

MESSINGER and VISITOR.

When paid within thirty days, \$1.50.

B. McC. BLACK, Editor. J. H. SAUNDERS, Business Manager.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1891.

REV. I. E. BILL, D. D.

The full reports of the Memorial Services of Dr. Bill are justified by his long and honorable life of successful service.

Much of his influence was due to his power as a preacher. He had depth of convictions, a positive grasp of truth, a rhetorical habit of mind, and his diction matched his thought throughout.

The life just ended shows the close connection of personal character with religious power. As the leaders continue to serve the churches through a period of years they become, in a very true sense, pillars in the denomination.

Dr. Bill's career illustrates once more the amazing fruitfulness of the Christian life. "Whatever he doeth shall prosper." The inference is clear. "Be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

The works of the fathers follow them. Here they are only begun. Missions, education, the whole work of the church, must appear larger to us than to our predecessors.

In this world there is one God-like thing, the essence of all that was or ever will be of God-like in this world—the veneration done to human worth by the hearts of men.—Carlyle.

THE JEWS IN RUSSIA.

The persecution of the Jews in Russia, and their banishment from this domain, are subjects which may well attract the notice and command the sympathy of all civilized peoples.

Miss Adele M. Field, the well known missionary to China, passed through Russia by what is known as the "tea route," on her return from China this spring.

"Late in the winter, before the imperial edict of the 9th of March was issued, it was known that the Jews were to be expelled from Great Russia, and the police began their unusual visitations to Jewish dwellings.

"The Jews, especially, may not be more than three per cent of the population in this city for the purpose of continuing and enlarging the work begun in this city some quarter of a century ago.

In a published report of a recent meeting of the Ladies' Seaman's Friend Society the following passage occurs: "We repeat that our earnest desire is for the spiritual and temporal welfare of seamen, and to this end we propose to engage the services of a missionary to visit the different vessels in port frequently, distributing religious literature and holding evangelistic services on board ships as well as at the Sailor's Rest."

In the later years of his life Dr. Bill was blessed with the tender care of a devoted wife, whose loving ministry did highest honor to Christian womanhood. To all the surviving members of the family there is assured the priceless legacy of his good name.

been directed to the subject. Some time ago there appeared in the MESSINGER and VISITOR an article in which the Sailor's Home and the work of Miss Hutchinson was referred to as something like "a great boon conferred upon the sailors visiting this port."

Repeatedly within the last few years, in conversation with brethren active in our denominational work, I have suggested the advisability of having a suitable man employed all the time as general secretary.

1st. Let him be permanent secretary of Convention, keep the records, attend to correspondence, prepare the matter for the Year Book, superintend its publication and distribution.

2nd. Let him be statistical secretary of the denomination, having charge of the preparation of proper forms, the gathering of statistics from the churches, the compilation and preservation of the results, taking such measures as may be devised for promoting correctness and uniformity in this important department of work.

3rd. And more important than either, let him be financial secretary of the body, having charge of the whole matter of eliciting contributions and donations for the general funds of the denomination, collecting and distributing the moneys so raised.

A few thoughts in connection with this third point may not be out of place here. There is not a problem more urgently demanding solution by our churches, associations and conventions, than the problem of raising the money needed for our missionary and educational work, and of educating our people up to a higher standard of Christian benevolence.

"The improved plan called 'the Convention Scheme,' adopted in 1879, consisted in undertaking to raise a sum equal to but 'one dollar per head of our whole membership,' and that this has continued to be the standard for twenty years, is not creditable to us as a Christian people.

At least fifteen hundred dollars will be needed in addition to all that has been received thus far to enable the treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board to close his account for the year without a deficit. The treasurer will keep his books open as long as possible in hopes to receive this amount.

Funeral of Rev. Ingraham Ebenezer Bill, D. D.

For several weeks the illness of Dr. Bill was seen, by his friends, to be fatal. Gently he sank into the sleep that knows no waking, giving evidence to the last of abiding faith in his Redeemer.

On Thursday afternoon, 6th inst., a memorial service was held in the house of worship of the First St. Martin's church. Prayer was offered by Rev. C. W. Williams, pastor of the church.

The hymn, "How blest the righteous when he dies," was sung; the Scriptures were read by Rev. F. W. McKel, St. Martin's Episcopal church, and the tribute of the St. Martin's church was presented.

The church was heavily draped, and had fitting floral decorations. The body remained in the church, being carefully watched, until Friday morning, when it was taken to St. John, where a service, largely attended, was held at 3:30 p. m., in German Street church, where Dr. Bill's membership was at the time of his death.

