

Messenger and Visitor

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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR
VOLUME XLVIII.

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1896.

—We find it necessary to hold over until next week a few articles that we should have been glad to find room for in this issue.

—Mr. Mellick's remedial measure for Manitoba is one that we can all agree to support. It differs quite materially from that which Parliament has under consideration.

—We are informed that during the Hunter and Crowley meetings in Halifax a large number of persons professed conversion and that the Methodist and Baptist churches will continue special services for a few weeks in the hope of securing the best results from the interest which has been aroused. The evangelists sailed on the 15th inst. for Bermuda. They have been invited to come to Dominica in Sept. next and hold a series of services. It is expected they will do so.

—The discovery of Prof. Roentgen seems likely to yield many curious, as well as useful results. It is said, for instance, to have been turned to account in determining the contents of a mummy case. There has been for many years in the Museum of Vienna, a mummy wrapped and swathed like that of a human being, but which has been suspected to be that of an ibis. To determine the matter the object was photographed by means of the Cathode rays, with the result, it is said, that the shadowy outline of a bird is revealed.

—It has been decided by the four great American Baptist Societies to hold their annual meetings this year at Astoria Park instead of Portland, Ore. In explanation of the change of place, the *Witness* says: "The times are not favorable for a large attendance in Portland from the eastern and central portions of the country, owing to the expensiveness of the trip, while the financial problems which the Missionary Boards have to face render a large and representative gathering exceedingly important. All may rest assured that the change would not be made at this date without reasons deemed to be imperative."

—It will be seen by a note from pastor Davidson in our Denominational News column, that the Gibson church has succeeded in paying off the last of its indebtedness. Pastor and people are to be highly congratulated on this event. The church has done nobly. When a few years ago its house of worship was burned and many of the members lost heavily in a fire which swept over the village, the outlook was such as might have disheartened a pastor and people of less faith and courage. But a new church has been built and paid for, the pastor has been well supported, and, best of all, the church has enjoyed a large measure of spiritual blessing. We trust that it will continue to abound in every good work.

—The death of Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, a prominent minister of the Presbyterian church in Canada and late pastor of St. Andrew's church of Toronto, occurred on Wednesday of last week. Mr. Macdonnell will be remembered here by many who saw and heard him during the session of the General Assembly in St. John in 1894. He was regarded as one of the most vigorous minds and one of the ablest and most attractive preachers in his denomination. Mr. Macdonnell was a native of Bathurst, N. B., a son of Rev. Geo. Macdonnell. He was educated at Queens College, Kingston, and at Glasgow and Edinburgh Universities. He was ordained in 1866. The first four years of his ministry were spent in Peterboro, Ont. His connection with St. Andrew's church, Toronto, dated from 1870—a pastorate of 15 years.

—The president of the Convention does well, we think, in calling the attention of the brotherhood to the heavy loss which our friends at New Glasgow have sustained by the burning of their house of worship and in suggesting that a contribution from each sister church, according to ability will be of great assistance in keeping up the courage of the New Glasgow brethren and in enabling them to go forward without delay with the work of rebuilding. We have no doubt but that there will be a good response to Bro. Parsons' call. We happen to know of one case in which a generous measure of practical sympathy was very promptly volunteered. At the weekly meeting last Friday evening the Young People's Society of the Brunswick Street church, St. John, voted to contribute \$25 to help the New Glasgow brethren rebuild, and instructed its secretary to wire them to that effect. Others may have done likewise and no doubt so good an example will be followed by many. Such assurances of sympathy and help, we may be sure, will be gladly received and will do much to encourage the hearts of pastor Raymond and his people in their time of trial.

PASSING EVENTS.

ACCORDING to certain reports which have lately appeared in United States newspapers, an event has occurred at Tien-tsin, China, which indicates that modern ideas in respect to education are obtaining unexpected recognition, in influential quarters in the Celestial Empire. The event referred to is nothing less remarkable than the establishment of a Chinese university, organized after the model of Western institutions. It is said that this is an indirect result of the war with Japan, and means that those who exercise a controlling influence in the councils of the Empire are coming to perceive that China can no longer afford to ignore the modern learning and the forces of modern civilization, which have brought so much power to her victorious rival. The president of the University at Tien-tsin is Rev. Chas. D. Tenney, a graduate of Dartmouth College and of Oberlin Theological Seminary.

