

MESSINGER and VISITOR.

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Messenger and Visitor

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1891.

BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

Dr. Lymer, in a late Chicago Standard, advocates the holding of a Great Baptist International Council in Chicago during the World's Fair in 1893. The idea is an admirable one, and there would seem to be no good reason why it could not be carried into effect.

We assume without argument, that dancing and theatres, taken in the broad sense, are hurtful to religion and destructive to personal piety. The pulpit and the church cannot therefore sanction them. They must be opposed because they are inimical to the life of the church.

Let us look out upon another course. No New Testament church was directed to pass a resolution that Jewish messengers shall not worship at the temple or circumcise their children. They did both. There is not found any instruction for Gentile Christians to keep clear of eating with heathens; but, if the food was declared to be eaten in worship of a false god, then the Christian must abstain.

sauguard against the "battle of the creeds," that from time to time disturbs the harmony of Christian bodies. The Baptists are the only denomination that can consistently urge upon the world the adoption of New Testament principles in social and political, as well as religious life, without provoking the remark, "Physician, heal thyself."

CHURCH DISCIPLINE FOR WORLDLY AMUSEMENTS.

Dancing and theatrical plays are fair specimens of worldly attractions now offered Christians. Dancing ranks all the way from the gleeful merry making of little girls, in their parties for youthful pleasure, the physical training in schools for young ladies, the parlor dance at a social gathering, kept within reasonable hours, to the typical ball, at which the apparel, the wine, the music, and time extended till the 'dawning of the day,' are necessary accompaniments.

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The objects sought by the one are man's good and God's glory; the objects of the other are earthly and selfish. The relation of one believer to another is clearly defined, and as their duties to each other. The disorderly are to be sought out by the spiritually minded, and when restored. When one member suffers all the members suffer with it.

THE ANNUITY FUND AS IT RELATES TO MINISTERS AND OTHERS.

In another column under the heading, "Denominational Objects," our correspondent, "Lay," offers some observations in reference to the Annuity Fund. We publish this communication, not because it is in accord with our own views, or, as we believe, with those of the members of our churches generally, but because it may find more or less acceptance with a good many persons who do not generally express their opinions through the public press.

The regular monthly meeting of the Foreign Mission Board was held yesterday. There was quite a full meeting and mission matters were earnestly discussed. Rev. I. C. Archibald was present and made a statement of work done since the Convention. The Board expressed its satisfaction with Bro. A's work, and seeing that he is not willing to be idle while home, the Board requested him to visit the churches and do what he can to awaken a deeper interest in the cause of Foreign Missions.

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in the matter. No church that is not able should be unduly urged to contribute. But, on the other hand, the duty of the churches to make adequate provision for the support of the ministry should not be pushed into a corner, and to every one the privilege of contributing to the fund should be accorded.

Use or two statements as to matters of fact require a moment's attention. Our correspondent says: "A very large majority of the churches are giving more than their tenth in charitable offerings, church buildings, pastors' salaries, Sabbath-schools, poor, etc., etc."

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Mr. Spurgeon's Reply to Convention. At the late meeting of Convention Prof. Keirstead, secretary, and Rev. I. E. Bill were appointed to forward a suitable expression of the sympathy of the denomination with Rev. C. H. Spurgeon and Mrs. Spurgeon in their great trial.

Dear Sir,—Mrs. Spurgeon is unable to reply personally to the large number of letters of loving sympathy with her dear husband and herself. She asks me to say how deeply grateful they are for the expressions of Christian love sent by your Convention, and how much they are cheered by this token of fellowship with them in their past trial and present gratitude to the Healer of Prayer for so far restoring His dear servant, and giving hope of perfecting that which concerneth him.

A Final Reply.

I am about discouraged, Bro. Editor. I had no idea it would be so difficult a matter to collect tithes from New Testament Christians. I begin to suspect that some (myself also, I fear) have gotten farther above the "old Jewish law" than above some other things that look quite Jewish. But let that pass.

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4. "That there be no gathering when I come." No "little, bold push at the very last pinch" to raise the yearly contributions, etc.

Now, Mr. Editor, I must commit my "magic nut shell" once more to the tender mercies of your readers. It is yet unexplored, and if it has any mission in the world may God design to bless it, for His Son's sake. Sincerely hoping that the pleasantness, in which I have indulged in this article and elsewhere, may not be spoiled by being taken as personalities.

Denominational Objects, Etc.

The report of the Western N. B. Association in MESSINGER and VISITOR of September 23, in which reference was made to the work of the Baptist Book Room of Halifax, and management of MESSINGER and VISITOR as denominational enterprises, may I ask is the MESSINGER and VISITOR a denominational enterprise? Do the profits, if any, arising from the publication of said paper go to the denomination for denominational objects, as in the hands of the stockholders of the Maritime Baptist Publishing Co.?

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Home M... HELP FOR OUR... When visiting a... at Blue Mountain, few weeks ago, I... few books or paper... home a call was m... Sunday school paper... had a number of... that had been given... school, a box of bo... experience has su... much can be do... our mission Sunday... and papers, and op... opportunities for m... for the Master.