

# Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER  
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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR  
VOLUME XLVIII.

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SAINT JOHN, N.B., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1896.

—Mr. J. J. WALLACE, Chairman of Committee on Travelling Arrangements of the Convention, writes us that he has endeavored to arrange with the management of the Dominion Atlantic Railway, to have the "Bluenose" train stop at Berwick during the Convention, but has not been able to get any assurance on that point further than that—"Passengers living along the line of the Intercolonial Railway and purchasing through tickets to Berwick, taking the Bluenose at Windsor Junction, will be landed at their destination." We understand that the reduced rates for delegates extend from the 19th to the 29th inst.

—NATIVE ingenuity sometimes stands even the professional man in better stead than all his scientific equipments. It is related that a short time ago an iron bridge of an English railway was suspected of being unsafe. It looked all right but there were some reasons why the managers were afraid of it. They could not, however, come to a decision about it themselves and they sent up to London for a famous engineer to come and look the bridge over. He came and was puzzled, too, until an idea occurred to him. Then he took a Kodak and made a picture of the bridge with no train on it. Keeping his camera in position he waited for a train to come. Pretty soon an express came thundering on, and just as the big locomotive struck the bridge he pulled open the slide and took a second picture on the same plate that still held the first. When the plate was examined the picture was the train was found so much below the other as to show what the engineers and managers had feared—a dangerous drop in the bridge.

—A DESPATCH from Malmo, Sweden, states that communications have been received from the explorer Nansen, who some three years ago set out from the northern coast of Siberia on an expedition to the North Pole. These communications state that Nansen's vessel, the *Fram*, was abandoned in the autumn of 1895, and the exploring party took to the ice. They were picked up by the steamer *Hindward*, near Franz Joseph Land. Nansen's expectation was to reach a current by which his vessel, imbedded in the ice floe, would be carried across the Pole and southward to the coast of Greenland. Apparently his theory was an impracticable one. But according to the report received he succeeded in reaching a point four degrees farther north than had been reached by any other explorer. If this is true Nansen must have been within about two and a half degrees of the Pole. This will however be received with a grain of salt until it receives confirmation. But Dr. Nansen and his companions are said to be returning in excellent health and if this proves true, the public will doubtless in due time have a trustworthy account of the explorer's experiences.

—It has been painful even to read of the sufferings of the people in the great cities to the south of us during the late heated term. New York, Brooklyn, and Chicago have suffered most severely. So many successive days of extreme heat is most unusual if not wholly unprecedented in the history of these cities. According to the reports received many hundreds of persons must have died as a result of the heat and humidity with Thursday last, and thousands more were prostrated with more or less serious illness from the same cause. It is in the crowded tenement sections of the cities that the heat and the suffering have been most severe. The streets in New York, east side, were by order of the water commissioners flooded from the hydrants, and a newspaper says "it has been pathetic to see how the children have rushed into the water, how men and women have bathed heads and feet, and mothers have brought out their babies naked and cooled them in the flood." Happy are those who have been able to get away from the hot steaming breath of the city and breathe the pure air of northern mountains and cascades. We sometimes complain here of the shortness of our summers, but when we take into account the superlative excellence of their quality, we find that we have little reason to envy the people of other lands on the score of climate.

—In addition to the social and political troubles by which the island of Crete is disturbed, the people are suffering severely because of a succession of bad harvests and a consequent failure of trade. According to the statements of a correspondent of the *New York Herald*, there is extreme poverty and suffering among the people. Government officials are unhelpful. "The police, whose duties are in rage and who are mere bags of

bones, have had no pay for fourteen months. Of course the soldiers are unpaid. Traders have no money to buy goods. Merchants cannot give credit. Their tally sticks are already heaped up in stacks, without the smallest chance of the score being paid. People have voted even the means to buy bread and oil, or olive which suffices to sustain them. Turks and Christians alike are starving." There is now promise of a fine olive crop, such a one as has not been before for twenty years. Its value is estimated at from fifty to seventy million francs. "Yet, in the face of this calamitous condition of affairs, which is daily growing worse, the revolutionary politicians urge the poor, uneducated people, and compel them, if possible, to sacrifice this golden harvest, this certainty of much needed money, which would bring prosperity all over the island. I am told and I am prepared to believe, that there is a rapidly growing sentiment among the people that they are being misled in being dragged into war."

