

grand-mothers, nor any of their female ancestry, could read or write so much as their own names. But these girls have learned to read and write as well as girls of their age at home. Some of them are very bright. They come to Sunday school too, and Mrs. Morse says she was surprised to find how much even the primer class knew of the Bible. Without these schools these girls would grow up, ignorant of the way of salvation. Children too are the door to parents' hearts. Through them Mrs. Churchill and Bible women get access to many homes, where they otherwise would find no admittance.

It would be most interesting to write also of the public meeting in the Rajah's high school, of the preaching in the bazaar, and of the number of inquirers, who come daily to the mission house, but I am obliged to close this letter here.

Mr. and Mrs. Churchill are looking forward with great joy to the coming of Miss Harrison. Since our return to Bimili, a letter has come from Bobbili, telling of six men, who came from a distant village and were baptized. The chief instrument in their conversion seems to have been a copy of the gospel of Matthew. But Mr. Churchill will probably write the particulars.

By this time the ship, which is bringing our new missionaries must be nearly to Ceylon. We hope they may reach Madras by next Saturday and Bimili by Christmas eve. They will be welcomed with songs of praise.

Yours sincerely,

L. D. MORSE.

On tour, Padmanabham, near Bimlipatam, Dec. 14, '96.

Death in a Saloon.

A TRUE STORY.

A young man heard the glorious gospel of Christ and was baptized into Christ. For a time he "did run well." He courted one of the prettiest young ladies in the community—a member of the church—who seldom missed divine service. They were married.

For a time things went on well. Both were faithful attendants at the services of the church. But by-and-by they grew negligent. Sin was doing its work. The man amused himself by playing baseball, cards and such like. He swamped his bible for a deck of cards. He gave his hope of heaven for the "pleasures of sin for a season." He no longer "took sweet counsel" with his wife "and walked unto the house of God in company" with her, but spent much of his time in saloons. In the midst of his sinful life he was "afflicted" with the loss of a darling child—the joy of his household—but he failed to learn the lesson that David did when he was afflicted. He was never again "glad when they said unto him, let us go unto the house of the Lord."

One evening against the protests of his wife, he again visited the saloon. He never got away until two bullets had pierced his brow and he was carried out a corpse. Died in a saloon! Died when drunk! Died without a minute's warning! Men and boys—keep away from saloons. Use every honorable means within your power to suppress them, and use all the means of grace that God has set before you, that you may "die in the Lord," and not in a saloon. Let us all remember that "the wages of sin is death."—Christian Standard.

What Our Friends Say.

Our friends have been saying and writing to us a great many kind things about the recent change in form and arrangement of the paper. Our readers will bear us witness that it has not been our custom to occupy these columns with praises of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. On this occasion, however, we think it but right that our readers should know what a number of our leading brethren are thinking and saying about the paper in view of its recent departure as to form, etc. We accordingly subjoin notes or extracts from notes lately received from a number of our friends:

Rev. B. N. Nobles, Bear River, N. S.:

Accept congratulations—appearance, attractive; arrangement, convenient; future, assured.

Rev. A. H. C. Morse, Bridgewater, N. S.

Permit me to express my hearty appreciation of the change in the form of the "MESSENGER AND VISITOR." I like it much.

Rev. F. D. Davidson, Gibson, N. B.:

Permit me to congratulate you on the improved appearance and style of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. It is splendid. I also wish you a prosperous and happy year.

Rev. A. H. Lavers, St. George:

The MESSENGER AND VISITOR is more deserving of a place in every home now than ever. Your editorial on the Pentecost should be read and prayed over. May God give pastors and churches that power.

Rev. G. F. Raymond, New Glasgow. To the Business Manager:

I hasten to express my delight on receiving the MESSENGER AND VISITOR in its new form and type! Grand! You deserve the thanks of the denomination and an increase in salary. May your heart be delighted by an abundance of new subscribers paid in advance, and old subscriptions all paid up.

Rev. F. M. Young, Bridgetown:

Please accept congratulations on the new and improved form of our MESSENGER AND VISITOR. Its new dress is pleasing,

the material rich, and the whole contents valuable and very helpful, while the arrangement makes them easily and quickly found. No Baptist family can afford to be without it in the home. May the Lord bless you in your work.

