

Messenger and Visitor.

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SAINT JOHN, N. B. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1896.

—By a communication from Wolfville in our church news column it will be seen that Rev. W. V. Higgins and wife have reached their Nova Scotia home in safety. The Messengers and Visitors desire to extend to these years of absence and faithful labor in the cause of Christ in India. All our readers will rejoice to know that Mrs. Higgins' health has been already so greatly benefited by the change of climate.

—REV. DR. KEMPTON, of Dartmouth, writes that Secretary Manning of the F. M. Board, spent Sunday the 12th, in Halifax, and preached in the morning in Dartmouth and at the Tabernacle in the evening, speaking on Foreign Missions with his usual fervor. "Large congregations greeted him both morning and evening and listened with earnest attention. Bro. Manning's whole soul is in the F. M. work, and it is impossible that his labors shall be in vain. May his impressive appeals be used by the Almighty Spirit to awaken in us all a larger, warmer interest in saving the lost both at home and abroad."

—"MANY of our readers doubtless have read with interest and great profit Dr. McLaren's sermons, and also his explications of the Bible lessons published in the S. S. Times. They will be interested, we are sure, in reading the article in another part of this paper, from the pen of a London correspondent, respecting the eminent Manchester preacher and his work. In the name of Canadian Baptists, we would desire to congratulate Dr. McLaren on the completion, at so comparatively an early period of life, of a half century of service, so valuable and so widely influential, in the Christian ministry."

—In another column will be found an article on The Training of Sunday School Teachers, by Rev. J. H. Macdonald, pastor of the Woodstock church. It deals with an important subject in a practical and effective manner. We hope that it will receive the careful reading which it deserves. Some of our Sunday Schools, we are pleased to know, are taking up this important work of training teachers for the very responsible and difficult duties which are committed to them as religious teachers and spiritual guides of the young. Perhaps some others of our leading Sunday School workers will be willing to tell the readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, in short articles, what their schools are doing in this department of the work."

—News of the very sudden death of Mr. George H. Miles, of the North End, St. John, on Saturday morning was received with very sincere and general regret in the city. To those who met him casually Mr. Miles appeared to be a man in the enjoyment of robust, physical health, but for some years he had suffered from a weakness of the heart, and to those who knew of this his sudden taking off is less surprising. Mr. Miles was a well known citizen, highly respected by all who knew him. His genial and generous disposition won for him many friends. He was a highly esteemed member of the Main Street Baptist congregation, and was also, we believe, a member of the building committee in connection with the new church edifice. We unite in the general sympathy for the bereaved family in their sad affliction.

—The death of Sir John Schultz, of Winnipeg, which occurred a few days ago in Mexico whether he had gone in search of health, removes a man who has been prominently connected with the history of the Canadian Northwest. He was the son of a Norwegian who had settled in Ontario. After a course of medical study John Schultz settled in Rupert's Land. He was active in promoting the union of the Northwest with the Dominion and was imprisoned by Rell at Fort Garry. Being apprehensive, and not without reason, for his personal safety at the hands of the half-breed leader, Dr. Schultz escaped, and after a long and weary winter's journey through the wilderness, which, it is said, left permanent effects upon his constitution, he reached civilization and safety. He was a member of the House of Commons in four Parliaments, was for some years a member of the Senate and in 1888 was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba in which office he continued until 1895.

—The opening of the new Tremont Temple which is to be celebrated with appropriate services on Sunday, May 3rd, and following days will be an event of special interest to the Baptists of Boston and certainly will not be without interest to the denomination at large. The following account of the services to be held in connection with the dedication of this magnificent building is given by Zion's Advocate of Portland, Me.: "The dedication of the Temple will occur on Sunday, May 3, at 10.30 a. m. and 7.30 p. m. The evening service will be a repetition of that of the morning, sermon and all. A dedication banquet will occur on Monday evening, at which Gov. Wolcott, and Mayor Quincy, with other

invited guests, will be present. Tuesday evening will be denominational night, when Dr. and Mrs. Lorimer will receive the Baptist ministers of Boston and vicinity, with their wives, at 6.30, and at 7.30 there will be a service in the Temple at which Rev. Dr. Hanson, of Chicago, will preach. On Wednesday evening, there will be a concert by the Baptist Festival Chorus, consisting of three hundred and fifty voices, selected from the Baptist choirs of the city."

