accord with the present policy of the Liberal party. Unrestricted reciprocity, in his view, would involve commercial union, which in turn would lead to political union. Holding such views as these, he found it impossible, as an honest man, to remain in connection with the Liberal party and give even a tacit consent to the policy propounded by its leaders. Unwilling to be a source of embarrassment to his friends and the party which still had his good will, he felt himself obliged to withdraw from the Liberal party and from public life. In what direction Mr. Blake would lead if Canada were ready to follow his guidance, his letter does not clearly indicate. He discusses briefly the policy of Imperial Federation, but considers it impracticable. He alludes to the idea of national independence, but drops it in a sentence as though it could scarcely be considered seriously. It does not seem an unreasonable inference from Mr. Blake's letter, taken as a whole, that he considers political union with the United States as the manifest destiny of this Dominion. And he makes it clear that, if such union is to take place, it is far better that we go toward it with our eyes open and make the best terms possible, than to arrive at it by "a policy of drift," while we fancy all the time that we are making headway in some other direction. It is but fair, however, to Mr. Blake to say that, in answer to some of his critics, he has said that, though he regards annexation as the probable, he does not regard it as the ideal or even the inevitable destiny of Canada. Mr. Blake is a man whose eminent ability and sincerity are unquestioned. We cannot think that the present is a time when such a man should withdraw from public life, and we must think that he owes it both to himself and his country to indicate clearly what, in his view, is the path of wisdom and true patriotism.

THERE ARE A GOOD MANY WOMEN in the United States who believe that incalculable blessings would result to that country and to the world, if right of suffrage were generally extended to women. They are zealous also in pushing the reform. In Kansas the ideal has been attained, and it is proposed to obtain an amendment to the constitution of the United States which shall give the right of suffrage to women. There are other women, however, who take a different view of things and who are making their influence felt in a petition against the proposed constitutional amendment. These women protest against the suffrage amendment on the grounds that it is in its nature and origin communistic, and as subversive of the duties, the influences, and the safeguards of the home and the household. These "Woman Remonstrants," as they call themselves say:

"We regard the question of the property rights of a comparatively few women as one of minor importance compared with the vastly greater right of women in general to maintenance and protection in the home while they are engaged in the absorbing offices and duties of womanhood; and this principle of right of women is threatened with entire destruction by the socialistic doctrines above cited."

Remark upon this the *Christian Union* says:

"In our judgment there is great weight in the case of the deaths resulting from the Springfield explosion. The jury expressed the belief that the explosion was caused from the flame of a shot igniting the coal dust and a certain portion of the gas which might have been present at the time; they also believe that there was an unusual flame from the shot, owing to a slip in the stone; they further believe that the explosion was accidental and exonerate the management from blame. The jury added to the verdict the following recommendations: First, that in future where 'safety lamps are used and in very dusty places powder should not be used; second, they recommend that in gaseous portions of the mine before the men resume work after dinner, the places should be examined by competent officials; third, they recommend the procurement for the use of the deputy inspector of mines a Shaw machine for testing gas."

A MEMORIAL HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT HARRISON by Mr. William E. Blackstone, of Chicago, in behalf of the Russian Jews. Mr. Blackstone explained that the memorial was the result of a conference of Christians and Jews recently held in Chicago, and called special attention to the fact that it did not antagonize Russia, but only sought in a peaceable way to give the Jews control of their old home in Palestine. The memorial shows that the Jews have lived as foreigners in the dominions of Russia for centuries, and she, regarding them as a burden upon her resources and as prejudicial to the interests of her peasant population, will not allow them to remain. But whether shall these 2,000,000 of poor people go?

Europe has no room for a larger peasant population. To bring them to America would require years and involve tremendous expense. Why not give Palestine back to them again? According to God's distribution of nations it is their home—an inalienable possession from which they were expelled by force. Under their cultivation it was a remarkably fruitful land, sustaining millions of Israelites, who industriously tilled its hillsides and valleys. They were agriculturists and producers as well as a nation of great commercial importance—the centre of civilization and religion. Why shall not the powers which under the treaty of Berlin, in 1878, gave Bulgaria to Bulgarians and Serbia to the Serbians give Palestine back to the Jews? It is said that rains are increasing, and there are many evidences that the land is recovering its ancient fertility. If they could have autonomy in government, the Jews of the world would rally to transport and establish their suffering brethren in their time-honored habitation. For over 17 centuries they have patiently waited for such a privileged opportunity. They have not become agriculturists elsewhere because they believed they were mere sojourners in the various nations, and were yet to return to Palestine and till their own land.

