

# Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER,  
VOLUME LIII.  
VOL. VI., No. 40.

Published Weekly by the Maritime Baptist Publishing Company.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR,  
VOLUME LIII.  
Printed by G. W. DAY, North Side King.

### PASSING EVENTS.

THE very interesting letter of our Bro. Sanford, which appears in this issue, illustrates the fact that in India "it costs something for a caste man to become a Christian."—Newton Theological Seminary has provided a course for French students which, it is said, will fit them quickly for valuable service among their countrymen in America. Women are now admitted as students in all Italian universities. The Circular Letter of the N. S. Eastern Association, written by Rev. J. Clark, of Antigonish, will be found on the second page. It will repay reading. A beautiful little poem on our sixth page, by Marie W. Tufts, is clipped from the *Watchman*. Lord Stanley, governor-general of Canada, is expected to arrive in St. John on Thursday. The steamer *Danara*, by which Rev. M. B. Shaw and wife sailed for England, was slightly damaged by a collision with the steamer *Musgrave*, off the English coast, and had to be run ashore at Lower Hope Point, England. No particulars have been received. The passengers, it is believed, have suffered nothing beyond the inconvenience of delay. "I had no idea St. John could get up an exhibition on such a scale," was the remark a Montreal man made to a *San reporter*, "or that such a crowd of people could be got together here. Toronto put Montreal to shame in the extent of her exhibits, but she will never do it again if I know myself."—Sun.

From the *Christian Inquirer* we learn that Dr. J. D. Fulton reckons 18,000 converts from Romanism as a result of his crusade so far. He has lately visited friends in New York to advise with friends regarding the raising of funds for aggressive work in Montreal and concerning his future operations. —Sir John Macdonald, Hon. John Costigan and Hon. Geo. E. Foster are expected to address the people of St. John, on Friday evening, Oct. 3rd. —St. John is to have its new electric railway running before the snow flies. So says the *Telegraph*. —Mr. Horace Waters, of New York, generously offers to pay for the services of an evangelist to labor for one year with the smaller Baptist churches of Maine. —"However things may seem, no evil thing is a success and no good thing is a failure." —The University of Southern California is to possess the largest telescope in the world. The observatory is to be located in Wilson's Peak near Los Angeles. The forty inch lens for the great telescope has lately arrived from Europe and is in the hands of Mr. Alvan G. Clarke, of Cambridge, Mass., by whom it will be prepared for use. The grinding and polishing process will occupy three years. The moon as seen through the new telescope it is said will appear as only a hundred miles away.

—The article on the fourth page, under the heading, "The World's Indebtedness to the Papacy," was written near the time the archbishop's speech was delivered, but owing to a press of other matter, was crowded out. —THE EXHIBITION.—Any general description of the exhibition would be out of the question in these columns. It must suffice to say, that the weather so far has been most favorable, the attendance good, and the exhibits, representing very many departments of the industry of the Dominion, as a rule, excellent. On Friday, over ten thousand entrance tickets were sold. The concert on that evening, under the able superintendency of Mr. T. H. Hall, was of a high order of merit, and would have been greatly enjoyed by the multitude of people in the building, if the conditions had been such as to make it possible to hear. This privilege could have been enjoyed, under the circumstances, by a comparatively small number only. Further reference to some of the departments may be made next week. —REFERRING to the Methodist General Conference, the *Canada Presbyterian* has the following note which contains a remark or two of a general character, which are only too true:

His Honour Judge Dean is one of the few lay members of the General Conference who take any part in the debates, but he is a host in himself. In fact his short, pointed speeches are so good that they might be allowed to pass for the utterances of a dozen members. The other day his honour felt moved to say that there are schemers in the ministry as well as elsewhere. The brethren did not deny the soft impeachment. "The judge might have added that one selfish, unscrupulous schemer does more harm to the ministerial profession than can be atoned for by the self-denying labors of a dozen hard-working ministers." One schemer who thinks he is very clever but is not able to cover up his tracks, can do more to keep people from contributing to funds of the church in which ministers are specially interested than a dozen ministers can do in the way of raising funds. The worst foe of the ministerial profession is the scheming worldly minister.

