Messenger and Visitor.

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Messenger and Visitor.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29th, 1896.

EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

The visit of the editor of the Messenger and Visitor to Port Elgin and the Eastern Association of New Brunswick, was a very enjoyable one. It was our lot to be entertained at Baye Verte, two miles and a half from Port Elgin, and in a home whose hospitality many a Baptist minister has enjoyed. This home was established in 1837 by our good brother, John Read, Esq., who early in life was converted and became connected with a Baptist church. For many years Mr. Read's was the only Baptist family in the place. He with the wife of his youth—the one now 86 and the other 83 years of age—still live in the old home, with their son, Mr. Joseph Read. Mr. Read, the elder, has kept a list of the ministers whom he has entertained. The list of those who have occupied the prophet's chamber in the old home is a long one and includes some well-known names beside those of Baptist ministers. Among them are those of Joseph Howe and (Sir) Charles Tupper. Mr. Read has had the privilege in his old age of seeing a Baptist church organized in his neighborhood and a house of worship erected where the Gospel is regularly preached by a resident Baptist pastor.

Among the earlier Baptist preachers in this section of the country were the late Revs. Willard Parker and Geo. F. Miles. It was not until 1883 that a church was organized at Port Elgin, and its organization was due largely, we believe, to the labors and influence of Rev. D. G. MacDonald, then pastor at Sackville. More recently Revs. Isaiah Wallace and J. A. Marple have conducted very successful revival services at this place, and other points in the adjacent country, and the Baptist cause has been much strengthened. A house of worship was built and dedicated in 1895. A cut of this house recently appeared in the Messenger and Visitor. Its external appearance is neat and attractive and its interior is equally so. The building is somewhat larger than the congregation at present requires, but our brethren at Port Elgin doubtless aimed to be a living and progressive people and therefore did as prudent mothers do in making garments for their boys—allowed something for growth. There is still some debt on the house—a little more than is exactly comfortable—and if any good brother or sister, having abundance of this world's goods, wishes to help a worthy people, there is here an opportunity. The Association showed its sympathy with the brethen at Port Elgin by devoting the collections, amounting to about $60, to this interest.

Port Elgin and Baye Verte are attractive villages situated on a bay of the Northumberland Straits and surrounded on the landward side by a good farming country. The land all along the north shore of Westmorland and Cumberland counties is level and well adapted to agricultural purposes. Lumbering is carried on quite extensively in the more inland sections and large quantities of deals are shipped from Port Elgin and Cape Tormentine. Lobster fishing is quite an important industry and there are numerous canning factories along the shore. Port Elgin has some mills and small factories, which add to its importance and give employment to a considerable number of persons. The village is largely the growth of recent years and many of the residences, both there and at Baye Verte, are neat and tasteful in appearance. In the days of the French supremacy this part of the country appears to have been quite extensively occupied by them. It is stated that thousands of bushels of wheat were shipped from here, either to France or to other ports in the French colonies of North America. Fort Monckton, a spot prominently connected with the early history of the country, is situated about a mile from the village of Port Elgin.

The Baptist people of Port Elgin are neither numerous nor wealthy. It was quite a serious undertaking for them to entertain the Association. But their hearts are large and their hospitality was abundant. The pastor, Rev. C. P. Wilson, was indefatigable in his endeavors to make everyone comfortable. Bro. Wilson has not been many months on the field, but both he and his excellent wife appear to have won very fully the confidence and esteem of the people. The field is a large and laborious one, which must tax pretty severely the physical powers of even so strong a man as the present pastor. A very pleasant episode in connection with the Association was an out-door tea or picnic at Fort Monckton. On Monday evening the delegates were invited to take tea on this beautiful and historic spot—one of the places connected with the struggle of rival races on this continent. Little remains to indicate the former military character of the place except the trench, now partly filled up, which surrounds several acres of land, now a hay field, in the middle of which are several old apple trees, some of them said to have been planted by the French when they were masters there. The burial place in connection with the fort was by the water side, and it is said that much of it has been washed away. There are, however, rude stones at one spot, bearing inscriptions, indicating that bones of the dead lie buried there. It is recorded that, some time after the French evacuation, a company of some nine men under the command of a sergeant, going out from the fort to cut fire wood, were surprised by Indians and all killed and scalped. Their remains were interred at this point as some of the stones indicate. A few years ago a monument was erected to their memory in the Presbyterian burying ground in Port Elgin. A very pleasant hour or two was spent here. The ladies had made sumptuous provision against the sharpened appetites of their guests, and if tables are ever permitted to groan under a load of good things, it must be admitted that they had ground for complaint on this occasion. After the physical wants of the guests had been bountifully supplied their intellectual appetites were ministered to by Mr. C. E. Knapp, who gave an interesting recital of facts connected with the history of the place. Mr. Wells, M. P. P., also delivered a short speech, alluding in very courteous and respectful terms to the delegates and the object of their visit. Some twelve miles from Fort Monckton, on the other side of the isthmus, are the ruins of Fort Cumberland, the old Fort Beausejour of the French. That, too, has been entirely neglected and all the buildings and works have been destroyed or become wholly dilapidated. This neglect of places of so much historic interest is a matter of much regret, since a comparatively small annual outlay would have preserved them from destruction.

