

Messenger and Visitor.

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In its Theological and Arts departments, McMaster University has at work this year more than 120 students. As this is only the fourth year since the opening of the Arts Department, and consequently the first year in which the full curriculum is taught, the *Canadian Baptist* considers that the growth of this department is really remarkable. It believes, too, that "in point of character, ability and downright earnestness, the young men and women in McMaster Hall will compare favorably with those of any other institution."

The annual convention of the Prohibition party was held in Sussex, on the 19th and 20th inst. A number of its prominent men were present from different parts of the province. Capt. Corbett, of Annapolis, N. S., was chosen president. On Thursday and Friday evenings public meetings were held in the interest of the cause. Among the principal speakers were C. E. Knapp, Esq., of Dorchester; J. T. Bulmer, Esq., of Halifax; F. A. McCully, Esq., of Moncton; and Capt. Corbett, of Annapolis.

The annual Convention of the Women's Christian Temperance Union was held last week in Chicago. Miss Willard, the president of the union, is still in England in broken health, and it would appear, without the prospect of speedily recovering her strength. Lady Henry Somerset was present at the convention and in Miss Willard's name read the annual address. It was a comprehensive review of the operations of the society during the year and of the work it had accomplished in the interests of temperance.

THOMAS A. EDISON, the most distinguished electrician of his day, is a native of Ohio, but the *Toronto Mail* says that his father, Samuel Edison, who is still hale and hearty, was born in Nova Scotia in August, 1808. As his father reached the age of 108, Samuel Edison, who has only just well entered his 91st year, is not unlikely to live to see the twentieth century. "The inventor, therefore," says the *Mail*, "is of Canadian parentage and does honor to the country from which he sprang." Since a Canadian invented the telephone and the son of a Canadian is the world's greatest electrician, it is evident that this northern climate is productive of genius.

EMMA GOLDMAN, the notorious New York anarchist, has discovered that there is a point beyond which, under the laws of the United States, the employers of insurrectionary speech are liable to punishment. This "queen of anarchy," as she has been called, has just been sentenced to one year in the penitentiary for inciting riots by her speeches at the Union Square meeting. Not unlikely this is the very thing she has desired, as it adds to her notoriety and enables her to pose as a martyr in the interest of free speech. Her husband, Jacob Kerster, who practiced what his wife preached, is in Sing-Sing on a three years' sentence for grand larceny. Such reformers will not strike the American public in general as being of a heroic character.

A QUEBEC French newspaper tells of Lord Aberdeen a pleasant little story, which exhibits his lordship in a light quite in harmony with other things which have found their way into print concerning him, and goes to show that though the Governor General of Canada belongs to Britain's aristocracy, he has no connection with its snobocracy. The story referred to is substantially as follows: The steamer *Sardinian*, on which the vice-regal party were passengers, having arrived at Quebec about day-break on a Sunday morning, moored at the Louise embankment. Before six o'clock Lord Aberdeen was dressed and up on deck wishing to get the early morning view of the historic city. About the same time a young and pretty French girl and her mother, bound on a pilgrimage to La Bonne Ste. Anne, had crossed over from the *Levis* side; but being poorly acquainted with the city they had lost their way in seeking for the Bonne Ste. Anne railway depot, and had wandered down to the spot where the *Sardinian* lay. Seeing a gentleman coming up the gangway from the steamer, and being favorably impressed by his appearance, they sought his assistance to put them on the right road. But Lord Aberdeen— for it was he— though willing enough to play an obliging part, was himself ignorant of the way to the depot. However, with characteristic amiability and gallantry, he did the best in his power for the embarrassed ladies, and escorted them on their way for some distance until some one was found who was able to give them the required directions.

The ladies went on their pilgrimage rejoicing, but when they reached home and picked up a Quebec newspaper, they saw in it a picture of Lord Aberdeen, and at once recognized it as that of the unknown friend who had so kindly assisted them to find their way. And thus it was that two pilgrims to La Bonne Ste. Anne got ahead of all the ministers of the crown, generals and officials in being the first to speak with the new Viceroy on Canadian soil.