—Our readers will be pleased to have the additional information concerning the finances of Acadia that a Governor gives in this issue, and, no doubt, Mr. Parker will be as much pleased as anyone to be assured that some of the bequest which the college has received in recent years are of more value than he had supposed, and its financial position correspondingly better. Every friend of the college will with "Governor" be disposed to put "a beneficent construction" upon Mr. Poyntz's bequest. No one, we think, has doubted that it was a bequest in design and will prove so in practice, but some have felt that there was some danger that it should be generally taken for granted that, with so much wealth coming to Acadia, there would be less need of generous contributions from the educational work. Such an inference would be erroneous and most unfortunate. The college still has need of all the support the denomination can give to it. Mr. Poyntz's generous bequest may, we hope, as Governor points out, benefit incidentally the college in all its interests. But the main purpose of the bequest was to furnish theological instruction and it will probably be thought by many that the income, of say \$2,000, derivable from the part of the fund available for that purpose would not be too great a sum to expend annually in the interest of a theological department, if anything worth while to be undertaken in that way. We can but hope, therefore, that this good example may stimulate other friends of the college to do generous things. As our correspondent intimates, it should not be difficult to secure \$100,000 to promote the general interests of the college.

—When Li Hung Chang shall have completed his visit in England he will come to America. On the invitation of High Commissioner, Sir Donald Smith, he will visit Canada as the guest of the Government. It is understood that his stay in this country will be a short one. Mr. Harold Frederic says in a letter to the *New York Times*, Li Hung Chang makes a perfect visitor. The English have made such extensive Asiatic expeditions that they have been able to avoid the errors into which the too eager Germans and French naturally fall. They have given Li a big mansion, numerous magnificent carriages, with servants in yellow livery, and have left him alone to do what he likes. He drives a great deal. For the rest, he pokes about in a wicker sedan chair wherever his fancy leads him, and everywhere meets marked courtesy. But there is no desire to dictate his movements or run him this way or that. This he appreciates immensely, and does not mind saying in public that England is the friend China most of all needs and would be glad to have. Although he really has good vitality and endurance, and can stand heavy, prolonged tasks of sightseeing, if the things show him are worth while. He has profound interest in mechanical novelties, particularly in relation to armaments, and also in large engineering works. He personally intervened to alter the plan of his northern trip, by which he would have missed a sight of the Forth bridge, and at his instance considerable time is to be deducted from the merely social side of this journey and added to his inspection of Lord Armstrong's great gun foundries and such big ship-yards as he is to visit. The golden rule in entertaining him is rigorously to shield him from impertinent bystanders; to show him only what, on examination, he decides he wants to see, and leave him the utmost possible freedom in his personal life. If, in addition to this, he has plenty of fine homes at his disposal and a good many politicians standing about to touch him, he will love America.

**Halifax Notes.**  
Your reporter attended the annual meeting of the B. Y. P. U. of the Halifax District, held at the West End Baptist church on Friday last. A house packed with young people of one heart and one mind, mixing worship and business with not a word to mark the former, was a sight suited to warm hearts no longer young.

