

Messenger and Visitor.

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1887.

WISCONSIN COUNTY N. A. MINISTERS MEETING.

The members of this society met at Waterville on Wednesday last. Pastor Higgins presided. Bro. B. K. Kephart gave an address on the Spiritual Needs of the Churches in the county.

Another great need is that of sympathy between the churches. The stronger churches attract from the weaker, although those brought to them in this way are much more likely to have their own lesser burdens well nigh forgotten at the expense of their own souls.

SELFISH CHRISTIANITY.

If we mean by this that real Christianity is selfish, it would be one of the blackest of blots. Her very essence is unselfish. Christianity, to be worthy of the name, must be like Christ, and he was self-sacrifice embodied.

Still, it has to be confessed that there is much that is selfish associated with the conduct of professed Christians—yes, of real ones. It may be that selfishness here reaches its climax, in connection with the action of professed believers.

But, let us carry on the illustration a little further. Suppose the man were rescued by another at the cost of maiming for life, and that he should turn a deaf ear to the entreaties of his rescuer to assist in the deliverance of the others that were soon to perish in the flames, unless help came and go on his way, and make no effort. Would not his selfishness be more intense?

Neither is it as though there would be little hope of success, if the attempt should be made to save those who are in such mortal danger. If the man rescued from the burning building knew it would be next to certain that his efforts to save others would be futile, and might incur danger that was almost useless, he might not be so blame-worthy; but were he assured that his efforts were sure of success, and that he would run no risk of injury himself, how would it be then, were he to refuse? Does it not also magnify the guilt of Christian inactivity on behalf of the lost, that there is an assurance from God himself that no such labor shall be fruitless?

Are we wrong, then, in the statement that selfishness may have its climax among those who profess to be saved themselves? How is it with you, brother and sister?

LESSONS FROM THE ELECTION CONTENT.

The election contest is not without its suggestions to Christian workers. Politicians are intensely in earnest. On both sides they believe that issues are depending which involve the well being of the country. It may be, however, that there is little to choose between the opposing parties. The Christian worker, on the other hand, in the contest with sin in which he is engaged, knows with absolute certainty that infinitely more is depending. The highest

interests of this life are involved; but to this is added the eternal fate of men. Why should not Christians, then, be moved to a greater energy, and stirred to a higher enthusiasm? Why, brethren, why?

Notice, also, that measures they take to secure the victory. How thoroughly they organize; there is not dependence on haphazard work. Each ward and district has its committee. It is true there are public meetings; but these are not deemed sufficient. There is planned a personal man to man canvass. Those who are most likely to influence each voter to support their candidate are sent to each one capable of being won. No means are left untried. All this is done to get people to choose one man rather than another, when, in most cases, there is not much to choose between them.

It is notable, also, that gone are all diffident about speaking of their candidate or party. It is the topic of the hour. Wherever people meet, or friend greets friend—yes, when strangers are thrown together—each man is ready to speak of his side of the question. They never tire of telling of the excellencies of the man of their choice, if he has any, and of the principles of the party to which they belong. No opportunity is lost to impress others favorably for both: What do we not have to tell of the perfections of our Leader? What strange, mysterious acts of love and sacrifice has he not done, and done for us! What a marvellous power the principles we profess to accept and support have had to lift up men to heights of nobility and blessing! Why then should we be so reticent? Let us, also, talk about our blessed Leader, as we meet in the daily walks of life.

What an inspiration it is to a party to be assured that they are sure to win. Each political party to-day is seeking to make the most of this, in order to arouse the enthusiasm which will help on by victory. The side on which the Christian is certain of final triumph. This is assured by the promise and power of God. While one party can be encouraged by the thought that it has a Blake, and the other that it has a Tupper, we can boast ourselves of God, as our great Leader, and he is leading on his hosts to victory. Let us take from this assurance the stimulus it is fitted to give, and not allow any little trifles to daunt us. Neither infidelity, rum traffic, worldliness, or all the embattled host of Satan should discourage us, as we follow the lead of the King of kings.

Bro. D. Freeman read a paper on "Our Future Line of Action." We should use some form of evangelistic effort. Each church should plan to evangelize the fields in its vicinity. The students at the College are doing something in this line. Much might be done by holding Quarterly Meetings in the more destitute sections.

At the conclusion of the session, it was voted to establish Quarterly Meetings, and a committee was appointed to arrange for the first one.

The session was very interesting. The great pity was the attendance was not larger.

Manitoba Correspondence.

