

Messenger and Visitor.

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—MR. AND MRS. I. C. ARCHIBALD desire that until further notice all correspondents will address them in care of MESSENGER AND VISITOR, St. John, N. B.

—We have pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of eight dollars for the Stundists of Russia—the proceeds of a collection taken in the North River Baptist church, P. E. I., also three dollars from the church at Hampton, N. B., which will be promptly forwarded.

—We are sorry to learn from Dr. T. H. Rand, of Toronto; that both his own health and that of Mrs. Rand is somewhat impaired through a serious attack of la grippe. Dr. Rand hopes to come this way and to breathe the sea air for a while during the summer. We do not need to assure him that he will receive a most hearty welcome whenever he may come.

—JANVIS STREET CHURCH, Toronto, is noted for the generous dimensions of its annual collections for home missions. On a recent Sunday the collection for that object amounted to over \$2,000. The Baptist says: "It would be a mistake to suppose that the Jarvis street members can raise such a sum as this without feeling it, or that the sum is chiefly made up of large donations from the wealthy. On the contrary it is, we are assured, the result of organized, hard work on the part of the few, and liberal giving on the part of the many, smaller sums and larger according to individual ability."

—THE Presbyterian Witness, in noticing a volume "beautifully printed and neatly bound, containing the four Gospels and the Acts in the Eromanga language," tells very briefly the story of John Williams and the Gordons, the martyr missionaries to Eromanga whose courage and Christian heroism have made so great an impression on the Christian world. Greatly have our Presbyterian brethren in these provinces been honored of God in being permitted to rear and send forth such missionaries. Their names are an inspiration to brave deeds for Christ and for humanity; not only within the denomination to which they belong, but wherever the story of their lives and deaths has been told. We hope, in our next issue, to find room for the article referred to.

—We are pleased to learn that Rev. J. W. Manning now finds himself in a position to comply with the request of the F. M. Board, and it is expected that he will accordingly enter into his new relations about the first of May. When Mr. Manning's resignation was first presented to his church, resolutions were adopted expressive of the church's appreciation of his most faithful and acceptable ministry for a period of seven years; at the same time protesting against the policy of taking away from the pastoral work, to the apparently irreparable loss of the church, a pastor so able and so highly esteemed by his people, and expressing the opinion that the secretaryship of the F. M. Board could be satisfactorily filled by a layman. On this ground the church, though heartily in sympathy with the F. M. cause, felt itself unable, under the circumstances, to accept the resignation of its pastor. Subsequently an urgent appeal came from the Board requesting the church, in consideration of the great and urgent need of Bro. Manning in the field, to re-lease him by the first of May, which request has been complied with.

—The celebration by the Main St. Baptist church of this city of its jubilee on Friday evening last was an occasion of importance to the church, and of much interest to the large congregation which occupied all the pews and made some seats in the aisles of the church necessary. The church was tastefully decorated with flags and the programme of services was well arranged. The excellent music was a very enjoyable part of the service. Rev. A. E. Ingram, of the Tabernacle church, offered an opening prayer. The pastor, Rev. S. Walton, read a necessarily brief but very interesting sketch, reviewing the church's history during the half century and dwelling for a little on the main facts in the life of the late Rev. Samuel Robinson, whose work was so influential in connection with the early history of the Portland church as well as other of the Baptist churches of this city. Rev. C. H. Martell, of Fairville, gave a short but excellent address on "The ideal of a Christian church." S. McC. Black, of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, spoke on "The church's opportunity," and Rev. G. O. Gates, of Gormain St. church, made a vigorous address on "The social side of the church." A jubilee thank-offering was made, the amount of which we did not learn, and the services closed

with the benediction from the pastor. Afterwards quite a number of the friends partook of refreshments in the vestry. We would congratulate the Portland church upon the completion of its first half century and upon its gratifying increase in numbers and influence. This church occupies a fine position for work. A great door of usefulness is open before it, and we trust that its future will be a most honorable and successful one.