In the Union of the city churches, which does not include Dartmouth, there are 286 members. At this annual meeting Mr. Colpitts, the president of last year, presided with tact and Christian dignity. He has the rare art of saying but little himself as presiding officer, and of inducing others to keep the service interesting. By the way, this reminds me of hearing some ministers, after taking up one-half of the prayer meeting hour, tell the hundred people that they expected them all to take part. Although but dull in arithmetic, I cannot on such occasions, refrain from calculations of the time it would take for the 100 to make each a prayer or give an exhortation, especially if each one should take as much time as the minister had taken. Well this annual meeting of the young brigade was a most interesting one. Mr. W. F. Heister of the Tabernacle was elected President; First Vice, Miss Mary Philip; Second Vice, Mrs. Lawson; Treasurer, Pearl South; Cor. Secretary, Miss Sarah McDonald; Recording Secretary, Miss Sarah I. Norton. A delegation of two members had been sent to the great Milwaukee Convention. They were the two daughters—Mary and Martha—of the Rev. E. R. Philip. Miss Mary reported the journey to the Convention and Miss Martha the character and work of the Convention. Their skill in reporting was worthy of riper years and long practice at this, one of the most difficult of arts. Only the eye of an artist can see what to omit, and what to write, and how to write it, of the characteristics and the doings of a great religious assembly, such as that of the ten thousand young people who came together at Milwaukee.

Whatever may be said of the features of life in America, it is evident that religiously, North America has become a great democracy. That meeting at the West End absorbed the Milwaukee Convention. The scattered ten thousand delegates have touched the Milwaukee match to the thousands of local unions and the fire burns in all of them. These mail bags, newspapers, railway cars and electric wires make all things in religion common in these days. The wisdom for the best methods of Bible study, and religious work, confined for centuries to theological schools and ministers' brains, is now the possession of all church members, old and young, especially the young. What a change has been wrought in this direction since the late Dr. Hackett suggested the writing of a question book for Sunday Schools on the life of Christ in chronological order. That suggestion was adopted in the fifties by the late Dr. McKenzie, of blessed memory. He gave such a question book to the world. What a change has taken place between the fifties and the nineties. The classes have melted into the masses. Not in devotion alone do these young people take delight. They work as well. Sacred Literature Courses, Missionary Studies and Bible Reading Courses are the lines of their mental labor, and they have organized work to correspond with these investigations.

But some say, there are grave faults in the local societies, and in the larger and largest meetings of these societies. No doubt of it. In all the Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist churches of the land there are many defects. In their great gatherings, their synods, their conferences and their conventions, there have been faults, great and small, of which these bodies themselves have been heartily ashamed. But what of all this? Mend your ways! So of the Young People's Societies, but go on and do your work. If the butter is good pick the specks out and eat it. Don't throw it away.

The Rev. A. C. Chute has returned from Chicago and has resumed his pastoral work. He had a soul-refreshing time with his old friends in the West. Rev. W. E. Hall has gone to Parrboro and Five Islands for a holiday. A son of Brother Wesleye Gates, of the North church, at home from the States on a vacation, the Rev. Richard Smith, Wesleyan, and E. M. Saunders, supply Mr. Hall's pulpit in his absence. The state of religion in the Tabernacle is most encouraging. Ten or twelve rose for prayer at a recent meeting. A holy seriousness is also upon the West End church. Mr. Lawson is much encouraged.

The carnival came and went. The people from the country had a holiday; a good deal of money went into the pockets of railway, hotel, street car and grocery proprietors. Some pockets were relieved of cash by visiting professionals; ruses on sea and land by man and beast, evolutions of troops and marriages, mock battles, illuminated ships, bonfires, and electrical displays, pyrotechnic displays, varied and grand, as became the occasion, and search lights, were seen; and still the question may be asked "and what went you out to see?" I would like to see Mr. Moody and his helpers compete with a carnival as they did with the theaters at the World's Exhibition at Chicago.

The Halifax District Committee holds its regular meetings and is doing good work.

**Ontario Letter.**

It is hot, hotter, hottest. Mr. Humidity is giving us not a little attention just now, and though he sheds upon us abundance of rain, as long as he hovers about in the atmosphere, there is no relief from the heat.

**THE SUMMER EXODUS**  
Is upon us. When Peter wrote his Epistle to the "strangers scattered abroad" through the provinces of Asia Minor, he must surely have been thinking of an Ontario church in mid-summer. At least he furnished an appropriate letter head, that could be adapted by substituting for the old world names, the modern names of Orchard Beach, Stoney Lake, Kettle Point, Murray Bay, or any one of many others. We have here as beautiful a lake side town as could be found. There is no more charming spot on the shores of Lake Ontario. At this season, the available houses are taken by Americans from various regions of the United States. If one cannot be cool and comfortable here, one could not anywhere. In spite of this, our people feel as though we had no lake, no shady groves, no cool breezes.