THROUGH that little book of Rev. F. B. Meyer, entitled "Present Tenses of the Blessed Life," many Christians have received comforting and strengthening messages which doubtless will come also to many others as the book becomes more widely known. As a sample of what this little book contains, we quote a few sentences from the chapter on the present love of Christ. "We are so apt to judge of the love of Christ by our appreciation of it. . . . Yet we might as well think that the heat given out by the sun varied with the temperature of our sickle northern climate as to think that the love of Christ changes with every variation in ourselves. It is a constant quantity. It is not turned away by our sins. It is not lessened by our coldness or neglect. Like some perennial spring, it cannot be bound by frost or reduced by draught or exhausted by the demands of generations. The truest servant, lying spiritless on the desert sands; the headstrong apostle, venting denials and oaths in the midst of the servants of his Master's foes, the discouraged exile, mourning in the land of the Hermonites over the happy past— all these may look up to the Empyrean of the love of Christ, and be sure that He loveth with a constant and unwavering attachment. Write this on the tablets of your heart, dear reader; height nor depth, nor things present, nor things to come shall be able to alter the fulness and constancy of the love of Christ to you."

PASSING EVENTS.

AN event which has attracted a good deal of attention was the reception lately given by France to four Russian war ships in the harbor of Toulon. Some fifty French warships, great and small, were present to do honor to the visitors. Fetes were held in many towns in honor of the Russians, who were received with enthusiastic expressions of regard, and the demonstration was altogether of quite a national character. The event is generally interpreted as sealing and emphasizing the alliance between France and Russia, and especially as giving notice to the world that the naval forces of the two nations are united against any possible enemy.

CONSIDERING the disturbance of the usual order of things through the running of extra trains for the accommodation of the greatly increased travel to and from Chicago, it is not surprising that serious railroad accidents have been reported of late with unusual frequency. A terrible accident occurred at Battle Creek, Mich., on the Chicago and Grand Trunk line, last Friday morning, when a special train, of a passenger returning from Chicago collided with the Pacific express going west. The collision is said to have been due to the fact that those in charge of the special disobeyed orders in passing a station at which the special was to meet the other train. The conductor and engineer have been arrested. The passengers on the special were not injured, but the west bound train, which was going at a high rate of speed, was badly broken up with terrible results to its passengers. The second and third day coaches of this train, according to the reports received, were completely telescoped. The train was made up of thirteen coaches, and four of them were burned, taking fire from the lamps. In all these four cars the passengers were more or less injured, but in one of them the sacrifice of life and the sufferings of the victims were terrible. The passengers were pinned under the seats and jammed up against the end of the car which had telescoped it, and then burned to death. When the fire had done its work twenty-five bodies, burned beyond recognition, were taken from the wreck. One woman succeeded in getting part way out of a window, but as her lower limbs were held fast those who came to her assistance found it impossible to rescue her and she was burned to death before their eyes. It makes the disaster the more dreadful that only in a few instances could the names of the dead be ascertained. Besides those who were crushed to death or burned there were a large number of passengers more or less seriously injured.

MARSHAL MACMAHON, of France, whose death at the age of 85 has been announced during the week, had taken an honorable and prominent part in the affairs of his country. His ancestors were Irish, and removed to France about 200 years ago. As a soldier he had a long and distinguished career. Before the Crimean war he had won distinction in Algeria. In that war he commanded the division that stormed the Malakoff at Sebastopol in 1855. He bore a prominent part in the Italian war a few years later, and his brave services were rewarded by the title of Duke of Magenta and the Marshal's baton. In the Franco-German war of 1870-71, he was again a conspicuous figure. Here the fortunes of war were adverse to him and his country. At the battle of Sedan he was chief in command, but was severely wounded in the beginning of the engagement and was made a prisoner of war and taken to Germany. In 1871 MacMahon returned to France much broken and discouraged, but was treated with great consideration and confidence by Thiers, who made him commander-in-chief of the army. He successfully conducted the Siege of Paris against the commune, and his efforts had much to do in establishing the republic. On the retirement of Thiers in 1879, MacMahon was elected president, in which position he continued until 1879, when he resigned because he would not submit to the demand of a Republican chamber of deputies that the leading anti-Republicans amongst the generals should be dismissed. The last fourteen years Marshal MacMahon had spent in the retirement of private life.

