

Messenger and Visitor

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER,
VOLUME XLIII.
VOL. VI, No. 24.

Published Weekly by the Maritime Baptist Publishing Company.
SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 1890.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR,
VOLUME XLIII.
Printed by G. W. DAY, North West King St.

CROWDED OUT.—The Week is crowded out from this issue owing to the press of other matter.

BACCALAUREATE SERMON.—The Baccalaureate sermon at Acadia was preached by Rev. J. W. Manning, of Halifax. The text was 1 Cor. 3:10, "Let every man take heed how he buildeth." The analysis was simple and enabled the hearer to follow the course of thought with satisfaction. The preacher spoke of foundation, construction, and completion of character. These points were well developed and illustrated, the diction was choice, and the delivery impressive. The special application to the class was timely and appropriate. When will there be a sermon to the graduating class of Acadia Seminary?

STUDENTS FOR THE MINISTRY.—Nothing is more vital to the welfare of God's work in connection with our denomination than the supply of ministers. There are times when churches presided over by pastors do not have any cheering success; but it is certain that pastoral churches cannot long maintain themselves. It is therefore ground for thanksgiving to God that so large a number of young men at Wolfville have the ministry in view. President Sawyer informed the Governors that as many as forty-six students at the College and Academy this year, had avowed their intention to devote their lives to this high calling. Doubtless there are others of the number in attendance who will finally feel upon them the "woe is me if I preach not the gospel." We may safely reckon on over fifty who will become preachers. This, in the 296 male students at Wolfville during the last year, is a very large proportion. Doubtless Dr. Sawyer is correct when he says that the proportion is larger than at any other college in America. Let us thank God and take courage. At the same time, let us remember that the number of consecrated young men God has given us emphasizes the obligation to do all we can to help them in preparation for their work. Let us also bear in mind that our College has been one of the great factors in bringing about this state of things.

THE ANNIVERSARIES.—Our columns are now being filled with reports of the yearly meetings of our religious societies in England and the United States. The Boards to whom have been committed the several branches of denominational work have been reporting the operations—and so far as possible—the results of the year's labors. Never before in all their history were these reports more cheering. Great successes and but few disasters have attended the past year's operations. At home the contributions have increased, which gives unmistakable indications of an increased knowledge of the ways of the Lord in the churches. There is a grand—compare with former efforts—coming to the fore in the support of all the religious enterprises of the Baptist denomination. The Foreign Missionary spirit shows a happy increase in the number of candidates offering themselves for labors in heathen lands. In the home fields the self-sacrificing laborers are many, and their number is increasing. From all the reports given, it is shown, most conclusively, that the hardships and self-sacrifice of the laborers, in what is known as the home missions, are far greater than the foreign missionaries are called to endure. The reports show that it is not an uncommon thing for home missionaries to endure great trials for lack of proper financial support, while no such trial is allowed to come to the foreign missionary. The subject of training for mission work—both in the home and foreign departments—is receiving more attention than heretofore. The subject of higher education along denominational lines, and independent alike of state aid or state control has taken definite shape, and now commands such financial backing as it has heretofore failed to enjoy. The influence of this condition of things in the United States will not fail to have a favorable influence in our Dominion. Our church anniversaries are near at hand. We hope that the reports of our Boards will show a commendable increase in all that pertains to the advancement of Christ's glory in the world. Our resources, yet undeveloped, are doubtless far beyond our highest computation of them; and our brethren, in their plea for aid to the several departments of our work, sometimes make startling calculations as to what large sums we are able to contribute, if we would. From year to year two facts are reported that should move us to proper endeavor. The first is that by systematic effort the benevolence of churches is being increased; and the other fact is that many of our churches, and hundreds of our church members, are not contributing at all for the support of the

churches in their Christ-appointed mission to a lost world. The following terse hint of what may be done by our church members was given at the women's missionary meetings in Chicago:

Miss Burdette deplored the fluctuations in the receipts of the society; told of the story of "Aunt Zandee," who, after asking the Lord to show her what more she could do for Africa, heard Him say, "Put down that pipe," and she did it, and gave the money regularly for Africa.