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result that attended his labors while doing evangelistic work in various parts of Nova Scotia, especially at Liverpool. To this province Rev. Mr. Bill came in 1840, visiting Fredericton. It was at the opening of the new place of worship which had been begun in 1839, and was publicly opened in October, 1840.

In 1852 Rev. Mr. Bill accepted the call of the German street Baptist church and became its pastor. Here for about 17 years he devoted his strength to the good of the church, and not in vain. Revival followed revival. Over 300 united themselves with the church by baptism, many of whom preceded him to the heavenly mansion; others are now in our midst some far from us in other parts of the world are seeking still to live to the honor of the church which redeemed them.

In 1870 Rev. Mr. Bill accepted a call to the St. Martin's church. He had then reached the time of life when most men would have retired, but he was never old. With the old-time buoyancy of his active nature, at seventy he began in a new field and labored for eleven years, with his health in some degree impaired, he was added to the church, and on the day he tendered his resignation, when upwards of 80 years of age, he was graciously permitted to give the hand of fellowship to 64 persons who had but a little before united with the church.

In educational work he manifested the greatest interest. The college at Wolfville lay near his heart, and he worked as an agent for it, going both to the United States and to the mother country seeking financial aid, and his mission was successful in both countries.

Dr. Bill's pen has been successfully used in editorial work on the Christian Visitor, and in 1880 he published his "Fifty Years with the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces," a volume of nearly 300 pages, extensively circulated and containing much valuable information.

It seems fitting that I say that, as I read the minutes of our Association and Convention, the name of Dr. Bill, for many and many a year, has been a prominent one. It is the Sunday school that is being discussed? Then in those days of more than fifty years ago he is to the front. Is it the cause of Temperance that begins to agitate the public mind? Then foremost among the advocates is the eloquent young pastor of the Nicotax church.

"With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation." Psalm 91:16. We gather together to-day to pay our last tribute of respect to one whom it has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from this scene of toil and duty to the land without a shadow, to where the weary are at rest. How true in his history are the words of the Psalmist, "With long life will I honor him."

Let us thank God to-day for these memories of one who was more than an ordinary man—of one who sought good—did good. Let us seek to emulate him in the good of his heart, and in the purity of his moral life.

He closed with the following earnest words: Brothers, another of the men whom our Father signally honored has passed on to his reward. We for a little time left here. The battle is not yet fought with us, nor yet are the victors won, but shall not we with tender, loving hearts to-day remember one who

for years went out and in before us be emboldened by his fruit and seal to give anew ourselves to the work now ours. Shall not we for the days that are to come, be they few or many, seek a greater devotion to our Lord. Our fathers pass on. On us rests the greater responsibility. Let us be hopeful. He who to Joshua said, "As I was with Moses so will I be with thee," will demonstrate as we confide in Him that His grace that animated the fathers and nerve them to successful endeavor in days of difficulty and need will not leave us to ourselves. Let us pass the battle on. Our great Leader has not lost a battle, and He shall be forever the crowned one. And, too, let us not with our greater advantages be eclipsed by the men who have preceded us, but, thanking God for what they were, for what they did, let us seek to hand down to those coming after us memories that shall continue fragrant long after the dust has returned to the earth. Let us be hopeful and confident, bearing in mind that in the by-and-by satisfaction shall be ours.

The interest was in the Rural Cemetery, where Dr. Hopper offered the closing prayer.

Union Baptist Seminary.

The Union Baptist Seminary will open Thursday, September 10, 1891, with a fuller staff of instruction than usual, and with our former successful pastor, Mrs. M. M. Scribner, again at her old post. In addition to Dr. and Mrs. de Blois, already announced, we have secured Miss B. J. Butterfield, of Abbot Academy, Andover, Mass., and the Boston School of Expression, who with Miss Lizzie B. Hughes, of the N. B. Normal School and the U. B. Seminary, will have charge of English language, literature and elocution. Miss Lila P. Williams, of Acadia and the Halifax Conservatory, will instruct in violin, and C. H. Perry, first class teacher, will have charge of the preparatory department.

The Convention—Intimations.

Concerning the Convention which meets at Moncton in August, we wish to say: 1. We desire the churches at the June conference, or at the latest, at the July conference, to appoint delegates to the Convention and forward a list of same to the undersigned.

2. Then we will forward a list of abode for such delegates during Convention. 3. No church is entitled to send more than five delegates. 4. That while we would like to provide free entertainment for "wife and mother-in-law," as at last Convention here, we find it impossible so to do. 5. But we shall, as far as possible, provide for all accredited delegates whose names are forwarded before the 5th of August.