—OUR Foreign Missionary correspondence is a valuable feature of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, and the letters from India must be read by many with great pleasure and profit. This week they seem to us to be especially interesting and valuable. The letter from Bro. Morrow in Burmah, although he is not directly connected with us in missionary work, will not lack abundant interest to many readers. Then the letters of Bro. Shaw and Bro. Morse are just the kind of letters to create and foster interest in our mission and its work. They are written from different points of view and deal with things quite different in themselves; but they are alike in this, that they present mission life in India in an exceedingly graphic and realistic manner, and thus bring the work in its different phases and conditions in closer contact with our minds and hearts. One almost feels, after reading these letters, as if he had been in India with our missionaries, breathing its hot atmosphere and rejoicing with them in the coming of the blessed rain. We can imagine that we have walked with Mr. and Mrs. Morse through the streets of Bimlipatam, or sat with Bro. Shaw and his teachers as he read the Scriptures and reasoned with the Brahmin and his people concerning God and His salvation. Bro. Shaw's remarks as to the religious character of the Telugu, their knowledge of and attitude toward the Supreme Being are exceedingly interesting and instructive.

PASSING EVENTS.

THE lottery question in Louisiana has had the effect of dividing both the old political parties, so that there are now five candidates for the office of governor in that State. There are two Democratic candidates, two Republican candidates, pro and anti-lottery, and a People's party candidate. It had been agreed between the Democratic factions that the one obtaining a majority of votes in the "primaries" should receive the support of the whole party. A small majority was given in favor of the "anti" faction, but the lottery faction refused to keep its promise, and has put its candidate in the field. The Republicans likewise, pro and anti, have their two candidates. The Springfield Republican thinks that the Republicans are coming together and will probably unite on Leonard, who is the anti-lottery candidate for governor, and that he, with the support or connivance of the Democratic "antis," will be elected. "The outcome of the fight," it says, "is therefore almost sure to be disastrous to the lottery," whatever may be its effect upon the Democratic party. Some of our religious exchanges, we observe, are not so sanguine as to the defeat of the lottery. The Watchman remarks that "the negroes are a very uncertain factor in this contest, and their votes probably will decide the question." And the Congregationalist says: "It was a sorry day for the anti-lottery Democrats when their leaders decided to negotiate with their pro-lottery opponents. They gave an inch; they have lost an ell. Northern sympathy has waned, and the fight may have to be begun again at the point where it started."

A BILL for the exclusion of the Chinese from the United States passed the House of Representatives last week, and by some it is declared not unlikely that it will also pass the Senate. The Chinaman of the class that usually comes to America is certainly not a very desirable immigrant. His habits, from a moral point of view, are none of the best. He does not assimilate with the people or contribute much to the upbuilding of the country. The money which he makes he carries with him when he returns to China, as it is always, we believe, his ambition to do. His way of living, quite unendurable by the poorest class of Americans or Europeans, enables him to support life on very little, and places the native workman at a great disadvantage in any competition with the Chinaman. It is little wonder, therefore, if John Chinaman is not a favorite with the people of the Pacific Coast, and that the parliaments of the United States and of Canada are being asked from time to time to enact restrictive legislation against him. Still

there is, a strong feeling in both countries against shutting the door in the face of the Chinese. Many who advocate a policy of restriction and protection in other matters are disposed to draw the line here. On philanthropic and religious grounds, too, many are opposed to the exclusion of the Chinese. It is argued that it would be unjust and oppressive because directed against a certain race, irrespective of the individual character, and it is also plainly in contravention of treaty stipulations existing between China and the United States. If the bill above mentioned becomes law, it will involve the exclusion of all Chinamen, except diplomatic and consular officers. The success of the bill is to be attributed to the desire of politicians to influence a certain class of voters, and it is improbable that it will become law. If it should, it is believed the result would be the severance of all diplomatic relations between the two countries, and it would probably operate disastrously to Christian missions in China. American missionaries would likely be expelled, and those of other countries seriously hindered in their work. It seems likely, however, that even if the measure should pass the Senate it would encounter the veto of the President. The religious press of the United States is uttering vigorous and unanimous protests against the proposed law.