Now what is being done for the Mennonites, once our companions in tribulation, and now our friends in need? As to preaching the gospel amongst them, I may say nothing has been done. At our Convention, held July 1885, Brother Peterreit was appointed missionary among the Germans, under the direction of the Manitoba Convention, and I believe the American German Missionary Society granted some towards his support, and Brother J. B. MacArthur, of Winnipeg, made himself responsible for the remaining part of the salary, for which he deserves great praise.

It is only one of the many acts Bro. MacArthur's deep interest in the work here has prompted him to.

When Brother Peterreit's term expired, and the Dominion Board was organized for work in this country, we were in hopes they would take up the work and add another man at least to help Bro. P. But, alas! the Board could not keep the one already on the field, and all our German interests must drop unless some other means of support than the Dominion Board could give were available. The work was dear to our hearts, and we could not drop it, so, by private subscription, Bro. P. has been retained among the Germans as missionary. But the German work in Winnipeg would be sufficient for one man; besides this, there are three or four German colonies further west, exclusive of the Mennonites. So we may say nothing is being done for those 13,000 Mennonites.

Now the Dominion Board cannot take up this work with an empty treasury, and unless some more vigorous effort is made than has been made heretofore the treasury is very likely to remain empty.

Their appeals have not been sufficiently strong and definite, nor have the pressing needs of this country been presented fully to the people. If they had been we are confident they would meet with a hearty response.

It is true our educational work is making pressing claims just now, especially upon the Ontario Baptists, and we rejoice to see the wonders that are being done in this respect. We pray that the corner stones laid, and that the top stones will go on with our Father's benediction upon the monuments to the name of Jesus.

But we must not forget the perishing, nor slacken our pace in our North West missionary work, or our home missionary work either, lest these gunboats be seriously detained on account of lack of water to float them. This work must be done, and we are patiently waiting to see some effort made.

If the Dominion Board cannot do it, we must look for help from some other source. Any practical sympathy extended to the Germans can be forwarded to H. E. Sharp, Winnipeg, and will be gratefully received and acknowledged. As my field joins hard into the Mennonite reserve, and I live in the towns where hundreds of them come to trade, some of whom come to hear me preach occasionally, I naturally come to my own work next, of which I would add a word and close, lest you be wearied with my much speaking.

I have been here nearly two years, and look back with some satisfaction on what has been accomplished. They have been years of great financial depression in this country. The wheat was frozen the first year, and the drought continued so long last year that the crop was very light, in some places not worth reaping. But we are not discouraged in this country as might be expected. Of course the Master's cause suffers during such trying times, but we must make more sacrifices in such cases. Other countries are just as liable to such visitations as this, and we do not know whose turn may come next; but, without any expectation of being paid back, we should always remember those in distress. If it should come to pass that the Lower Provinces are visited with such drought as we had last summer, it will cause great distress. The soil cannot bear as much as this rich prairie soil can. You can form some idea of how you could do almost entirely without rain for more than a year succeeding two years of early frost, in which nearly the entire crop was frozen. In such circumstances we have been struggling for these years, building a house of worship and gathering in the Lord's harvest of souls. Nor has our labor been in vain. The church building is completed and furnished, at a cost of nearly \$1000. But \$400 of this remains unpaid; and just here may I not ask again

THE WEEK.

The event in British politics has been the debate on Parnell's amendment to the reply to the speech from the throne, in the interests of the Nationalists and Home Rule. Gladstone led aloof. When the vote was taken, it was defeated by a large majority. Chamberlain and the Unionists voted generally with the government. It is said that Salisbury, encouraged by this vote, will propose a strong coercion bill. Gladstone does not intend to appear in the House, unless there is a test question on Home Rule, or some other great exigency. Churchill seems to have lost almost all prestige with his party.

for the practical sympathy of your readers. They have much of the Lord's money, and He will be well pleased if they send some out here to wipe off this debt.

Do you not think, Mr. Editor, that some of the rich churches and Sabbath schools would be doing a commendable deed of kindness in sending a small or large collection for this object? If you just nod to this, I think they will send us some aid, and the Lord will be glorified thereby.

In this time our membership has been increased 150 per cent, and our principles are gaining the sympathy of the people rapidly. A few weeks ago I baptized five very happy converts, and others are coming forward to join our number soon.

The anniversary of the opening of our chapel was celebrated December 5, 1886. It was a glorious season of refreshing from the Lord. Bro. Gibson, of Portage La Prairie, came, in the power of the Spirit, and preached out of the fulness of a heart overflowing with the love of Christ. The Lord was with him. He did us all good.