Finally, the President and his Secretary of State are respectfully petitioned to use their good offices with the Czar of Russia and with the other European powers to secure the holding, at an early date, of an international conference to consider the condition of the Israelites and their claims to Palestine in their ancient home, and to promote, in all other just and proper ways, the alleviation of their suffering condition. The memorial is very largely and influential signed by representative ministers of the gospel, leading newspaper men, judges and many prominent citizens. Mr. Blackstone urged that, being on friendly terms with Russia and having no complications in the Orient, it was most fitting and hopeful that the American government should institute this friendly movement to give to the wandering millions of Israel a settled and permanent home. The president has promised to give this matter his serious consideration.

Governor Hill, of New York, has proved to his own satisfaction that Gov. Bulkeley, of Connecticut, is not the lawful governor of that State and accordingly refuses to extradite Connecticut criminals. The result, of course, is to make the State a roguers' paradise for all Connecticut criminals who can manage to cross its boundaries. This Gov. Hill, both as mayor of New York City and as governor of the State, has pandered to the worst, while he has disregarded and antagonized the best elements in the municipal and political life of the city and the State. His name is prominently associated with the Democratic nomination to the presidency. If he should succeed in reaching this goal of his ambition, high-handed doings on a large

scale may be expected. The results that might follow the election of such a man to the office of chief executive in the great republic, and the tolerably fair chance of such an election taking place, are not pleasant things to contemplate.

THE RESULT OF THE ELECTIONS LAST AUTUMN IN KANSAS was to make the Farmers' Alliance party the controlling power in the legislature. The question of the re-submission of the prohibitory law had been one of the leading issues in the campaign, and as the Alliance had taken a non-committal position in the canvass, some apprehension as to the result was felt by the temperance people, when the question of re-submission should come before the House. The result of the discussion and the vote which took place February 26, shows that the Alliance members are sound on the prohibition question, the motion for re-submission being negatived by a vote of 72 to 27.

A POLITICAL CONVENTION IS BEING HELD IN SYDNEY, N. S. W., the purpose of which is to form a scheme of confederation for the Australian colonies. The convention is composed of the premiers and other representative men of the different provinces, and will probably continue in session during the greater part of the month. Some of the delegates, it is said, advocate independence for Australia, while others would prefer, if it were practicable, imperial federation, but the outcome of the convention is expected to be a confederation similar to that of Canada. New Zealand holds aloof from the movement and is not represented in the convention.

THE REPORT THAT 280 CHILDREN in Germany committed suicide during the last six years is startling. Overstudy for examinations is assigned as one of the causes. Precocious sentiment is another, and by this we presume is meant such sentiment as is stimulated by exciting fiction. The statement of Dr. Bilothe, of Vienna, noticed in our last issue, may be recalled in this connection. That statement was to the effect that the enormous increase of nerve and mind diseases in our day is due mainly to the alcohol and tobacco habits. No doubt the predisposing cause of suicide in children is often hereditary, and chargeable to an abused and exhausted nervous system in the parent.

WE HAVE NOT BEEN ACCUSTOMED to think of Russia as a cotton-growing country, but a dominion of so vast extent must embrace great diversities of climate and natural resource. It is believed that the province of Turkestan, in Eastern Russia, possesses capabilities for cotton growing which need only to be developed in order to produce enough, not only to supply the demands of the home market, but also to make Russia a cotton-exporting country. Mr. Edward Goujon, the Russian Emperor's Master of the Horse, who is said to be a leader in the scheme, has been lately on a visit to the Southern States, with a view, no doubt, to the collecting of facts for the proposed enterprise. The Czar, we are told, has promised a tariff on foreign cotton sufficient to secure the home market for such of his subjects as shall engage in the work of cotton planting in Turkestan. The annual importation of raw cotton into Russia is stated to be 600,000 bales, and as two-thirds of this comes from the Southern States of the American Republic, our neighbors to the South cannot be expected to look with great favor upon protected cotton growing in Russia. But after having shown the rest of the world how to do it, they should be the last to complain if other nations adopt their methods.