Rev. F. H. Beals, Canso:

Accept congratulations on the improved appearance of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. It seems that in the new form we are to have the same excellence of subject matter, with a very noticeable superiority of arrangement. With a page for each subject and a table of contents indicating just where to find what we want, a felt need, both for reading and receiving, has been supplied.

Rev. W. E. McIntyre, Chipman, N. B.:

I am pleased to see the change in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. Nearly all Christian journals of the day have adopted a similar form and we do well to fall into line. Besides giving equal prominence to the matter on each page, the new size makes filling in annual volumes a much easier task, and so future reference will be found more convenient. I think the management is to be congratulated on the step they have taken.

Rev. C. C. Burgess, Dorchester:

Permit me to congratulate you and Bro. Chipman on the very great improvements made on the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. I am more than pleased with its new form, the new arrangement of the matter put into it, and the strong spiritual and intellectual thought it brings to us. You certainly deserve and no doubt will receive the heartiest praise of your subscribers. God bless you and the MESSENGER AND VISITOR.

Rev. J. H. Foshay, Yarmouth:

I like the paper in its new form very much. It not only presents a better appearance but is much more convenient in reading. This effort to improve the paper will no doubt be appreciated by our people and result in increased circulation. The classification of matter in the paper is neat and orderly and greatly helps one to find what is being looked for. I hope the time is not far away when our H. M. Board and Board of governors will have space of their own in the paper and so keep the churches awake on interests committed to their care.

Rev. A. C. Chute, Halifax:

Accept my hearty congratulations, brethren Black and Chipman, upon this forward step, and upon the excellence, too, of your first issue in the improved form. An old style of garment is never put away for a new, I suppose, without regrets on the part of some, but in the case of the Messenger and Visitor, I venture to prophesy that it will not be a great while before all rejoice that it wears the more attractive and more convenient dress in which it has just made its first appearance. Success to your noble, and our noble paper, in its noble work of helping forward the noblest of causes.

Rev. C. W. Corey, Charlottetown:

The first copy of the "MESSENGER AND VISITOR" in its new form came to hand Saturday evening. I congratulate you on its excellent appearance. It is nicely printed, finely arranged, and is the best pasted paper that comes to my study. I do not like to say too many good things about it, but it impresses me that the matter has a new year spirit as well as a new year dress. I think I can get a student for Acadia on the strength of it, and if you will send me your premium list I feel assured I can send you a new subscriber for the paper. Haven't a word of criticism. It is a decided improvement on old paper in size as in other respects.

Rev. J. H. MacDonald, Amherst:

Dear "Messenger and Visitor," accept my congratulations on the changes. It is in the line of progress even though your stock as wrapping paper may be on the decline. It will perhaps take some of us a little while to get the contents of the pockets of your new suit assorted, but we will find they contain good measure and will soon know where to find our favorite articles. You are not so long faced as you used to be, but that does not make you any less pious or orthodox. Of the papers that find their way into the Amherst parsonage, none is more welcome than you. Long may you continue to bless and brighten our homes!

Rev. T. Trotter, Wolfville:

In adopting the newer fashion, you have displayed such admirable judgment and taste, and become so attractive, that we instantly forgive you for clinging to the older fashion so long. There will doubtless be some regrets still at the passing of the old, for years of affectionate fellowship make homely old-fashioned faces very dear, but we are quite sure from experience that after a little all your readers will vote the change an improvement every way. Paper, type, the table of contents, enabling us to survey the bill of fare at a glance, the classification of materials, all are excellent. And if the form is good, words equally appreciative might well be written of the rich and varied materials which make up the substance of this first number of the new year. God's blessing upon the paper means a wide-spread blessing for the people. May that blessing be richly yours. T. Trotter.

Rev. W. B. Hinson, Moncton:

Mr. Editor, I feel like giving you a cheer! In a great fire in London, when a brave fireman faltered, a bystander shouted; "give him a cheer." Thus encouraged, the man renewed his attempt to save life, and was successful. The Messenger and Visitor looks well in its new dress. For a little while it will appear strange, and we will find ourselves picking it up, and holding it in our hands, while we wonder where the Visitor is. But we shall soon get used to that. And we can preserve the paper with such ease, and refer to it with such comfort too. Thanks for those clear cut indications of what may be found on the first page, which summary of important news always does you credit. But one suggestion, Brother! I keep the news from the churches intact. Let us be able to read without a break, of the doings of the Lord in the churches. For as we read the recorded triumphs, we feel like the old chairman of a meeting, who said, he was "getting pleaser and pleaser." You have well done Mr. Editor, and if you attend to this one suggestion, we of Moncton shall be able to say of you—"many editors have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all."