—REV. DR. MACRAE, the highly esteemed pastor of the St. Stephen Presbyterian church, St. John, has accepted an appointment to the principalship of Morris College, Quebec. In this important position Dr. Macrae will enter a sphere of work which doubtless will be congenial to a man of his scholarly tastes and attainments. His fine ability and his scholarly familiarity with educational subjects and the work of the educationalist should ensure success in the line of work which he is now to undertake. St. John can ill afford to lose Dr. Macrae. To say that we greatly regret that the city is to be deprived of his presence is but to give expression to what is being felt by everyone who knows how to appreciate the value to a community of a Christian scholar, a faithful and eloquent minister of the gospel and a public-spirited citizen. In leaving St. John, Dr. Macrae will leave many here who will continue to feel a lively interest in him and his work, and will hope that his efforts to promote the educational interests of his church in Quebec may be attended with the largest success.

—It was the privilege of the writer last Lord's Day evening to speak in the Fairville church to an interesting congregation which comfortably filled the very pleasant audience room of the church. The present pastor, Rev. I. W. Corey, will conclude his pastoral labors with the church next Sunday, the last in April. Mr. Corey is a preacher of exceptional ability and a faithful and successful pastor. His departure from Fairville will be deeply regretted, and the prayers and best wishes of the church will follow him to his new field in the West. Whether he believes the Lord is leading him. The church has not yet secured a successor to Mr. Corey, but hopes to do so with no unnecessary delay. The interests to be cared for here are important and the conditions are attractive. The church was rebuilt last year and made practically new. It has a fine audience room adapted to the size of the congregation and capable of enlargement when necessary. The building is well supplied with class rooms and other conveniences for the Sunday School and other work of the church. Adjoining the church is the parsonage, comparatively new and very comfortable and convenient. The Sunday School and the congregation have been much enlarged during the past two years. There are a large number of young people in the church and congregation and the opportunities for vigorous and effective pastoral work are highly encouraging. We hope that the right man will soon be found for Fairville, that the church may not suffer, as a church under such circumstances is sure to do more or less, by being left for a considerable time in a pastorless condition.

PASSING EVENTS.

EARLY Thursday morning a motion of Sir Charles Tupper in the House of Commons that the committee on the Remedial Bill rise, report progress and ask leave to sit again, was carried. The leader of the Government in the House declared that if the necessary business of Parliament could be disposed of in time the House would take up the Bill again. But as there is considerable business which will be considered necessary and as it appears to be decided upon that Parliament must rise on Thursday in order that it may prorogue before the expiry of its term on the 24th, it is evident that there will be no further discussion of the Remedial Bill by the present Parliament. The Manitoba School matter and the attitude of the Government toward it will therefore presumably be an important if not the principal issue in the approaching elections, which it is expected will be brought on as soon as can conveniently be done, probably not later than about the middle of June. On Thursday, Hon. Mr. Dickey, Minister of Justice, introduced a bill to amend the criminal code providing for the abolition of continuous race meetings, the prohibition of art lotteries and the printing of obscene works, etc. also a bill to amend the penitentiary act. The object is to enable the governor in council to alter the territorial areas for which the penitentiaries are established. The bill also gives power to the government to transfer penitentiary officers from one penitentiary to another. On Friday the House passed Mr. Charlton's resolution

of sympathy with Armenia as follows:

That this House expresses its deep sympathy with the suffering Christian population in Asiatic Turkey, and trusts that further endeavors will be made to ameliorate their lot, and that, for this purpose, concurrent action by the Christian powers, including the United States of America, may be secured.

In view of the French treaty and the duty imposed by France on Canadian goods when not imported direct, the Government have decided to subsidize a line of steamers of 2,500 tons between Montreal and St. John, N. B., and ports in France and Belgium for five years to the extent of \$25,000 yearly. The steamers are to run fortnightly and to be fitted up for cold storage.