Mr. Tenney has been in China since 1882. He went out as a missionary of the American (Congregational) Board, but, because of what he considered its illiberal policy, severed his connection with it after he had been a few years in China. Mr. Tenney, it is said, possesses remarkable linguistic ability and soon obtained a fine command of the language. He resolved to continue in China, and going to Tien-tsin, undertook an enterprise which missionaries had regarded as wholly impracticable, the establishment of a self-sustaining school for the Chinese. The announced purpose of the school was the fitting of young men for positions in the diplomatic service and for leadership in the industrial development of their country. Mr. Tenney had taken a peculiar interest in Chinese history and literature, and had recognized the excellences of the national character and civilization. His school, after a year or two of hardship, became successful, and the children of the nobility were put under his charge. About 10 years ago the three sons of the eminent statesman, Li Hung Chang, were placed under his tuition, and the victory showed a warm personal interest in western education and in Mr. Tenney, offering prizes to those students who should excel in various branches of learning. Through these young men of independent service, Mr. Tenney had been winning the confidence of the officials, and is trusted by them as few foreigners have been. In the course of the recent war he organized a branch of the Red Cross society in Tien-tsin, and was sent by Li Hung Chang to Port Arthur to relieve the sufferings of the wounded. It is stated that it had been for a long time the desire of Li Hung Chang to have a University established, but that it is only since the war, and by virtue of the lessons that the war has taught, that he has been able to have this purpose realized. It appears that Mr. Tenney is hampered by no conditions in the construction of the university. He is authorized to outline its scheme, to secure competent professors, and to take charge of the whole discipline, including the faculty and students. In addition to the regular courses in an eight years' preparatory and college course, Mr. Tenney is planning for special courses in civil engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, mining and law. A specialist will be at the head of each department. The university already has a commodious building upon the bank of the Tien-tsin river, and other buildings are to be begun at once. Examinations are now being conducted in the principal cities of China for entrance to the new university.

It is stated that the Remedial Bill is to have its second reading early in the present week. As to the probable fate of the Bill there are different opinions. The Roman Catholic hierarchy has so far refrained from bringing the full force of its authority to bear on Catholic members of Parliament to secure its passage. If this shall be done and it is made a matter of conscience with some members to vote for the Bill it might have the effect of arraying the Roman Catholics on both sides of the House in its support. But such a course would doubtless arouse a stronger opposition on the part of Protestants, and whether the prelates of the church will consider it wise to take such a course is doubtful. Whatever may be the prospect in regard to this, it seems evident that the Government would be glad to find a way out of its present awkward position, without carrying its plans of remedial legislation further. Sir Donald Smith, member for Montreal West, has lately spent some days in Winnipeg where he has had interviews with Premier Greenway and Archbishop Langford, and it is generally regarded as an open secret that Sir

Donald's visit had to do with the school matter and that he has endeavored, whether successfully or not, to bring about such an agreement between the Manitoba Government and the R. C. authorities as would render the passing of the Remedial Bill unnecessary. The following which the *St. John Sun* has from Ottawa correspondent under date of Feb. 21, may be somewhat significant:

"The important news telegraphed from Winnipeg this evening that Sir Donald Smith has been partially successful in his negotiations with Archbishop Langford in favor of Premier Greenway, is generally discussed in the lobbies. It is conceded that it would be a beneficial thing if this miserable school squabble could be got rid of on terms fair and honorable to both sides. The reports have it that Premier Greenway is disposed to do what is fair. The only trouble is whether the hierarchy will meet him half way. I heard that a leading member of Parliament was in Toronto today interviewing the prominent Roman Catholics with a view to seeing if pressure could not be brought to bear on the hierarchy to assume a reasonable position." Alluding to the fact that, some time ago His Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop of Quebec, the Most Reverend Archbishops and the Right Reverend Bishops of the Roman Catholic Church in the Dominion of Canada, united in an elaborate Petition to the Governor-General in Council, in which petition they laid, as matters of souls, on religious teaching of pupils according to the Roman Catholic creeds and practices, "The *Fredericton Witness* says: "This demonstration on the part of the ecclesiastical leaders of all the provinces evidently affected the imagination of the politicians. Hence the Remedial Order and the Remedial bill. Hence the proposals to intervene in some way or other in Manitoba's affairs. The Roman Catholic hierarchy is very sensitive to demonstrations and it is quite possible that the Roman Catholic prelates are not the only force in Canada capable of producing an effect upon that sensitive organ."