**THE BICYCLE CRAZE**  
is also upon us. I have no objection to the bicycle. It is a good and useful vehicle, and if I could afford one I would enjoy riding it. But the juvenile public seems to have gone daft. Many a lad, whose "fabled means of support" is well nigh invisible, is riding with all the assurance of a millionaire. Many a maiden whose income is exceedingly precarious has her wheel. In some cases girls are raffling their jewelry to buy bicycles. I must attend the other day who is earning money for his next year in college and he was calculating how to cut down college expenses and save the price of a wheel. I also met a bride and groom, and they proudly showed me a wheel each, given them that day at their wedding. It is getting almost a crime to walk now. One does not know at what moment a shrill whistle, or a miniature fog horn, or a jingling bell will sound in the rear, and as one steps aside a bicycle goes whizzing by. The wheel has also an economic phase. Clothiers, jewellers, dealers in musical instruments, book sellers, and others find that they must adapt their business to the demands of a new movement. The tide will ebb, by and by. The bicycle is a valuable addition to human comfort and will stay with us. The faddists will grow weary after a time, and the wheel will be used in a common sense manner.

Ontario Baptists are sorely bereaved in the death of

**PRINCIPAL J. I. BATES** of Woodstock College. He went on vacation to Hamilton's Point, Muskoka. A few days ago he hurt his hand with a fish hook. Blood poisoning followed two physicians, one of whom is Superintendent of the General Hospital, Montreal, were near, and both attended Mr. Bates most faithfully; but he died Aug. 4 and was buried in Woodstock Aug. 6.

Prof. Bates was born in Ireland in 1848. In 1860 the family removed to Iowa, U. S., where his father did pioneer work as a Baptist preacher. In 1864 the father became pastor at Dundas, Ont., and in 1867, the father was called to Woodstock, and the son entered the college. He became an assistant teacher there, and while teaching matriculated into the Provincial University at Toronto, where he graduated B. A. After a year of post-graduate work in Ann Arbor, Mich., he graduated Ph. M. He was at once recalled to the college and as teacher and principal has labored all his life. He has done a faithful work, and was beginning to reap the reward in an increased attendance and a more efficient school. The Woodstock church loses a valuable officer, the town a respected citizen. The aged mother still abides, seeing her family going before. One sister is the widow of A. V. Timpany of India, one of Ontario's best gifts to foreign missions. Another sister is the wife of Dr. McLaughlin, so long in Saskatchewan, now of Bangalore. The only brother left of a quartette of sons, is Rev. S. S. Bates, of College St. church, Toronto.

Mrs. Bates was a Miss Read, of Nova Scotia. She was formerly Lady Principal in the girls' department at Woodstock, and in that work endeavored herself to all she, with her children, will have un-

bounded sympathy in this hour of desolation. With the removal of Dr. Dudson, who goes to Olivet church, Montreal, our cause in Woodstock is bereft in both departments. Dr. Dudson is a prince among preachers, and a king among men. No man among us commands the respect and love of his brethren to a greater degree. The Head of the Church will find men to fill both these vacancies. Port Hope, Aug. 6.

**Boston Letter.**  
REV. AUGUST T. KEMPTON, M. A.

A few days ago I received a letter from Mr. Boston W. Smith, the manager of the Chapel Car Works, saying that owing to the fact that the cars were all very busy now, and that he can not find time to go to N. S. to attend the Convention, the Chapel car will not be in Berwick as we had hoped. He also says that as soon as they can do it, they intend to place a car in Canada.

The heat has been very intense for days. Most of Boston's pastors, and all of the flocks that can do so, have escaped to sea shore or mountain.