The following Monday evening Bro. Cameron, of Winnipeg, delivered a lecture on "My Trip to the Old World." It was a scholarly production, interesting, polished, and instructive. Tuesday evening following, he preached an impressive sermon. The presence of the Spirit was felt. One professed to have found the Saviour there, and others manifested an anxiety to be saved.

Bro. Cameron has many warm friends here. He has done us valuable service. We were present and helped us launch, and we have felt the push he gave us then ever since.

This we have entered upon another year's voyage to cast the gospel net for precious souls. Since we launched we have had some manifestations of the Master's presence, and although we have made many, as we thought, fruitless attempts, some have been gathered in. But there are many yet going down the rapids to the gulf of despair. Pray for us that this may be a year of great success.

H. G. MELLICK.

Mordin, Man., Jan. 27.

Missionary Correspondence.

BOBBILI, Dec. 27th, 1886.

Having the assurance to believe that some of the readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR will be glad to hear of our arrival in Bobbili, I send you a few lines from the old place. I wrote you a few lines from Port Said. From that place onwards our voyage was very pleasant. We had no storm whatever, and very little extreme heat in the Red Sea. The night before reaching Colombo we had it a little rough from a cyclone that was raging in the Bay of Bengal. We were mercifully preserved from its fury. The three days we were delayed in England just saved us from being caught in it, and in another storm in the Mediterranean. So we have reason to be thankful for what, at the time, seemed a trying delay. It could be hardly possible to have a pleasanter voyage so far as the weather was concerned. There were some things as regards other matters that were not so pleasant. We spent a day and a night at Colombo. At Madras we spent three days very pleasantly with Miss Day of the Baptist Union. We were deeply grieved to learn of the death of Mr. Waterbury. We left Madras Thursday, Dec. 16, and reached Bimlipatam on Sunday, Dec. 19th, fifty-seven days from Truro, forty-five of which were spent on the water. We found the folks at Bimlipatam all well and happy looking. We remained there but two nights and then took the train for Bobbili. And such a train! Eight bullock carts, some of the bullocks looking more like tumbling into the ditch than like drawing a load.

Although I spent a good part of the night in driving we did not quite average the regulation speed of two miles an hour, and it was ten o'clock before we reached the end of our first stage.

Twenty-eight miles in sixteen hours! Think of it and be thankful, you who complain because the railway does not come to your doors, or because the train is a few minutes behind time. The second night stage was not so long, but the rate of speed even worse.

We arrived here at eight on Thursday morning, and found the Christians busy erecting triumphal arches with a few bamboo poles, flowers and colored paper. They seemed glad to see us. Everything looked so natural that I could hardly realize we had been away at all. The principal change is in the trees I had planted. Some of these had grown wonderfully. I found the compound in good order, and the buildings have suffered less from wear and tear than I had feared. Thursday, Friday and Saturday were very busy days, unpacking and getting things into some sort of shape before Sunday.

The native Christians prepared our Christmas breakfast and we had them all in a little treat in the evening.

Yesterday morning I went with them into town to a meeting in the chapel. There were not many besides our own people, but a good many met me on the street and seemed glad to see me back. But the Vaishnavite Brahmins scowled at me as formerly. Everything looks as much as it did ten years ago. The people, the houses, everything remains much the same. I required, after the health of Bobbili. Some scowled and some laughed. Last evening I heard them, some of old, making their unearthly noise as they

carried water and food to him. A great many people have been calling to see us, which have not helped us in getting settled or in finding time to write, and that is one reason I must close now instead of writing more as I intended.

We are here again well and strong, and have great reason to thank our Father for his gracious care. I trust he will spare us to work for him, and bless our work. Kind regards to all our friends in the home land.

G. CHURCHILL.

Home Missions.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS

towards the payment of the debt continue to come in. The following are the receipts of the week: Mrs. Winkworth Chipman, Kentville, \$1; Rev. J. E. Fillmore and wife, Lower Caverhill, \$2; Mr. and Mrs. Levi Oxner, Chest-r Basin, \$2; Reuben Raymond, near, Beaver River, \$1; W. B. M. U. "Christmas offerings," \$145 19; Eunice Knowles, Wolfville, \$1 60; X. Z. Chipman, do \$1; Dr. F. A. Higgins, do \$1; G. H. Wallace, do \$2; Mrs. W. A. Colpitts, \$1 each; Austin Locke, Lockport, \$5; Mrs. E. J. Grant, Dartmouth, \$2; Des. J. W. Graham, do \$1; Rev. T. M. Munro, Oxford, second contribution, \$1; Butternut Ridge Sunday School, \$6 51; Miriam Doane, Hebron, \$1; N. L. C. R. Halifax, \$1; "A Friend," Magalloway, \$1; S. R. Lantz and wife, Wilmet, \$1 each; and Ralph and Cora Lantz, 50 cts. each. Before reported, \$1,153.88. Total to date \$1,334.18.