THE immigration of Italians to the United States this year is unprecedentedly large. During the past three months some 16,000 of these people have crossed the ocean, and 15,000 more, it is reported, are waiting an opportunity to come to America. The cause of this influx of people from the land of the vine is not that the condition of affairs in the United States is such as to present more than ordinary inducements to the immigrant. The reverse of that is the fact, since the industrial activity of the country is somewhat below the normal and the labor market is now over-stocked. The Italians are leaving their own land and coming to America, it seems, in order to escape conditions which have become intolerable through the burdens of taxation imposed to sustain a tremendous expense a great military system, to which is now added the expense of a bootless foreign war. The average intelligence and morality of these people is not likely to be high, and they are for the most part quite destitute of funds when they land in America. Some of them, who, having reached Halifax the other day by steamer, endeavored to pass over into the States, were stopped and turned back at the border because they had not the amount of money which the United States authorities require of immigrants entering from Canada. It seems hard for these poor people that they should be refused an entrance on this side the ocean after having made so great an effort to escape from the hard conditions by which they are confronted in their native land; but, on the other hand, an American State can hardly, in justice to the duties which it owes to its own citizens, attempt to take care of the pauper classes of Europe, who must prove to be not only a charge upon the resources of the country but also a menace to its social and political interests. A prominent United States newspaper says of these people, "They should be sent to address their appeal to King Humbert; and meantime we may well reflect upon the beauties of a colonial policy which the Lodges are so eager for us to adopt in imitation of that which has caused this flight from fair and fertile Italy."

QUITE a remarkable movement is said to be taking place of the people known as Dunkardists to the Red River country of North Dakota. Recently fifteen hundred of these people passed through Chicago in special trains of passenger and freight cars, carrying their household belongings, farming implements, etc., along with them. Some 2500 more it is said, will follow. These people come from Dunkard communities in the Virginia, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, and will form a number of colonies in the Northwest. They are not in destitute circumstances and their main object in moving appears to be to establish colonies under such conditions that they and their children shall have plenty of room for settlement. The Dunkards are a people, mostly of German origin, whose way of living is very plain and simple. They adhere to immersion as baptism, but also practice feet washing and adhere to the Quaker principles of peace, non-resistance and simplicity of dress. The reporter of a Chicago paper thus describes them: "The people as a whole seemed lacking in knowledge of men and affairs of the world, and a few were ignorant of many things one would suppose familiar to everybody. Even the elders are not in touch with the events of the day outside their own church. They seem to move in and be satisfied with their own colonies, their churches and themselves. They are thrifty, hard-working, peaceful citizens, who let the world go along in its own way and care little how it goes beyond their own circle."

A new Irish Land Bill, introduced by Mr. Gerald Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, has passed his first reading in the British House of Commons. In introducing the Bill, Mr. Balfour said that the keystone of the Unionist policy since 1881 had been to establish peasant proprietary in Ireland instead of a dual

ownership of land. Reviewing the effects of successive Land Acts, Mr. Balfour held that the present measure would carry out the best principles of the Ashbourne Act of 1885 and Mr. Morley's Bill of 1889, and would add a series of provisions amending the procedure of previous Acts and facilitating the working of the purchase system clauses adopted from Mr. Morley's. Commenting upon the proposed measure, Hon. John Morley, Chief Secretary for Ireland in the last Liberal government, said he was pleased with parts of the bill, chiefly those adopted from the Liberal bill. He was disappointed with other clauses, part of which were quite unworkable. The fair rent proposals were by far the most important. He predicted these would be passed in an improved form and the remaining clauses would be postponed at the pleasure of the House. John Dillon, leader of the anti-Parliamentaries, said Mr. Balfour's speech proved that this parliament was incapable of dealing with the question. The Irish would be greatly disappointed by the bill.

THE Matabele continue in a war-like mood and are giving the British South African authorities a good deal of trouble. Despatches represent that large forces of the natives are gathered in the neighborhood of Bulawayo and that not a little anxiety is felt for the safety of the town and the large number of white settlers who are gathered there for protection. The house government has determined to send a considerable body of troops to South Africa in order to reduce the Matabele to subjection and provide adequately for the safety of the British colonies. Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of Cape Colony, is said to be opposed to the policy of the home government in this respect, as he believes that the British force now in the country can, without much assistance, control the Matabele, and he is apprehensive that any great increase of the British force in South Africa will hinder the prospect of peace between the colony and the Transvaal. It would appear, however, to be the intention of Mr. Chamberlain and the government to place in South Africa a military force that President Kruger and his Boers will feel bound to respect.

