

Messenger and Visitor

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—Mr. Alexander Lawson, of the Yarmouth Herald, passed the 80th anniversary of his birth last Tuesday and has completed 62 consecutive years as editor of that very well conducted paper. This is a record not easily paralleled. We desire to add our congratulations to many others which the veteran editor has already received, and hope that years of happiness and usefulness may yet remain to him.

Several brethren whose opinion and approval are greatly valued have recently spoken in terms of warm commendation of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. While we are well aware that the paper is not yet made perfect, it is most encouraging to know that those who give our Baptist people in these provinces a paper which shall be worthy of them and fairly meet their needs, are so highly appreciated. The hearty approbation of those whose good opinion is so much to be desired affords a strong stimulus to continued effort.

The funeral of the late Dr. Hopper took place on Tuesday afternoon of last week and the large number of persons in attendance bore evidence to the very general high esteem in which he was held and to the number of his personal friends. A short service at the late residence of the deceased was followed by a service at the Brussels St. church at three o'clock. The large audience room of the church, including the gallery, was well filled. All the Baptist ministers in the city and some from outside were present, also a number of ministers of other denominations. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Carey, the pastor, who was assisted by Revs. Messrs. Bruce and Fotheringham (Presbyterian) and Rev. J. Shenton (Methodist). Dr. Carey delivered a brief address, referring especially to Dr. Hopper's long and intimate relations with the Brussels St. church, as member and as pastor, his own relations with the deceased and his high appreciation of his worth. After the service the mortal remains of our departed brother were borne away to their last resting place in the Rural cemetery. Last Sunday evening a memorial service was held in Brussels St. church when Dr. Carey preached to a crowded house from Acts 11: 23, 24—reviewing at some length the life and labors of the deceased, and paying an eloquent tribute to his work and character. This discourse, or at least that part of it which especially related to Dr. Hopper's life and work, we hope to publish in our next issue.

PASSING EVENTS.

DURING the past week a political crisis attended with a good deal of excitement has been experienced in France. The president, M. Casimir-Perier, found himself so much out of harmony with the socialistic tendencies of his Cabinet that the situation seemed to him no longer tolerable and he accordingly resigned. M. Casimir-Perier has been harshly criticised in some quarters for the course taken. Many look upon his action as the outcome of a hasty and pettish impulse and not that which should have characterized a brave and strong man. Others regard his conduct in a more favorable light, as that of a man who found the conditions of government such that he must either resign or incur responsibility for acts and courses of action which he wholly disapproved. With the limited information at present received, it is not easy to say which of these two views is nearest to the truth. A successor to the late president has been elected in the person of M. Faure, who appears to have reached that position as "a dark horse," defeating M. Brisson, a much more prominent and probably a much abler man, by 69 votes. In France the President is elected by the united votes of the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. M. Faure, like his immediate predecessor, is a man of wealth. He has been a member of the Chamber of Deputies for fourteen years past and was Minister of Marine in the late ministry. In some former ministries he had held the position of Under Secretary of State for the Colonies. He has also some military reputation gained in the Franco-Prussian war. He does not appear to have been recognized as possessing any very distinguished ability, and the announcement of his election failed to create much popular enthusiasm. Politically he is described as belonging to the Moderate Straight Republican Party. The new president may or may not have the particular qualities required for the distinguished and most important position to which he finds himself suddenly and probably unexpectedly elevated. The enemies of the Republic are evidently not without hope

that his period of rule will be a short one and predictions of disaster to the present form of government in France are freely uttered.

It will be remembered that several months ago certain test questions on prohibition, touching the power of the several provinces in the matter, were by joint agreement of the Dominion and Provincial governments submitted to the Supreme Court of Canada. At length the court has made a deliverance in the matter, from which it appears that the court is unanimous in declaring that the provincial legislatures have not the power to prohibit the manufacture or the importation of liquor. In reference to other questions submitted three judges of the five who sat upon the case decide that if provincial legislatures have not the power to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquor within the limits of the province, or to enact a local option law, while the two others take the opposite view. Those who take the affirmative position are Chief Justice Strong and Judge Fournier, while those who hold the negative are Justices Gwynne, Sedgewick and King. The sixth member of the bench, Justice Taschereau, did not sit with his confederates in this case, but in an Ontario local option case on which judgment was delivered the same day he agreed with the Chief Justice and Justice Fournier in holding that the province had the power to prohibit either the wholesale or retail traffic, it will be seen that practically there is no decision, as the judges are equally divided in reference to the question. We presume that the case will now go to the Imperial Privy Council for final settlement.