—HOW TO TRAIN CHURCH MEMBERS TO GIVE.—Dr. McArthur who has just completed his twentieth year of continuous service as pastor of Calvary Baptist church, New York, and who has great success in leading his people up to generous giving, lays down in the *Christian Inquirer* the following rules for the direction of pastors in this most important duty. We commend them to the earnest attention of all for whom they are written:

1. He must begin with Christians when they are young in years and in the Christian life. A willingness to give Christ's cause must be demanded, when persons are received into the church, as an evidence of conversion. When converted, we profess to give all to Christ in joyous, absolute self-surrender. We then become the glad slaves of Jesus Christ. Self is destroyed; Christ is enthroned. We, as dead, are buried with Christ in baptism, and are raised to walk with Christ in newness of life. How can you be Christ's, and lack the mind of Christ? Though rich, He became poor. He knew the blessedness of giving Himself. If Christians are not trained when young, nothing short of dynamite or an earthquake will move them when they have grown old in miserliness. For such, there are terrible revelations at the judgment-seat of Christ. The beloved Dr. Nathan Bishop used to say to the writer, "Take them when they are young." He knew no rule of giving except that all belonged to God.

2. The religious teacher must begin with Christians when they are comparatively poor. If they are not taught to give when relatively poor, they will not give when relatively rich. Strange as it may seem, the accumulation of wealth often closes and hardens the heart. It is the loss of money which, in many cases, opens heart and hand. Such is the ingratitude of many, that the more God wishes His benefits upon them, the narrower and meaner they become. There is wealth enough in the Baptist denomination to support all our enterprises and to make great advance in several directions. As compared with some denominations, we have not many men of great wealth; but we are not poor. Many men of wealth fail of their full duty; but others of them are doing grandly. The chief difficulty is with the rank and file; the comparatively poor must be taught to give. In some churches, which have a wide reputation for giving, it is supposed that the few rich members do all the giving. That is a mistake. Every man, woman and child is taught to give. Take out all the contributions of the rich, and the balance would be greater than the totals in many churches of far greater wealth. All must be taught to give; then the storehouse of blessing will be full.

3. Pastors and other teachers must insist on the duty of giving from high motives. It is blessed to give because of the good which others receive; it is also blessed to give when Christ is honored. Giving must be considered worship. It is often as much a pastor's duty to take a collection for the Lord's work as to administer baptism or the Lord's Supper. A revival which a collection for Christ's work will hurt, is a revival worth neither helping nor hurting. All giving which ministers to a worldly spirit, whether in picnics, fairs, or in any other way, is utterly beneath the dignity and glory of Christian service. When the Magi laid their gifts at the feet of the infant Jesus, they taught the world an example. Giving is worship. The pastor should give needed information, present the cause himself, and urge the highest motives; then some, at least, in many churches, will learn the blessed truth that "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE BAPTISTS OF THE NORTH.

THE WOMAN'S HOME MISSION SOCIETY had a delightful anniversary in Chicago, commencing Monday, May 19. The treasurer's books show receipts for the year, including balance of last year, to be \$39,320.08. The disbursements in this department have been \$34,049.45, leaving a balance of \$4,270.63. In the training school department, for current expense fund, the receipts were, including balance, \$5,675.96, and the disbursements, \$5,477.78, balance \$198.18. There were contributed \$9,681.28 towards the training school building fund, which, added to the amount on hand, made \$31,938.58. The disbursements from this fund were \$28,148.64, leaving in the treasury \$3,789.94. This shows a disbursement for the year for all purposes of \$67,675.57, leaving a balance of \$8,970.75 on hand.

The meetings continued for two days, and were full of interest. The reports of the several committees were able, and packed with choice information as to the extent and character of work done. The report on missions called for additional laborers. It also recommended special attention to the children, and to preparation of laborers for their work.

The report on the training school stated that 175 students have been enrolled; 94 of these have been appointed missionaries of the society. The work and claims of this institution were ably presented by platform addresses. Among the good things said are the following:

Prof. E. B. Huriburt, of the Morgan Park Seminary, and lecturer in the Training School, spoke for the school, arguing that its own history is a demonstration of its right to be. Not all who have zeal have knowledge, and not all who want to do special work for Christ have the needful mental fitness. Many must be taught. For these the school is opened. He argued the acknowledged need of special training for special work, and Chicago the fit place for the school. Proposed that the course of study be lengthened, and that graduates of colleges and other high schools become pupils here.

Mrs. L. E. Gurley, of Troy, N. Y., made an argument for the placing of women in the position of teachers; cited Deborah, Huldah and Priscilla against Paul; asked that the building be put in a proper form, fitted for the uses of the school. Several subscriptions were announced. Mrs. J. F. Richardson announced by telegram a gift of \$3,000 for a scholarship to be called the Georgiana Gilmore scholarship.

On Thursday afternoon and evening, May 22, the WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSION MEETING was held. This year they met at a time when no other society was in session. The church was filled to overflowing.

