

Messenger and Visitor

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The Thanksgiving story which appears on our sixth page was written for the New York Examiner, and was published therein last Thanksgiving season. We are pleased to note that the Rev. Geo. Bruce, pastor of St. David's Presbyterian church of this city, has been elected a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science in the United States. Chicago Baptists appear to be congratulating themselves very heartily on Rev. O. P. Gifford's acceptance of the call of the Immanuel church. Rev. R. S. McArthur, of the Calvary Baptist church, New York, and his wife were on board a train which was wrecked near Galesburg, Ill. Some lives were lost in the disaster, but Dr. and Mrs. McArthur escaped without serious injury. The New York presbytery decided not to prosecute the charge of heresy against Prof. Briggs. The decision, doubtless, was a wise one.

The congregations of Brussels, Leinster and Germain street churches will unite in holding a thanksgiving service in Germain street church, on Thursday, at eleven o'clock. Rev. H. G. Mallick will be the preacher on the occasion.

Our subscribers who have lately ordered Drummond's Books will be obliged to wait till a new supply is received. The time advertised by us for receiving orders for these books has now passed; but we will fill all subscriptions up to this date.

An exchange tells how "one of the noblest laymen in Boston" and his wife celebrated their silver wedding. For the help of any noble "brethren" and their wives among our readers who may have silver weddings to celebrate, we will here retell how they did it:

He talked the matter over with his wife, who is as noble as himself. They decided on the best way to honor the occasion. If they made a festival they might unintentionally slight some of their friends. They did this. The husband left his business early in the day, went with his wife to the Art Museum, dined at a hotel, and gave a hundred dollars to foreign missions.

On Tuesday, the 17th inst., the people of Charlotte county are to decide the question for or against the repeal of the Scott Act. Some valiant temperance leaders, we are glad to learn, are marshalling the temperance forces for a brave fight against repeal. One of the most effective weapons of the anti-Scott Act people is the assertion that the law is inoperative and worthless. This is absurdly untrue, as its history in some counties amply demonstrates. We earnestly hope that the temperance men of Charlotte county will give a good account of themselves on Tuesday next.

PASSING EVENTS.

THE NOVA SCOTIA GOVERNMENT HAS APPOINTED MR. A. H. MACKEY to be the successor of Dr. Allison, as superintendent of education for that province. We should have been glad to see an Acaedia man receive the appointment, and certainly it would be easy to name more than one graduate of our college who could have filled the position with honor to himself and advantage to the province. We have no disposition, however, to find fault with the government's choice. We believe Mr. Mackey to be a gentleman who has excellent qualifications for the office. He is a graduate of Dalhousie College. His scholarly attainments are on all hands acknowledged. As the head of Pictou Academy, and later as successor to Dr. Gilpin in Halifax, Mr. Mackey has shown himself to be a practical and successful educationist. The appointment appears to have been made entirely regardless of party considerations, as Mr. Mackey's political sympathies, we understand, are not with the Liberal party. In this respect the action of the government is worthy of the highest praise, and stands in commendable and edifying contrast with the action of some other of our provincial governments, by which, there is much reason to think, dismissals from and appointments to similar positions have been determined, principally if not solely, on partisan grounds.

A BAD AFFAIR OCCURRED IN THIS CITY early on Tuesday morning of last week in connection with the arrest of two intoxicated seamen on Sheffield street. The names of the men were Henry and Nathaniel McNeil, but the latter when arrested gave his name as McCormack. The men were somewhat noisy, and the man calling himself McCormack acted in an insulting manner toward Officer Caples when he ordered them off the street. When the officer attempted to arrest "McCormack" Henry McNeil, who was a large and powerful man, interfered and clinched the policeman,

who, with one free hand struck the other man, some blows with his club, but between them his assailants wrested his baton out of his hand and threw it away. The policeman then succeeded in wrenching himself free, and, springing back, drew his revolver and threatened to fire. The men dared him to shoot, and he fired one shot over their heads. They advanced upon him threateningly, still daring the policeman to shoot, whereupon he fired another shot hitting Henry McNeil in the groin and inflicting mortal injury, of which he died on Thursday morning in the hospital, whether he had been immediately taken. The other man was arrested. On receiving the news of McNeil's death, Officer Caples gave himself into custody, pending the verdict of the coroner's jury in reference to the affair. That verdict has been given, and exonerates the officer from any blame, characterizing his action as "justifiable shooting." He was accordingly discharged from custody. Whether or not any further legal proceedings will be taken in the matter is not yet determined.

