

The Messenger and Visitor

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 1898.

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PORT MEDWAY.—Mrs Freeman writes that a W. M. A. S. was organized in January at Port Medway with twenty members. Mrs. Freeman, President; Mrs. Daley and Mrs. Howley, Vice-Presidents; Miss Hattie Manthorn, Secretary; Miss Sophia Mismar, Treasurer.

MR. JOHN SEARS, of Midgie station, who is now past eighty years of age, is remitting his annual subscription says, "This Messenger and Visitor is always a welcome visitor to our house. Its clear type and the excellent character of its contents render it more appreciable than any other paper of my acquaintance."

The reports from the St. John pastors at their meeting on Monday morning were very cheering. A deep interest continues to pervade the religious services in all the churches. Last Lord's day, pastor Gates baptized 6, pastor Daley 3, Dr. Carey 5, pastor Gordon 9, pastor Carey 9, pastor Schurman 6—a total of 38.

The *Telegraph* expresses surprise at the silence of the MESSENGER and VISITOR in reference to the remedial order issued by the Dominion Government respecting the Manitoba School Law. This is easily explained by the fact that the editor was absent from home and had no opportunity to prepare an article upon the subject last week. We feel highly flattered, however, to know that the remarks of the MESSENGER and VISITOR are considered of so much interest in the *Telegraph* sanctum. We observe by the way that this same subject has received but very slight editorial attention from our esteemed contemporary. An undue reticence upon political subjects of great general interest is not ordinarily chargeable upon the *Telegraph*.

DR. JOHN A. BRODIE, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, died at his home, Louisville, Ky., March 16th, of pleurisy complicated with organic heart trouble. He would be generally regarded, we presume, as the most representative man among Southern Baptists and among all his brethren, North and South, he was held in the highest esteem. Dr. Brodie was a man of noble spirit and fine ability. For many years he had given self-sacrificing and most valuable service to the institution of which he was president. He was a man of conspicuous ability. As teacher, biblical scholar and commentator and as preacher his distinguished talents were widely recognized. Among Dr. Brodie's best known works were his *Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew and The Preparation and Delivery of Sermons*.

The Faculty of Harvard has come to the conclusion, that intercollegiate football matches are inimical to the best interests of the students. It is believed that the evils which these contests have developed are of so deep-rooted and formidable a character that it is better to end the contests than to attempt to mend them. Accordingly the suggestions of the Athletic Committee to permit the continuance of these matches with certain restrictions and eliminations are rejected and the voice of the Faculty is given for suppression. In this it is likely to have the sympathy and support of right thinking people, since it has become sufficiently evident that the results of these contests, as played off late years in the United States, is demoralizing not only to the students and institutions engaging in them, but to the public generally.

The Montreal daily *Witness* in a recent issue published an article from the pen of Rev. David Spencer respecting the work of the Baptist denomination in Ontario and Quebec. The article is illustrated with cuts of McMaster Hall, Moulton's College and the Woodstock buildings, and altogether occupies nearly a page of the paper. It traces briefly the educational work of the Baptists in the Upper Provinces from the opening of the Montreal Baptist college with Rev. Dr. Davies as Principal, and sets forth the important work which McMaster University in its various departments has now in hand, and its need of generous financial support in order to carry forward its undertakings. Referring to Mr. Spencer's article the *Witness* says editorially:

"The early history of the Baptist denomination was marked by a very remarkable appreciation of education as a factor in religious work. The first effort of the Baptists in this direction was the establishment of a college in Montreal. Their ambition has its monument in the magnificent building on City street, now known as Mount St. Mary Institute, which, with the exception of the Guy street wing, was built and occupied by the Baptists for years under the principalship of the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Davies, father of Mr. J. Try Davies of this city, and a noted classical and Hebrew scholar, who became classical professor at McGill upon the re-organization of that university, and held the

position until called to the principalship of the great Baptist college in London, which occupied and still occupies the magnificent building erected as a private residence by George Peabody in Regent's Park. Dr. Davies was one of the translators of the revised version of the Old Testament. Dr. Davies's successor was the Rev. Dr. Cramp, father of the late Thomas Cramp and of Mr. G. B. Cramp, still among us. On the fall of the main ten so large an institution Dr. Cramp removed to Wolfville, in Nova Scotia, where he became the head of an important Baptist college, the Acadia (Acadian) University, and the leader of his denomination in a province where it was very strong. These were the beginnings of a work which afterwards developed at Woodstock, in Ontario, and which has culminated in Macmaster University at Toronto."

