

The Presbyterian Record.

VOL. XIX.

JUNE, 1894.

No. 6.

Maritime Travel to Assembly. Any of the ministers of the Maritime Provinces who, instead of using the standard certificates, would prefer to use their half-fare permits in travelling to and from Assembly, will please get a certificate to that effect, with the number of their permit inserted, from the station agent at starting. This will be recognized by the railway authorities as helping to make up the 300, necessary for free return, and will help brethren in the west.

"Hard times" and revivals. The past winter all over the continent, but especially in the United States, has been the "hardest" known for many years. But God brings good out of evil. As in 1857, "hard times" was followed by a great revival, so now. In the United States revivals have been more wide spread and general than for many years past. Multitudes of churches have been wondrously blessed. The wealthy, amid business failures, depreciation of stocks, and money losses, learn as in no other way how uncertain are their earthly possessions, and are led to think of "treasure in heaven" that faileth not, while the poor in their helplessness are often led to long for a life where want never comes. Thus it is that times of national as well as individual trial are blessings in disguise.

Confirming Scripture. It is a striking fact that all discoveries in archæology, in the unearthing of the remains of the past, confirm, wherever they touch, the sacred record. Some years since, M. Naville, when excavating some ruins, twelve miles west of Ismalia on the Suez Canal, found some large statues representing Rameses II, between the two Gods Ra and Tum, and some large mounds. On examination, these proved to be ruins of a store city, Pi Tum,—i.e. devoted to Tum, or the Pithom of Exodus, which the Children of Israel built in their bondage. This was its sacred name, its civil name being Succoth. He also learned that it was founded by Rameses II, the Sesostris of Greek history. It is now generally agreed that this was the new dynasty that "knew not Joseph," and that

Rameses II. was the Pharaoh of the oppression, while his son was the Pharaoh of the Exodus.

Y.M.C.A. From May 31 to June 7, the Young Jubilee. Men's Christian Associations of the world will hold their Jubilee Convention in London. Fifty years ago, George Williams, a young clerk, started, in an upper room of the large establishment where he was employed, a meeting for the benefit of the young men. It went on and grew and spread, and who can measure the results of these fifty years of work by young men for young men. George Williams lives, hale and hearty. He is in the same establishment still, not as clerk but proprietor. How seldom is it permitted to any man to witness the jubilee of any great work begun by him. The place, too, where half a century ago, was born this great organization, is still to be seen. It will be almost a sacred shrine to many of the visitors, 2,000 of whom, from all parts of the world, are expected to be present on this occasion.

It is a remarkable, unprecedented thing, that the Church of England is opening to the Convention two of its great historic buildings, Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral. The opening services are to be held in Westminster Abbey, on June 1, and the preacher is Lord Bishop of London. On June 5th., there will be a public thanksgiving service in St. Paul's Cathedral at which the Bishop of Ripon will preach. The official authorities of London are to signalize the occasion by a reception in Guildhall, a very unusual thing. Other great receptions there will be, and an excursion to Windsor Castle by express permission of the Queen. The heads of the great religious denominations have issued addresses to their own bodies, and special sermons will be preached throughout Great Britain on Sunday of the Jubilee week. It will be one of the greatest religious conventions ever held, and the official recognition of it by the civil and ecclesiastical authorities of the world's capital shows the place that religion, and this Association, holds in the world.