THERE occurred last week in a Coleridge mine a terrible explosion of gas by which some sixty men are reported to have been killed. But this catastrophe seems almost insignificant in comparison with an explosion of dynamite which occurred shortly afterwards at Viedendorf, a suburb of Johannesburg, South Africa. Eight curs, loaded with dynamite for use in the mines, were standing in a railway station, when, from some cause (it is supposed that a Chinese boy who was carrying a package not knowing what it contained) the whole exploded. The explosion is probably the greatest of its kind on record. It is needless to say that the scene was terrific. Evening was approaching and the thousands of people in and about Viedendorf and other parts were either at home or returning to their homes, when, suddenly, the ground for miles around was convulsed as if by an earthquake. The air was filled with a fall of masses of iron, earth, stone, wood, and human remains were hurled skywards, the windows of almost every house in Johannesburg were broken, people were blown through the air like straws; there was a noise heard never to be forgotten. The whole of that quarter of Johannesburg was literally torn to pieces. The effect of the explosion could be seen over a radius of over a mile, and almost everything within a half mile of the spot where the death-laden trucks had been shunted for the night was raised to the ground and crushed by the dynamite beyond redemption, ironwork twisted and torn, stores destroyed and brick work pulverized. On the ground were blackened heaps of human remains, limbs, heads, trunks, scorched and torn, all that was left of what but a short time before were happy, healthy human beings. Thousands of people have been rendered homeless by the terrible calamity, about one hundred persons are believed to have been killed, some two to three hundred men, women and children have been severely wounded, and many others have been more or less seriously injured. It is stated that the Boers and the Uitlanders are working harmoniously in the succoring of the wounded and homeless and the disaster seems to have done a great deal towards healing the soreness which remained from the Jamieson raid and may do much to cement a new and better feeling between the foreign population and the Boers.

PERSONAL.

Rev. J. L. Read of Berwick, N. S., has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Baptist church at New Germany, and expects to enter upon his labors there the first Sabbath in March. This is a large and growing church, with a reputation for high service. Rev. Read is one of our most experienced ministers. His work in the past has been blessed and we trust that he may see much fruit of his labor in New Germany. His address is "De Baras' Corner, New Germany, Lunenburg Co., N. S."

The members of the Quebec Protestant Ministerial Association, in view of the departure of Rev. C. H. Day from that city, by resolution placed on record their high regard for Mr. Day and their sense of the services which he has rendered to the cause of evangelical religion in Quebec during his residence in the city. Mr. Day was to preach his farewell sermon to the Baptist church of Quebec on Sunday, the 23rd inst.

A Talk on Teaching.

BY D. A. STEELE, D. D.

The *Biblical World* for February has the usual series of lectures on using the Bible. This month they are instructive for instructors in christianity. The gist of the whole is, that there must be a return to the teaching of doctrine in the pulpit. Full credit is given to the practical style of preaching, which has during the last thirty-five years come into vogue, and which has "reduced almost to an art the appeal to motive, and the incitement to new religious life." But "the rank and file of church members are largely ignorant of the teaching of Scripture. They know that they should do so, but they know too little about christian education. . . . Their knowledge is of a piece with that displayed by a prominent Y. M. C. A. worker who taught that the sins of the world were literally left by Jesus in the tomb. How many of our lay workers could begin to explain the meaning of a doctrine, we will say, of inspiration?" The writer has my entire sympathy when he makes the point: "To judge from the character of the most acceptable speeches at great conventions, the present generation of christian workers care more for enthusiasm and funny stories than it does for sober discussion."

What pastor does not feel the opposite of the remark: "So long as converts are numerous without doctrinal teaching, why trouble about it?"

THE FLAIN DUTT that lies before the pastor, then, is to begin at once to instruct his people. Begin where the preacher should begin—in the pulpit. Never use the untheological air of the audience, nor the suppressed grumblings of unsatisfied people. Put your own brains and blood into the new departure, and ere long there will be an appetite created. Besides this, gather your Sunday school teachers together, and go over their lessons with them, showing them the largeness of the letter of God's word. Get the latest and the very best books and maps, and show them what they are missing. Keep on, week after week, and you will thus create a corps of advance inquirers who will soon come to you for further instruction, and your best people will respectfully suggest that you lead them to further onward. If you for any reason are unable to supply the rising demand, look around. There will be a teacher, or a professional man, aroused by the new work, who will take a higher class. You will make teachers. Set them at work.

A DANGER TO BE AVOIDED. The man who loves study is not always an open-mouthed man. He loves to meditate, and keeps the most of it to himself. We must beware of having in the churches two classes, those who love truth and those who attend to the outside of religion. This is a difficulty, a trouble to any pastor's heart. We must not "divide the body of believers into those who act but do not think, and

those who think but do not act. The pastor is the one man who, because of his position, can make the doctrine the incentive to action. An intelligent church is the offspring of a thinking pastor, and, if Paul is right, its renewed mind is the means by which it will gain a transfigured life, i. e., as I understand this last hint, "Be ye (constantly) transformed by the renewing of your mind." This far quotation and my own incubations. I hope to take up this great thing again.