THE favorite field of operation for the anarchists has hitherto been in Russia. The severe absolutism of that autocratic government has provoked them to their most fanatical demonstrations. But of late they have been operating in south-western Europe—engaged in a persistent attempt to terrorize the governments and the people of France and Spain. Severe legislation has recently been enacted against them in these countries. The explosion of bombs in Paris and other cities of France caused so much alarm that the government was induced to make the unlawful use of explosives a capital offence. Being severely pressed in France the anarchists appear to have gone over into Spain, and their fiendish operations there culminated in an attempt to blow up the House of Parliament at Madrid, and the Royal Palace. These deeds have been punished, whenever the perpetrators could be caught, with due severity, and a note has been issued to the European governments asking for a conference for united action. The anarchists, however, appear to be well organized, and in spite of the vigilance of the police and the severe justice that is dealt out to them when apprehended, they persistently carry on their murderous work.

THERE is probably, to say the least, much more of romance than fact in the accounts which come from Europe concerning the exploits which the German military authorities are said to be accomplishing by means of balloons. It is pretended that these Germans have learned the secret of managing balloons, directing them in any desired course, propelling them against an adverse wind and holding them stationary, when desired, for any length of time. It is declared that the Germans have caused great consternation among their Russian neighbors, having been able by means of their balloons, not only to observe all movements in the Russian forts and to copy their plans, but they have taken electric search-lights into their balloons and, to the despair and terror of the Russians, have been able to follow their operations while concealed by the darkness themselves. When it is shown that Emperor William is able to command such ariel engineering of war as this, his threat of "pulverizing Russia" will not appear so vain. If balloons, sailing so high as to be beyond the reach of bullets, can afford means for spying out the fortifications of an enemy, it will be an easy thing, we suppose, for a carload of bombs to be dropped into the fort or showered down upon some devoted city. When such inventions come to be it would seem necessary that either war or the world should come to an end.

PROPOSED legislation in reference to silver is commanding a large share of attention in the United States Congress. The Bond Bill, which provided for free coinage of silver, encountered unexpected opposition in the house and appears to have been effectually shelved. There are still other measures before Congress on the same subject, of which the most important appears to be Mr. Lodge's bill, which suspends the purchase of silver bullion and the issue of treasury notes required by the act of 1890, and looks toward the establish-

ment of an international ratio between gold and silver; and Mr. Springer's measure authorizing the holding of an international monetary conference. This congress it is proposed to hold in Chicago, beginning Aug. 3, 1893, and continuing until a majority of the congress shall vote to adjourn. Twenty-one members of this congress are to be appointed by the United States, and of this number the president is to appoint seven, the remaining fourteen to be appointed from the members of Congress by the presiding officers of the senate and the house. The president is to invite the co-operation of all foreign countries with whom the United States have diplomatic relations. The congress is to formulate and submit for the approval of the governments represented a uniform system and non-coinage of coinage and of weights and measures, and also, if feasible, an international agreement as to the relation which shall be maintained between gold and silver, and as to uniformity in weights and fineness of the coins of each metal, and the adoption of coins that would be current at the same value in all countries of the world. The task set for the proposed congress is certainly a large one, but the proposal at least looks in the right direction. It seems probable that the invitation would be accepted by a number of the leading nations, and the discussion of international monetary interests and the other matters proposed could hardly result in anything but good.

A Short History of the Baptists.

BY HENRY C. VEDDER.

The above is the title of a small volume of 240 pages lately published by the American Baptist Publication Society. The chapters which compose the book appeared about a year ago in the Standard, of Chicago, and were read by many with great interest. In publishing the work in its present form the author acknowledges the benefit of suggestions and criticisms from those who have read the work as it appeared in the Standard. With these in mind the work has been subject to careful revision and several chapters have been rewritten. The design of the author, as he tells us in his preface, has been to meet the long-felt need of a history of the Baptists "written in an interesting style, yet with scholarly accuracy, not so voluminous as to repel readers, and cheap enough to be owned by the poorest." We believe that the verdict of readers will be that Mr. Vedder's book fairly meets these conditions. By reason of its limited volume, the book can scarcely do more than give a bird's-eye view of its subject. Still, in this character, it will be of interest and value to the student of Baptist history who will supplement the knowledge which it affords with the study of other works which deal more fully with the details of the subject, and the book will be especially welcome to busy people who have no time to master the more elaborate histories, but who wish to be in possession of the main facts relating to the history and growth of their denomination.