THE dead-lock in the United States Senate on the question of the Repeal of the Silver bill continues, and without any immediate prospect of a termination. According to the rules of the Senate a minority has the power to continue a discussion indefinitely, and so prevent a vote being taken. Senator Voorhees's sagacious plan to hold the senate in continuous session until the opponents of repeal should yield to the demand for a vote from physical inability to continue the debate, met with ignominious failure. A silverite senator took the floor and spoke for fifteen mortal hours on a stretch. In the face of so tremendous lung and jaw power as that of Senator Allen, Mr. Voorhees was ready to acknowledge himself vanquished on that line of attack. But, for the dead-lock there appears to be another reason than that the minority in the Senate can indefinitely obstruct the will of the majority. For while a majority of that body are in favor of repealing the Sherman bill there is not a majority in favor of unconditional repeal. There are a number of senators who are opposed to the Sherman act, but desire to see some modification of the provisions of the silver legislation now in force, so that the government shall still be obligated to purchase a certain amount of silver, though less than that provided for in the Sherman Act. Under these circumstances there is not a majority of the senators who wish to have a vote taken on the question of unconditional repeal. If a majority of the Senate was clearly and unconditionally in favor of repeal, there is little doubt a vote would be taken. Still it is said that if the matter could be brought to an issue and a vote taken on the question before the Senate, the motion to repeal would certainly be carried, since a majority would vote for unconditional repeal rather than continue the present law in force. In view of the seemingly hopeless embarrassment of the present situation, the *Outlook* advises that the Senate adjourn "and that the majority issue an appeal to the people of the United States, putting the facts, not of the silver question, but of the question, Who shall rule in the Senate of the United States? (and so in the nation) truly and clearly before the people. The *Outlook* believes would clear the air, settle the issue and certainly result in such reconstruction of the Senate rules as would no longer give to a majority in that body power to permanently obstruct all legislation progress."

The Free Baptist Conference of New Brunswick met this year with the Waterloo St. church, St. John, on Saturday, Oct. 14th. It was the sixty-first annual session. The conference continued until Wednesday, and was preceded as usual by the ministers' meeting on Friday. This meeting was occupied with "an interchange of experience in Christian work and discussion of matters of special interest to those to whom is entrusted the care of the churches." There is much more cen-

tralization in the Free Baptist system than in our own, and matters are disposed of in the ministers' meeting and in the conference, which with us would be dealt with by the individual church or by the church in council with sister churches. A paper entitled "Why are we Free Baptists?" was read before the ministers' meeting by Rev. C. T. Phillips. It was received with favor and is to be published in the *Intelligencer*. The report of the corresponding secretary of the conference showed that out of the 150 churches connected with the denomination in the province, 117 churches reported to their district meetings. 108 of them have had pastoral care for the whole or part of the year. The total additions during the year were 387—by baptism, 274; by letter, 108. The amount paid for the support of the ministry, \$18,207.66; for current church expenses, \$2,747.76; for buildings and improvements, \$8,551.74; total, \$19,507.16. This does not include contributions to Home and Foreign Missions, Relief of Sick and Disabled Ministers, Conference Fund and Education. A resolution was adopted by the conference in favor of the prohibition of the liquor traffic; also a resolution commending the work of Young People's Societies. In connection with the subject of education the relation of the body to the Union Baptist Seminary was considered. On behalf of the Baptist interest in the seminary a proposition had been made to the conference that the F. C. Baptists should undertake to raise a fair proportion of the money required to free the institution from its present financial embarrassments. Judging from the reports of the discussion on this subject given by the daily papers, this proposition did not meet with any hearty response in the conference. A committee, however, was appointed for further consideration of the matter.

Sunday-school Convention.

The Baptist Sunday-school Convention of Lunenburg county held its annual session on Oct. 17 at the beautiful village of Mahone Bay. The morning session was opened at 10:30 a. m. by the president, Rev. E. N. Archibald, and the first half hour was devoted to prayer and singing. There was quite a large gathering of Sunday-school workers from the different sections of the county, and after the list of delegates was recorded the following were appointed as officers for the year: President, Rev. H. N. Parry, Chester; vice-president, Dea. George Parker, Lunenburg; secretary, Rev. G. P. Raymond, New Germany; assistant sec., Bro. Urbane Spidle, Lunenburg. On motion, Rev. S. Langille, of Springfield, and all members of evangelical churches present were invited to seats in the convention. Bro. Urbane Spidle, the secretary for last year, then read statistics from schools, from which it was shown that there are 23 Baptist schools with about 1250 scholars in the county.