THE N. B. EASTERN ASSOCIATION.

The Association met according to appointment with the church at Port Elgin, Westmorland county, on Saturday, July 18th, at ten o'clock a. m., in its 49th annual session. A comparatively good number of delegates were present, though the absence of several of the pastors was regretted. The opening of the association was preceded by meetings of the S. S. Convention of the Association, held on Friday afternoon and evening. Some account of these meetings will be furnished by the Secretary of the Convention.

The association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. S. W. Keirstead. The first hour was devoted to a devotional service led by Rev. J. L. Miner, of Amherst. A large number took part in this service and a very gracious influence pervaded the meeting.

After the reading of the list of delegates from the churches, officers for the year were elected as follows: Moderator, Rev. H. H. Saunders; Clerk, Rev. H. G. Estabrook; Asst. Clerk, Bro. J. G. A. Belyea; Treasurer, Bro. Charles Read. On motion visiting brethren and sisters were invited to seats in the association. Rev. Ralph Trotter, of Victoria, B. C., Rev. Trueman Bishop who has lately entered upon the pastorate of the Harvey church, Bro. Barry Smith, of Moncton, were introduced to the association, and each briefly responded. The morning session adjourned at 12 o'clock.

The afternoon session opened at 2.30. About an hour was given to the reading of letters from the churches. This was followed by a sermon by Rev. W. C. Vincent on The keeping of the Lord's Day. This important subject was presented with much ability and the preacher was heard with deep interest. We hope that the substance of the discourse will shortly be given to the readers of the Messenger and Visitor.

The sisters of the W. B. M. U. held a meeting in the Methodist church at 2 o'clock, led by Mrs. Cox, president of the Provincial Union. Reports were presented from a number of the local unions and an interesting address was given by Miss Harrison, missionary elect for India.

SATURDAY EVENING.

The report on Home Missions, presented by Rev. S. W. Keirstead, set forth the need of greater interest in the Home Mission work of the body and deplored the comparatively small contributions from the churches for its support.

The report on Foreign Missions, presented by Bro. C. E. Knapp, called attention to the great commission of the Lord which Baptists receive as their marching orders in the work of Foreign Missions. It showed the needs of the work and the responsibility resting upon the churches to support the Board in the work which it has in hand. The remainder of the evening was devoted to a platform missionary meeting.

The first speaker of the evening was Rev. Ralph Trotter of Victoria B. C. Mr. Trotter delivered a very earnest and eloquent address, setting forth the interests of the Baptist work in the province by the Pacific, and appealing for help in view of the needs of British Columbia Baptists and the great opportunities now presenting themselves on account of the development about to take place of the mineral resources of the country.

Rev. W. E. McIntyre spoke in the interests of Home Mission work in the province, giving information respecting the mission work carried on during the year. In the bounds of this association some eight fields are being assisted to the extent of $675 a year. In the other associations a number of fields are being assisted of which some account was given. The Board of the N. B. Convention and the Committee of the Maritime Convention had met together at monthly meetings and had worked together harmoniously. Some $1,400 had been expended on the fields during the year in addition to about $300 paid as the New Brunswick's share of the debt of the Maritime Board. The Board and Committee had started at the beginning of the present year with a surplus and there seemed a danger that the money would not come in from the churches to carry on the work on the same scale another year. There was need therefore that the churches should help liberally. Mr. McIntyre spoke also of the need of French Evangelization in this province which he hoped the churches would supply the means to carry on.

