

Messenger and Visitor.

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WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22, 1893.

THE ACTION OF THE CHURCH.

We are informed that at a meeting of the Main street church of this city, held on Tuesday evening of last week, the advice of the council called to consider the position of its pastor, Rev. S. Welton, was considered.

By this action the church has certainly placed itself in an exceedingly unfortunate and difficult position. It was on its own motion that the advice of sister churches was sought, and we certainly think the church acted wisely in seeking such advice in so serious and difficult a situation.

These of our readers who are familiar with the French language, and who also feel an interest in the problem which the French Roman Catholicism of Quebec presents, will find the pages of the Canada Revue highly interesting.

It will be seen that there are some French Roman Catholics at least (for the Revue claims still to be true to the Roman Catholic faith) who are fully alive to the evils of the ecclesiastical despotism under which the great mass of the people of the province of Quebec are held.

No Protestant could denounce in more scathing terms the tyrannous impositions of the priesthood. How many of the French Roman Catholics are reading the paper we do not know, but probably enough to make the existence of the Revue a very uncomfortable fact to the prelates.

The blow struck by Mgr. Fabre has not yet destroyed any one, so do not about too soon. Who knows what the future holds for us? We have seen guns go off which were not loaded, but we have seen guns loaded which killed no one.

Still the interdict of the archbishop, it is confessed, has had its effect upon the timid, the cowardly and those unhappy ones to whom it has been like putting a knife to their throat; "placed before their convictions and their daily bread, they have had to yield."

action of those who desired to accept the advice of the council. It is to be hoped that their action will be wise, moderate and wholly Christian. Their present duty, we believe, is to stand by the church, and, if possible, save it from the utter disaster which now threatens. Let there be, on the part of all, a spirit of forbearance and patience. Let the cause of Christ and the interests of the church stand far above all personal considerations.

THE CANADA REVUE AND ITS ENEMIES.

We have had pleasure of late in adding to the number of our exchanges the Canada Revue, of Montreal. The readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR will remember that the Revue is one of the papers which incurred the severe displeasure of the Roman Catholic authorities because of their unfavorable criticism of the lives and character of the clergy of the province, and generally, for their bold utterances in reference to the ecclesiastical tyranny prevailing in Quebec.

These who are interested in giving the Bible and a pure gospel to the French Catholics of Quebec note these things as signs of the times, and trust that they indicate a larger hope for the people. How much this reaction against the tyranny of the priesthood, to which the Canada Revue is giving expression, may mean, it is impossible to say; but it may well be that it is right in holding that there is a growing spirit of revolt which will not be repressed until a larger measure of liberty shall have been accorded to the people.

Foreign Missions. Quarterly statement of the Foreign Mission Board to Feb. 1, 1893: RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand Nov. 1, 1892 \$1,548 21
Treas. N.S., per A. Ochoon, 298 36
Centennial Memorial Fund, per G. O. Gater, 790 51

Balance on hand Feb. 1, 1893, \$525 23
The account was overdrawn at the bank September 1, 1892, \$6,120 53. If to this amount is added the interest to February 1, 1893—\$136.92—we have an overdrawn account of \$6,257.45.

It is not only a very like a whale; it is a whale. If any of my readers think I am growing extravagant, I can only say in the words of Macaulay— "And there they are unto this day, To witness if I lie."

What are deacons? Tell me what they do, and I will tell you what they are. The office of deacon is a subject of great perplexity to the close student of the New Testament. I do not purpose trying to solve the difficulties of the case. Life is too short and the patience of your readers too limited to warrant me in attempting such a task.

heaven, sparkling, brilliant, free from the clouds which have obscured it to the eyes of all," the growing splendor of a glorious dawn, the dawn of liberty.

From all this and much more which one finds in the pages of the Revue, it seems evident that there is a foreign leaven working in the Roman Catholicism of Quebec. There are forces there which are responding to the progressive spirit of the age. The people are beginning to understand that blind obedience to an ecclesiastical despotism involves their being left behind in the march of progress.

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do act upon these suggestions "On Deacons" given by one who does not subscribe his name, but who wishes them to be considered alone upon their merits and signs himself CHURCH CLERK.

The Bird of the Air.

ON THE WING—HILL.

The Pacific Ocean! The air is bland—the breezes balmy. It is the last of October, but it is just like a July day on the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

It is very pleasant over on this other ocean. It is a new sea—the people are new—you don't have a key to your steamer. When you innocently ask for one, the steward says: "What for, sir?"