A POLICE OFFICER IN THE DISCHARGE OF HIS DUTY is certainly entitled to the fullest moral support of the public. It must not be forgotten that the difficulties which he has to meet frequently come suddenly and unexpectedly upon him. He cannot sit down and consider what is the right and proper thing to do in such an exigency. He must act in the emergency, and, therefore, some latitude for possible errors in judgment must be allowed him. At the same time, it seems to us that the sober sense of the community will be slow to endorse the verdict of the coroner's jury in the McNeil case and to call the action of the policeman "justifiable shooting." As the Sun has intimated, "excusable," rather than "justifiable," is the appropriate word. We may excuse, though we cannot justify, a grave error of judgment in a difficult emergency. We think that this matter should be put in such a light as to be an admonition to policemen against the too easy recourse to deadly weapons in a trying situation. We hasten to add, however, that we believe that the police force in this city have, in general, shown a very commendable prudence in regard to the use of firearms.

THE DEATH OF HENRY McNEIL is but one sad incident out of many constantly occurring around us to show the baneful power of the curse of strong drink. While the wounded man lay on his death bed, he refused to say anything in accusation of the policeman who shot him. On the contrary, he exonerated the officer from blame and said, "Rum did it, rum did it. I was crazy drunk at the time." But rum in itself is not a responsible agent. Where then lies the responsibility? First, with the man who drinks. The existence of the temptation does not excuse the man from taking that which he knows will make him "crazy drunk." Secondly, with the man who sells, thus placing temptation in the way of his weak fellow-men. Thirdly, with the man who manufactures strong drink and with all who are engaged in its commerce. Fourthly, with the community which licenses and sanctions the evil. Fifthly, with the government which protects the business, and profits by it; and sixthly, with the people who in this country are the source of legislative and executive authority and who fail to demand that the government shall withdraw its sanction from the liquor traffic and place under the ban of prohibition the business which so terribly curses the land. The responsibility is widely shared. Let every Christian man take such a position as to be able to say, I am free from blame in this matter.

THE NEWS OF THE PAST WEEK HAS BEEN FULL OF REMORS and reports in reference to Premier Abbott's efforts at cabinet building. Mr. Abbott himself has authorized the statement that all the members of the government have placed their portfolios at his disposal. Beyond this, there seems to be almost nothing which, at time of writing, can be accepted as more than a probable contingency. It is highly probable that Mr. Oulmet is to have a place in the cabinet, though his portfolio is yet uncertain as far as the public is informed. Lieut.-Governor Angers, it is reported, will also represent his province in the government. It is also said that Mr. W. R. Meredith, leader of the Conservative party in the Ontario legislature, is to be taken into the cabinet. By a late despatch, however, Mr. Meredith is understood to deny that such an arrangement has been made. Mr. Oulmet is known as a "Chapleau man," and it is thought that

in consideration of his being appointed to an influential department, Mr. Chapleau may be willing to withdraw his claim to the department of Railways and Canals, and continue in the position of secretary of state.

THE WRECK OF THE OTTAWA is believed to be due either to the force of an extraordinary current or to a deviation in the compasses which, the captain thinks, may have been caused by the fact that the steamer's electric light dynamo was not running, owing to the armature being damaged. "This would, perhaps," he says, "demagnetize the ship and affect the compasses." According to the course steered, it is said, the Ottawa should have been some two or three miles to seaward of Blond Rock on which she struck. If it is possible that a ship's compasses can be affected in this way, it is obviously of great importance that the fact should be established and that the electrical conditions on board ship should be made secure from variation.

THE NEWS FROM IRELAND during the past week is sufficiently sensational. It includes the horsewhipping of Mr. Timothy Healy, M. P., by a Mr. McDermott, a nephew of Mr. Parnell's, other fierce faction fights at various places, and the defeat of the Parnellite leader, Redmond, in the Cork election contest on Friday last. The horsewhipping incident occurred at Dublin on Tuesday, Mr. Healy's offence being some remarks in reference to Mrs. Parnell and her daughter, in a recent speech of his delivered at Longford. The fight at Cork took place on Wednesday night. Many persons on both sides were injured. A number had to be taken to the hospital for treatment. Mr. William O'Brien is reported to have been hit with a stone. There has been fighting, and with like results, at Waterford also, where the strife between the rival factions has waxed fierce. The election at Cork, on Friday, appears to have passed without serious disturbance, the police being on hand in force to keep the peace. The result of the contest was the election of the McCarthy candidate, Flavin, by a handsome majority of about 1,500 votes over the Parnellite candidate, Sarsfield, the Tory unionist, received about 1,000 votes, which is the same number less than Redmond, the Parnellite, received. It is said that the priests were actively engaged in the McCarthyite interest. The results of the elections at Kilkenny and Cork, the continued opposition of the Roman Catholic hierarchy, and the fate of Redmond, the Parnellite leader, must be taken to indicate that the cause which he had undertaken to champion is altogether hopeless.