At the afternoon session Rev. H. N. Parry read a paper, subject: "The best Methods of Teaching the Sunday-school Lesson." Then followed an interesting discussion of the subject. Dea. Geo. Parker, of Lunenburg, then read a paper, subject: "Catechisms in the Sunday-school." After some discussion it was resolved that this convention recommend that the Catechism, edited by Dr. Henson, of Chicago, be adopted and studied in our Sunday-schools and homes. A model class was then taught by Miss Alice M. Veinotte, of Mahone Bay, whose teaching gave good satisfaction to the members of the convention.

The following resolutions were adopted: Resolved, That we, the representatives of our churches and Sunday-schools now convened, recognize with interest the existence of the new monthly paper called *The Lungeburg Baptist*, and express our hearty approval of this effort to increase the intelligence, piety and denominational zeal of our people in the Lord's work.

Resolved, That we recommend all our schools to elect their officers annually. At the evening session the following addresses were given: Temperance in the Sunday-school, Rev. J. W. Rutledge; Responsibility of parents and children in the preparation of the Sunday-school lesson, Rev. G. P. Raymond; A Revival in all our churches in relation to the Sunday-school, Rev. E. N. Archibald. G. P. RAYMOND, Sec.-Treas.

—Rev. Dr. Phillip Shaft, the eminent biblical scholar and church historian, died in New York on Friday last, of paralysis. He was in his 75th year.

—Use Skoda's Discovery, the great blood and nerve remedy.

W. B. M. U.

NOTICE FOR THE YEAR.
"Lord what wilt Thou have me to do."
Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. Baker, 211 Princess Street, St. John, N. B.

Crossade Day Results.
Dear Sister: Would not short notices of Crossade Day, as spent by the different societies, be interesting for our column. In Wolfville we made a pretty thorough canvass for new members. Had a mass meeting in the evening of a very interesting and impressive character. Subject presented, "The power which God put into the hands of his children by the mouth of His Son, when He promised to answer their believing prayers in all times." Mrs. Sanford spoke most touchingly of the condition of heathen women. Mrs. Denovan asked prayer for her daughter, Mrs. Garfield, who is very ill in Madras. Earnest prayers were offered. Mrs. deBlois, who is long president of the society, asked that all the members would raise their hands and pledge greater consecration this year. Ten new names were added. Yours in the work, D. M. KEMPTON.

Wolfville, Oct. 12.

Crossade day was a success in St. Martins. Our society is small, but has in it the courage and consecration that characterized the old crusades, and is so necessary to the new. Various plans were suggested to carry out the spirit of the day, and personal visitation was decided upon as the most practicable and promising. Accordingly the faithful few entered upon it with energy and zeal. They found the influence of our annual meetings had prepared the way, and their work resulted in a meeting which in members far exceeded their expectations. To this meeting gathered by these efforts our crusaders presented the needs and claims of our work and the power of organization to promote it. Interest amounting to enthusiasm was awakened, new members added and a vast ground gained which affords us wider prospects and larger hopes. These beyond walking distance were taken to our homes to see that they might attend the weekly prayer service, and so the reflex influence of foreign mission work was immediately apparent, and more genuine church sociability enjoyed than often attends more direct and laborious efforts in that direction.

On Wednesday, the 11th inst., a Missionary Crossade meeting was held in the Antigonish Baptist church in the evening; object, to stimulate the people to greater effort and interest in "Home and Foreign Missions." A pleasing programme was provided, consisting of reading, recitations, singing (songs and otherwise), addresses by the pastor and Rev. W. H. Robinson: Mrs. Gardner (president of W. B. M. U.) read the corresponding secretary's report (Mrs. Martell), which was listened to with close attention. The attendance was good considering the cause is small in this place. At the close a collection was taken which amounted to the sum of \$8.87. This, added to the members subscriptions and profits from Sewing Circle which has recently been established, reaches the sum of \$28.72. The total is being forwarded to Mrs. Smith, treasurer, Amherst. We are pleased to state that now every sister is actively engaged in this noble work for the Master. It is hoped other churches will follow the lead.