A REPORT WAS LATELY PRESENTED TO THE U. S. CONGRESS on the slave trade in Africa, from which it appears that 80,000 Africans are sold into slavery yearly and 1,000 lives are daily sacrificed in the capture or transportation of the slaves. Accompanying the report is a resolution calling upon the President to take measures for the abolition of the traffic. In reference to this, *Zion's Herald*, of Boston says truly: "These are terrible statistics, and, when taken in connection with the cruelty and suffering which lie behind them, ought to arouse all civilized power to concerted and persistent action."

THE BIRCHALL MURDER TRIAL, which has been in progress the past week at Woodstock, Ontario, has attracted much more than ordinary interest. It will be remembered that Reginald Birchall, who has been fairly proved to have induced young Benwell to come to Canada under false pretences of taking him into partnership in a farm, was accused of having murdered the said Benwell in a swamp near Woodstock in February last. No direct evidence against Birchall has been obtained, but the circumstantial evidence is some of it very damaging. The prisoner has manifested remarkable nerve all through the trial. At present writing, the evidence for the Crown has been completed, and it is considered a strong case. The case is expected to go to the jury early in the week.

THE METHODIST GENERAL CONFERENCE continues in session. From the report of the Sustentation Fund it would appear that the poorly paid ministers are not quite all among the Baptists. The Conference reports the amount of unpaid salaries last year as aggregating some \$110,000, and nearly all this on salaries of less than \$700. One hundred and six married ministers receive less than \$500 and 180 less than \$600. On the presentation of the report on education, some complaint was made on the ground that in the composition of the Board of Regents of Victoria University, every opponent of federation had been excluded therefrom. A proposal was made to admit laymen as members of stationing committees, but this was rejected. Forty-two per cent. has been added to the grants of ministers on domestic missions.

IT SEEMS RATHER A PECULIAR CONDITION OF THINGS when a drunken legislator is elected on a prohibition platform. But this is what occurred, according to what seems the most trustworthy accounts, at the late Maine election in the case of Congressman Milliken, who made his appearance at one of the chief meetings of his district so intoxicated that he was not able to deliver the speech expected of him. Nor was his condition on this occasion, it is said by his political friends, an exceptional one. The *Independent* thinks "it is to the credit of his district that Mr. Milliken's majority was cut down by several hundred." We cannot see much "credit," however, in being represented by a drunken congressman. It would have been to the credit of his district and to the prohibition sentiment of Maine if Congressman Milliken had been left at home.

THERE IS A DENIAL OF THE REPORT that the German Commissioners in Bagamoyo have issued a proclamation authorizing a traffic in slaves in German Africa, but the truth of the denial is not very strongly confirmed, and there is a feeling that Germany's position in reference to this inhuman business is not wholly satisfactory. The *Berlin Post*, an organ of the German government, seems to defend the position said to be taken by the Bagamoyo commissioners, and is quoted as saying:—"Germany never had any intention of unqualifiedly abolishing all forms of slavery. The Reichstag agreed that measures against the slave traffic and man-hunting should be taken only by degrees, with due regard to the existing order of things." It would appear as if Germany were much more desirous to gain territory and accumulate wealth in Africa than to right moral wrongs or benefit humanity. Such a course must occasion deep regret, and evoke strong censure in every Christian community. It is to be hoped that the Christian sentiment of the world will utter itself in regard to this matter in terms that it will be impossible for any civilized nation to disregard.

EMPEROR WILLIAM OF GERMANY, according to the *London Times'* Berlin correspondent, shows military talent of the highest order, and his manoeuvres in some recent military demonstrations displayed great strategical ability. The *New York Herald* seems to be troubled about this and thinks that "nothing is more calculated to disturb the peace of

Europe than the predisposition of some young sovereign to win his spurs in a military campaign." But the young German emperor—he is not so very young either—has so far succeeded pretty well in disappointing the prophecies of evil that have been made in connection with him, and let us hope he may continue to do so. If Kaiser William should turn out a second Frederick the Great in military genius and force of character, it does not follow that he must immediately go to war, cause or no cause.

THE LATEST REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON relating to the McKinley bill, are to the effect that the bill is to become law October 1, and that the ultimate date at which goods deposited in bond before October 1 may be withdrawn is fixed at February 1. The Senate's proposition for a customs commission was rejected, but its reciprocity and retaliation amendment was agreed to, changing the date, however, from July, 1891, to January, 1892.