Continued on page 5.

Arrow Points.

BY PASTORS J. CLARK.

Every affliction is a call to reflection. Where there's sin there's danger. What God wants you to do you can do, or God would not want you to do it.

The rougher the road the sweeter the rest. He that loves sin finds it hard to leave it. Your neighbours faults are no excuse for your own. Better lack gold than grace. Christ's bondage is better than the devils freedom. A man may travel fast and far, but he can never get away from himself. To-days sin may be tomorrow's sorrow. No crookedness of life can be straightened out by death. Hold to christ with conscience clear everyday throughout the year. Bass River, N. S.

Denominational Funds.

For N. S., from Jan. 1st to Jan. 9th.—Robert Frizzle, Esq., Brook Village, \$20; Port Williams Society church Endeavor, \$12; Jordan Falls church, \$3.20; Eliza H. Burton, Milton, Mass., \$3; Greenfield church, \$9; Milford church, \$3; Milfred S. S., \$1; Milfred B. Y. P. U., \$1; Sydney church, \$8; Sydney church special (per Rev. H. H. Hall) \$8.25; Bridgewater church, \$2; North Baptist church, Halifax, \$81.44; Kempt church, Summerville branch, \$4; Great Village church; \$5.37; Port Williams S. S., \$19.81; Port Williams section Canard church, per Rev. H. H. Hall, \$6.75; Mrs. Wm. Phalen, South Rawdon, \$2; Libbie A. Hattie, Brookline, Mass., \$2; Little Glace Bay church, \$7;—\$198.82. Add to this \$659.34, reported to me by Rev. J. W. Manning, treasurer Foreign Mission board, as received by him for Foreign Missions from August 15th to Dec. 31, 1896, but not reported here because already reported by him in MESSENGER AND VISITOR, making \$858.16. Before reported should have been \$2,428.72. Total \$3,286.88.

CORRECTION.—In last report instead of "Friend" \$5, read \$10, and instead of 35 cts from Mrs. D. W. Benjamin, read 45 cents. A. Cohoon, Wolfville, N. S. Treas. Den. Funds.

DICK'S FACT.

"Teacher told us," said Dick, quite out of breath from running so fast, "to bring a fact tomorrow to school to tell about."

"A fact!" said his mother. "What is that for?" "So we will know how to use our eyes, and tell things afterwards," explained Dick, stretching his own eyes very wide open.

Mother laughed, and said, "Well, Dick, it's a fact that I'm very glad you are home, for I need your help very much to run down town to the market, to the post-office, and to the dry-goods store."

When Dick got home with all the things in his express-wagon, supper was ready, and after supper he helped his mother with the dishes, so sister could study her geography.

Then it was bed time, and the next morning he was so busy that he forgot all about the fact until he was almost at the school-house.

He stopped to think about it, and just then a window in a little white house across the street flew open, and a voice cried out, "Dicky boy, come here, I want to show you something."

Some dear friends of his lived here, and it generally meant delicious sugary cookies when they called to him; so he went in very willingly, for the school-house clock told him he had plenty of time.

Miss Amelia could not walk without crutches, and Dick felt very sorry for her.

She was in her wheel-chair now, and she rolled it over by the window while her mother went to get the cookies, and there on the sunny pane was a great crimson and black butterfly. "I found this," said Miss Amelia, taking a brown pod from the mantle-shelf, "last fall in the porch, and I threw it into my work-basket. Last night I could not sleep, for I thought a mouse was scratching, and this morning we found the pod open and this lovely butterfly. This pod is a cocoon, Dick."

"Oh, I'll have that to tell for my fact!" said Dick, stuffing his pockets with the cookies. "Thank you."

So, when the teacher called for facts, Dick stood up very straight, and said: "Miss Melia, my friend, who gives cookies, found a 'coon-in the porch last fall, and when it was in her basket a long time, it turned into a mouse, and then to a butterfly."

The scholars laughed a little, but they were much interested when the teacher explained about the caterpillar, the cocoon, and then the butterfly. Dick had not understood.—Outlook.