THE RUIN AND LOSS OF LIFE caused by the late earthquake in Japan, appears to have been not less disastrous than was at first reported. A telegram received from the Japanese government by its minister at Washington, Mr. Tateo, states that the effects of the convulsion were confined almost entirely to the prefectures of Aichi and Gifu. The former is on the sea, about 170 miles from Tokio, and the latter is immediately westward. According to the telegram 6,500 persons were killed and 9,000 injured, 75,000 houses were totally destroyed and 12,000 badly damaged.

ANY APPREHENSIONS WHICH WERE FELT that peaceful relations between the United States and Chili would be terminated as a result of the Valparaiso affair have been dissipated. The Chilean government seems to be taking such means as lie within its power to investigate the matter and bring the guilty parties to justice; and on the part of the U. S. government there is a disposition to recognize the difficulty of the situation for Chili in the unsettled and excited condition of things in that country, and not to press its demands for reparation with unnecessary haste.

LAST WEEK'S ELECTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES could not, in the nature of things, be at all decisive as indicating the relative strength of the parties, considered in reference to the next presidential contest. A triumph for McKinleyism has been secured in Ohio in the election of Col. McKinley as governor. In Iowa victory is with the Democrats. This is true also of Massachusetts and New York. The Bay State has re-elected a Democrat governor for the first time in its history. In New York Flower was elected governor over Fassett, the Republican nominee, by the great majority of 48,000. The result in New York marks a triumph for Hill and Tammany rather than for the Cleveland wing of the Democratic party. The New York Herald is, therefore, convinced that the "election of Mr. Flower

will prove to be a sort of boomerang to the Democratic party in the presidential campaign next year and a blessing in disguise to the Republicans." The elections in Pennsylvania mark gains for the Republicans. The results in the West indicate a weakening of the Alliance party and suggest the possibility of its speedy disintegration.

Young People's Union.

WINDSOR, N. S.—I saw your notice in the Messenger and Visitor asking all Unions to report to you, and I may say that we have started one here called the Young People's Union of Windsor Baptist church, with a membership at the start of thirty five, and steadily increasing. We adopted the local constitution with a few slight alterations. The officers are: E. J. Morse, president; Edmund Dimock, vice-president; R. W. Wigmore, secretary; Blanch McLatchy, treasurer. Chairmen of committees: Membership—Edmund Dimock; Devotional—John Nalder; Instruction—E. D. Shand; Social—Noble Grondall; Tract, Publications and Temperance—R. W. Wigmore; Missions—E. J. Morse. In all these committees we have a number of earnest workers, and all who have joined the Union are anxious to engage heartily in the Master's work.

R. W. WIGMORE, Sec.

This is the first response we have received from our appeal to the young people, but it is very cheering, and I hope now that the young people of Windsor have moved out so grandly, that we shall hear from many others. Again I repeat it, will not every society of young people in connection with our Baptist churches of the Maritime Provinces, no matter by what name they call themselves, please let us hear from them? What is your name? When did you organize? Who are your officers? How are you prospering? Would it not be well for our young people that have not organized to call—with the advice and approval of their pastor—a meeting, and consider whether they might not be of more use to the church of which they are members, if organized? You will find the model constitution in last Messenger and Visitor, and for sale, as well as all the literature of the Young People's Union, at Baptist Book Room, Halifax.

Young People's Societies should be well stocked with this literature, and place a copy of the constitution and one of the invitation cards in the hand of every young person outside of the society. They will then become acquainted with the objects of the work and have an intelligent idea of what membership means before they join. Of course every member should have a copy of the constitution and familiarize himself with it. The pledge should be printed in large letters and hung with other mottoes in the prayer-meeting room.

W. J. STEWART.

Christian Endeavor.