A Washington despatch states that the conference report on the Senate amendments to the McKinley bill has been adopted by the house. The discriminating duty against tea imported through Canada has been rejected. The duty on fish is placed at 1 cent per lb. As the result of the proved superiority of nickel steel for armor plating on warships the house has appropriated \$1,000,000 to buy nickel for use in the United States naval department. This it is said will mean a "boom" for Canada's nickel mines, that article having been placed on the free list.

BRAZIL HAS HELD HER FIRST ELECTIONS under the Republican form of government, and the members of the Constituent Assembly, to which the new constitution will be submitted, have been duly chosen. The principal limitation to the suffrage is an educational one. All are eligible to vote who can read and write except soldiers and monks. This qualification, however, owing to the prevailing illiteracy makes the voting population a comparatively small one, as less than twenty per cent. of the people can read and write. What the history of Republican government in Brazil will be remains to be seen, but since the overthrow of the Empire less than a year ago, some important reforms have been introduced, as seen especially in the disestablishment of the church and the legalization of civil marriages. The provisional government seems to have manifested a good degree of firmness, wisdom and integrity, and it is supposed that some of its members will be elected to leading positions in the new administration.

LOUIS ABREDEEN, in a speech delivered at the Ottawa exhibition a few days ago, said he had heard it stated that the prosperity of Canada depended very largely upon the Canadian hen, but he believed the Canadian hen was quite able to feather her own nest. He advocated the procuring of fast Atlantic steamers with refrigerator compartments adapted to the necessities of trade in all such perishable articles as eggs and fruit. No doubt this is a good suggestion of his lordship's. But we are not disposed to believe that the future commercial greatness of Canada rests so very largely upon hens' eggs. No doubt the Canadian hen is a very industrious character, and manages, in the course of the year, to create, or rather to transform a large amount of wealth. But we have serious doubts that the hen, or at least the Canadian hen as she is generally kept, is such a wonderful economist. We are inclined to think that if our much-esteemed Canadian biddy should retire from the export business, the cow or the pig, or the horse or the sheep, could work up the raw material to quite as good results as the hen.

ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL TOPICS OF DISCUSSION during the week has been the arrest—noticed in our last issue—by order of Secretary Balfour, of Messrs. John Dillon and William O'Brien, Irish members of parliament, and among the leaders of the Home Rule party. The reason generally assigned by Mr. Balfour's political opponents for his action in this matter is his determination to frustrate the intention of Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien to visit America in the interests of the famine stricken districts of Ireland. It is not to be supposed, however, that their visit would have been altogether one of peace and good will. They would come, no doubt, in the interests of Home Rule, and with the intention of adding fuel to the flame that burns fiercely enough in the average Irish-American heart against England. Mr. Balfour would seem to have thought the time ripe and the occasion opportune for calling to their account these Irish leaders, who have, no doubt, been loud and defiant enough in

their condemnation of the policy of the English government in regard to Irish affairs. Mr. Balfour has suffered much annoyance at the hands of these gentlemen, and, it would seem, has been betrayed into a step which if not a moral wrong is at least a political blunder. There is no lack of oratory among Irish nationalists; and other leaders coming to America with the story of the recent arrests as a text, will stir the fire to a more furious blaze than O'Brien and Dillon themselves could have done. In England also the secretary's action is likely to react against the government. So far as has yet transpired, the arrested members do not seem to have been guilty of anything of a more seditious character than advising the tenants in the districts where the potato crop has failed not to pay rent until the necessities of their own families shall be first provided for. Since the arrest of Dillon and William O'Brien, two other members have been arrested. According to the despatches there was much excitement in Tipperary on the day appointed for the opening of the trial. A crowd collected, and refusing to disperse, were roughly handled by the police. In the crowd were not only several Irish M. P.'s, but Mr. John Morley, who has been for some time in Ireland studying the Irish question—and another English M. P. The Irish leaders demanded for the general public entrance to the court room. This being refused, an encounter with the police followed and broken heads were the result. Finally, the magistrate yielded to the earnest and continued appeal of Mr. Morley and the other leaders, and the court room was thrown open to the public. The presence of Mr. Morley and his action in the affair was evidently a grand windfall for the Irish cause.

In view of the threatened distress in Ireland, the time would seem to be especially appropriate for the display of magnanimity on the part of the English government—and for conciliatory rather than drastic measures. According to present appearances, the course of Mr. Balfour was singularly ill-judged and well adapted to add to the unpopularity of the government's Irish policy.