Rev. J. W. Manning in an earnest address presented the cause of Foreign Missions advocating in an effective manner the claims of the heathen world upon the sympathy of christians.

Miss Harrison gave a short address and made a good impression upon the association. She spoke particularly of her pleasure at being able to meet her brethren and sisters in the association before taking her departure for India, of her experience in the christian life and the way in which she had been led to devote herself to the Foreign Mission work.

Rev. W. B. Hinson emphasized the thought that in all things our relation and duty to Christ should be supreme, our work should be done for His sake. We should not say to the missionary going forth to the foreign field, "God bless you in *your* work," but "God bless you in *our* work."

SUNDAY MORNING.

On the Lord's Day many of the pulpits in the surrounding country were supplied by preachers attending the association. According to appointment a new house of worship was opened at Bayside which is about seven miles from Port Elgin toward Cape Tormentine. Rev. W. B. Hinson, of Moncton, preached to a full house on "Christ the power of God," 1 Cor. 1: 24. Bro. Colpits (lic.) read the Scriptures and the dedicatory prayer was offered by Rev. S. W. Keirstead. This house has been built principally by Mr. Harvey Allan, who is not a Baptist, or at least not a member of a Baptist church, but it is hoped he may soon become fully identified with the cause in which he has shown so practical an interest.

At Port Elgin the association sermon was preached at 10.30 by Rev. H. H Saunders, Moderator of the association. The service was a very interesting one. The preachers' text was in Eph. 4: 13—"Till we all come in the unity of the faith, etc." Christ was set forth as the central and supreme object of the christian's faith. He alone saves; He alone was crucified for us. It is by faith in and love for Him that christians are made one in Him. But as a fact there is much diversity in belief, and among all those who profess faith in Christ, it is to be feared there are many who have no more real attachment for him than has the declared infidel. 2. Unity of faith should be associated with unity of purpose. But among those who are called by the name of Christ there seem to be many different purposes. It was Paul's grand purpose to know and to preach Christ and Him crucified—a purpose worthy of a christian. A church or a denomination animated by so grand a purpose should not spend their time and strength in contending against each other. Every christian should have the single purpose to glorify God. A christian without a purpose is like a log drifting in the river. 3. Unity of faith and of purpose should lead to unity of action. As a people we do not appear to have that unity of action. Scarcely half the churches of this association report any contribution to the Foreign Mission and Home Mission work of the denomination. Yet we say we believe in Christ and desire to see the extension of his kingdom. The faith we need is one which results in action that is constant united, persevering and therefore victorious. So far as we can conscientiously, we should be ready to surrender our individual opinions for the common good. According to the Apostle's figure, as each member and organ of the body, by performing its appropriate function, works to the upbuilding of the body, so the members of the church should work together for the upbuilding of the body of Christ, which is the church, in health and strength and beauty. There is great power in united action. A single drop of water falling is a feeble thing, but a Niagara is a thing of tremendous power.

The services of the afternoon were in the interests of the Sunday School. A model adult class was conducted in a very interesting and effective way by Rev. H. H. Saunders, and at the same time an intermediate class was conducted by Bro. A. E. Wall in another room. At the close of these exercises addresses were given by S. McC. Black, Prof. Wortman, and Miss Harrison.

The congregation on Sunday evening was a very large one, crowding the house, and the service was deeply impressive. At seven o'clock there was a meeting of the young people to pray for a blessing upon the after services. The preacher of the evening was Rev. W. B. Hinson. His theme was Personal Salvation, and the all important subject was presented with great solemnity and power. A short after-service followed. Many earnest prayers were offered and many scriptural invitations were given to the unsaved. The duty and the opportunity of the unconverted to believe on the Son of God and to confess Him were urged with great impressiveness and it seemed impossible that anyone should go away from the meeting unmoved.

MONDAY MORNING.

Letters were received from the churches at Centre Village and Cookville asking for admission to the Association. On motion these requests were granted by an unanimous vote. On request of the Moderator Rev. W. B. Hinson extended to delegates present on behalf of the churches received, the right hand of fellowship. This was done with very appropriate remarks.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was presented by Bro. R. Barry Smith as follows:

Your Committee on Temperance beg to report that a gratifying increase of interest in this work is perceptible among the churches. There seems to be a marked and growing feeling that those who have named the name of Christ and have professed to be guided by his wishes and directions should not longer wink at the destruction of life and fair bright hopes that is entailed by the use of intoxicating drink. While we cannot report any great measure of reform in this direction we can state that the Scott Act has been sustained by a good working majority in the county of Westmorland and that it continues in force in the counties of Kings, Albert and Northumberland. We are encouraged to hope that a measure of prohibition may be introduced by the new administration at Ottawa and thus that all the territory of this association may be relieved from the presence of this terrible enemy to the free course of the Gospel of Christ in our midst.