While it is to be hoped that in many of our churches the younger members will be duly organized along some such line as that of "Baptist Union" or "Christian Endeavor," permit me to request you to publish the following "Platform of Principles" endorsed at the tenth international convention of the Christian Endeavor Societies held in Minneapolis July last:

First and foremost, Personal devotion to our divine Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Second, Utmost loyalty to their respective denominations on the part of all Christian Endeavor Societies.

Third, Steadfast personal love and service for the local church in which a society of Christian Endeavor exists. The church for each local society is the local church with which it is connected.

Fourth, Interdenominational spiritual fellowship among evangelical denominations, setting forth their spiritual unity in Jesus Christ.

Fifth, Inasmuch as the name "Christian Endeavor," by a marvelous and triumphant trial and history of ten years has come to mean the definite pledge for the weekly prayer meeting, the monthly consecration service and the work of the lookout committee, we earnestly urge that in all Christian fairness, societies which adopt substantially these methods adopt also the name "Christian Endeavor," and that this name be not applied to other methods of work. We believe that the Christian Endeavor Society has earned the exclusive right to its own name and its own principles and methods.

Sixth, Christian Endeavor interposes no barriers to the denominational control of the young people, and rejoices when denominations suggest special lines of scriptural study, of denominational indoctrination, of denominational missionary activity, local home, and foreign.

Seventh, Christian Endeavor only desires that its fidelity to Christ and the local church, and its opportunity for delightful spiritual fellowship, be recognized and preserved.

Then too, let me ask pastors and the young people of our churches: In organizing, will it not be better to organize under the Christian Endeavor name,

thereby being brought into Christian fellowship, not only with the societies of the "Baptist Young People's Union," but as well with that host more than a "million" strong who, under the banner of Christ, carry for their motto, *Pro Christo et ecclesia*,—"For Christ and the church"?

Let us not forget that already more than 2,300 of the Christian Endeavor societies are Baptist societies, and that this number will be largely increased in the near future.

I shall have more to say to your young readers, Mr. Editor, with your permission later on. CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

Chicago Letter.

THE ILLINOIS BAPTIST ANNIVERSARIES were held this year with the church in Bloomington, one hundred and fifty miles south of Chicago. The meetings lasted from Monday, Oct. 19th, to Friday the 23rd, and were largely attended and full of inspiration and encouragement. The Hon. Owen Scott, member-elect to the United States Congress, acted as moderator, and a large number of laymen participated in the proceedings.

THE STATE MISSION BOARD.

reported great improvement in our state work. Number of missionaries employed during the year has been 47; number of members received into the mission churches, 914—of these 612 have been by baptism. Last year the old debt that had hampered the Board for years was reported all paid. This year the treasurer reports \$6,238 paid to missionaries; \$5,856 of invested funds, and \$1,183 cash in hand. Much of this financial success is due, under God, to the Rev. H. C. First, the superintendent of State Missions. The right man in the right place.

The Sunday-school committee's report was full of interest. For the first time in our history the attempt has been made to secure statistics from all our churches relating to this department of our work. We are indebted for this to the persistent efforts of that prince of Sabbath school men, Mr. B. F. Jacobs.

THE BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE.

of the state met in convention on the last day, Friday, for the purpose of state organization. It was truly a wonderful day. God's Spirit was manifestly present. The committee to prepare the way for organization had been appointed at a state rally in connection with the National Convention held in Chicago last June. This committee worked faithfully, and as a result over 500 delegates from Young People's societies met on Friday morning, at six o'clock, for what they called "a sunrise prayer meeting." Then at nine o'clock the convention was organized with Dr. C. Perrin as moderator. Organization was effected without a single jar. Then followed the carrying out of a carefully prepared programme, in which the speakers were all young men and women. It was not a young people's meeting in name, but in fact, and seldom if ever have we listened to better or more spiritual and scriptural addresses.

We are glad to see through the Messenger and Visitor that Canada is moving along the line of Baptist Young People's organization. Oh, the untutilized forces in our denomination! It is estimated that there are in our ranks over 500,000 young people. This movement is an effort to turn this tremendous power upon our Baptist wheel.

A GREAT LIBRARY.

The Chicago university is in luck again. Dr. Harper, the president, has just returned from a visit to Europe. While in Berlin he found a rare library, consisting of 280,000 volumes and 12,000 pamphlets for sale. The price asked was between \$60,000 and \$90,000. In three days Dr. Harper found four Chicagoans, who have guaranteed the purchase money. The weight of this library is said to be 500,000 pounds, and it will be shipped at a cost of \$5,000. It will arrive here in March or April.