PASSING EVENTS.

The remedial order issued in the matter of the Manitoba school legislation is too long to reproduce in its entirety, but as much of it is given below as seems necessary to an understanding of its scope and character. After indicating the substance and manner of the appeal of the Roman Catholic minority and the legal grounds on which it is based, the document proceeds:

"Upon hearing what was alleged by counsel on both sides His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council was pleased to order and adjudge, and it is hereby ordered and adjudged that the said appeal be and the same is hereby allowed in so far as it relates to rights acquired by the said Roman Catholic minority under legislation of the province of Manitoba, passed subsequent to the union of that province with the Dominion of Canada and His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council was pleased to adjudge and declare, and it is hereby adjudged and declared, that by the two acts passed by the legislature of the province of Manitoba on the 20th day of May, 1890, intitled respectively 'An act respecting the Department of Education,' and 'An act respecting public schools,' the rights and privileges of the Roman Catholic minority of the said province in relation to education prior to the first of May, 1890, have been affected by depriving the Roman Catholic minority of the following rights and privileges which previous to and until the first day of May, 1890, such minority had, viz.,

(a) The right to build, maintain, equip, manage, conduct and support Roman Catholic schools in the manner provided for by the said statutes which were repealed by the two acts of 1890 referred to.

(b) The right to share proportionately in any grant made out of the public funds for the purposes of education.

(c) The right of exemption of such Roman Catholic schools from all payment or contribution to the support of any other schools.

And His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council was further pleased to declare and decide, and it is hereby declared that it seems requisite that the system of education embodied in the two acts of 1890 aforesaid, shall be supplemented by a provincial act or acts which will restore to the Roman Catholic minority the said rights and privileges of which such minority has been so deprived as aforesaid, and which will modify the said acts of 1890, so far as they relate to the said rights and so far only, as may be necessary to give effect to the provisions restoring the rights and privileges in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) herein before mentioned.

To one unacquainted in the mysteries and subtleties of the law it does not appear to be an easy thing to understand the intricacies of this subject. It appears to be held or implied by those who discuss the matter that the Dominion government was bound in accordance with the legal requirements of the case to do as it has done. If this is the view lawyers take of it, it would be temerity in a layman to dispute it. There are one or two facts, however, which anyone can understand. The Governor-General-in-Council has advised the Manitoba government that it is necessary that the laws of that province be so amended as to restore to the Roman Catholics the rights and privileges which they enjoyed previous to the enactment of the provincial school law of 1890. But the highest judicial authority in the Empire has declared that this law contravened no constitutional rights of Roman Catholics. The same authority has, however, since decided that the said law does infringe certain rights and privileges acquired by the Roman Catholic minority of Manitoba since the province entered the Dominion, and that therefore the R. C. minority had a right of appeal for remedial legislation under a certain section of the Manitoba Act. This appeal has been admitted. It has also been allowed. Now, one or two questions arise which we do not feel prepared at present to answer. Are these rights of the R. C. minority legal rights, or are they natural rights, or rights in equity? The lawyers—at least some of them—seem to say the former. We had supposed that if such rights existed they could be regarded only as natural or abstract rights. But the lawyers seem to say otherwise, and if so we must have been mistaken. Again as another question depending on that just noticed; was the government at Ottawa under any constitutional or legal obligation to allow the appeal and grant a remedial order? We had supposed not. We believed if the government should take the position that, whatever privileges the Manitoba school law may have taken from the Roman Catholics, it was not in the public interest that the free action of the province should be interfered with in this matter, that in such case there

was no power, constitutional or otherwise, that could or would have compelled a different course of action. We are not wholly convinced as yet that this view of the question was incorrect, though there are those that ought to know who seem to say to the contrary.

