

Messenger and Visitor.

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1898.

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The Baptist ministers of St. John and Fairville have reorganized their conference for the winter months. Rev. J. A. Gordon was appointed president and Rev. A. E. Ingram secretary. The meetings held have been full of interest and the reports from the churches of a hopeful character. Plans are being laid for a general evangelistic work throughout the bounds of the conference. The meetings are held in the Messengers and Visitor rooms, 85 Germain street, every Monday morning at 10 o'clock. Brethren visiting the city are cordially invited to meet with us. Recently Rev. C. H. Bacon, G. Howard, E. J. Grant, and H. G. Estabrook have met with us and cheered us by reports of their work on their respective fields.

John Ploughman's famous sheet almanack is announced for 1899, and contains, as in former years, some of Mr. Spurgeon's pithiest sayings. A few of the proverbs are from Pastor Clark's pen. The illustrated almanack is also ready, having been prepared by Mrs. Spurgeon. Mr. Spurgeon's hitherto unpublished sermons are being issued week by week with his comments added.

Mr. Rockefeller continues to be the generous friend—one might say the fostering parent—of Chicago University. The university has other friends, but none so rich and so lavish in the bestowment of their gifts. At the beginning of the present year Mr. M. A. Ryerson, of Chicago, offered to give \$100,000 on condition that \$400,000 additional were raised before July 1, 1898. But the conditions failed to be met and Mr. Ryerson has extended the time for raising the \$400,000 until July, 1899. And now Mr. Rockefeller offers to give a half million more to the university in four equal annual payments provided that the other half million, which Mr. Ryerson's offer contemplated, shall be raised. If the conditions are met, as no doubt they will be, a million dollars will be added to the funds which the university has at its disposal for working expenses. The promised half million from Mr. Rockefeller brings the sum of his gifts to the university up to the grand total of \$3,250,000.

The congregations of Germain Street, Leinster Street and Brunel Street churches united with that of the Tabernacle in holding a union thanksgiving service with the last named on Thursday morning. There were present perhaps 150 persons, and one could not help thinking that at a thanksgiving service representing the four congregations there should be at least a thousand persons who would desire to be present. The service, however, was doubtless highly profitable to those who attended. The four pastors were all present and took part in the exercises of the hour. Mr. Baker, who preached the sermon, took for his text 1 Tim. 1: 12. The theme was, "Gratitude for the Privilege of Service." The points dwelt upon were: 1. Personal service; 2. united service as the Baptist churches in St. John; 3. service as a denomination. The inspiring theme was discussed with fine ability, and the sermon must have been helpful to all present.

It is very unfortunate that most ministers are too busy to give to social questions that careful study which the grave importance of the subjects demands. These earnest men would gladly discuss many problems publicly if they felt prepared to do so from the standpoint of the special student of social science. Many thoughtful pastors will learn with pleasure that a course of six lectures on "Social Science" has been prepared by Professor Albion W. Small, of the University of Chicago, for use in the Chautauqua Extension Department, which supplies local clubs, church societies, literary clubs, etc., with lectures, manuscripts, syllabuses, circulars, tickets—all the material necessary for announcing and carrying on a lecture course. Many pastors are already reading these lectures making their own comments and conducting after discussions. The Chautauqua Office (Drawer 194, Buffalo, N. Y.) makes such arrangements with the persons undertaking the lectures that they assume no financial risk. In addition to that on Social Science, there are courses ready, on: "Art and Social Life in Ancient Greece," "The poetry and Teaching of Robert Browning," both by Professor Owen Seaman, a graduate of Cambridge, England, and "Great Periods in Medieval History and Art," by Professor W. H. Goodyear, of the Brooklyn Institute.

No other sarsaparilla has equalled Hood's in the relief it gives in severest cases of dyspepsia, sick headache, biliousness, etc.

We were pleased to have a call on Monday morning from Principal deBlais, of U. B. Seminary. Dr. deBlais recollects that the work of the institution is being carried on with gratifying harmony and success. The attendance is considerably larger than last year. The teaching staff he regards as highly efficient. The students as a body are earnest and are doing excellent work, and a most gratifying religious interest pervades the school.

