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THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER,  
VOLUME LVI.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE MARITIME BAPTIST PUBLISHING COMPANY.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR  
VOLUME XLV.

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1898.

Printed by G. W. DAY, North Side King St.

—THE character of Russell's tender mercies appears in the announcement that the Chief Minister of Justice has decided to exempt female convicts from flogging and wearing manacles. The substitute will be restriction of diet and solitary confinement.

—We are pleased to know that Mr. and Mrs. Archibald and Miss Wright have arrived safely—though the voyage was not so pleasant as it might have been—at their Indian home in Chicocole. Mrs. Archibald writes: "We have been at our old residence, the Mission House, Chicocole, nearly two weeks. Many of our old friends were on hand to meet us and others have called since. Our voyage was not a pleasant one, neither was it recuperative, but we are thankful for spared life, and are sincerely glad to be at our work again." May large blessings rest upon all our missionaries and upon their work.

—BEFORE Jay Gould was twenty years of age he wrote a history of a county in the State of New York. The book is said to be a very creditable one—considered as the production of a young man in his teens, but the millionaire became ashamed of the literary production of his boyhood, and tried, but unsuccessfully, to buy up all the extant copies of the book in order to destroy them. It would have been more to his credit if he had become ashamed of the immense wealth which he had accumulated by unrighteous methods, and had sought to be rid of his millions by such means as might have promoted wholesome reforms and brought help to the suffering and destitute among his fellowmen.

—WHATEVER may be thought of the merits of the case as between Dr. Briggs and his opponents, the assertion that Dr. Briggs is merely bolstered up by Union Theological Seminary can hardly stand investigation. The New York Evangelist has shown that of the forty-five pastors who voted on the question of sustaining the charges, thirty-three voted in favor of Dr. Briggs and but twelve against him. The pastors favorable to Dr. Briggs represented 11,741 communicants and those against him 1,347. The contributions from the churches whose pastors favored Dr. Briggs amount to \$287,000 as compared with \$24,000 on the other side. Of those ministers who are without charge, an equal number voted for and against the accused. From these and other figures which are given, it appears plain that the case against Dr. Briggs has not found its chief support among the men who are most actively and successfully engaged in the work of the ministry.

—THE story which has done so frequent and valiant service on the temperance platform, to illustrate the character of the man who is a teetotaler at home and a tippler abroad, would appear to have its original in the following, which we find in an exchange, and told by G. W. Christie in illustration of ancient New Year's customs:

"A court jester of James I. being sent by his royal master with a bag containing a fine lap-dog as a New Year's present to a lady, was persuaded by some wags of the court to refresh himself on the way at a tavern, when they, without his knowledge, exchanged the lap-dog for a pig. The dismay of the jester on tumbling the pig out of the bag at the feet of the lady was so great that he rushed precipitately from her house and into the presence of the king, shouting all the way that he had been bewitched by some evil fiend who had changed his master's lap-dog into a pig, a statement that received ready credence from the king, who was a devout believer in witches and witchcraft."

—MR. JOHN R. DOUGALL, of the Montreal Witness, gave evidence before the Prohibition Commission in Montreal on Friday last. In reply to Sir Joseph Hickson's question as to how the W. H. W. would propose to make up the loss of revenue which would result to the Dominion government from the passing of a Prohibitory Act, Mr. Dougall said that, as he was not and did not expect to be finance minister, he had not taken that task upon himself, but he was prepared to give the opinions of certain men who had had that responsibility. Sir Leonard Tilley had said that he would be very happy to provide for any losses caused by such legislation. Sir Alex. Galt had said that the injury to the community was so much greater than the loss to the revenue that from the point of view simply of a national financier, he was forced to take a stand in favor of prohibition. Mr. Gladstone had said he viewed with the greatest satisfaction a reduction in the revenue from liquor. Speaking in the abstract he (Mr. Dougall) was in favor of direct taxation. There seemed to be among economists almost a consensus of opinion on this subject.

—THE late John C. Gammon, of Batavia, Ill., gave \$350,000 to found a Methodist theological school at Atlanta, Ga., for the education of colored students. By the recent death of Mrs. Gammon the school will receive \$750,000 more. Thus a very generous endowment is secured for an excellent work.

—ON the second page of this issue will be found No. 2 of a series of articles in which our correspondent, "G. E. T." is giving the readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR an interesting account of a recent trip in Great Britain and on the continent. These articles will, no doubt, find many appreciative readers.

—THE condition of things at St. Martin's Seminary this term, we are pleased to learn, is highly encouraging to Principal deBolis and all the friends of the school. The attendance is the largest in its history. Ninety names in all are on the register, and of these fifty are resident in the seminary, filling the building to its utmost capacity. Larger accommodation is needed, and the finishing of the third story becomes a necessity. Dr. deBolis has quite recovered from his recent illness and is looking well.