THE recent discovery by a Mr. Wilson, of North Carolina, of a cheaper method of producing Acetylene gas may have important economic results in connection with artificial lighting. Acetylene is a hydro carbon, very rich in carbon and possessing correspondingly high illuminating power. This property of Acetylene had long been known, but its production by any method hitherto known was too expensive to make it available for practical use. It seems that Mr. Wilson stumbled very unexpectedly upon his discovery. In the endeavor to form an alloy of calcium he had melted some lime and powdered coal together in a furnace, when, to his disappointment, the mixture fused into a heavy semi-metallic mass, and to get rid of it he threw it into a bucket of water. It was a lucky throw. The water to his surprise effervesced violently and gave out a heavy garlic-smelling gas, which Mr. Wilson soon identified as Acetylene. The solid proved to be carbide of calcium. Calcium carbide, then is decomposed in water, the water itself being also decomposed. In recombination the oxygen goes upon the calcium, forming calxide oxide (lime), and the hydrogen unites with the carbon in the right proportion (C2 H2) to form Acetylene—a gas which far surpasses all the hydro-carbons in illuminating power. Mr. Wilson estimates that a pound of calcium carbide will yield 53 feet of acetylene and he expects to be able to manufacture the carbide at \$5 per ton. It is also stated that a burner giving a light of 50 candle power will consume only one foot of the gas per hour. When gas of this quality can be produced and sold at the price of five cents per thousand feet—as Mr. Wilson estimates—we may consider that the problem of cheap lighting has been reached. According to the statements just put forth Acetylene will be very conveniently used for lighting in country places and small towns which are not provided with a gas system, as it can be prepared and sold in cans in a liquid form or even generated on the spot for individual lights.

ALL accounts appear to agree in representing Lord Rosebery as being in a serious condition of ill-health. A severe attack of influenza or grip coming upon a constitution presumably somewhat over-wrought by mental work and anxiety, has very much reduced his lordship's strength. He suffers greatly from insomnia and depression of spirit, and it is said that his hair has turned quite white during the past month from suffering and loss of sleep. Lord Rosebery is comparatively a young man, and if he can get sleep, he will probably rapidly regain his health and strength. But if his health does not soon improve his resignation is inevitable. It is reported indeed, that it has been his lordship's wish for some weeks past to resign and that he has been held in office only by the persuasion of his friends. In the event of Lord Rosebery's retirement from the premiership, it is probable that Sir William Vernon Harcourt would be called to the leadership of the party.

There are indeed some who seem to think that Mr. Gladstone's somewhat hasty return to England indicates that the aged statesman is about to resume his old place of command. But it seems more probable that Mr. Gladstone is in London at this time simply in order that, at a critical juncture, he may give his political friends the benefit of his counsels, which, doubtless, they would be anxious to have.

MR. GLADSTONE has returned from the Riviera to London and although his arrival occurred on a foggy evening, unfavorable for a popular demonstration, a huge crowd had assembled at the station, and volleys of hearty cheers greeted his appearance. According to the *New York Times*'s correspondent, Mr. Gladstone seemed physically vigorous and walked across the platform with erect bearing and firm step. The profile is a good deal sunken, but to look him in the eye he is as alert and strong-faced as ever. The fact, says Mr. Frederick, that he hurried his return forward by several days and made the whole journey without a stop—although the latter is his habit—has given great stimulus to speculation about his possible resumption of active political life.

The prediction would be foolish, but it can at least be said that men's thoughts have been growing accustomed at a rapid rate the last few days to the idea of Mr. Gladstone's resumption of power as quite among the possibilities.

Letter from Dr. Saunders.