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Baptist Annuity Association.

This society, as is no doubt well understood, exists for the Baptist ministers of New Brunswick. Any ordained minister in good standing, and resident in the province, is eligible for membership on the payment of the following annual fee, according to age:

Table with 2 columns: Age range and Annual fee. From 20 to 25 years: \$4.00; 25 to 30: 4.50; 30 to 35: 5.00; 35 to 40: 5.50; 40 to 45: 6.00; 45 to 50: 6.50; 50 to 55: 7.00; 55 to 60: 7.50; 60 to 65: 8.00.

At 65 years of age members cease to pay. Ministers over 65 may join on payment of five cents—that is \$40 in a lump sum.

When disabled by age or sickness a beneficiary member becomes an annuitant and is entitled to draw a grant, fixed yearly by the Board of Management. The grant for the present year is \$80. In case of a minister's death half the same amount is to be paid annually to his widow.

At the next annual meeting several amendments will be considered, which are intended to regulate the grants and to settle many points not at present laid down in the constitution.

It is to be constituted that the society of this province, which was the first of the kind among Baptists organized in Canada, has no intention of conflicting with the one subsequently formed, whose board is at Halifax.

Historical. In reference to the recollections of the early settlement of Sackville, given by Mrs. Joseph Read, I beg to say that the dates are probably not correct; but in the matter of Elder Rounds she is right.

It is to the weary landsman the most restful place he ever finds. He sits and with half-closed eyes broods over the infinite shimmer of the waves— "The unaccountable laughter of the ocean billow!"

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From Halifax.

The churches of Halifax month continue to hold extra-ordinary services. The Rev. A. C. Chute and W. E. H. have been disabled somewhat by severe cold. Last Sunday Mr. Hall was held by the Rev. A. H. Lavers, who performed his most acceptably morning service. E. M. Saunders took part in the service of the First church.

The union prayer meetings continued and are seasons of deep and hopeful. A pleasing feast of work of grace is the union of among pastors and people, and creating interest in each other. The pastors all seem to live in divided esteem and sympathetic respect. Rev. Messrs. McDonald and Chute, the last were received from the first churches without reserve.

Arrangements are made to-day of prayer for colleges in meeting in the North church evening. All the pastors are interested in the work of Christ in which the denominated churches without reserve.

The North church has suffered loss in the death of Mr. Hayes. Mr. Hayes was in life, and was, with his wife, united with the North church. Mrs. Hayes was in Boston with her daughter at the time of her death. A few days' sickness severely cost terminated the life of the most healthy men on the streets of Halifax. Much sympathy was felt for the family.

On Tuesday last a fatal accident which greatly shocked the pathetic feelings of the people. Miss Lynch, daughter of the late Peter Lynch, Esq., and instantly while crossing the same young friends on the road from a musical concert. A which the driver had lost control of the horse, and dashed along the street first the young people were struck and instantly killed. Mr. Lynch was plunged into deep sympathy when any of irrelative of social rank.

While I write I see by paper, just received, that Mr. E. M. Saunders, a noble Christian character, has a noble instance of a Christian's courage and cheerfulness through life's duties through extreme sickness that his loved brother who has just said to the writer some of his ambition has been, of the moderate wants of his accumulate money to help religious enterprises of the world. I shall not soon forget I had with him, at least, three years ago in Acadia College, Mrs. Cur to give as largely as he that if in God's providence survive him it was but would need. I then saw the lives of Mr. and Mrs. been. Be it known that has fallen in Israel.

A few weeks ago I went and attended the funeral of Dowland, about 90 years of our esteemed brother, Mr. Webber. Mrs. Dowland was a Baptist church when she was a woman. She retained the use of her faculties and powers. Another one of our ministers to the past generation. She remembered the case of Baptists in these provinces of the old ministers—Mr. Mings, Mannings—to her were ever fresh in her memory. There are always a few veterans during the early year in Halifax. Christian institutions about The British American Society has just held a meeting. In this brief meeting, it has been employed 288 colporters done 288 years of work, 062 worth of Bibles, 63,300 families found worth of the Bible were worth of books have been ple for charge.

The Infants' Home, its work up to date. This year this institution has sheltered 201 babies in godly meeting and cared for the work that touches the heart reflect upon the work

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