PREVIOUS to the holding of the Winnipeg Conference on the Manitoba School Question the Manitoba Legislature adjourned to April 16. On that date the Legislature re-assembled. As it was understood that the meeting was only for prorogation there was but a slim attendance of the members, Messrs. Sifton, Cameron and Walsen being the only members of the Government present. The leader of the Opposition asked whether the government had received since the Conference any further communication from the Dominion Government, and the Attorney General answered in the negative. After a few other questions had been asked and answered, Governor Patterson appeared and delivered his speech, proroguing the Legislature. The Governor expressed his sympathy with the regret felt by the Legislature and the people of Manitoba at the death of his predecessor in office, Sir John C. Schultz. Alluding to the Conference on the school question, Governor Patterson expressed regret that the commissioners from Ottawa had not been able to accept the proposals of the Manitoba Government, but it was still hoped that the proceedings of the Conference would in the end contribute to the settlement of the question.

PERSONAL.

Dr. Kempton, of Dartmouth, writes us that he and Mrs. Kempton are off for a two weeks visit to Boston, where they will visit their son who is engaged in pastoral work in that city. No doubt the visit will be a pleasant one for all.

Rev. F. C. Wright, of Albert Co., made us a call a short time since. We are sorry to learn that Mrs. Wright's health continues very delicate, and that, on this account, Bro. W. feels that it will be necessary for him to leave his present field and ask a more inland situation.

We were favored recently with a call from Rev. W. Camp, the highly esteemed pastor of the First Hillsboro church. Bro. Camp reports a fairly encouraging condition of affairs on his field, though the activity of the lumbering industry in that section of the country, and the consequent absence of many of the men from their homes have made the conditions less favorable than usual for special religious effort during the winter.

Question.

In the case of a person who has been baptized and received into a Baptist church and who, after years have passed, experiences the blessedness of salvation, should there be a re-baptism if the person, so desired, being dissatisfied with the baptism received because it was not preceded by faith in Christ?

Such a case as is here supposed does not frequently occur and it is therefore difficult to say what course is usually pursued. We think, however, it is safe to say that experienced Baptist pastors would not encourage a person under such circumstances to ask for re-baptism, provided that in the first instance the rite had been received reverently and conscientiously by the candidate, though, as he afterwards came to believe, on insufficient religious experience and without saving faith. For obvious reasons re-baptism is not to be encouraged unless there are the best grounds for it, and it is not unlikely that many Christians in the enjoyment of fuller light and blessing, received subsequent to baptism, are led without sufficient reason at times to question the genuineness of their conversion experienced previous to baptism. But if a person is convinced that his or her former profession of faith was not genuine and feels it a matter of conscience to be re-baptized, there is nothing in Baptist polity to prevent compliance with the request and the administering of the rite on profession of the candidate's intelligent faith. In Hiscock's New Directory for Baptist churches, page 130, the following note on this subject will be found:

"Baptism, strictly speaking is not to be repeated. But cases may occur in which it has been administered in form to candidates who at the time, as subsequently appeared, had not exercised a saving faith in Christ and had not made an intelligent confession of such faith. In such cases baptism may be repeated, when the candidate becomes duly qualified. This would be re-baptizing in form, but not in fact, since, in the former case, a lack of faith made the act invalid. Such cases seldom occur, and when they do, can be practically adjusted by the candidate and the church."

To the Baptist Churches in Nova Scotia.

DEAR BROTHERS,—Permit me to remind you that the THIRD QUARTER of our Convention year ends with the present month. All the Boards will be needing funds to pay grants and salaries; the falling due. We want to be able to send their good amounts to help them meet their obligations. We therefore request that you who have not already remitted for this quarter endeavor to do so before its close. We are glad that some of our churches remit regularly every quarter, and we are persuaded that if all would do so it would be better for the churches and more money would be raised. If you want your church credited in the Year Book with all that is contributed for the several departments of our Denominational work, please send DIRECT to me.

A. COXON,
Treas. Den. Funds, N. S.

Wolville, N. S., April 16.

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:

We are laborers together with God.

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

PRAYER TOPIC FOR APRIL.

For our Grande Ligue Mission, that there may be a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the school, and also for brother and sister Greater laboring in these Provinces.