Through brother Isaac Shaw of Weston, I have learned some cheering facts in regard to the Berwick church since the Rev. Mr. Simpson took charge on the first of January last, fifty-four have been added by baptism, nineteen by letter and one restored. The continuous meetings are deeply interesting. Many members of the church are actively engaged in the good work. Nine years happily spent in this field as pastor and three months in the spring of 1891, in which time there was a general awakening and many baptized, has given me an undying interest in the people of West Cornwallis. I unite with the church in thanking God that he sent them brother Simpson for a pastor.

The Rev. M. B. Shaw, and family arrived from Toulougan on the 12th of March, at Vancouver. Their plan is to remain for a time on the Pacific coast for the benefit of Mrs. Shaw's health. All desire that the climate may restore the strength lost in India, and that our brother and family may soon return to their loved work. It seems not long since brother Shaw's father and mother stood before me to be joined in the sacred bonds of matrimony. They have raised a family of children and scattered them most generously in the world to do their life work. Mark B., missionary to the Tolouga; Carl, studying at a medical college, Des Moines, Iowa; Harlan Page, teacher in State Normal school, Bridgewater, Mass.; Fred M., head teacher in a school of 600 pupils at Paterson, N. J.; and Avery A. is in his second year at Rochester Theological school, Rochester; only daughter is settled at home, and adopted daughter in training for hospital nurse. That is a specimen of what Nova Scotia families are doing for the world. That is Mount Holyoke and Acadia college coming together—results, enthusiasm for an education.

The Rev. E. O. Reid, one of the veteran pastors now in aggressive and constructive work at Waterville. He and the Baptists in the vicinity see that a church building is needed at this railway station. Already some generous subscriptions have been made for its erection. I prophesy in view of what I know of the people of that part of my old field that there will be a dedication in the near future of a Baptist church at Waterville. There is likely to be a dead fly in that sweet pot of odorous ointment. If the pews are sold to be held as personal property, the flavor will be bad. I believe the house will have the delicious fragrance of free seats filling its ample space on the day of dedication, and let all the people say Amen.

A Fredericton correspondent says, "Our new pastor we like exceedingly. His preaching is most interesting and he is so full of enthusiasm over his work. This is all very satisfactory. The debt incurred for repairing the parsonage is melting away. Two thirds of the amount was subscribed at the annual meeting of the church." This is most cheering news to hear from the dear old church and her young pastor.

Wolfville, N. S.

The students of the college are feeling happy over their success in an intercollegiate debate. On March 15th inst. there was a debate between four students of Acadia and four students of Kings College. The convocation hall of Kings College, Windsor, was the scene of the contest. The hall was well filled by interested hearers. Female Suffrage was the subject. Acadia was in favor of it and Kings against it. The speakers from Acadia were W. R. Foote, A. W. Nickerson, I. Oakes and W. J. Rutledge. Kings was represented by L. J. Donaldson, R. A. Hiltz, H. I. Lynds and C. W. Vernon. The decision of the judges was in favor of Acadia. This is, as far as we know, the first debate between two colleges of Eastern Canada.

Rev. P. A. MacEwan, of Windsor, delivered an able lecture before the Young People's Union here on 20th inst. He described the persecutions to which Baptists were subjected in former days and reminded the audience of the days of the Inquisition. His lecture was well adapted to make young Christians value religious liberty. While in Wolfville Mr. MacEwan, in company with Attorney General Longley, spent part of a day visiting the classes of the college.

The annual roll of the church was held a few days ago. It was made more interesting than usual. A number of absent members sent letters of greeting.

For Billoueness—Minard's Family Pills
For Spasmodic Coughs—Minard's Honey Balsam.

From England.

I have great liking for old books, and in looking over an old volume of the Baptist Magazine for the year 1821, I came across the following which might be of interest to the readers of the MESSENGER and VISITOR, and especially such as are connected with the churches named. It was written by Rev. David Nutter, a name well known and honored in the Maritime Provinces, and is a letter written by him to a Baptist minister in England.