Mrs. A. J. Howe presided, speaking brief sentences of greeting. "Aunt Lizzie" Aiken led from the platform in prayer, the congregation joining with unusual heartiness in hymns of praise. Miss Dr. C. H. Daniels gave further words of welcome, representing the work of the Western society. The Master has brought you here, she said, from all parts of the land as representatives of the Lord's work. The women in the garden did not take the disciples' words; be their spirit ours. The welcome that is here extended is emphasized by the largeness of the present opportunity in missionary annals. Thirty-four missionaries are under the society's appointment, eight of them now at home; four have died; eight are preparing to go abroad. The Bible women are doing excellent work. Twenty-one of them were instrumental in bringing 600 souls to Christ in one year in Ongole. Forty-six per cent. more converts are reported this year. Eighteen vice-presidents are at work in this country. There are 209 Temple Builders organizations, and 300 mission bands. The past has been blessed; the future promises richly.

Mrs. O. W. Gates, of Newton Centre, Mass., responded, speaking for the Society of the East. She found reason for rejoicing especially in two features at present prominent. (1) The growing interest among the young, and (2) the spirit of fervent prayer that is abroad. These are a promise and a pledge of the good things God has to bestow.

In the evening, at the request of the ladies, Dr. Mabie, of Minnesota, presided, and Dr. A. J. Gordon gave an address. He made the motto of his address to be "More missionary mothers, more missionary motive, more missionary money." He said:

"We talk of 'the fathers of missions,' but what of the mothers? He spoke of the mother of Ziegeberg, who left a treasure in her Bible; of the mother of Christian Frederick Swartz, etc. We are in an era of great progress, and therefore an era of great peril. Our safety is only in religion in the home. Motives? 'Have we not missionary motives enough? Yes, but we spoil them.' There are too many who have undertaken to tell the story of the Cross without having experienced the grace of Christ. We must know Christ and must know the power of the Holy Spirit. More missionary money: We do not need more rich men to give us the money, but we need that the whole body of us give as the Lord has prospered us, and then we shall have all the money we need. A woman who worked in a mill in Lowell, Mass., earned the money to educate and send out five native preachers, and after she was sixty years of age she earned enough to send still another. We do not want more men, but we want more men. It was a noble address."

Just what our sisters over the border are doing and purposing to do, is very fully outlined in the reports of this anniversary. A talented sister, who may be regarded as a representative, delivered an address, in which she spoke of the value of organization, and especially in the church. More than all else, she thought, was the need of women's organization. She deprecated the interpretation put upon the words of Paul, "Let your women keep silence in the churches," holding that this interpretation—taking the words as they stand—is responsible for the slow progress which the gospel has made. "Tradition, like a

band of wrought steel, binds the church to-day, and it is the business of women to break that band. Woman is still weak, but she is destined to rise, and then the bands will fall off. Women must have places in the boards of control of our missionary organizations," etc.

Where there is so much to be done by the church of Christ for the salvation of the lost world, and when there are so many open doors to useful labor for every believer, it is to be regretted that any serious differences, as to methods of work, or as to the position, the different workers shall occupy, should arise to prevent the most hearty and harmonious co-operation of all the workers, be they male or female. Our motto should be, "We then as workers together with Him." One step in the right direction has been taken by our sisters of the United States. They held their meetings this year at times when no other meetings were being held, and they held them publicly. This gave all who wished an opportunity to meet with them. Let this become the universal practice, and it may help to remove other differences which now exist. In organizing for Christian work no barrier should be placed in the way of any disciples, strong or weak, learned or unlearned, that in the least will hinder them from doing their very best work. Doubtless our churches have been at fault in failing to organize their membership, and it may be that our sisters have had reason to complain, in common with many others. But multiplied organizations, even in the churches, will not cure this evil, unless they are thoroughly co-operative.

AMERICAN BAPTIST HOME MISSION SOCIETY met on Monday morning, May 26. The president, in his opening address, said: "It is under circumstances of peculiar interest that we meet with this church in this place. It was in Chicago, in 1833, that the first Baptist church, organized under the auspices of this society, was formed here." This fact lent especial interest to the gathering, as here this society could see such abundant fruit of its labors, in the large membership and magnificent churches of this city.

The following is a summary of the annual report of the Board:

The number of missionaries has been the largest in the history of the Society since its organization, as many as ten years ago; the greatest number of baptisms in many years; more than seven church edifices erected every month; new school buildings completed; a very large enrollment of students; the occupation of new and important mission fields in this country and in Mexico, and the payment of all the year's obligations with a balance in the treasury for new and somewhat enlarged work the coming year. The total receipts of the year, including conditions, and permanent trust funds (not including church edifices repaid) have been \$448,444.94. These have come from forty-seven states and territories, also from Ontario, British Columbia, Mexico, India, Japan, China and Burma. Illinois is historic Home Mission ground. Within the first year after the society's organization, nine of its fifty missionaries were laboring in Illinois. Since then more than three hundred localities, not mentioning many frequently visited by itinerant missionaries, have received missionary aid from the Society.