The people of Woodstock appear to have done a wise thing in electing last Monday as Mayor, a staunch temperance man, who is also a prominent Baptist, Mr. W. S. Sanders. Mr. Saunders' opponents in the contest were Mr. J. R. Murphy, a lawyer who had been much engaged in defending those accused of violation of the Scotch Act and who seems to have given the impression to the temperance people of the town at least that he had something more than a professional sympathy for the liquor interest. In speaking of the reason of his defeat Mr. Murphy is reported as saying that he had had all the churches in the town against him, and that temperance meetings were held in order that his defeat might be accomplished. It does not seem to have occurred to Mr. Murphy that these facts afforded very good prima facie evidence that his defeat was in the interests of righteousness and good government.

Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the St. Stephen Baptist Church

How it snowed! All day long the snow had fallen, and when the time for the evening service came, many of the good folk did not venture out. But once inside the dear old church, the very walls of which seemed laden with the tender memories of the by-gone years, all thoughts of storms were lost in that one great calm that seemed to fill the place. All minds turned to the memories of a happy past, a past that meant so much to all, a past that had cradled the infant church which now enjoyed a joyous retrospective hour. What a home coming it was, where glad expectant faces told of hearts that throbbled in one great union, where old and young rejoiced alike. Some were there who clearly saw the first year's toil, and some were there who had only known its last years joy. Joy was the key note to which all thoughts were tuned and the words that fell upon the straining ear, came from the lips of a pastor who enjoyed the whole hearted sympathy, love and prayers of the people with whom and for whom he toiled. But the feeling swelled and deepened as the moments fled and when the time for the calling of the roll was come, a hush of fuller meaning stole unnoted over all, and hearts drank in what other hearts gave forth scarce knowing how or why. Never were responses more warmly given, more laden with that which all hold dear; never did more touching words burst forth from pulsing, tensioned souls, compelling the tears to start from their secret hiding places; and the messages from the absent ones gave new meaning to that union that distance cannot sever. When the late name had been called and the last mention made, we gathered round the table of the Lord, and as the emblem of that broken body and of that shed blood was passed, His church meant more to us than it had ever meant before. Out of that band that five and twenty years before had formed the little church, only one was privileged to enjoy the celebration, but with that one, one hundred sat. The evening service now was over, and with full and overflowing souls, when they had sung an hymn, they went out. Out, with but a single thought burning in all hearts, a sense of gratitude to Him whose hand did lead and guide. Out, with the swelling tide of memory sweet, surging through the flood gates of the soul. Out with the wealth of years, filled with a blessed joy and pathos, one ever powerfully one ever whirling flood sweeping all before it, submerging the "there" in the vision

of that "hereafter," of which the unaided mind of man cannot conceive.

All this was but the preparation of that anniversary occasion, and the following night felt that it was a preparation indeed. For at the entrance of the church a warm greeting awaited everyone, a welcome that was not a form, but a genuine hearty welcome, that cast a glow of pleasure where'er it touched. The tasteful decorations told their story of willing hands that thus expressed themselves, and the place was filled with music that had thrilled the worshippers at the dedication service long ago. The invocation came from the lips of him whose earnest words were just as eagerly heard now, as when in the years gone by, he stood the second pastor of the church. The donor of the pulpit bible that had for so many years been read to the assembled congregations, now saw it lifted from its accustomed place, and a new book was laid upon the desk, its donor, the beloved pastor of our mother church, was asked to read the first lesson from its pages. And now a wonderful panorama of the years passed by, as the letters of the pulpit bible were read, came before our eyes. Then came the reports of Sunday school, and society after society, whose united efforts all had helped in the upbuilding of the church which was to all so dear. From what ransacking of records and sifting of memory, came those papers which now make grand history for the time to come. How truly can we say "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad." The words of congratulation that came from the lips of the pastors, of a christianity that did not end at the church's doors. When the sound of the last hymn had died away, and hand pressed hand in a loving clasp we found ourselves in the vestry room, where bounteous refreshments were forced upon us. And when at last we did break free from that place that seemed to hold us so, it was to carry with us a feast for mind and soul, that shall lend splendor to the memory of the coming day. It was the grandest time the church had ever known, and though many there may be, who may not live to see its jubilee, they thank the God that has suffered them thus far, and look forward with joy to the joining of that church triumphant, that innumerable multitude which no man can number. The younger ones look forth with glad hope, thankful for the opportunities that lie before them, praying for a double portion of that spirit of self-sacrifice and devotion which characterized those from whom the mantle of responsibility is even now falling. "But," St. Stephen, Jan. 11, '95.