—We learn that letters have been sent out by the Main street or Portland church, to all the churches which have pastors in the N. B. S. northern Association, requesting each to send its pastor and one other delegate to sit in council with the church above named, on Tuesday, the 7th of February, for the purpose of considering the position of its pastor, Rev. S. Welton. Grave responsibilities rest upon such a council. The question it will have to deal with may prove to be of a very difficult and trying character. There may be great need for wisdom and for all the Christian graces. We hope that all our churches will remember in their prayers the Main St. church and the brethren who are to compose the council, in order that their deliberations and actions may be divinely guided, and that whatever is advised and whatever is done, may be in wisdom and righteousness and for the glory of God.

—We find the following in an exchange, and it is credited to Dr. Burton as a part of his advice to young ministers. We do not know who Dr. Burton may be, but anyway the advice is good and worth preserving. We are quite sure that letters sometimes reach the MESSENGER AND VISITOR office which would never have been written at all if they had not been written in haste. It is well if ministers, and other people as well, gather wisdom in this respect as they grow older. But let us hear what Dr. Burton says:

"When trouble is brewing, keep still. When your feelings are hurt, keep still; till you recover from your excitement, at any rate. Things look differently through an unquiet eye. In a common case I wrote a letter and sent it, and wished I had not. In my later years I had another communion, and wrote a long letter; but life had rubbed a little sense into me, and I kept that letter in my pocket against the day when I could look it over without agitation and without tears. I was glad I did. Silence is the most massive thing conceivable, sometimes. It is strength in its very grandeur. It is like a regiment ordered to stand still in the mad fury of battle. To plunge in were twice as easy. The tongue has unsettled more ministers than small salaries ever did, or lack of ability!"

—SECRETARY MANNING and the F. M. Board should have the sympathy of all in their desire to increase the funds at the disposal of the Board for its most important work. In fact the Board must have money, or else curtail instead of enlarging its work—a proposition which none will wish to entertain for a moment. At the same time we think that the F. M. Board, and other Boards, will do well to consider carefully whether it is wise to direct special appeals to the Young People's Unions. It is distinctly our opinion that such a line of action cannot be wisely adopted. We hope that our young people will indeed cultivate the largest and most intelligent interest in our foreign mission work, and also in the other lines of work in which we are engaged as a denomination, but we trust they will also see the wisdom of doing whatever they may do for these several denominational enterprises, not as unions or as members of the unions, but as members of the several churches. This course we believe is demanded in the interest of harmony, and will avoid possible results which are wholly undesirable. Any step that seems to many to involve a possible danger to the unity and harmony of the churches, is it needless to say, should not be taken without the most careful consideration as to permanent results.

## PASSING EVENTS.

DURING the past week our Methodist friends have held an educational jubilee at Sackville. Just fifty years ago on the nineteenth of the present month the Mount Allison Male Academy was opened. Eleven years later, in 1854, the opening of the Ladies' Academy took place, and in 1862 the college, open to both sexes, was established. The memorial services held on Thursday last were apparently of a highly interesting character. Instead of having a few long and elaborate historical addresses, it had been arranged—wisely we think—to have brief addresses from as many of the prominent friends of the institution as time permitted. Among the speakers were President Allison, Dr. Carman, general superintendent of the Methodist Conference of Canada; Mr. Thomas Pickard, an ex-professor and a life-long friend of the institutions; Judge Tuck, Dr. Inch, Judge King, Dr. Weldon, M. P., Dr. Stewart, of the college; Dr. Lathern, editor of the Wesleyan, and Judge Hannington. Some of the speakers were able to recall interesting reminiscences of their school life at Mount Allison in its early days, and many of them paid grateful tributes to the memory of the late Charles F. Allison, the principal founder and constant friend and helper of the institutions which appropriately bear his name. In reviewing the history and results of a half century of educational effort, our Methodist brethren experience a grateful pride, which, under the circumstances, may be regarded as entirely pardonable. Mount Allison has been a blessing not only to the denomination, but to the country at large. In this, as in all their work, the Methodists have exhibited a spirit of faith and enterprise which commands success, and what they have done may be taken as earnest of greater things that they will do. The Mount Allison people are of course turning this rare occasion to practical account by way of an earnest effort to increase their endowment funds. The effort, it appears, is being attended with gratifying results. It was announced at a meeting held in Sackville on Thursday evening that, in response to the appeal issued, the sum of \$13,000 had already been subscribed. Two gentlemen of Sackville—Mr. Wood, M. P., and Mr. J. L. Black—lead off with subscriptions of \$5,000 and \$2,000 respectively. President Allison and Principal Borden follow with \$500 each, and so on. It is stated that a wealthy manufacturer of Sackville is contemplating a generous gift, which may take the form of a student's residence, to be called by his name. Students and recent graduates are also contributing to strengthen the financial forces of the university. Altogether the present situation and the outlook for Mount Allison appear to be highly encouraging.