We much regret to learn from the last received issue of the *North West Baptist* that the Executive Board of the Manitoba and North-west convention is finding itself in deep water in connection with its missionary operations. The *Baptist* says: "Our expectations of money from the east, built on what appeared the most trustworthy assurances were sadly disappointing. The Maritime brethren's plan of giving to our work failed to a very considerable degree of yielding what former years realized us. They and we meant the change to work in the opposite direction. Ontario's promises at convention, 1892 were calculated upon and planned accordingly. Failure also here. Crops in the west are not as good as expected and prices are nowhere. Guaranteed creditors devour what increase there is."

Recent visits of Superintendent Mellick to the Maritime Provinces and Ontario have not brought any encouraging results. Meanwhile the missionaries find of privations, sufferings and exhausted credit, and plead with the Board to secure money by borrowing or otherwise so as to send some relief.

The Board does out the small amounts received from one quarter and another with all the consideration and frugality of ship-wrecked mariners. All the notes which its credit allows are at discount and still the pressure is beyond endurance.

From this it will be seen that the present is a time of special need with our brethren in the North-west. Considering the deficits which we have to meet here in the different departments of our denominational work, the great difficulty in obtaining the funds necessary for the successful prosecution of the interests which we have in hand and the fact that, on this account, our own home mission work is greatly straitened, it seems impossible to make a special appeal to our Maritime people on behalf of the North-west. And yet it seems more than possible that there are churches and individuals amongst us, who, without doing less than they are now doing for the interests for which we are more immediately responsible, will feel able to extend a helpful hand in this time of need to their brethren in the west.

PASSING EVENTS.

THROUGH the intervention of the British government and the wise and tactful mediation of Lord Rosebery, the great strike of the English coal miners has happily come to an end. The settlement is received with grand demonstrations of joy by the miners and immense satisfaction by all classes of the people. The cessation of work at the mines and the consequent stoppage of the fuel supply had come to be felt more or less severely in all the branches of the country's trade and industry, and on some branches the effect has been paralyzing. Among the poorer classes much suffering has resulted from the scarcity and extremely high price of fuel, and except for the unusually mild season the suffering would have been greatly intensified. The miners have, of course, suffered severely, and in many instances have reached a point where starvation was staring them in the face. The miners had contended against a proposed reduction of wages of 25 per cent. They have fought a long and hard battle, and have won an apparent victory as they resume work at the old rate of wages. With much less suffering and loss, however, the mine owners must have benefitted largely through the greatly increased prices of coal, and many coal dealers have doubtless been enabled to enrich themselves at the expense of the public. The arrangement agreed upon between the miners and mine-owners, as we understand it, is that the miners continue to receive the old rate of wages until February. Meanwhile a Board of Conciliation will be formed which shall have power in law to settle similar questions by determining the rate of wages which miners are entitled to receive. The Board of Conciliation is to be constituted for one year. Great credit is accorded to Lord Rosebery in the matter. His successful mediation, which was undertaken at the instance of Mr. Gladstone, adds also to the prestige of the government.