A very interesting occasion was that of the last regular meeting of the W. M. A. Society of the First Baptist church, Truro. The sisters wished to give Mrs. Churchill, who is a member of this church and has just returned from India, a glad welcome home. The vestry was tastefully decorated with Autumn leaves and flowers. A certificate of life membership in the W. B. M. U. was first presented to Mrs. Adams, wife of pastor H. F. Adams, eliciting a grateful and appreciative reply, after which a number of the sisters, among whom was Mrs. Goncher, of St. Stephen, in an informal way, lovingly and joyfully welcomed our missionary sister home again. To these addresses Mrs. Churchill in her earnest happy style responded. It is now twenty years since Mrs. Churchill first went to the East, and seven years since her last visit home. The effect of these years of work in a tropical climate are plainly seen in the present state of the nervous system of our sister. She requested our prayers for her restoration that many more years might yet be spent in the work she loves so well among our Telugu sisters. Many earnest prayers were offered. Tea and coffee with the usual accom-

panies completed the programme of a very pleasant afternoon heartily enjoyed by the large number present.

The W. B. M. A. Society, of Newport, held a public meeting in the Baptist church of Scotch Village, September 17, Mrs. Rees, president of the society, presided. The annual report of the society was read by the secretary—society organized in 1878 by the enrollment of seventeen members. During the fifteen years of their existence as a society they had passed through a varied experience, sometimes growing faint and discouraged on account of the thinning out of their ranks by removal and death. At times the obstacles in the way of their regular meetings were insurmountable. Yet whenever they could meet for prayer the Master met with them and gave them a blessing, whether their members were many or few. They received much strength and encouragement from the visits of their county secretary, Mrs. Nalder, who is deeply in love with her work, and whose self-sacrificing labors are owned and blessed by God. Report stated that their prospects now were brighter than they had been for some time. Four new members had been added and others were coming. Fifteen dollars had been raised and forwarded to the treasurer of the union last year. Total amount since formation of society, \$176.00. After the reading of report, Mrs. Nalder gave an inspiring address, stimulating us to a more earnest consecration in the work. Her theme was "Woman's work for women." May we, as a band of workers, never refuse to hear the call of our dark-browed sisters who live in the dark places of the earth. Mr. Nalder then addressed the meeting. He spoke earnestly of the home and foreign work, calling loud for our help. Pastor Rees, in earnest and impressive words, appealed to Christians to work for Christ, and to the unconvinced to come to Him. Excellent music was furnished by the choir, which added to the interest and enjoyment of the evening. The president requested the congregation to worship God by giving a collection for home missions. The response was \$7.07, which was duly forwarded to treasurer of union.

The Quarterly Meeting of the St. John and Fairville W. M. A. Societies.

According to appointment the quarterly meeting was held with the Fairville society, Thursday, the 19th inst. The prayer and consecration service was conducted by Mrs. L. A. Long, N. B. provincial secretary. The Scripture lesson for the occasion was number IX, v. 15: 23. It was the murmuring and unbelief that estranged them from their Divine leader. From this position of God's Word many practical lessons were drawn—helpful to all. Mrs. C. P. Baker, in most appropriate words, welcomed the representatives from our sister societies, speaking of the goodness of God in selecting us to be His co-workers. If we are faithful to the trust committed to us, fruitful results are sure to follow.

Many earnest prayers were offered, and many of the sisters testified to the inspiration these meetings were to them last year. When the lengthened shadows hinted the time had come for closing, all felt that it was good for us to have thus waited upon the Lord and now strengthened to engage more heartily in His service. After participating in a social repast the meeting was called to order at 7:30, when a well prepared programme was given. Rev. J. W. Manning earnestly and forcibly presented the needs of the heathen and the responsibility of the Christian church, making the most practical application. By special request Mrs. Manning read the paper she prepared and read for the Christian Endeavor Society last week, and it proved to be the very topic for the occasion: "Young People and Missions." The paper contains a mine of help for our young people, who are endeavoring to fit themselves for aggressive work in missions. We hope this paper will be printed in leaflet form, and will be the means of showing our young people the beauty of a youth consecrated to the service of God. This was followed by an earnest and well illustrated address from Rev. A. J. Kempton, dwelling on the awful reality of souls being ushered into eternity without a knowledge of the living God. After a few words of encouragement from the pastor this interesting meeting was closed by prayer and the benediction by Rev. Dr. Chapman.

—"Have used one bottle of Burdock Blood Bitters, and am cured of liver complaint completely."
Mrs. J. PERRY, Jarvis's Corner, Ont.

Minard's Liniment is the hair restorer.