On Sunday, Aug. 9, only one Baptist pastor was in his own pulpit. That one was Rev. Geo. B. Youburgh, D. D., who has, since I have returned, taken his family and gone to N. H.

Rev. N. E. Wood, D. D., of the First church, is at his cottage in the Berkshire Hills. Rev. A. S. Gumbart, D. D., of Dudley St., at the White Mountains. Rev. F. M. Gardner, of East Boston, in Nova Scotia, of course, for he likes N. S., and the Nova Scotians like him.

Rev. A. S. Gilbert, of Penasook, N. H., has just accepted a unanimous call to become pastor of the Bethel church, as the successor of Rev. W. J. Swaffield. He will begin his pastorate about Sept. 20.

A very sad thing occurred here last Saturday. Rev. Geo. R. Kramer, D. D., of the Pilgrim church, Brooklyn, N. Y., has for some time cherished a desire to preach in Dr. Gordon's church. On Saturday, Aug. 8, he arrived by steamer from a short sea trip. He was not well and was removed at once to the hospital, where he died very soon after arriving. Dr. Kramer was very fond of Dr. Gordon, and followed him closely in his work, and for this reason was anxious to preach in his pulpit. The sermon he was to have delivered, had life and health been spared him, will soon be published in the "Clarendon Light," the paper issued by the Clarendon St. church. Rev. J. Q. A. Henry, D. D., of Chicago (Baptist), was in the city and was called on at a late hour to fill the pulpit in Dr. Kramer's place, which he did very acceptably. Dr. Henry is an inspiring, fearless and eloquent speaker. He has the beautiful gift of attacking the wrong and dealing heavy blows, without seeming to be ruffled or angry or harsh. I heard him make a very telling address in People's Temple on Aug. 9. His theme was "The American people waking up to the Dangers of the Power of Rome." While he was positive and plain spoken, he was at the same time very fair and just. These are among the things he said, (and every one in the house, Baptist or not, appreciated it) "If we are to consistently oppose Rome we must give up the forms, ceremonies, etc., which we have taken from Rome."

"Where did we get our authority and custom of calling our ministers 'Reverend' from? From Rome. Where did we get our custom of preaching in a gown from? From Rome. Where our ideas of higher clergyman and lower clergyman from Rome. Shall I go on and tell what else we have got in some of our Protestant churches that came in the first place from Rome? (Cries of yes, yes, go on. Tell us the whole truth! heard all over the house.) "No, I will not go on any further. You know to what I refer. If I said all I could say on this, some very good Protestant people would go home and never come to hear me speak again. Let us go home and ask God to make us consistent, and not fight with Rome while we are following her in some things ourselves."

When we consider that Dr. Henry made this address in a Methodist Episcopal church, to an audience most of them not Baptists, we are led to believe that people like to be told the truth, and some very cutting truths, if they are told in a nice loving, Christ-like way. At the close of these sentences the church just shook with applause, and hundreds were standing in their seats and waving their handkerchiefs. We will appreciate all that applause when we find them following out the ideas of the truths they applauded. Every one in the house probably knew that he referred to sprinkling, and especially infant sprinkling. And these good Methodist people liked this kind of talk so well that they asked Dr. Henry to preach in that church next Sunday morning and evening, in addition to a lecture similar to this one, which he will deliver there in the afternoon. He accepted the invitation at once and the announcement was made, and received with cheers. This is the way our Chicago pastor is taking his vacation.

**W. B. M. U.**

**MOTTO FOR THE YEAR**  
"We are laborers together with God"

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. Manning, St. John's, N. B.

**PRAYER TOPIC FOR AUGUST**  
For Mr. and Mrs. Archibald, that health may be completely restored and their work greatly blessed. That the Holy Spirit may descend upon them and those to whom they are sent for our annual meeting, that it may be a fit, glory who has called us to be laborers together with Him.

**PRAYER**  
Part of a Report read at Sackville, July 16, 1896.

And now as we look back over our little monthly gatherings, we can see but one way of accomplishing more, and that is by earnest importunate pleading with Him who controls all hearts. As we reverently consider the subject of prayer let us remember it is a thing of Divine origin, of Divine appointment and Divine limitations.