COMPETENT critics are disposed to place the name of Francis Parkman, for excellence, at the very head of the list of American writers of history—a list on which appear the names of Motley, Bancroft, Prescott, not to mention many others of ability much more than respectable. Parkman came of that Puritan stock which has proved so fruitful in men of genius and distinguished scholarship. His father was the Rev. Francis Parkman, and, like many other noted men who came of the old New England stock, he could count a number of clergymen among his ancestors. Francis Parkman, the historian, was born in Boston, but being a delicate lad he spent four years of his boyhood from eight to twelve in the country, where he roamed the Middlesex fells, became acquainted with wild animal and plant life of the forest, in which he evidently found much to which his nature was responsive. At the age of seventeen he entered Harvard College and was graduated four years later, though ill health and travel in Europe had interfered somewhat with the prosecution of his studies. So early as his sophomore year it is said, Mr. Parkman had determined to set himself to write the history of the French and Indian war; and later he enlarged his scheme to cover the period of the grand struggle of France and England for supremacy upon this continent. His college vacations found him exploring the vast forests of Maine and Canada, examining the scenes of raids and battles in the French and Indian wars. Later he visited the Indian tribes in the interior of the country, living for a time among them to study their nature and habits of life. In 1846 a long journey was made which extended as far as the Rocky mountains, and Parkman, accompanied by a friend, lived the Indian life and thus secured that intimate acquaintance with the Indians which makes the red man so vivid a reality in his histories. The immediate outcome of this journey was a series of sketches contributed to the *Knickerbocker*, which afterwards appeared in book form under the title "The Oregon Trail." His experience of savage life was, however, injurious to his health. His sight was seriously impaired. For about three years the light of day was insupportable, and every attempt at reading or writing completely debarred. But heroically he persevered. With the aid of an amanuensis the materials were sifted and arranged, and the work of composition went forward. In 1851, "The Conspiracy of Pontiac" appeared in two volumes. It was fourteen years later that Mr. Parkman's next historical work appeared. Meantime his wife, Catherine Bigelow, whom he married in 1850 and with whom he lived most happily, had died, leaving two daughters who are both married and survive their father. After the death of his wife, Mr. Parkman went, in 1856, to Europe to collect materials for his future work in the record of the French attempt to establish a feudal empire in America. In 1855 he published "Pioneers of France in the New World." This was followed in 1857 by "The Jesuits in North America in the Seventeenth Century." This followed at varying intervals "The Old Regime in Canada," "Count Frontenac and New France under Louis XIV.," and "Montcalm and Wolfe." His last work, issued from the press only last year, is entitled "A Half Century of Corbiere," covering the period between 1700 and 1750, and connecting "Frontenac" with "Montcalm and Wolfe." The excellence of Parkman's literary style, his mastery command of the English language, his veracity and thoroughness, together with that subtle imaginative power which has enabled the author to live and think in the times of which he writes, and the fact that his facile and dramatic pen has been much employed in recording events and depicting scenes connected with the early history of our own country, will cause his books to be read with profit and delight by an ever increasing number of Canadians. An editorial writer in the *Springfield Republican*, to whom we are indebted for some of the facts here given, says in reference to the historian's personal appearance: "Mr. Parkman was a noticeable man. Tall, broad-shouldered, but not physically vigorous; his high and shapely head, his strong-featured, clean-shaven face, his resolute mouth and chin, and an air of distinction which was an essential part of his nature—he was one whom people paused to look at, as they did at Dr. Parsons, the poet, who bore a singular resemblance to him."

Mr. Parkman's death occurred November 8, at his home Jamaica Plain, Boston, at the age of seventy.

THE report of Mr. Blount, the special commissioner sent by the United States government to investigate matters in Hawaii, has now been made public, and appears to throw a good deal of light upon the proceedings which are the subject of investigation. Mr. Blount presents as evidence, statements and admissions of persons who took a prominent part in bringing about the Hawaiian revolution, to show that it was not the doing of the people of the country, but of a comparatively small number, and they mostly United States citizens. The course of action pursued by Mr. Stevens, the United States minister at Honolulu, is made to appear as a high-handed piece of business. The evidence submitted goes to show that Mr. Stevens had not only agreed to recognize the provisional government as soon as it should be proclaimed, but that, a day before the proclamation, he had caused the troops to be landed from the U. S. ship *Boston*; that the troops were stationed for the protection of the revolutionists; that only the presence of the troops in Honolulu rendered the overthrow of Liliuokalani and the proclamation of the provisional government possible; that this government received the recognition of Minister Stevens before the abdication of the queen was demanded, and when only one of the government buildings was in the possession of the revolutionists, and that the queen forebore to offer resistance to the new government only because she was assured that to do so would involve her in hostilities with the United States. It is also stated that she was assured by those who, on the part of the provisional government, conferred with her that she could resign under protest, and that her protest would be considered at Washington; whereas the intention evidently was to have a treaty of annexation obtained before there should be any thorough investigation of the facts connected with the revolution. All this, of course, goes to show that ex-Minister Stevens used his authority as representative of the United States to further an intrigue and overthrow the government of a country between which and his own government friendly relations existed, in order that a scheme of annexation might be carried through. Unless the evidence presented by Mr. Blount can be invalidated, it would certainly seem impossible for the United States to do less than to repudiate the action of ex-Minister Stevens. There is not, however, at present any intimation at Washington that force will be employed to renege Liliuokalani in her kingdom. It seems probable that President Cleveland's government will satisfy itself with pronouncing in favor of her claims, repudiating the action of the late minister and recommending the restoration of the queen, or, at least, the submission of the question to the people of Hawaii.