HERE AND THERE.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was organized in this city just twenty years ago; since then they have raised from women in this state alone the sum of \$100,000.—The Fourth church have dedicated their new house of worship. The cost has been about \$130,000, of which they yet owe \$20,000.—Evangelist Pratt is holding revival services with Dr. Henson in the First church.—Evangelist Mills begins union revival meetings next week on the west side, fifteen churches uniting.—The Immanuel church has called Rev. O. P. Gifford, of Boston, as successor to Dr. Lorimer.—The Rev. de St. Dalmas, of Ontario, recently visited Chicago in the interest of the Grande Ligne Mission and was kindly received. WESTERN.

Dakota Letter.

The most intense excitement for the last six weeks has prevailed in this country over the saving of the immense crops that have been cut down, and have been lying exposed to wind, sun and rain alternately until some two weeks ago, when the threshers were able to get to work with some degree of constancy. Now the great mass of the people work seven days in the week, and as many hours a day as they are able to see to work. The fourth commandment in the decalogue at any time is but little regarded in this wild North-west, but less these last two or three Sundays than ever before. The sea of shocks and stacks to be got away with this autumn is truly appalling, and Christmas will not see the end of the threshing. The sample of grain generally is good, and the yield in many cases is extraordinary, amounting in some cases, it is stated, to over fifty bushels to the acre in wheat, and much more in oats. The grade will doubtless be lowered by the exposure to the weather, but the price is likely to remain good, and the poor crushed farmers are likely to be relieved of their oppressive burdens.

What with released saloon-keepers that have got out of the way of making money in an honorable way, and others as unprincipled, who are making haste to be rich, at the expense of poor degraded humanity, and with the hosts of laborers, harvesters and threshers that for the last two or three months have streamed into and through this country, our prohibition law is having a pretty heavy strain put upon it, and through drug stores and "pig holes," not a little of the cursed beverage is being drunk in our small towns and villages. But still, whatever its enemies may say to the contrary, prohibition in North Dakota does prohibit. The great mass of this country's population are staunch prohibitionists; and I am thoroughly convinced that prohibition is here to stay. It may be re-submitted in 1892, but the sentiment is too general for a reversal of the law.

Our State Convention met this year at the lovely little town of Lisbon, on the Cheyenne, about 50 miles south-west of the city of Fargo. The weather was favorable and the attendance fair. The meetings were very interesting and inspiring, full of Christian harmony and kindly love. There was a very full attendance of the missionaries and pastors, but the "lay" element was lacking on account of the pressure of harvest and threshing. We had a larger proportion of brethren from a distance than usual, which added very materially to the enjoyment and profit of the meeting. Among these were Drs. Lemuel Morse, of Minneapolis, editor of the *Evangelist*, and Wm. M. Haigh, of Chicago, superintendent of home missions in this and a number of other states; Rev. F. Peterson, district secretary for foreign missions; President J. W. Ford, of Pillsbury Academy, of Watonska, Minnesota; J. W. Weidell, of the *Standard*, Chicago, and others. The state of the cause throughout the state seems to be, on the whole, very encouraging. The sisters were well represented in connection with both home and foreign mission circles, and they held a very interesting session in the convention, discussing topics of interest in connection with their work in papers, reports and addresses. The young people also came to the front, and had a session, organizing a State Union on the basis suggested by the National Baptist Young People's Union. The committee on education strongly recommended Pillsbury Academy as a commendable institution to which to send our young people for higher education. A report was also given of an institution just starting in the enterprising little city of Lisbon, the place of the convention's meeting. This institution, the result of the enterprise of the gifted Baptist pastor, G. Davies, and a number of the business men of Lisbon, stands out under the cognomen of "North Dakota College." It will be at work ere this letter is in print. It begins with academic work, but aims at being, ere long, a fully fledged college and doing university work, and hopes one day to be the North Dakota Baptist College. The convention, while taking no financial responsibility on itself, passed a resolution commending those engaged in the enterprise for their zeal, piety, talent and educative ability. The convention proposes to meet next year about the middle of July, with the church in the ambitious little city of Grafton. This is further north than any place of meeting which the convention has had hitherto, and is but forty miles from "John Bull's land" on the north. We shall expect not a few of our cousins and brothers and sisters from the north to visit us on that occasion. Mr. Editor, won't you take a vacation then and visit this great prairie country and breathe this bracing ozone? A. McD.

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