The society's operations have been conducted during the past year in forty-seven states and territories, also in Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia, Alaska, and in six states of the Mexican republic. The whole number of laborers supported, wholly or in part, has been 333, being 43 more than last year. Among the foreign population there have been 190 laborers; among the colored people, the Indians and Mexicans, including teachers, 245, and among Americans, 400. The society aids in the maintenance of 21 established schools for the colored people, the Indians and Mexicans. There are seven day schools for the Chinese in California; also one in Utah, two in the Indian Territory, and three in Mexico. The missionaries have represented thirteen nationalities or peoples, viz., Americans, Germans, French, Swedes, Danes, Newguineans, Indians, Negroes, Chinese, Mexicans, Bohemians, Poles, Portuguese. In the church edifice department the number of churches aided by appropriations from the gift fund, general and designated, is 71, and the number aided by loans is 33, making the total number of churches aided by both funds 104, which is 17 more than last year. These churches are located in 29 states and territories, and Mexico.

The subsequent meetings were given to field reports and addresses on topics related to the work of the Society. Among these the vexed race question found a place, and raised a discussion which brought out the fact that it is not easy for the brethren North and South to fully understand each other as they talk of the negro citizen.

On Tuesday afternoon, Rev. Henry A. Delano reported for the committee on temperance as follows:

"Whereas, We recognize in the saloon an enemy of sane and appalling force—menacing the purity of the Christian church, the virtue of society and the safety of government, and

principle and duty to antagonize with uncompromising zeal its presence and ravages, therefore

Resolved, That we declare ourselves among its most pronounced and relentless foes, believing that it has no defensible right to exist, that it can never be reformed, and that it stands condemned by its stringent laws as a thing unchristian, un-American, and perilous utterly to every interest of life.

Resolved, That we profoundly deplore the result of the action of the Supreme Court decision, whereby prohibitory law in Maine, Kansas, Iowa, South Dakota and other states are rendered less efficient, and extremely impeded, and we sincerely hope that the Congress of the United States may speedily rise to meet the exigency of the case that the last estate of the liquor traffic may be more than the first.

Resolved, That we stand pledged by every legitimate means to work and pray (as God shall give us wisdom and light), to vote for the absolute abolition and overthrow of the iniquitous traffic in state and union.

The following preamble and resolution was also presented and passed:

Whereas, Our attention has been called to the threatening aspect of the lottery question in our Northwestern States; therefore

Resolved, That on the grounds of public policy and of the plainest Christian ethics, we heartily commend our missionaries for the resistance which they have made in cooperation with other good citizens to the legal recognition and license of the lottery system in the state of North Dakota. We believe that the influence of the lottery is in every way baneful and corrupting—a most flagrant evil and reproach to society and the commonwealth.

The general verdict appears to be that the whole session of the society has never been exceeded in interest.

W. B. M. D.

"Be ye steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

PRAYER TOPIC FOR JUNE.

For a rich blessing on our Associational meetings.—1 John 3:14.

At the third quarterly meeting for the year of the executive board of the Woman's Baptist Missionary Union, the following correspondence was presented by the secretary and read, the contents noted and action taken thereon: Letters and quarterly report from Miss Wright, Chicago, India; letters and quarterly report from Miss Gray, Bimlipatan, India; letters from Mrs. Churchill and Miss Fitch, Bobbili, India; Mrs. Hutchings, Wolfville; Miss Sophia Jackson, Liverpool, N. S.; Rev. Alexander Grant, Winnipeg; Hon. T. R. Black, Amherst, N. S.; Mrs. O. W. Gates, Boston; Mrs. Mary Smith, Amherst; Mrs. J. W. Manning, Halifax; two letters from Mrs. Archibald, returning missionary. The missionaries' letters were, as usual, good and full of hope for the future.

Mr. Grant asked the union to support a pastor at Regina, N. W. T. A resolution was passed expressing hearty sympathy in the North-west work and a determination to do all in their power at the annual meeting for the above-named purpose. The treasurer's quarterly report was received with so much joy that all with one accord arose and sang the doxology. The report showed that eleven hundred and nineteen dollars and two cents had been received.