Theological Education at Acadia.

At the Educational Institute held in the city of St. John on the 27th and 28th ult., the Rev. Dr. Sawyer, as reported by the MESSENGER AND VISITOR said, "He had made three distinct efforts for the development of theological education at Acadia and had failed each time. There was a lack of sympathy on the part of at least some of the governors of the college as well as on the part of many of the students themselves." That such a statement had to be made by the president of the college we regret very much and trust that the time is not distant when theological education for our rising ministry in these maritime provinces will find a large place at Acadia. Why should it not be so?

Theological education was the primary object of the founders of the college. The general Catalogue of Acadia makes this very plain. It says, "Two leading objects are to be regarded, the primary one in a religious point of view is the providing of suitable instruction within the reach of young men who feel themselves called to the ministry of the gospel. Such young men raised up from time to time among us as sign for the means of mental improvement and then powerfully claim our attention of all friends of the gospel in favor of this object as one to which Providence seems to direct their labors." Surely, in view of this expressed wish of the founders of college we cannot but feel grieved at the statement of the Rev. Dr. Sawyer when he tells us of his failures for the development of theological education at Acadia. And is this all?

The loss to the denomination in these exciting provinces in men and money through the failure to have theological education at Acadia is great. We lose many of our ministers and the results of our benevolent friends given to the college go with them to lands more ably financially than we. Young men having finished their art courses at the college and having the ministry in view feeling their need of theological education and finding none at Acadia, seek it elsewhere to return, in many cases permanently no more. And this is not all yet.

Much sympathy and financial aid is withheld from Acadia; we doubt not on account of the failure to have theological education at the college. Rev. Dr. Sawyer says further at the Institute, "An appeal for relief to educate ministers was more successful than appeals made on a wider basis." May not this failure then, to have theological education at Acadia account at least in a measure, for the want of progress in the college and the deficit. If it is the cause even in the least degree, ought it not to be removed by sympathy being given to the president, on the part of governors and students of the college and our churches in their efforts for theological education at Acadia? J. Cook, Jan. 10, 1895.

Halifax Letter.

The Rev. Mr. Marple has returned to St. Margaret's Bay to continue for a time evangelistic work with the Rev. M. W. Brown. Mr. Marple has been to Margaree to visit his people. He reports that the field there is white and ready for the harvest. The Rev. D. G. McDonald, on hearing of the state of things expressed a desire to go to Margaree and assist the Rev. Mr. Wetmore, the pastor, who was very anxious for Mr. Marple to remain for a time and work with him. The demands on Mr. McDonald's time in his own church prevented his going this week. It is possible he will go at an early day. The revival at Mill Cove, on the West side of St. Margaret's Bay, where Mr. Brown and Mr. Marple have been holding meetings extended beyond Baptist families, as will be seen by the following challenge sent to these brethren by the Rev. Joseph Norwood, Rector of St. Margaret's Bay West, in which the Rev. Mr. Bennington, Rector of Banford, united. Here it is. It is a notable document.

HUBBARD'S COVE, Jan. 2nd, 1895.
DEAR SIR,—I challenge you to meet me to night in Orange Hall, Mill Cove, at 6:30 o'clock, and there show Divine authority and command for rejecting infants in baptism, and also to show proof that immersion into water constitutes christian baptism. You have created disturbance among my people, and all Mill Cove is aware that last night I went through the storm for the express purpose of giving you this challenge in public.
I remain, yours, etc.,
JOSEPH W. NORWOOD,
Rector.

Rev. Mr. Brown and Marple did not examine the challenge critically, and after arranging for an evening accepted it. The people came together in large numbers to hear the discussion. The Rev. J. G. McDonald happened to be present. Such an event is very likely to happen. All will remember Charlottetown and Sydney when he happened to meet Dr. Murray. Well, Mr. McDonald happened to be at Mill Cove when the Rev. J. W. Nowood was to meet Messrs. Norwood and Brown.

After the appointing of a chairman the exercises commenced. But they were very short, the shortest controversy, it might be safe to say, ever held on baptism. Mr. Brown began by requesting Mr. Norwood to give one passage of scripture to warrant the baptism of infants. Mr. Norwood stopped him by reminding him that this violated the terms of the accepted challenge—"Show Divine authority and command for rejecting infant baptism." This was a heavy task. The skillful Rector got the evangelists into his trap. He would hear nothing from them except to attempt to show that the scriptures by command rejected infants in baptism. Here was a dead lock. Had Mr. Brown gone on to the next number of the challenge—"proof that immersion into water constitutes christian baptism," the dead lock would have been just as effective. The challenge does not say immersion of what, or whom, or by whom. Of course no proof from scripture can be found to prove that immersion, unqualified in any way, "constitutes baptism." But the contestants did not get to the second part of the challenge. The discussion stuck hard and fast on the first part.