THE type setting machines which are coming to be introduced in printing offices represent a remarkable triumph of the inventive genius and mechanical ingenuity of the human mind. Mr. Patterson, the proprietor and editor of the *Amherst Press*, has the honor of being the first in the Maritime Provinces to employ a type-setting machine in his work. For some weeks past, a machine, known as the typograph, has been employed by Mr. Patterson on the *Press* and in connection with other work in his office. What the machine does is not to set directly the type for printing, but to set matrices or negative type. When a line of such type is set, which is done by means of a key-board, operated in the same way and about as rapidly as the key-board of a writing machine—by the movement of a lever there is injected into the mould containing the matrices a stream of molten metal which instantly hardens. The strip of metal, bearing the line of type, is then, by the action of the machine, trimmed smooth and pushed out to take its place with others of its kind upon a galley. By a single movement of the machine the matrices are distributed and the operator is ready to produce another line as before. Mr. Patterson informs us that an experienced operator will with this machine do the work of three compositors. Among the advantages of this method of type-setting for newspaper work is that it insures a new set of type for every issue. It also avoids the possibility of what printers call "pi," for as each line is held in a solid piece of metal the mixing of type which has been set becomes impossible. When the type has secured its purpose it is thrown into the melting

pot to be run over again. A type-setting machine constructed on the same general principle, but of a much more complicated character, is now in use in many printing offices in the United States and in several in Canada. Since beginning this article we have received a late number of the *Vancouver World* which gives a detailed description of this machine, "the Linotype," four of which are employed in the office of that paper. The Linotype is the invention of Ottomar Mergenthaler, a mechanic of Baltimore, though more or less successful efforts continued through many years had, no doubt, prepared the way and led up to the triumph achieved in the invention of Mergenthaler. Two factories in England, two in the United States and one in Montreal are now engaged in the manufacture of these machines. Many hundreds of them are in use and nearly a hundred daily papers in Europe and America are being printed by means of them. They are employed in the offices of the *Montreal Witness*, the *Toronto Globe*, the *Hamilton Spectator*, the *Victoria Times*, the *Vancouver World* and the *Dominion Printing Bureau*, Ottawa. Outfits are being built also for the *Toronto Mail*. There can be no doubt, that the type-setting machine has come to stay and to be a very revolutionary power in the printing offices of the world.

THE people of Amherst are justly proud of their new public school building, the formal opening of which, a few weeks ago, was an event of much general interest to the community. The building is a fine, well-built, substantial structure of brick and stone, and is altogether creditable to the builders, Messrs. Rhodes and Curry. It is admitted, we believe, to be the finest public school building in the Maritime Provinces, and its internal arrangements certainly seem to leave little to be desired. Great credit in this connection, we understand, is due to Mr. Lay, the energetic and efficient principal of the Amherst school. The school has now eleven departments with aggregate attendance of pupils numbering 650. The building has rooms for one or two additional departments which will soon be required. The class-rooms are large and airy, with abundance of light and the method of ventilation secures a continual supply of fresh air, without the discomfort and danger of draughts from open windows. On the third floor there is an assembly hall with a seating capacity of 600. From the roof a fine view of the surrounding country, and the head of Cumberland Basin is to be had. If, however, the building could have been situated on higher ground, the view would have been correspondingly more extensive, and the building would have appeared, externally, to much better advantage. But apart from this the choice of a site was judicious. The Smead & Dow system of heating and ventilation has been adopted, and so far is said to be working well, but the next three months will more thoroughly test its merits. The Amherst people are to be congratulated on the progress which the town is making in educational matters as well as in other lines of enterprise both public and private. The excellent water system introduced last year is a great boon to the town. The car works removed from St. John and now operated by Messrs. Rhodes & Curry, in addition to their other extensive business, give employment to much labor and form a valuable addition to Amherst's industrial interests. As a trading centre for a large and prosperous agricultural country, Amherst has had a steady development, and the various manufacturing interests which have been recently established or gradually developed have contributed largely to the growth of the town. In addition to those already alluded to, the Amherst boot and shoe factory, under the efficient management of M. D. Fride, Esq., and the iron foundry and machine business of the Messrs. Robb Bros. may be mentioned as among the best known and most successful manufacturing enterprises in the Maritime Provinces.