We are now working on the last quarter of our denominational year. Steady progress in missions is observed in many of the churches and Aid Societies. Sisters whose hearts have been touched with living zeal, have made extra efforts in this line, and these have been followed by the blessing of God. Already the fruit is being gathered.

In March the Cumberland Co. Aid Societies held a convention in Parisboro, with helpful results. Last week a convention, consisting of the W. M. A. S. of Pictou and Colchester, was held in Truro, an account of which we have in this column. Weak societies have been visited and many encouraging words have been spoken, thus strengthening the work the dear Lord has placed in our hands. The treasurer's quarterly report is certainly interesting; for it can thank God and take courage. But, sisters, can not we all do our part in adding to its interest for this quarter? Shall we not, God helping us, place a pastor at Regina, N. W. T., in addition to the obligations we took upon ourselves last August? For this we require money, as well as love for the cause. A few life members have been made during the year. More might be done in this line. There are faithful workers in the W. B. M. U. throughout the Provinces, whose names are not on the life-member list. Could not the societies where these sisters are make a little extra effort, if need be, to place their names on this list? This will not only greatly increase the

funds, and be a token of appreciation for faithful and acceptable service, but the effort will reward itself in creating a deeper interest in the work, and be a healthful stimulant. Last Dec. some of the Fredericton sisters proposed making their president, Mrs. Dr. Spurden, a life-member. This necessitated something out of the general routine. Arrangements were made, the money was collected, and a social was held at which a fine programme was rendered, Mrs. Crawley's excellent paper, recently published in the column, being a part. The life certificate was presented to their esteemed president, and, although she was completely taken by surprise, suitably replied in words of pathos and love. Each meeting since has evinced a growing interest. If others will do likewise, the same blessing may be experienced. These are some of the ways of casting the net, and from it we may expect a successful draught of fishes.

A convention of the W. R. Aid Societies of Colchester County, met in the Prince street Baptist church, Truro, on May 29th. The devotional meeting in the morning was deeply interesting, the Master's presence being very evident. Mrs. Manning from Halifax, occupied the chair.

The afternoon meeting was opened by singing "All hail the power of Jesus' name." The president, Mrs. P. R. Foster, addressed the sisters in a few well-chosen words. Mrs. J. E. Goucher read an address of welcome from the society of Prince street church, which was replied to by Mrs. Brown. Ten societies were represented by their delegates, and from each reports were given. These showed great interest in the missionary cause, and breathed a spirit of consecration to the work.

After singing "There is a work for each of us," Mrs. Sibley, from Wittenburg, read a very interesting paper on Foreign Missions. Extracts from Mrs. Churchill's letters, were read by her sister, Miss Faulkner, giving an insight into the discouragements, anxieties and trials of missionary life. These had a good effect, awakening new sympathy for the poor heathen, who have never heard the happy news of Christ dying for them.

Mrs. Foster then read a very fine paper on Mission Bands, which resulted in a discussion on the importance of these societies and the best means of interesting the young, which was much enjoyed by all.

Of the fifty-four sisters present, quite a number expressed the opinion that this convention, which had been brought about by the untiring efforts of the County Secretary, Mrs. Foster, might be a permanent organization, meeting annually.

The mass meeting in the evening was presided over by Rev. J. E. Goucher. The floral display was very fine, and the music of the choir was delightful. One of the first things on the programme was the address of Mr. Goucher. He referred to the appeal of last year for a reinforcement of missionaries, and stated that nine of the number called for had responded. He thought the increased enthusiasm in the mission cause was the result of that appeal and prayers. W. M. Aid Societies were doing a noble work, and that was a great factor in bringing the world to God.

Mrs. Manning's paper "Some reasons why we should be interested and actively engaged in Foreign Missions," came next. She said "This is the 'Missionary Age,' and that the promise made long ago 'I will give the heathen, etc.' is now fast being fulfilled." She impressed the duty of consecrating one afternoon a month to the Aid Society.

After this, our missionary elect, Rev. M. B. Shaw, was called on. His address was earnest and eloquent. We regret that want of space forbids repeating some of the grand things he said. He was listened to with marked interest, many feeling that they would not have another opportunity of hearing him before his departure. We can assure him that he will carry with him to his foreign field, our sympathy and prayers.

ETNA J. YUILL.
Great Village, May 31.

It is now more than 2,000 years since it was first proposed to cut a canal through the Isthmus of Corinth, but the work is at last underway, directed by a Polish engineer, and promises to be completed in 1892. The canal will be only four miles long, and will obviate the comparatively long voyage around the Peloponnese. The excavation already reaches from sea to sea and is in some places 225 feet deep. The extreme depth of excavation at the deepest, when completed, will be 250 feet.