To all the Baptist churches.

The Baptist meeting house at New Glasgow, N. S., was burnt this morning; loss, many hundreds of dollars. Our brothers and sisters there are few in number and not wealthy. The people of New Glasgow, of all creeds, will assist the church in rebuilding. But their loss is so heavy that it seems best for us to forward immediate aid with our sympathies. The four hundred Baptist churches of these three provinces have now a fine opportunity to give without waiting for an appealing letter from New Glasgow, which might not come. So I take the responsibility of inviting the sister churches to make collections at once, and whether the sums be large or small, send the same without delay to W. H. Terry, church clerk, New Glasgow, or to Rev. A. Cohoon, Wolfville, who will be glad to receive and transfer the same. Please forward by money order or registered letter. All contributions will be acknowledged in *Messenger* and *Visitor*. Will you kindly write a few words of encouragement to the members at New Glasgow and forward in the envelope with the money?

There was only small insurance, I understand, and the building and interior were lately remodelled at a (to them) large expense.

An average of four dollars from each church will be a christian offering; but so many churches, poor and small, will only give one or two dollars each, others must come down handsomely. When you thus give to the needy you may be lending to the Lord. See Proverbs xiv. 1. I am yours obediently,

JOSEPHIAN PARSONS,
Pres. of Convention.
Halifax, Feb. 20th, 1896.

—At the St. John Baptist minister's meeting on Monday morning, pastor Schurman, of Carleton, reported five baptisms on the previous day. Two were baptized at Main Street. The special meetings at Main Street are being continued during the present week. Some report was received of the proceedings of the Prohibition Convention held in Fredericton. At next week the subject of religious instruction in the common schools is to be discussed.

W. B. M. U.

MOVING FOR THE YEAR.
We are laborers together with God.

FRATERNITY FOR MARCH.

For Miss Wright, the native preacher, brother, and sister in Chicago. For the friends of the W. B. M. U., their wisdom from on high be given them to place and direct the work.

The executive of the W. B. M. U. met in quarterly session on Friday, 14th inst. at 3 p. m., in the mission room, Prince William St., a few days later than usual, the change being made to suit the convenience of Mrs. Wm. Cox, Provincial Secretary for N. B., who was present at the meeting. Members of the Board present, Mrs. Manning, Mrs. Harding, Mrs. Hopper, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. Schurman, Mrs. Seely, Mrs. Everett. The chair was occupied by our president; she opened the meeting by reading Ps. 46th, after which Mrs. Cox engaged in prayer, followed by others. Special mention was made of the illness of sister Mrs. Jas. E. Masters, and prayer was offered in her behalf. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The quarterly financial statement was then presented by the secretary, showing receipts for the quarter to have been \$1,608.55; expenditure \$1,258.91. On motion resolved.

Mrs. Manning read a letter from Miss Maude Harrison, of Montreal, who is in the training school at Chicago, offering her services as a missionary to India, enclosing answers to the list of questions which are required to be answered by those desiring to go to the foreign field. These questions were answered in the most satisfactory way. Miss Harrison also enclosed a medical certificate showing her to be in perfect health. On motion resolved that this young lady be recommended to the F. M. Board as a most suitable person to engage in this work. A letter was also read from Miss Newcomb, of Laurencetown, who is in the same training school, expressing her desire to enter upon the foreign work next autumn. She also enclosed a medical certificate showing her health to be excellent, and answered the questions in a very intelligent and satisfactory manner. It was moved and seconded that we recommend to the F. M. Board to send this young lady to India. This resolution was adopted. A communication was read from the Secretary of the Y. P. U. of America, inviting us to send an exhibit to the International Convention which is to be held at Milwaukee in July next. The Cor. Sec. was instructed to reply that we are not in a position to undertake this work.

Mrs. Cox, in response to a request from the president gave an account of her work, also spoke of her interest in the work, and her desire to be engaged in the earnest work of another sister. Her opinion being asked in regard to engaging more fully in the work, Mrs. Cox stated she thought it would not be wise for her to undertake anything so arduous during the winter months, but agreed to give all her time to the work during the summer vacation up to convention time. A letter from Mrs. Robinson of St. Stephen, accepting the office of County Secretary for Charlotte county was read. Her appointment was confirmed. It was decided that we ask the F. M. B. to observe March 29th, as missionary Sunday, asking the pastors to preach on the subject, also the Sabbath schools to have missionary exercises. Mrs. Manning spoke of a request she had made to Mr. Morse and Mrs. Archibald, to prepare a dialogue suitable for Mission Bands to form an exercise for the 29th. Mr. Morse's reply was read promising to do this as soon as possible. The Cor. Sec. read a letter from Miss Wright, telling of an improvement in her health, and her great desire to do more effective work for the Master, also expressing the hope that the way might be opened for us to send out two families to the help of the mission the need is so great. A letter was also read from Miss M. C. Davies, Provincial Sec'y for P. E. I., with the encouraging news that her health is improving, and that she is now in a position to do the work for missions which is so dear to her heart. The meeting closed with prayer offered by the President.