The Digest of Letters presented by Rev. H. H. Saunders showed that 41 out of 48 churches had reported to the association. The number of ordained ministers in the association is given as 24. Licentiates 7. Some three or four churches are without pastors. The number of church members reported is 6,183. The eight churches unreported would increase this number by some hundreds. The number of additions reported this year is 509. The expenditure for the local work in the association as reported is $16,801, an average of $2.60 per member. The benevolent offerings for the year are $1,444, an average of only 23 cents per member and this has not all gone to the support of our denominational work. There are nine B. Y. P. U. Societies. Two houses of worship have been opened, both of which are on the Port Elgin field.

Quite an extended discussion followed, dealing principally with the matter of contributions from the churches. Rev. W. E. McIntyre spoke at some length in reference to the Home Mission work and the comparatively small measure of support that it was receiving at the hands of the churches. Rev. W. B. Hinson, W. C. Vincent, C. E. Knapp and others spoke along the same line. The duty of greater liberality was strongly emphasized. If the money spent by Christians in luxuries, some of them of an injurious character, such as tobacco, were put into the Lord's treasury, there would be no lack of means for carrying on his work.

The report on Denominational Literature was presented by Bro. J. H. Colpits. The report showed the great importance of good literature, the supreme value of instruction in the Scripture and the importance of distinctively denominational literature, referring in this connection to the work of the Baptist Book Room, Halifax. The report also very warmly commended the Messenger and Visitor. The report was discussed by Brethren Cornwall, Bishop, Knapp, Keirstead, Hinson, Vincent, Belyea and Black. Emphasis was laid upon the value of good literature, and the pernicious effects pointed out of much of what seeks admission to the home. The difficulty of providing good and wholesome literature for the Sunday Schools was discussed. Many good words were said about the Messenger and Visitor and the fact that so many Baptist families do not avail themselves of its benefits was deplored.

The report on Obituaries was presented by Rev. S. H. Cornwall. The report recorded the death of Rev. Solomon Smith and Rev. J. E. Fillmore—esteemed brethren in the ministry who have passed away during the year—with some brief account of their labors. At request of the Moderator, Rev. O. N. Keith led the Association in prayer, commending the families of the deceased to the care of God.

The Moderator and Clerk were appointed a committee to secure a place for the meeting of the Association next year.

The closing session of the Association was devoted to a platform discussion of Education and Temperance. The report on Education was presented and spoken to by Rev. W. C. Vincent. The report set forth that the mission of a Baptist church was to emancipate from ignorance, prejudice and false authority, to redeem from sin, satan and hell and to put in possession of knowledge, self-control and eternal life. Education is as truly a part of the church's work as evangelization. Baptists cannot establish themselves on the authority of their ecclesiastics. They must be intelligent as to the principles they profess and ready to give a reason for their faith. An educated constituency as well as an educated ministry is necessary to our progress. The report commended our educational institutions to the prayers and financial support of the churches and suggested that pastors might more frequently present the claims of our educational work to their people. While regretting the resignation of President Sawyer the report expressed gratitude that the college was still to retain his eminent services as a teacher.

Prof. Wortman, the next speaker, alluded to the pleasure he felt in being the representative of Acadia to this which was his own old Association and proceeded to show the work that was being done by the institution at Wolfville and their claims upon the denomination for support.

Rev. H. G. Estabrook gave an earnest and interesting address on "The Educative Features of the B. Y. P. U."

The last speaker for the evening was Rev. W. B. Hinson, whose address was partly on education and partly in the interests of temperance, but, as always, was forcible and effective.

At this as well as other meetings of the Association the choir, led by Mrs. Wilson as organist, and assisted by Miss Miles, of Amherst, and others, rendered very appropriate and excellent music and added much to the interest of the Association.

A resolution was adopted expressing sympathy with Rev. B. N. Hughes in his severe illness and other afflictions through which in the providence of God he has been called to pass.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the people of the Baptist church and congregation and other friends of Port Elgin for their very generous hospitality.