EVERYBODY HAS HEARD OF THE LONDON fogs, and some of our readers have had experience of them. It has not perhaps occurred to many that these fogs could by any possibility be regulated by an act of parliament. But as these so-called fogs are largely composed of smoke, it does not seem quite improbable that something might be done to mitigate them. A recent despatch informs us that an honorable member suggested in the House of Commons the other day that the government appoint a commission to report upon scientific means of effecting this purpose. Mr. W. H. Smith, First Lord of the Treasury, expressed his doubt of the ability of such a commission to deal with the matter, but added that the House of Lords had already made long and exhaustive inquiries into the subject, and had recommended the use of non-bituminous coal as a possible mitigation of the density of the London fogs. That and other measures in the direction of abating the fog nuisance were now before the House of Lords, and in due course of time the members of the House of Commons would have an opportunity to consider the bill and to discuss the subject of the fogs and the best means of dealing with them.

## Ministerial Education Fund.

Appropriations from this Fund are to be made the first of May. There will probably be forty applicants. In order to make the appropriation according to the scale approved by the last convention, fifteen hundred dollars will be needed. Probably not one-half of that sum will be in the treasury at the date named. Shall the Board reduce the amount for each applicant, or incur a debt? It will be easier to cut down the appropriation. But will this be fair? For some years the opinion has widely prevailed that more should be done to aid our ministerial students, and yet the sum granted to the Board remains about the same. Five per cent. of the total Convention Fund would have given us eleven hundred dollars, but the Board received last year only five hundred and fifty-eight dollars, or about 2 1/2 per cent. of the fund. This state of things we cannot contemplate with satisfaction. Will not pastors and other officers of the churches undertake to awaken more interest in this subject, that the record for this year may be more satisfactory?

A. W. SAWYER.

## 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."

NEW SOCIETY.—On Feb. 12th the ladies of the Wallace River Baptist church, Cumberland Co., N. S., organized a W. B. M. U. President—Mrs. C. Woodland; Secretary—F. E. Purdy; Treasurer—Louisa McKim. We hold our next meeting on March 3rd, and our present membership is twelve, with a prospect of more soon joining our ranks. Although our numbers are small, we feel assured that we are working in a noble cause and endeavoring to fulfill the commands of our Master, and if we fulfill His commands we have the promise of blessings from Him whose promises never fail.

FANNIE E. PURDY, Sec'y.

THE FIRST QUINQUENNIAL CONFERENCE of the American and Canadian Telugu missions met at Cocanada, from December 28, 1890, to January 2, 1891. An interesting report of the doings of the conference prepared by the secretary, Rev. John G. Brown, appeared in the *Canadian Baptist* of March 5. From this report we learn that thirty seven missionaries were present, representing fourteen fields. Distance, inconveniences of travel, etc., prevented many, especially of the American missionaries, being present. Dr. Clough, whom everybody hoped to see and welcome, was unavoidably absent, but telegraphed congratulations which read as follows:—"Ongole sends greetings to all at the Quinquennial Conference. Feb. 13: 20, 21. Sixteen hundred and seventy-one baptized yesterday. Psalm 12: 6, 7."

On Sunday, the first day of the conference, sermons were preached in the English Baptist chapel; in the morning by Rev. W. V. Higgins, of Chicacoole, and in the evening by Rev. M. B. Shaw, of Vizianagram, after which the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was observed. Three services were held in the Telugu chapel, when sermons were preached by visiting native brethren.

On Monday Dr. Downie, of Nellore, read a brief but comprehensive historical sketch of the American mission since the jubilee, in which he reviewed the policy of the mission, progress of the native church and changes in the missionary staff. Some have returned home through illness, two have died, and many new men and women have come. During the five years which have passed since the jubilee, over 12,500 have been baptized.

Rev. John Craig, of Akidu, followed with a paper, being a census of the Christians and their families on the American and Canadian fields. The paper was full of interest to all. A census commission of six was appointed to stand until the next Quinquennial conference, when full and accurate returns would be presented.

The evening was spent in hearing and discussing a paper read by Rev. J. H. Stillwell on the Missionary Needs of the Telugu People.