ACCOMPLISHING WORKS.

A pastor remitting \$1 for one of his members, says, "It represents some self-denial."

Another pastor referring to a contribution enclosed from one of his members, says, "When he handed me the money, his face was beaming, and he said, 'that he had been praying to the Father in Heaven that some way might be opened up for him to earn a little extra that he might send it to you for the Home Mission work. And he has no more doubt but that his prayer was answered than he doubts his own existence.'"

Another says, "I enclose you \$1 more for next thousand. My salary is small, but I must have a part in the work at any rate."

Another writes: "We pray for Home Missions, and praise God for you, and the spirit he has imparted and grace given."

And as we read these and others of like character and see the debt slowly melting away, we 'thank God and take courage.'"

CONCERT EXERCISE.

will be sent on application to all who have not received it, or who want more copies. We have heard from some that they are so late. We hope that all will take hold of it.

A. CONROD.

Hebron, Feb. 14. Cor. Sec. H. M. B.

W. M. A. S.

The W. M. A. Society of Brussels St. church, St. John, have lately held two interesting missionary meetings. The first was the regular meeting of the society, at which Mrs. Lyall, who for some eight or nine years has been a missionary in Siatow, China, was present, and addressed the ladies, describing the life and customs of the Chinese.

On the evening of Jan. 11th, a public meeting was held, the pastor, Dr. Hopper, preaching. The meeting opened by all uniting in singing Coronation, the 2nd Psalm was read by the pastor, Mr. Gates, of the German St. church, followed in prayer. Mrs. Lyall was then introduced, and read an interesting paper descriptive of her work; her husband, Dr. Lyall, also spoke briefly of the work done by the missionary ladies. Two little girls dressed as Chinese children added to the interest of the meeting.

Mrs. Lyall's work has lain in what is known as the Siatow region, and among women who, unlike their sisters of India, are not shut up in zenanas, but allowed to go about freely; and yet Mrs. L. says that sometimes she has almost evaded the lady missionaries in India, who have access to these zenanas, as there they come directly in contact with their sisters, while in China they frequently have to talk to large crowds where only those nearest them can hear. Much of the work has to be done by native Bible Women for whom she has a school where, when they are converted and can leave their homes, they are instructed, staying sometimes three months, and then going out to the surrounding villages and teaching others what they have been taught, then coming back to the school and receiving more instruction, and it is wonderful the amount of fatigue they endure, and their intense sympathy for one who is "persecuted for righteousness sake," although it may be some one entirely unknown to them, and their liberality in helping them would furnish an example to some Christians at home.

The Chinese easily believe what they are told, and a simple illustration serves to make the way of salvation very plain to them. They can readily understand when you speak of Jesus as the Mediator, as they have recourse to a go-between on every occasion. A woman wants a wife for her son, she employs the services of some one, usually an old woman, who secures the required bride; a man wishes to transact business with another, he goes to a third party who does it for him; thus the office of a mediator is very plain to them.

The work, which at first progressed very

slowly, is now a number of missions in eight years—many, many men and women to the

EXTRACTS FROM THE BOARD'S REPORT. I went to Miriam to where we often heard interest or here for more creating or attend Sunday than a few morning services with worded other came every side salvation to of looking good. One was covered until his wares to him. That day we hope and pray will be given. He is the one coming to us.

Two were we hope through outside will through the hat be manifested to the young without an Almighty God that to st

Miss G. writes you two young tized. One—mas eve, followed th and came we had no till the Br less than fr our Compo citemen, prey. It w hearts are is truly a back into a what they Saviour. M for him. The Lord fully. He cannot con He walks hope this Much depes firm.

If a peo are doing are unable him and he cept a deliqu Answer he is, and to suffer, ing to take need of him by all me serves will But if the effectual and each his pastor call to the

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BAPTIST TURE DIVISION. By rec of Nova Organize writer is being m among th vine of C profane l papers a dition a and the I am