The B. Y. P. U. Convention.

The city of Milwaukee, where the young Baptists met July 16-20, is on Lake Michigan, 80 miles north of Chicago, and is noted for being one of the great beer-brewing centers of the Continent. The mayor of the city, in his address of welcome, told the delegates that "Milwaukee brewed more beer and drank less of it than any city in America." To reach it, you pass through Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Maine, Quebec, Ontario, parts of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin, the distance being about 1770 miles from Halifax, whence proceeded the small but enthusiastic delegation from the farthest east—the two Misses Philp. The tickets for this long expanse and back were $32.00, a marvel of cheapness when compared with prices of a quarter of a century ago, but still leaving ground of complaint, as the favor was hedged in by limitations, which did not allow of giving free-play to desire to stop over at certain points. The expense of a delegate may be set down, if he is economical, at about double the amount of R. R. fare. We were asked to thank the citizens for their hospitalities, for which we paid at the rate of say two dollars a day. The Americans are used to this, and no other method is possible when from 15,000 to 20,000 people are to be entertained; but we in the Provinces have been so indulged in free entertainment at our gatherings, that it comes a little awkward to vote thanks, when we pay our bills. Why offer thanks for permission to spend $150,000 in four days? for this would be the amount expended by the delegates.

The weather was beautiful—at Milwaukee. At Chicago, it was subject to some comment. It was of that oppressive sort that cause men to forget their manners, and lay off their coats and collars—and the ladies —— but they always manage to keep tidy, and nicely behaved. The delegates proper were numbered in thousands, but the visitors made up the full number I have named. A very neat badge was given to everyone by the general committee, on registering; and, in addition, everyone wore the ribbon, inscribed with the name of his particular state or province. The little maritime delegation, the scribe hereof, and the ladies before mentioned, together with S W. Cummings, of Truro, and Mr. and Miss Henderson, of Andover, N. B., who joined us there, were fain to accept the significant colors of the Ontario contingent. We wore them proudly, and sang "The Maple Leaf Forever", and "God Save the Queen". We were not lost in the vast multitude, but had our distinct positions, and received recognition as we stood by our standard, quite serene amid our more demonstrative allies. At our rally of the Red, in a Methodist church kindly offered to us, we had a pleasant meeting, when we discussed matters of interest to ourselves. Dr. Wilkins and President Chapman dropped in on their rounds to all the rallies, and spoke cheering words. Our Dr. Keirstead appeared quite in place, and gave us a characteristic address on our denominational schools and colleges. Two of our Ontario ministers, Revs. R. R. McKay and C. E. McLeod, spoke on missions; and to our gratification Brother Diaz, the expatriated Cuban missionary, whose romantic story is probably known to many of your readers, also dropped in and gave us a touching little address.

These particular services are a feature of the Convention. Besides the great and general meetings in the huge exposition building, the Convention breaks up into several special meetings, where phases of the B. Y. P. U. work are emphasized. Those interested in Junior work, for example, held a very successful sub-convention, where addresses were made, followed by others in a few well chosen words, giving the gist of the speaker's experience in Junior work. The meetings were thus of a general and special character. The more general being mass meetings of 10,000 or more, in the great auditorium, and the special in the churches of the city. The general meetings were thus vast conglomerates from all places, a crowd needing special handling; speakers of exceptional ability addressed them on themes related to our general work; Dr. Mabie on Foreign Missions, Mr. Barbour on Proportionate Giving, and others on other topics. It was an effort for anybody to address that audience—I may say, a tremendous effort; requiring a good subject, and an exceptionally fine presentation, as well as a clear voice. Do one's best, somebody would cry "Louder!" If the speaker said a clever thing, and many good things were of course said, for the Americans are nothing if not oratorical, the applause came from all sides—clapping, and waving of handkerchiefs. Every now and then, a voice would interject a remark, and the feeling at times ran high. The emotions, however, had been provided for. Dr. Wilkins—I beg his pardon General Wilkins—had arranged the whole plan of battle, so that matters went along without any decided breaking away, but the doctor's wisdom was shown in nothing more than in the provision for music. The choir was 700 strong, largely female voices, under the leadership of a first-rate artist; and, in addition, he had secured the services of the Illinois Glee Club. The music was worthy of any adjective one might apply; indeed superlatives would be quite in order. This lightened every labor, and gave vent to every feeling in that great audience.