The Rev. D. G. McDonald sat by and saw the situation. He relieved it somewhat by calling out in the meeting that Roman Catholics baptize babies, but there was certainly no command in God's word to reject bells or babies; and certainly no authority for baptizing either. Possibly the matter will not end here.

The challenge bound the Baptists hand and foot and the astute Mr. Norwood held them fast. So the meeting closed without even a ray of light from discussion. This is not the christian way to treat this sacred subject. The Lord's work does not require for its advancement the art and scheming of worldliness.

The North church have had their annual meeting. For all purposes they have raised during the year about \$4,000.00. They began the year with a deficit of \$400.00 and closed with one of only \$75.00. The financial showing of the year is good.

The Tabernacle held its half yearly meeting last Monday evening. During the year they have raised for all purposes \$5,638.58. As the pastor has been unable to work for the last four months of the past year the finances went behind and they have now a deficit of nearly \$300.00. But now that brother Hall is able to preach once a day, and attend the other meetings of the church, they will soon overtake this deficit. About \$1,800.00 of the whole amount raised was for paying off in part the debt on the church.

Mr. Hatt from Port Medway reports an encouraging state of things there in the church. A son of the late Rev. David Freeman, of blessed memory, is the pastor. He is doing good work. Instead of the fathers, the children. How the beloved father delighted in preaching the gospel, especially among the destitute. E. M. S.

A Word to S. S. Superintendents.

DEAR BROTHERS,—Will you allow me to call your attention to a part of your duty which you are in danger of neglecting, namely, the memorizing of Scripture by the people coming under your care? Excepting conversion there is no purpose of the S. School so important. Religious teachers who have given the matter thought are, I think, agreed on this point. Still, the painful fact remains that in the majority of schools this wholesome custom of our fathers has fallen into disuse. In many cases where memory work is attempted the plan pursued is of such a character that permanent results are not secured. I claim that unless a pupil is able at the close of any given period to rehearse the assignments of that period, he cannot be said to have memorized them. Do not be deceived respecting the matter. If John cannot repeat glibly the verses he has been asked to learn during 1894, then John has failed, and the school to which he belongs has failed, proportionately.

It was my privilege to present before the Yarmouth County S. S. Convention in October last, a plan of memorizing Scripture by the S. School which was endorsed by the body and recommended to the constituency. It appeared in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR last week. It has been followed by the Hebron school for six months with good results. I would commend it to any school which may not already have a satisfactory method. If any of the brethren has a better plan to suggest, will he have the kindness to let me hear of it?
Yours in the work,
F. H. BRALS.

W. B. M. U.

MONTHS FOR THE YEAR:
"Be ye strong therefore and let not your hands be weak for your work shall be rewarded."
Contributors in this column will please address Mrs. J. W. Manning, St. John West, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR JANUARY.
—For Mr and Mrs. Higgins and Miss Clarke, also the twelve helpers, a teachers, that the Holy Spirit may en-secure them an increase of the hearts of the people to accept salvation through Christ.

Mission Literature.

We are glad to announce to our readers, that a beginning has been made for a Missionary circulating library. Our faithful missionary, Mrs. I. C. Archibald, who is foremost in every good work and work at home and abroad, sent a number of books from India to start this much needed enterprise. Mrs. Archibald has since contributed six dollars which has been spent in books. We most heartily thank our sister for these gifts. The names of the books are as follows:—

BOOKS ON INDIA: 'India,' 'Daily life and work in India,' 'Women's talk on India,' 'From darkness to light,' 'Our gold mine,' 'In my Indian garden,' 'The tribes on my frontier,' 'Pen and ink sketches of native life in Southern India,' 'The fortunes of the Anglo Indian life,' 'The unfulfilled commission,' 'The Lone Star Jubilee,' 'Behind the Bungalow,' 'Lives of Corey, John Thomas, Andrew Fuller,' 'Keren Apostle,' 'Hinduism,' 'Pagoda Shadows.'

AFRICA: 'David Livingston,' 'H. M. Stanley.'