On Tuesday morning the conference re-assembled and spent an hour in prayer. The deep impression received the previous evening inspired all hearts to pray; and many and fervent were the petitions presented to Him who is the Hearer of prayer. Mr. Churchill, of Bobbili, read an excellent paper on the "Instruction of Converts after Baptism." Bro. Yohan Garu, from the Seminary at Ramapatam, read a paper on Telugu literature, in which he called attention to the gross insufficiency of the supply of good literature in the Telugu language, and pleaded for increased

to supply the crying need of the native Christians in this respect.

At the closing session, after half an hour spent in prayer, Dr. Boggs read a carefully prepared paper on "Telugu Christian Literature and the need of a Baptist Publication Society." He argued that the time had come for the setting apart of one or two missionaries who, aided by competent native assistants, should give their whole time to the production of Telugu Christian literature. At present the supply of books comes chiefly from other missionary societies. At a subsequent session of the conference, steps were taken to form a Publication Society, to be composed of representatives from each of the three missions. Thus it is to be hoped that the growing need of our Telugu native Christians will soon be met in regard to good religious books, such as commentaries, histories, biographies, sermons, etc.

Wednesday was reserved for the ladies, for the discussion of "Woman's Work for Woman." Both sessions were characterized by great earnestness and enthusiasm. Miss Hatch presided in the morning and Mrs. Garaid in the evening. Mrs. Churchill, of Bobbili, read a very interesting paper on Caste Girls' Schools, in which she spoke from personal experience of the advantages of this method of spreading the Gospel among the caste people. On our mission fields there are at least eight such schools, with an attendance of about 600 pupils. Mrs. Garaid read a thoughtful paper on Bible Women's Work. Miss Wright, of Chicacoole, followed with a paper on "Touring in the Villages." Other subjects of interest were presented in the evening.

Thursday being New Year's day, at dawn many gathered for prayer and thanksgiving and for renewed consecration to the service of Him who had so graciously spared us during another year. After breakfast the Conference reassembled, and after a further season of prayer Mr. Craig took the chair. Mr. Davis, of Cocanada, read a paper on a subject which lies near his heart, "Self-support among the Telugus." The growing evils of the present patronage system were clearly shown and the beginning of a new era in mission policy was strongly advocated. This system was shown to be demoralizing both to the Christians and the heathen. No proper relation can exist between pastor and people while he receives all his salary from without and not from those among whom and for whom he labors. Mr. Davis advocated the adoption of a new watchword, "Telugu money for Telugus, and Canadian money for Canadians." No paper read at the Conference awakened more discussion than the one on self-support. All seemed to feel that this great problem must be attempted and that, too, right away. Already on the Akiu and Cocanada fields a good start has been made in the way of self-support.

On Friday morning, after important items of business had been transacted, Mr. Laflamme, of Yellamanchili, read a thoughtful and suggestive paper upon the subject, "A Missionary Conference." After the discussion of this paper, Mr. Higgins read an historical sketch of the Canadian mission during the past five years. During that time no less than twenty new missionaries have joined the mission, though some have returned home through illness. The number of persons baptized has been 1,459 and the present approximate number of Christians is 2,707.

In the evening, after the transaction of business, Dr. Boggs preached a helpful sermon on Ps. 36: 8, after which some time was spent in hearing verbal testimonies from those present as to blessings and impressions received during the Conference. All were unanimous in pronouncing the meetings peculiarly enjoyable, inspiring and profitable. A deeper sense of the awful needs of these perishing millions around us and of the necessity for increased consecration and redoubled efforts in their behalf, together with the conviction that our numbers must be greatly reinforced and that soon, impressed itself upon all present. After the hymn, "God be with you till we meet again," had been sung, Dr. Downie, of Nellore, closed the meeting with prayer.

A word or two must be said regarding the Telugu portion of the Conference. The afternoon of each day was devoted to Telugu meetings, which were quite independent of the English meetings. Quite a large number of our native brethren were present. I am sure that it would have done our readers good if they could have looked into the intelligent, earnest faces of those Telugu brethren and sisters as they sat there from day to day eagerly drinking in all that was said. The papers read were of a high order and exhibited much thought and careful preparation. It was worth while coming to Cocanada to see venerable Kanakiah (a veritable Saul among his brethren), the oldest-ordained Telugu Baptist preacher; and Julia, who was one of the famous "lone stars" band who consecrated "Prayer meeting Hill."