CHESTER, N. S., March 2, 1820.
"At my first arrival in this country, about three years ago, I was a good deal discouraged, finding the people rude and ignorant, especially in religious matters, and some of them a good deal tinged with enthusiasm; especially in those parts where they have little access to preaching. Yet I trust there are considerable numbers who know Christ and the power of his resurrection, and whose religious sentiments are correct. And in some instances the powerful effusions of the Divine Spirit have appeared very remarkable. I will mention a few instances since our association June 24, 25, 1819.

In July I was invited to St. Martins, in New Brunswick, to assist in forming a church. When we first entered on this business several persons, who before had entertained unfavorable opinions on this subject, were led to see the propriety of church order and discipline, so that though at first there were only eleven persons willing to unite together in fellowship, yet at the second meeting there were thirty-eight members; these were all, but one, that had been baptized in that neighborhood. They had not yet had constant preaching; but while we staid, many sinners were awakened to a sense of their danger. We had preaching every day during the fortnight that I staid. I baptized nineteen persons on a profession of faith before I sailed from that place, and left many more mourning under the burden of sin, though these are not thirty families in the place. I lately formed a church in Windsor, where there has been a remarkable revival; about sixty appear to have experienced a work of grace within a few months. In Cornwallis, where brother Manning labors, about a hundred have lately made a profession. I have lately visited Nicton (Nictaux) a second time, where there is a large church, to which eighty have been lately added; and nearly as many more in Wilmet. Both these places are supplied with Baptist preachers. There is a revival of religion in Horton, where I was three weeks ago, and twenty-one were newly set at liberty. The Lord has displayed the power of His grace in and near the town of Halifax, which I lately visited, and I find that a hundred and fifty have been baptized within eight months by brother Burton; a hundred and thirteen were added the year before, and a hundred and twenty the year before that, who gave hopeful evidence of a work of grace in their hearts. This is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes. Early this winter, on my way to Liverpool, I came to Chester, where there is a Baptist church. A prayer meeting was appointed next day; and in consequence of a stranger being present to preach the house was crowded. I enjoyed much freedom in delivering an exhortation, and almost every eye was bathed in tears. The eldest daughter of Mr. Dimock, the minister, and the second daughter of David Crundill, Esq., were powerfully impressed with a sense of their lost condition. I staid here two weeks, during which season conviction became so general that business was almost suspended. Eleven have been baptized and we expect fifteen more next Lord's day. Perhaps there are thirty more under deep impressions, and every day there are new instances of awakened intellect and joy."

What times of refreshing the churches enjoyed in those days. One cannot help envying the joy the brethren must have felt in seeing so many won to the Saviour. The word of the Lord had free course and was glorified. When shall the churches again enjoy such ingatheringings? It is refreshing to read of drops of blessing here and there, but when shall the showers descend? Would it be correct to say that when the gospel is faithfully preached, the Spirit's aid sought, when earnest prayer is offered for its success and blessings expected, that such showers might be looked for? The church exists for the purpose of saving men, and the Head of the church expects her to fulfill her mission. Her charge is 'preach the gospel,' and His promise is, 'I am with you always even to the end of the world,' and surely if the work committed to the church be faithfully performed, the promise of the Lord's presence will be surely kept, and He will confirm His word with signs following.

When we have Pentecostal prayer and preaching and the Spirit's power accompanying, men will cry out as they did then, "Men and brethren what shall we do?" There was united prayer beyond doubt, "they were of one accord;" they were filled with the Spirit; they preached Christ to the people; they aimed at the conscience, and that should ever be the preachers' aim, the arrow struck and there was a mighty ingathering of souls. If these conditions are fulfilled, might not similar results be expected? Wincanton, G. B.

W. B. M. U.

NOTICE FOR THE YEAR.
"Be ye strong therefore and let not your hands be weak for your work shall be rewarded."

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. Manning, St. John West, N. B.