Mamma (reprovingly, Sunday)—You told me that you were only going to play church.

Dick—Yes'm.

Mamma—Then what is this loud laughing about?

Dick—Oh, that's all right. That's Dot and me. We're the choir.

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W. B. M. U.
NOTICE FOR THE YEAR:
"Lord what will Thou have me to do?"

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. Baker, 311 Princess Street, St. John, N. B.

NOVA SCOTIA NOTES.

Month by month the work of our Union, which seemed at first so small, is growing, until you are confronted at every turn with the question, "How can it all be done, and done thoroughly?" To give up any part means to go back, which must not be thought of.

Workers are needed in these home departments if the foreign work is to succeed. Three weeks have been spent among the Aid Societies of Digby and Annapolis counties. It was encouraging to note that not one society had died, though one or two had found living a hard matter. Still this hand to hand, heart to heart work of our visit took in every instance, for "the good hand of our God was upon us for good." Two meetings were held each day during this first week, and then work was begun in Annapolis county where we were joined by Miss Bancroft, our county secretary.

Our first meeting was held at Round Hill on Sunday evening. We have no society here as yet.

At Clementevale we found that the old society, organized by Miss Norris, had gone down, but the sisters seemed ready to begin anew; and after the meeting we organized with twelve members, and good hope of an increase.

At Stony Beach the result of the meeting was a society with twelve members.

After the meeting at Stony Beach it was found advisable for the workers to separate in order that no time be lost or places missed.

Miss Bancroft went on to Victoria Beach, where, after laying the matter before the sisters, they organized with eight members; and from there to the island with the same result, only in this instance the members are six in number.

That same day saw us on our way to Bridgetown, where they were celebrating "Crusade day." Met with the sisters in a grand meeting in the afternoon, and found that a large party of brothers and sisters had been invited to tea in the vestry at the close of the afternoon session. The evening meeting was a public one, consisting of addresses, recitations and good singing. Eight new members were the result. Perhaps there is a hint here for other societies.

On Thursday evening a meeting was held in Granville Ferry, where the people, though few in number, had a mind to work; result, an Aid Society with nine members. Since then seven names have been added.

At Bridgetown on Saturday afternoon we met with a number of the young people and organized a mission band with thirty six and grand prospects for an increase.

At Centreville we held a meeting on Sunday afternoon, organizing here with five good workers.

That evening found us in Paradise. A good place the secretaries found it to be in every sense of the word.

On Monday evening a meeting was held with the sisters at West Paradise, and we hope that an Aid society will be found here before long.

A meeting was also held on Friday, 20th inst., at Clarence. This is one of our best societies, and will be 21 years old in January, so that we look for great things from this Aid during the year. If only for example's sake Springfield and Falkland Ridge were next on the programme. The first we accomplished and we had a pleasant visit with the sisters. A storm prevented our visiting the Ridge, and it was thought best to defer that visit, as many of the sisters were from home.

Eight or ten societies still remain to be visited in Annapolis county, and other places to be called at with a view to organization. We had hoped to have accomplished this before and may yet be able to do so before winter sets in.

PROV. SECTY, N. B.

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