A spirit of fairness and conservatism appears in the book. The absence of rash and unbecoming claims as to the origin and antiquity of the denomination is a commendable feature. Concerning the claim so confidently put forth by some Baptist writers in recent years of an unbroken succession of Baptist churches from the present time back to the apostles, the author says: "It would have been a great pleasure to make this hypothesis one's own, and to construct the book along these lines. It is, however, the misfortune or the fault, as the reader pleases, of the author to have been born with an inveterate tendency to look at both sides of a question and weigh the facts well before deciding." He has, therefore, felt himself obliged to treat the hypothesis above referred to as "lacking historical proof."

The volume is divided into three parts. Part I, in three chapters, sketches briefly the history of the primitive church. The general title of Part II is "The Persecuted Church." The first chapter in this part gives a brief glance at the "Protestants who were before Protestantism," and the "Reformers who preceded the Reformation." We are introduced to Peter of Brays, Henry of Lausanne, Arnold of Brescia, and Peter Waldo and the Waldenses. The three succeeding chapters are devoted to the Anabaptists of Switzerland, Germany and Holland. These chapters are interesting and valuable. In accordance with the statements of able modern historians, these people are defended from the aspersions which it was formerly the fashion to cast upon their name. Chapter 8, the closing one of this section,

is devoted to the English Baptists—their origin and doctrines.

Part III deals with the "Evangelizing Church." Chapters 9 and 10 are devoted to the English Baptists and tell of their struggles for liberty, their successes and their growth.

The four following chapters give the history of Baptists in the American colonies and the United States, and form an exceedingly interesting and valuable portion of the book. Chapter 15 gives a brief account of Baptists in other countries. Two or three pages only are devoted to Canadian Baptists. This is meagre enough, of course, but is perhaps all that could be expected in so brief and comprehensive a work. The statement that Acadia College was founded about 1830 is, of course, rather wide of the mark. The concluding chapter is devoted to the progress of Baptist principles. The author shows that many things for which Baptists contended under persecution in their early history are now conceded, if not adopted; by evangelical Christians of all communions.

We have pleasure in commending this short history to the notice of our readers. Every Baptist pastor will want to have it. A copy should be in every Baptist family, and several copies in every Sunday school library. For the young people, for whom especially it has been prepared, it will have great value. Pastors could hardly do a better thing for their young people than to lead them through the chapters of the book, and make them thoroughly familiar with its contents.

One valuable feature of the book is the list, given at the beginning of each section, of works which may be consulted by those who wish to make a more thorough study of the subject.

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:
"Be not weary in well-doing."

Notes from W. M. A. Societies of N. B.

Doubtless there are many eager eyes watching for the quarterly report from the W. M. A. Societies of N. B. There is no time in the year in which our work is more impeded than it is during the months of the closing quarter; cold, disagreeable weather, also the prevailing colds and other ills of the season, serve their part faithfully as obstacles to the growth of missions. Notwithstanding all these, Mrs. Archibald was able to accompany her husband in visiting many churches in Kings, Queens and Albert counties. She organized one mission band in Kings Co., known as 2nd Springfield Mission Band—pres., Mrs. Gray; secy., Master Vernon Keirstead. So far as we know there are but three Aid Societies and two Mission Bands in this largely Baptist County. If there are others the provincial secretary for N. B. will be pleased to hear from them. In Queens County two societies were organized: Bolyea Cove—President, Mrs. George Bolyea; secretary, Miss Crafts. Thorntown—President, Mrs. I. Hetherington; secy., Miss Flora Hetherington. Twenty-one years ago there were six societies; now there are thirteen, all doing good work. In Albert County two societies have been recently organized: Dawson Settlement—Secy., Mrs. I. B. Colwell; Baltimore—Secy., Mrs. William Bishop. Making a total of thirteen Aids and three Mission Bands actively engaged for the Master.

Mrs. A. D. Hartley, secretary for Victoria and Carleton, reports she has been able to visit a few societies. In the more rural districts it is difficult to keep up the interest. Many think they are almost as destitute as those in the Telugu country. Oh, sisters, if any who read this are of that number, think of what you know about Jesus as a loving, sympathizing Saviour, mighty to save—think of your own Bible—think of your Christian homes, with all the opportunities you have to give the Word of Life to those who never heard it. Faint not by the way. Go forward in the strength of Him who has said, "Lo, I am with you always." Let the weakest seek strength by thus waiting on the Lord, and just see how soon you will be able to report the growth which will be a help to others.