MISCELLANEOUS: 'The crisis of missions,' 'Bishop Patterson,' 'The story of Diaz,' 'Buddhism,' 'Missionary sketches,' 'The Macedonian Cry,' 'Prinrooty, or the gospel winning the day.'

These books will be sent to the address of any of our sisters in the Maritime Provinces on receipt of six cents per postage and may be retained for two months. We sincerely hope our sisters will avail themselves of the advantages this library affords. If the books are not used the money is wasted. They are all interesting books and most of them very helpful in writing mission papers. These winter months that are slipping by so rapidly are the golden opportunity for gaining the valuable information these books contain.

Reading circles are being formed in some of our societies and proving most pleasant and profitable. Some valuable mission book is chosen and read by as many of the members as possible during the week or two weeks between the meetings, extracts taken and notes written. The meeting affords a good opportunity to discuss the book, those who have become familiar with it, bringing out the principal characters and reading the most desirable parts. To vary the exercises, two or more short papers might be written on different portions

of the book. Books of this kind serve to develop our interest and love for mission work. Love for reading and studying missionary literature is a height which we must climb first along the foothills. We must not expect to reach the summit at a single bound; but one is amply repaid for every step. As we rise new beauties and wonders greet our vision. It used to seem that human wisdom and goodness had combined to make mission literature the dryest, most tiresome reading that could be found; but that day is long past and this delusion vanished, for with the present decade has come a flood of mission stories as fascinating as any works of fiction, which serve an excellent purpose as stepping stones to something more solid and substantial. Do not stop here but pass on to the lives of our mission heroes—Missionary biography! Nothing more inspiring. How God's noblemen loom up like majestic mountain peaks above the level of the great sea of human life—earth evoted, Heaven crowned. If you would bedeck the sacred walls of memory with portraits that would speak to you as living companions then read the lives of Moffat, Livingstone, Carey, Judson, MacKay, Patterson, Paton, Williams, etc. No one can study the lives of these great God-like men without being made better and inspired with a desire to do something to help bring this lost world to Christ.

If you want your heart to leap with joy over the sublime opportunity before you, then read 'The miracle of Missions.' The greatest thing in the world, 'The Holy Spirit and Missions,' 'The Divine enterprise of Missions.' Then you will find no more fascinating reading than such books as: 'Modern Cities,' 'Darkest England,' 'Life of Jerry McAuley.' They are legion, only taste and see, you will all your life rejoice that you were ever led to enter upon this departure of literature.

Let me here suggest that if any one has any mission books or magazines they can spare, will they not send them to our library that they may prove a blessing to others. Or any money they wish to devote to this important work, it will be most gratefully received and carefully expended. The least also has a valuable part in this great mission education. They contain much valuable information for your meetings or the B. Y. P. U. missionary meetings, put in attractive shape that can be used without taking time to condense. They have been the means of interesting very many who would not take the time to read a book. If one has proved a blessing to you, pass it along, give it to some friend to read or inclose it in a letter. We have on hand a large and valuable selection of these leaflets. A catalogue has been neatly and carefully prepared arranging these leaflets under the following divisions: India, Burma, China, Japan, Africa, Miscellaneous Reading, Poetry, Home Missions, Mission Bands, so that at a glance you can select the particular ones that will be of use in your work. These catalogues have been sent to each society. If any have not received them please write a card to Miss Myra Flock, Amherst, and she will forward one to your address. Every mission worker should have one of these for reference.

The quarterly meeting of the W. M. A. S. of St. John and Fairville was held at Leinster St. church on Thursday afternoon, the 17th inst. It was a most enjoyable occasion. We had the pleasure of listening to an inspiring address given by Mrs. Walker, a returned missionary, who has been laboring for ten years among the Indians of British Columbia, under the Methodist Board. Our sister's words breathe the true missionary spirit. She is most devoted and enthusiastic in her work. We also had the pleasure of welcoming three new mission workers, the wives of the pastors lately settled in St. John. Mrs. Corey of Fairville, Mrs. Schurman of Carleton, and Mrs. Daley of Leinster St. We are so glad to see the vacant places filled and are hoping for much help in mission work from these young sisters. At the close of the meeting a very pleasant hour was spent in conversation and tea served at half past six. The evening was occupied by the induction service of Mr. Daley and very much enjoyed by all.

Letter received from Mrs. Churchill from Bombay. She was well and very thankful that the long tedious voyage was about over. She had been mercifully preserved and cared for all the way.

For Worms in Children—Cherokee Vermifuge.

For Spasmodic Coughs—Minard's Honey Balsam.
Many can testify to the great healing qualities of LARDER'S LINIMENT.