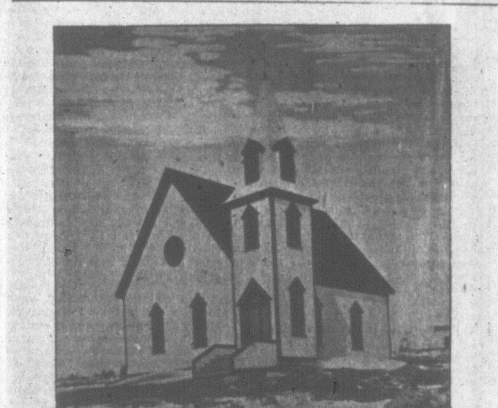
M. S. EVERETT, Cor. Sec.

Mission Work.

What is mission work? Is it not dissemination of gospel truth? Can we who have heard the tidings of salvation be silent when Jesus commands, "Go ye into all the land and preach my gospel to every creature?" We should be active in this important work. But what does it take to constitute activity in the mission work? We take an active part in speaking, giving, working and praying. 1. Did not Jesus say to Mary, "Go and my brethren I have risen?" and my (sisters included) not tell our friends and neighbors (yes and hasten to tell our worst enemy) of a glorified, risen Redeemer? 2. Giving. There are none so humble, so destitute that they may not bring some offering to the Lord; they love. Did not Jesus say of the widow's mite, "She hath given more than they all?" He looks at the heart and if love prompts the gift it is acceptable in his sight. 3. Working. To all his servants be grace talents, so to every one of us he has entrusted at least one talent, no matter how humble it may be. Are we using it for the Master, and will he say, "Well done; enter into the joy of the Lord for inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these ye have done it unto me." 4. Praying. We can do nothing without prayer. Our needed preparation for all services for our Master is listening to His voice through His Word and talking to Him through prayer, and thus equipping ourselves, let us lay aside every weight and run with patience the race that is set before us.

May God bless the mission work everywhere.

WM. M. FIELD.



THE PORT HILDFORD CHURCH.

The Port Hildford Baptist church was opened for divine worship on the 19th. The morning service was largely attended, the building being crowded. Rev. J. Miles, of Boylston, assisted by Rev. G. F. Raymond, of New Glasgow, conducted the service. For the opening hymn of praise the doxology, "Hallelujah, God from whom all blessings flow," was well rendered by the choir. Rev. J. Miles preached an earnest and thoughtful sermon, talking for his text Gal. 6: 14. After the sermon and collection the pastor called upon the deacons, trustees and other officers of the church to come forward, and arranging them around the pulpit, they responded to the dedicatory verses laid down in the manual of J. E. Hopper, after which the Rev. G. F. Raymond offered the dedicatory prayer.

In the afternoon a remembrance service was conducted by the pastor. A report of the work done in the past was presented after which eight others took part. It was a time long to be remembered.

In January 1846 this church was organized, and since that time it has steadily ploughed its way through waves of difficulty. Since 1846, 294 have been baptized, the second church has been built, and to-day we own a property worth three thousand and two hundred dollars, parsonage included. The church in its fifty years of existence has had eight pastors and eight deacons, whose labor and sacrifice have materially helped to bring it to its present degree of

prosperity. Can we wonder that there were so many moist eyes throughout the congregation, as the aged members thought of the old church around which clung so many tender recollections. The Lord's supper was administered at the close of the service.

The evening service was largely attended. At this service every available seat was taken up. Bro. Raymond conducted this service. Before his discourse he praised the congregation for their great effort in building such a fine structure, and spoke of the great pleasure it gave him to see the efforts of the brethren and the members of the Sewing Circle crowned with success. He also reminded them that their opportunities for successful christian effort were greater than ever, and warned each person not to take anything within the church that was not approved of by God. His sermon was excellent, preaching from Jer. 31: 3 The choir deserved credit for assistance rendered.

The building in itself is a handsome structure. It is purely modern. The interior of the building looks beautiful, the workmanship on every part of it being tasteful. The building is heated by a furnace, which is a great improvement on the old way of heating. The pulpit was presented by D. O. Fraser, the present member of Parliament. We are looking for great results, and crave an interest in all your prayers.