6. Where delegates desire outside entertainment, or where we are unable to provide free accommodation, we will furnish information concerning hotels, boarding house terms, etc., on demand. 7. We can make no provisions for teams. 8. Delegates connected with W. M. A. S. will be provided for by Mrs. Snow, secretary of society, to whom all correspondence should be addressed. 9. We cannot assume responsibility for any delegate whose name is sent in after August 5th.

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The following railway and steamboat lines will carry delegates to the Baptist Convention to be held at Moncton, N. B., 22nd to 26th August, at one first class fare, full local fare to be paid going and return free on presentation of a certificate of attendance, signed by the secretary to the time agent, or purser: Steamer Rimouski, Grand d'O Steam Navigation Co., Yarmouth Steam Navigation Co., Churochill Line, and Star Line; Cumberland Ry. and Coal Co., Joggins Ry., Carleton Ry., Kent Northern Ry., Elgin, Pictou and Havelock Ry., Salisbury and Amherst Ry., N. B. and E. I. Ry., Central Ry., and Buctouche and Moncton Ry.

The Intercolonial and Shore Line will return tickets from 20th to 24th P. E. I. Ry. and P. E. I. Steam Navigation Co. from 21st to 24th. On return, certificates to be presented to the purser or conductor with tickets. The Western Counties Ry., Windsor and Annapolis Ry., Nova Scotia Central Ry. and Bay of Fundy S. Co., will charge one-third fare when returning with certificate of attendance. The Intercolonial Ry., Shore Line Ry. and Canadian Pacific Ry. will provide certificates to delegates at the starting station, which must be filled in by the ticket agent, delegate and secretary to present to the ticket agent for a ticket to return. The Intercolonial and Shore Line will return delegates free. The Canadian Pacific one-third fare. Certificates for all lines good until 31st August. J. J. WALLACE, Chairman Com. Arrangements.

Rev. J. F. Burditt of Udayagiri, Nellore District, India, of A. B. M. U. Telugu mission, after an absence of nearly ten years, has returned for his health, and to place his children in school, preparatory to another term of service. He is residing in St. John's for the present and expects to attend the meeting of Convention at Moncton.

Home Missions.

A special meeting of held July 27.

were received from B. Young, general mission. Brothers C. Currie, of M. E. P. Caldwell, Carleton J. C. Bleakney, Rockland Ballie; Geo. C. Crabb, L. Fields, Brookfield and E. Ingram, Tabernacle. Nowlan, Greenville and Josiah Webb, West.

GRANTS AND REPORTS.

- 1. To La Have, Riverview, one year, from August 1st, 1891, \$100.00.
2. To Granville Mount, one year, from August 1st, 1891, \$100.00.
3. To New Glasgow, one year, from April 1, 1891, \$100.00.
4. To Wakefield, one year, from June 1, 1891, \$100.00.
5. William Poole, I. church, St. John, was a member of six weeks to group, with a view to...
6. Rev. E. J. Grant, our missionary to Pictou field for one year.

How to Raise Money.

Fifty years ago the dominion were barred against missionary. Then the people was "God God," doors that we may enter the glad tidings." God In a single year, 1858, Great Britain with Japan by the transference of the East India Company crown, as well as by openings, access was thousands millions of he...

Then followed episcopacies. Our Heavens to His promises, he years, raised up many is found to be wholly earnest pleading with more general and im He turn a deaf ear to Having inspired petition hear them? Witness the east movements of the has ever known, results alone, in the furnishing six thousand volunteers service.

Yes, in answer to given the men. Now it send them and sustain imperatively needed. this also? Yes, if we as we have waited on the ing of the doors of heaven the supplying of the man With what exceeding has shown His people crisis. It is surely the duty of all whose lo opened, to pray and la ing of the hearts and who are wrongfully kept money. Those who the joy of liberal giving. The habit of contribu pittance has become fi power alone can break I must earnestly ree pastors and leading in indoctrinate the people. It is well known that churches this teaching prominent place which view of the great need make frequent and st money for the evan heathen is surely a sin more inspiring or fr have ever been pressed tion? What reason n be given for the exist tions of learning, or for the strengthening of the churches, than t agencies comes the p in the "regions beyo (2) That the "Wec tem be adopted by At present only about It is unmistakably the plan. "As I gave ord of Galatia so also do day of the week," been adopted and fait cess and blessing has church include not on and current expenses, nevolent objects" of method, as applied to sums are raised and w we want larger donat why not include it If it is Scriptural as mer, why would it not turn to apply it to th who, as an importan of each Lord's day, ought for the spread kingdom at home an to join more heartily of these objects, and the service. One of