THE old building used by Madame Feller and Rev. Louis Rousay, as the Feller Institute at Grande Ligne, Province of Quebec, where for many years they had labored together to teach Roman Catholic boys and girls the way of salvation, and where they had been so successful in training laborers for this beloved mission—this building, around which clustered so many sacred and precious memories, was totally destroyed by fire last January. The directors have just completed a handsome new and large building, fitted up with all the modern appliances for heating and ventilation, and capable of accommodating, with the girls' department, 140 pupils. The fall sessions of the school will begin about the middle of October. It is very gratifying to find that the enlarged school, at the first session it is to be completely filled with pupils. What might we do, if we only had the buildings needed to contain all the boys and girls anxious to come and learn!

SPECIAL dedication services of the new Feller Institute building will be held Thursday, October 9, at 10 a. m., 2:30 p. m., and 7 p. m. Addresses will be delivered by several well-known persons interested in the work, and it is hoped that many of the warm friends of the mission from the Maritime Provinces and Ontario will be present on that occasion, as well as many from the United States. All the missionaries and teachers will be present, and every effort will be put forth to make the occasion one of joyful recognition of God's mercies to this mission in the past, and to hopefully enter into larger work for God on this field.

IT IS fitting that this meeting should be a large and enthusiastic one,—it will inaugurate a new era in connection with our work among the French Catholics. The friends of the mission have generously contributed over \$50,000 towards an endowment fund, and the Directors would be delighted to have subscribers to this fund come to these special services, and see how they are providing for the teaching of God's word to the French Catholic boys and girls who shall gather there.

Trains leave Montreal for Grande Ligne, at 7:30 a. m. Ample accommodation for all at the mission houses during the day, and trains return to Montreal in the evening. Any information desired about the mission, or with reference to these special services to be held, will be gladly given on application to—

REV. TH. LAFLÈRE, Secretary.  
146 Durocher St., Montreal.

### From Bimlipatam.

Two weeks since, at 9:30 in the evening, while I was sitting in my room deeply interested in the *Watsaman's* account of the Baptist anniversary meetings held last May in Chicago, my attention was called by the sound of footsteps before the door. On rising to see who had come, I was not a little surprised to meet one of the native preachers, accompanied by two men, whom he had brought in for baptism. They had come from a village twenty miles distant. We had known of them, and had been praying that strength might be given them to confess Christ openly. One hot day last June, this native preacher and I had gone to visit their village, six miles from our tent, but did not find them at home. They had gone into *Vizianagram* on business. The people of the village were in trouble. Small-pox had been raging in their midst many weeks. Two hundred children and young persons, they said, had been taken away by that disease, or rather by "Amma Varu," the village goddess.

These two men had left off idol worship, had spurned the images, and openly denounced the service as false and foolish. This had disturbed the people of the village very much. The general feeling seemed to be that by such a sacrilegious course these men were bringing more evil upon the place. They told these men, "Surely the god deas would kill them. If she did not strike them down suddenly, as they fully expected, she would certainly smite them with death, so that they would keep on dying, until they were completely dead, though it might take a long time."

These two had come without letting any of their people know where they were going. Had the thing been known they would not have been allowed to come. Started at 3 p. m., and arrived at the time above mentioned. We talked of their faith in Christ, and when and how this change in their hearts had come about. After praying with them and making some arrangement for their lodging that night we retired.

In the morning after worship in Telugu at seven, with the day school, as is our custom, for all on the compound, the members of the church were called together in the chapel. We then heard their testimony respecting the work of God in their hearts, and examined them carefully in view of baptism and church membership. The examination was very satisfactory. One of the men is of the *Capu* caste, has a large family, three sons grown up to manhood; and has a good deal of land under cultivation, paying rent therefor to the *Maha Rajah* of *Vizianagram*. The other man is of the *Weavor* caste. He has a wife and one or two daughters. Both the men are about forty-five years of age, have read a good deal, and are very well informed.

In regard to caste, they consider it a vain thing, and were ready to renounce it altogether. In regard to cutting off the head, worn, as a rule, by all Hindus, there was a little demur. The preacher had talked with them much about it before coming, and they had consented; but while they themselves put no confidence in it, and were ready to have it removed at once if necessary, they thought that by doing so the people of their village on their return to their homes would drive them away immediately, and they would have great difficulty in settling their business affairs. The native Christians also plead in their behalf, and to the effect that when the men should come in next month to the church meeting and the Lord's Supper, the jutes might then be cut off. Though very reluctant, I consented to this arrangement under the clear understanding and promise on the part of these men that the jutes should be removed. They were received by vote of the church for baptism and membership.