The St. John County Convention was held in February, according to appointment. Mrs. Wm. Allwood presided. After the usual opening exercises an hour was devoted to a parliamentary drill, which was helpful in showing us how to preside over a meeting, and deal with motions, amendments, and amendments to amendments. Although the topics brought before us in this exercise were expressly for the parliamentary drill, some excellent thoughts were presented. Two fine papers were given by Mrs. Bowman, mover of the motion, and

Mrs. Estey, seconder. In the amendment and amendment to the amendment were brought before the convention the different departments of our work, viz: Foreign, Maritime, Grande Ligne and North-west Missions, also our method of home working in each interest.

This was followed by a welcome to the delegates given by Mrs. W. J. Stewart, each one responding by repeating a scripture text. This was one of the most impressive features of the meeting. And as one after another followed in prayer, truly our hearts burned within us as we communed with our Elder Brother, and all felt it was good to be there. Earnest and impressive remarks were made by Mrs. Allwood, Mrs. J. F. Masters, and Miss Palmer (of the Methodist Missionary Society), which will be long remembered. Then came one of Mrs. Archibald's telling addresses, thrilling the mind of each hearer, making all feel that words are meaningless unless followed by action. "Blessed are those whom the Lord shall find doing." This interesting session was terminated by a duet sung by Mrs. Alfred Seely and Mrs. W. J. Stewart, with taste and expression, and the benediction by Rev. I. C. Archibald. The evening session was filled by a programme by the F. M. Board, which was previously reported in MESSENGER AND VISITOR. Says one of our correspondents: "These Co. conventions are grand institutions." Yes, they are indeed. We want more of them. As the general influence of spring inspires our hearts to praise our great Creator, let us show forth our love for Him by active Christian service this centennial year. County secretaries, arrange your plans for holding meetings, county conventions, etc. The N. B. Provincial Secretary will be glad to give you her co-operation and by united effort advance the kingdom of our Lord.

Centennial W. M. A. S.

The first public meeting of the W. M. A. S. of the Centennial Baptist church was held February 21st. Owing to the indisposition of the president, Mrs. Todd, our pastor, Rev. T. Todd, took the chair. The meeting opened with music by the choir, followed by reading of the Scriptures and prayer. From the secretary's report we learn that the society was organized March 26, 1874, with a membership of eight, which has increased to thirty-six. Addresses were made by the pastor, Rev. S. Howard (Methodist) and Deacon Currie. Three original papers were read: the first by the president entitled, "Have I a missionary spirit?" in which the writer showed that by our prayers, offerings and sympathy we may be co-laborers with the workers in foreign lands, and thus extend the Redeemer's kingdom; the second by Mr. Miller, which graphically described the "Life and labors of the pioneer missionary, Carey"; the third, "A passing glance at the women of India," by the corresponding secretary. A reading was also given by Mrs. L. J. Sherwood, entitled, "A Hindrance to Missions." A collection was taken amounting to \$6.30. "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver." Let us give cheerfully and pray earnestly that those who sit in the region and shadow of death may ere long enjoy the full light of the Sun of Righteousness.

Notice to the Aid Societies and Mission Bands of N. B.

All who wish to send contributions to the box we are sending to our missionaries by Mr. and Mrs. Archibald can do so by sending all parcels for the same to Rev. Jos. H. Saunders, MESSENGER AND VISITOR office, St. John. At an early date a list of articles which are suitable for the box will be published in this column. Any one desiring further information is requested to write the N. B. Prov. Secy., W. B. M. U., Fairville, St. John, N. B.

Literary Notes.

With the April number the Review of Reviews enters upon its second year. The principal article in this number is an elaborate discussion by Dr. Albert Shaw, editor of the magazine, of the most current phases of municipal problems in New York and London, illustrated with a large number of very fine portraits of distinguished men in the two great capitals of the English-speaking world. The nature of the northern part of the new British empire that Mr. Cecil Rhodes is establishing in South Africa is well described in an article entitled, "With Mr. Rhodes through Missionland."

In the Easter double number of the Youth's Companion Justin McCarthy, M. P., Rev. Lyman Abbott, D. D., Elizabeth Stuart Phelps and Elizabeth W. Bellamy each have a delightful story or article in character-istic style. This single edition has 600,000 copies.