PRAYER-WORDS FOR APRIL.

That a rich blessing may rest upon Miss Wright and her little woman. For members of all our Home churches that the Lord will amount to the spirit of liberality toward His cause.

The Home Mission Committee met in the Book Room, Halifax, on March 21st. After prayer by Mrs. Archibald, the committee went carefully into the matter of raising our Home Missionary money. The annual report showed that as a Union we stand pledged for \$1,500.00. For North West Missions, \$800 00
" Indian Work in Manitoba, 100 00
" Grande Ligne, 100 00
" Maritime Missions, 500 00

It was resolved that in accordance with the decision of the annual meeting that our Home Mission work should be represented in the "Column" and "Tidings" that Mrs. McDonald prepare the items for the former and Miss Johnstone for the latter. Letters had been received from the Aid Society at Portage la Prairie asking for help toward the church they are building. The need is imperative, and the sum asked from each Aid Society is small, \$2.50. The Home Mission Committee would be glad to respond to this appeal and the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That the Committee on Home Missions will be glad if our Aid Societies are able to send help to our sisters in Portage la Prairie, provided that the amount sent be over and above what each Aid Society must raise in order to fulfill our pledge of \$1,500.00 for the current year.

Dartmouth. A. E. J.
The sixth anniversary of the re-organization of the W. B. M. Union of Bridgewater, was celebrated March 6th, at the home of one of our most worthy sisters, Mrs. Abner Foster. This dear sister, altho' the eldest in our society, prepared with her own hands a sumptuous tea, to which all the members of the Union, with their husbands and friends who were interested in the cause, were invited. About thirty sisters and fifteen visitors accepted the invitation and partook of our sister's hospitality. After the tea all adjourned to another room, where our regular meeting was held, at the close of which our pastor joined with us in prayer that God would bless the Home, also life object for which we had met. Three new names were added to our membership list.

Sister Foster has the cause of Missions very near her heart, especially Home Missions. Not being satisfied with what she was doing, conceived this plan of further helping the cause. Five dollars and fifty cents was the amount raised. This Sister Foster presented to the Union to be forwarded to the G. L. Mission. Also at this meeting the amount raised by our society on the Afghan which Sister Mrs. McKensie presented to the Union at Xmas, and which the Union presented to our pastor's wife, Mrs. F. M. Young, was paid to the treasurer for Home Missions. Our regular Home Mission collection was taken.

Dedication.

The third Canterbury Baptist church had their new church edifice dedicated for divine service on Sabbath the 24th, ult. The following was the order of service: Dedication sermon by Rev. J. W. S. Young, 2.30 p. m., preaching by brother M. B. Whitman, (Lecturist), 3.30 p. m., sermon by Rev. J. C. Blesker, 4.30 p. m., preaching by Rev. Herman Shaw, 7.30 p. m., sermon by Rev. J. H. Hughes. The congregations were very large. The day was delightful. The services throughout were impressive, and exceedingly appropriate. The building is very neat and displays a good deal of architectural taste. The seating capacity is about two hundred and fifty. The church membership is not larger. A place of worship in this locality was a real necessity. Rev. J. W. S. Young took a great interest in the erection of this building, having a general supervision of the work. Asa Dow, Esq., of Canterbury, gave fifty dollars when the building was commenced, and on the day of dedication gave twenty-five dollars more. C. R. Bill, Esq., of Nova Scotia sent to brother Young for the church, one dozen of Baptist hymnals, M. S. Hall, Esq., of St. John, presented the church with a beautiful Bible for the pulpit. The amount received at the opening services, including thirty-one dollars collected by bro. Young from friends at a distance, was \$17.67. There is but a very small balance due on the building. The lady who presided at the organ performed her part admirably. The hymns selected, and the singing by the choir was fine. Our united prayer was that the divine presence might fill the house and bless it, these dear people who have done so nobly in building this Sanctuary, and dedicating it to God almost free of debt. Thea. Todd, Woodstock, March 29th.