The platform was large, and contained seats not only for the chairman, secretary and reporter, but also for a large number of notables from all points of the compass, who had received tickets. The view from that point was worth going far to see. Such a long reach of heads and be-ribboned men and women! And then, as the eye looked higher—there was range after range all along the spacious galleries. What a multitude! and yet each unit had an individuality of its own, each bosom was filled with its own emotion; each group of hearts beat loyal to its own locality. The fourteen from California, the four from Oregon, the two or three from Oklahoma, the one lone sister from a distant place whose name I forget, and then fifteen hundred from Wisconsin, a thousand from Illinois, and great delegations of several hundreds from other States, were all important to themselves. But how can I describe the spirit of the assemblage? We have not, we can not have, anything akin to it in these thinly populated provinces. We are a staid people, with our English solidity and stolidity, almost suspecting demonstration; but this great mass of our American cousins seemed to be in continual motion; it heaved responsive to the ideas of the speakers and singers. True, the speakers aimed at the feelings, but the people are more impressible than on this side of the line. The character of the whole thing seemed to us Religio-patriotic. It was Baptist, no doubt, through and through, up and down, and all across. You could detect the splash of water in the utterances. But still, there was, to us, an air of local boast, an endeavor to glorify the special place from which each delegation hailed, that though light enough seemed yet to dissipate the specifically religious element for which one was waiting. Even on Sunday evening, the "Consecration" service was rendered unsacred to us by the constant intrusions of somebody's state, and its unparalleled advantages. We do not wantonly find fault—we tried to get into the mood of yielding more and more to the Blessed One, but the incessant drafts upon local pride, kept the emotion in abeyance. We had the feeling, too, what a grand opportunity for prayer, to importune the Source of all Goodness to pour out a blessing that should fill us; but it did not seem to be a prevalent idea, and we must confess, that upon a review of that last meeting we could wish that the grand opportunity had been seized to importune Heaven to open the windows, and deluge the vast congregation, the saved and the unsaved, with floods of Divine grace. Perhaps a Pentecost might have been the result. At any rate, some of us thought that a thousand souls might then and there have been gathered. But Dr. Wilkins, although he twice entreated the spokesmen not to make an address, and then, quote scripture, and then sing; but to confine themselves to one of these ways of expressing themselves, was constantly thwarted by this habit of glorification. Perhaps the Master just allowed us to brag—but we came away unblessed. We must learn to be simple, to look direct to God for a blessing, and to say: My soul, wait then only—only on God."

The arrangements for the Convention were by the master hand of the General Secretary, and were well carried out. The post office was a fine thing, for those whose friends sent them letters; telegraph on the spot; even a hospital room, where we saw some poor women with throbbing temples lying upon couches.

Well, I must stop. Instead of one column, I might write several. But life is short, and space is limited. While I feel that such Conventions are unwieldly, and fail in some measure of securing the results we desiderate, and while it is an open question with me whether they are worth the immense sum they cost, yet there is a great good connected with them. You see and touch hands with brethren whom you could never meet in any other way; you gain an idea of the size of things you would not otherwise get; you catch an enthusiasm that is helpful; you feel a deepening interest in the new work of the systematical and uniform training of our young people; and you feel that such gatherings are of more real help in bringing the two great branches of our Anglo-American family in bonds of unity, than any set Peace-Congress, composed of whatsoever notable names. It is a distinct experience to one, and we hope that some of those who have not hitherto availed themselves of this privilege, may be able to keep the motto in their eye.

"Brooklyn '97."

Instructions have been sent out from Ottawa requesting collectors of customs at every Canadian port not to grant a clearance to any vessel bound to Cuba until the Minister of Customs has been advised of it and his permission given. It is said there is a well organized scheme on foot by which the Cuban insurrectionists may be supplied from Canada with rifles and munitions of war.

Sir Donald Smith reached Montreal from London via New York Saturday morning. To a reporter Sir Donald said the report that he was to enter the Laurier Cabinet as Minister of Interior was ridiculous. The High Commissioner is in good health. Lady Smith, however, is in ill health and she did not come to Canada with him, she remaining in London.

Joseph Wesley Harper, senior member of the firm of Harper & Brothers, publishers, New York, died on Tuesday. Mr. Harper's father, Joseph Wesley Harper, sr., was one of the four brothers who founded the original firm.