DEAR READERS,—Through the medium of this "column," we often look at you, and you may frequently desire the same privilege, and while we do not and cannot see alike, yet there may be enough of general interest in what I am about to write that will for a short time secure your attention. Early in January I made a tour at Tekkall, where there is a small gathering of Christians forming a church, which is cared for by one of our energetic men. His wife is one of my Bible women, and goes from house to house with the glad tidings of a Saviour's love. On one occasion she said to me, "I often go in doubt, not knowing whether they will receive me or send me away." This I mention, because so many have the idea that the people are longing for the Gospel. True, in some cases, they evince a desire to hear, but their indifference often fills our hearts with sadness. In the town of Tekkall, a site for a mission house has been secured, and the price of the land has been paid, now we await your assistance before we can proceed any further. And while there a carpenter came to me to know if it was true that we "had purchased land and intended to build a house." "Yes, it is true," "then when will you begin?" "I do not know when, but we will build." My reply was founded upon my belief in you, my readers. When are we to build? When will a family come to take up the work on that part of the field? are ques-

tions which I feel compelled to ask you this morning. The work is not light for the ones who desire to spend their lives in Tekkall; encouragements and discouragements will be woven together, days of toil and nights of anxiety, times of rejoicing, seasons of depression, must and will enter into the lives of the missionaries. This is no exception to the rule, I only wish to make it plain in what I write, that both our men and women sent out by our denomination, must come prepared to endure hardships as good soldiers, but will you dear readers, kindly remember that with an inadequate force, even the best of warriors fall in the battle. During my stay at Tekkall, I became better acquainted with the place as a fine location for a mission station. The town has a population of 7,000 and there are villages surrounding it within easy access, that will give as many more in numbers. Certainly a fine field for any one who wishes to be used in preaching the Gospel to the Telugus.

Finishing my tour, I spent a week at Chicacoale, and had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Sanford, who made us a short visit, and during the same days Mr. Higgins said his farewell to us. I wish you could realize how we feel when we see men equipped for the work, having left before they wish to. It seems to me that could you be with us in such hours, some of you in whom the Spirit of the Lord is would say, here am I, send me, while others would say to our Foreign Mission Board, here is my cheque to send them with.

My next tour was made at Gara, one of our good centres to work from, and only twelve miles from here. For some time we have been interested in a young Naidu, whose home is there. When he heard that I was in Gara he made me a visit and talked of his desire to become a follower of the Saviour; but his family connections held him, and your prayers are asked that he may soon be able to make a full surrender to the claims of the Redeemer. For forsake all is fully realized here, when men and women are converted, therefore we request you to be constant in prayer for these inquirers. In the early part of moonlight evenings a widow visited me, and on one occasion when rather late, I wished to know if her people asked her where she had been would she tell them. "No, for if I did they would abuse me." Do you not feel sorry for the poor widow who wished to have the way of salvation, yet did not dare tell that she had spent an evening at the bungalow where the missionary was, and only too glad to talk with her for hours. If a widowed one reads this she might be enabled to see from the slight glimpse how such ones are treated here by those who ought to love them, and be pleased if they hear of the way of salvation. From Gara I went to Callangasatam, but on account of the very unhealthy condition of the place, and all the surrounding villages, where cholera has caused the death of hundreds in the last few months, and there were deaths while I was there, it seemed best to return to the station. Here we are working diligently as we can are the hot weather is upon us, and as I go to my accustomed places, the question is constantly asked, "Why have you not appeared all these days? Where have you been?" Had we more workers this question would not have to be met so frequently. That we need reinforcement is known to you as well as to us and in order, that the mission which our denomination has so long supported, keep its place and be saved from great loss, it is imperative that two families be sent this fall. Dear friends we are responsible as your representatives; we must write plain facts, so that you may know how to plan for the success of our mission, and avert mistakes at this important time in our history. You know how the stations are supplied at present, and before appointments are made I, for one, desire to get in a strong plea that at least two families be sent this autumn. While I am in full sympathy with woman's work for women, yet I must say that from my standpoint as I see the need of our mission it is that the stations for which we plead, be supplied with families; and for this we will pray and hope that the ones whom He would have come here, may soon be ready to fill these needy places.

Yours in the work,
H. WAGNER,
Chicacoale, March 2nd.

Dartmouth, N. S.
A card from Mrs. Nalder, Secretary for Hants Co., N. S., said she proposed leaving for England this week in the S. S. "St. John City." We trust that our sister will return to us much benefited in health by her visit of four months in her old home. Mrs. Nalder says that during her absence Mrs. W. Rees, Scotch Village, will look after the work of the W. B. M. U. in Hants Co.
A. E. JOHNSON.

Notes.
The Bureau of Literature wishes to acknowledge kindness of Mrs. Gehring in lending three books, Memorials of the Wives of Jason, for use in Library.