Messenger and Visitor.

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Messenger and Visitor.

WEDNESDAY, August 10, 1887.

GOOD POLICY

The Examine tells of a church which was declining under its pastor. The members had been accustomed to criticise his sermons, and make the worst of his selings, instead of the best of his excellencies. Instead, however, of asking their pastor to resign, they determined to see what a reversal of their practice would do. They all agreed to talk their pastor up and not down, from that time onward. The effect was well nigh magical. The congregation began to enlarge, the work to grow in interest, and for the best part of a lifetime, the church and pastor have held on their way of avergrowing prosperity to gether.

is no consion for wonder in all There is no eccasion for wonder in all this. Had even Spargeon, at the beginning of his ministry, had a few of his own people to follow him with detraction and depreciation, it is doubtful whether he ovaild have won the position he has, or have developed the wonderful power he possesses. For most pastors, it needs but that here people epeak no word of appreciation of their best efforts, and refer, even mildly, to any slight defects, to effectually destroy all hope of a successful pastorate. It is what the members of his church say of their pastor which usually makes or unwhat the members of his church say of their pastor which neutally makes or unmakes him in the community, where he labors. The gonduct of our Methodist perhane is to be commended. They are realy to speak well of their reactors, and in this way, they give them a standing on their fields of labor, which ministers of other denominations, of at least equal ability and devotion, do not gain, simply because the people of these latter do not pursue a policy equally wise and kindly. Many church members do not shew as much wisdom and consideration in their references to their horses. They would not shink of being silent about the good qualities of the latter, while they made the most of the defects; but this is just what is done in the case of God's servant. The church that makes the best of the pastor will encourage him to make the ir pastor which usually makes or un

most f the defects; but this is just what is done in the case of God's servant.

The church that makes the best of the pastor will ecocurage him to make the best of himself. All are very like children, in this tespect. Let the best efforts be best of himself. All are very like children, in this tespect. Let the best efforts will be lost. Let the pastor but know that all the good there is all courage and inspiration will be lost. Let the pastor but know that all the good there is in him and his effort will be taken at Tall value, and he will be ready to tax his best energies joyfally, and he will be able to do very much more without injury to himself. There are many men to day, who might have made a high mark, but have been working on, almost paintully encouragement which would have drawn out their best recourses, as the warm sunshine does that of tree and flower.

Then, again, if a people get in the habit of making the best of their pastor, it will cultivate in them a kindliness which will not only manifest itself in a warmer love to him; but will be seen in a general goodwill to all. This will make the most earnest and general con-operation in the Lord's work a pleasure.

May we not, therefore, urse upon our churches the exercise of greater care in the tender and rensitive relationship in which they stand to their pastors. Half the want of a success of many of our churches is due to the want of a perfect understanding between pastor and people. How easy his could be remedied, were all to adopt the course of the church referred to by the Examiner. Shall there not be an improvement here?

DR. HAGUE DEAD

Many of our readers know or have heard of Dr. Bagus. They will read the follow-ing account of his death, on the let of August, which we have received from Dr. McKennie, with a and interest.

The venerabla, and justly venerated, Rev. Dr. William Hague, dropped dead on the addewalk in front of Tremont Temple yeaterday, about 12.30 p. m. His lifeless form was taken up and laid on the floor in the hallway leading into the Meionian, and there it laid for some hours before being removed by an undertaker. When I came into the Temple a little while after, and found Dr. Musdonk, our Secretary, Drs. Olmested and Foster, of the Watelsman, with Dr. Lorimer, of Chicago, Dr. Blackburn, of Indiana, with two or three others, standing about the dead lody of the great and good man, I was greatly shocked. Dr. Hague was passing along by the Temple when he met Dr. Blackburn. The two rhock hands, when suddenly Dr. Hague put his hand to his breast, and said. "I can having a last spill just now," and and justly ve

Blackburn caught the sinking man in his arms and gently lowered him to the sidewalk. Beath, I believe, was instantances. Four, I presume, ore familiar with the name and the fame of Dr. Hagne. He was born January 4, 1808; was a graduate of Hamilton College, New York, in the class of 1826; studied theology at Newton, graduated in the class of 1826; studied theology at Newton, graduated in the class of 1826; studied theology at Newton, graduated in the class of 1826; studied theology at Newton, graduated in the class of 1829; and was ordained the same year, October 20; was for some years pastor of the First Baptist Church in Providence, the oldest Baptist Church in Providence, the oldest Baptist Church in Providence, the oldest Baptist church is America; subsequently pastor in Boston a pain, in the Federal Street Church. He has been in other pastorates, in Jamaica Plain, now within the city limits of Boston in Newark, N. J.; in Albany, N. Y. on the Lord's Supper, admits, on some grown University, in 1849, and the same the same of the last Prasidest Francie Wayidence, the oldest Baptist church is America; subsequently pastor in Boston a pain, in the Federal Street Church. He has been in other pastorates, in Jamaica Plain, now within the city limits of Boston, in Newark, N. J.; in Albany, N. Y. Dr. Hague received the degree of D. D. from Brown University, in 1863, and the same degree from Harvard University, in 1863. His name is always associated with the names of the late President Francis Wayland, Dr. Sharp, Dr. Neale, Dr. Baron Stowe, Dr. George B. Ide, and others, who in former days were the recognized leaders in all our great denominational enterprises, missionary and efficacional. Dr. Hague was a man of uncommon intellectual vigor, and retained that vigor in large measure up to the end of his sarthly career. He has given some valuable work to the press, Among the volumes from he insaterly pen are: "The Baptist Church Transplanted from the Old World to the New ", "Guide to Conversation on the Gospel of John"; "Reviews of Drs. Fuller and Wayland on Slavery"; "Ghristiasily and Statesmanship", "Home Life." He has been a copious contributor to standard Reviews, and the periodical press. He was, I think, at one time editorially connected with the Watchman in its early history, Dr. Hague has been writing, as the closing service of his life, a book of an autobiographical character, the title of which is "Fifty Years Life Notes, or A Fifty Years" Outlook." This, Ithiak, is completed, and is about to be issued by a prominent publish ing house, Leef& Shepard.

THE BAPTIST QUARTERLY REVIEW.

The Baptist Quarterly Review for July has two notable acticles. The first is by Dr. Hover, on the expression "Fruit of the Vine "as used in connection with the Lord's Supper. He argues powerfully, many will think convincingly, that "Fruit of the Vine" does not mean unfermented grape juics; but fermented wine diluted with water. Neither this article nor its predecesser on the Wines of the Bible will settle the controversy over these vexed questions.

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