In the mind of God it is no noble or fancy, but a profound reality. It is a blessed interchange between a soul and the Invisible One, a transfer of living desire from living hearts. The limitations He has set to prayer are reasonable and in no wise a hindrance. It is important that we bear in mind these conditions:

1st. That we pray in the spirit.

2nd. That we ask according to His will.

3rd. That we exercise faith.

4th. In Christ's name.

These are undertakings which seem within easy grasp of human effort. Saving the world is not one. This kind can come by nothing save prayer, and so our cry, "Oh God we have no might against this great company of un saved, neither know we what to do, but our eyes are upon Thee." Our missionaries are sending back the earnest appeal, "Pray for us." They repeat it again and again, even saying without hesitation that they can do without everything else better than without prayer.

Where did they get this thought? Was it not from the Saviour Himself? Whose intercessory prayer for all believers is recorded in John 17th. Read it at your leisure. How tenderly and lovingly the words fall from His lips!

Peter was a Christian worker and in danger of discouragement. Jesus said to him, "I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not." Our missionaries today are laboring grandly for God and souls, often seeing little results, meeting with discouragement, which but for the faith in God would cause them to lose heart.

Some of us regret that we are unable to do more, but we can pray. In our closest union with God, we may set in motion a wave of influence that may be felt in India, as well as in the home fields. Money may fail to accomplish the purpose for which it was given. Natural talent, even though consecrated, may prove a feeble instrument, but earnest believing prayer finds its way into the very heart of God and it will prevail with Him. He will bestow such power and measure of His grace upon His work and workers as never could be given otherwise.

In the day when all secrets shall be revealed there will be some sweet surprises. Among those who have been able to do but little, will be found faithful ones whose prayers have wielded a power with God mightier than all other agencies in the conversion of souls.

Prayer brings us into intimate acquaintance with our dear Lord, and into close and loving sympathy with Him in saving the world. During the coming year if all the women in our church would enter thoughtfully on our year's work, determined to pray as well as work, the results eternally would reveal.

Mrs. R. E. ESTABROOKS.  
Middle Sackville.

**Notes.**

The annual meeting of the W. B. M. U. will be held in Berwick on Friday, Aug. 21st. Executive meeting Thursday, the 20th, at 7 p. m.

Outline of Program for Annual Meeting at W. B. M. U. to be held on Sunday, Aug. 21, 1896.

Thursday, Aug. 20th, 7 p. m.—Executive Meeting.

Friday, Aug. 21st, 9:30 a. m.—Prayer meeting; 10 a. m., Enrollment of Delegates; Appointment of Committees.

Secretary's Report, Mrs. Henry Everett.

Treasurer's Report—Mrs. Mary Smith.

Provincial Secretaries—Nova Scotia, Miss A. E. Johnstone; P. E. Brunswick, Mrs. Margaret Cox; P. E. Island, Miss M. E. Davis.

Home Mission Report, Miss Johnston.

Report on Literature, Miss Myra Black.

Appointment of Officers for the coming year.

Friday, 2:30—Prayer Meeting; President's Address; Address on Mission Band Work, by Mrs. F. H. Foster; Map Exercise on our Terra Firma, by Rev. W. V. Higgins; Address on the work among the French, by Mrs. Grenier; Greetings from other Societies; Open Conference.

Saturday, 9:30 a. m.—Bible Reading by Miss Harrison; Verbal Report from Delegates; Memorial Services for those who have been called up higher during the year; Unfinished Business.

Saturday, 3 p. m.—Pastor's Meeting. We are expecting to have the largest number of missionaries ever present at our annual meeting, and this session will be given up to them. Mrs. Higgins, Miss Grey, Mrs. Ludfame, Mrs. Gullison, Miss Harrison, Miss Newcombe and others.

The Executive meeting on Thursday evening is open to all who wish to attend. Shall be glad to see all the delegates present.