The men had come without food or a change of clothes. In consequence of not having eaten for nearly twenty-four hours—it was 10:30 then, and too hot to go to the sea for the baptism—we thought it well for them to get some food. We proposed to meet at five in the afternoon, spend a few moments in prayer, and then go to the sea-side where we usually observe the ordinance. We met according to appointment, but the men were not on hand. They could not be found. What had become of them we could only conjecture. However, we laid the case before the Lord and sought His aid.

Several days passed before word came informing us that the relatives had followed on quickly after them; had found them in the town about noon, and had taken them back to their village. Their hearts still continued firmly settled in the purpose to become Christians. We look for them and others at no distant date. You see it costs something for a caste man to become a Christian.

R. SANFORD.

### W. B. M. U.

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

PRAYER TOPIC FOR OCTOBER.

For journeying mercies for our missionaries on their way, and an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the work at home.

BIMLIPATAM, July 2, 1890.

To the W. B. M. U., met at Convention.  
Dear Sisters,—Although many miles of land and sea separate us from each other, our aims and aspirations are one, and we may ever hold free and helpful intercourse, one with the other.  
As I think of the pleasant meetings which shall call you together in a short time, my mind goes back over a period of nearly a year to a similar occasion. Those few days spent in Fredericton at Convention were days of spiritual blessing, though not unfringed with sadness in the thought of partings so soon to take place. During the year that has intervened, no doubt, many changes have come to each of us, and in every case we may say, that the Lord, has led us on; He has been our leader, counselor, and friend.

But, to speak more particularly of the subject that is so dear to the heart of each. This is a glorious work in which we are engaged, worthy of the best efforts of our whole being. With what overwhelming force did the magnitude of this work sweep over my soul at the sight of the first real Eastern port at which we stopped on our way out!

Since then my feelings have become more steady and my convictions more settled. The awful need is appalling, and one scarcely knows but that the lack of supply is almost as appalling. The friends at home have no conception, or very little, of the direct hand-to-hand fight and struggle with Satan that is daily going on here. The encounter of Christian with *Apollive* comes very near the truth in real life here, day after day.

The religions of this land are the most degrading that can be thought of, and the temples are the very centres and dens of iniquity. Christ is the only hope of this people for this life or that which is to come.

Dear sisters, let us look into this matter a little. We know that it is our Saviour's plan to bring the world to Himself through the instrumentality of His followers. May it not be well for us sometimes to glance into the future?  
What will be our feelings when, standing at the right hand of God in the last great day of the Lord, we shall see many driven from the presence of the Judge whom we might have been the means of saving?

Is it best for us to choose an easy place when there is a hard one for us? Or to remain where there are many to gather in the harvest and leave this large tract of land with but few to sow, and this great harvest field with scarcely a reaper, and where the grain, that might be garnered in, is allowed to go to destruction?  
It is true, there is great de-stitution, there is sin of the deepest dye, there are even those who have never heard of a Saviour's love, in the home land; but how great a proportion of Christ's followers are willing to work in needy places at home, in comparison to those who are willing to work where the number of unsaved is multiplied fifty and an hundred fold!

The Lord does not call all to come to heathen lands, but may it not be that, if all were willing to come should it be God's will, there would be found a much larger number of those chosen for this special work. But, whether it be our lot to remain at home or come to India, let us realize that we are bound over, body and soul, to Him who has bought us with His precious blood.

The first year in this country is to all a trying one, as active, aggressive work for Christ is out of the question, the time being spent mainly in the study of the language. But, by the grace of God, we hope to enter upon full work, so far as we will be able to do it, by the beginning of the year.

It is our earnest wish that we may be made a blessing to this people, and meet faithfully the obligations that rest upon us. The outlook this year is an encouraging one, and we have every reason to trust fully in God for a manifestation of His power very soon among the heathen. Our hearts have been made to rejoice as we realized that our brethren and sisters at home were being stirred as never before in the interests of this great work. We are indeed thankful that one family is coming this fall to the help of the Lord in this land; but oh, that there were, at least, two or three families coming!

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ rest upon us, one and all, to the upbuilding of His cause and the salvation of souls, is the prayer of—  
Yours in Christian love and fellowship,  
EDITH E. HOOVER.