THE Nova Scotia legislature met on Thursday last. The governor's speech was delivered and debated much in the usual way, and on Saturday Premier Fielding submitted to the House the contract through which Mr. Henry M. Whitney and a syndicate seek to obtain possession of coal mining properties of great value in Cape Breton. The accounts which have been received at time of writing do not afford much information as to the conditions of the contract, and some of the information given may be subject to correction. It is stated that the lease is for ninety-nine years and that the syndicate is to pay the government a royalty of twelve and a half cents per ton on all coal mined—the minimum annual amount thus to be secured to the provincial treasury being placed at \$125,000. The property to be transferred to the syndicate is said to include all the important mines in Cape Breton, except one; and to put under its control all undeveloped coal areas in Cape Breton county. Fears are expressed that the situation that will thus be brought about will result in a monopoly in the coal interests of Eastern Canada, which may prove eventually disastrous to the interests of these provinces. It does not seem reasonable to suppose that so shrewd and able a man as Premier Fielding has been deluded into accepting a scheme which would sacrifice the country's coal interests to a monopoly. When the terms of the contract have been fully set before us, we may hope to find that the interests of the country have been sufficiently safeguarded in the conditions which have been specified. But ninety-nine years, it must be confessed, is a long lease. The fears of monopoly through a combination between the Whitney syndicate and the other coal companies of the province, or through the purchase of the latter's properties by the former, may be quite

groundless, but until we know more about the matter they are certainly not wholly unreasonable. The proposed transaction is one which may involve the interests of the whole country, and the Nova Scotia legislature has a weighty responsibility in dealing with a matter of so much importance. It is certainly to be hoped that the subject may receive the best and wisest consideration that the legislators of the province can give to it, quite apart from any question of immediate party advantage.

THE State of South Carolina has passed a liquor law, the operation of which will be watched with a good deal of interest. The legislature of the state was elected, it is said, to pass a prohibitory law, but the law which has been placed on the statute books would seem to be properly described as regulative and restrictive rather than as prohibitory. Such sale of liquor as is permitted under the law is to be in the hands of the state itself. The Chicago Advance thus briefly describes the provisions of law: "All of the present saloons are to be abolished, and sale of liquor in club rooms or other places of amusement is prohibited. State dispensaries are then to be established, ten in Charleston, three in Richmond and one each in the other counties of the state. A State Commissioner is then to purchase liquor, giving preference to the breweries and manufacturers of the state, which shall be tested for their purity by the state chemist and then distributed to the dispensaries. Liquor is to be sold in packages, which are not to be opened on the premises. The county dispenser shall sell only to those whom he personally knows and who are not minors or intoxicated. If the applicant is unknown, the endorsement of a reliable person must be secured. Severe penalties are provided for violation of the Act, and counties or towns which now have prohibition are exempted from its operation." Such a law, if rigidly enforced, would, without doubt, greatly restrict the drink traffic within its limits, and in the country districts it would be equivalent to prohibition. It does not appear, however, that such a law would be more likely to be strictly enforced than a straight prohibitory law. The South Carolina law admits the right to purchase and use liquor under certain restrictions, while the right to manufacture appears to be unrestricted. Under these conditions it is difficult to see how there is, to say the least, any better hope for the enforcement of the South Carolina law than in the case of a strictly prohibitory measure.

FOR steadiness of cold the weather of the past month is seldom paralleled in this part of the world. Since the 20th December, the morning and midnight readings of the thermometer in St. John have been most of the time in the neighborhood of zero. Sometimes a few degrees above and then as many below. In the inland parts of the province the readings have in general been much lower. The cold is not confined to this latitude, but appears to have been quite general over the northern and central portions of the continent. Navigation has been closed on some waters usually open throughout the year, and in some cities fears are expressed of impending coal famines. While in the harbors of Boston, New York, and even in waters farther south, navigation has been made difficult by ice, our daily papers have been boasting that St. John harbor is as free from obstruction as at any season of the year. In England, too, and over the continent the cold has been unusual, and in some places intense. Many deaths from exposure are reported. In Serbia, Montenegro and parts of Russia, it is reported that the wolves, made desperate by hunger and cold, have come out of the forests in large numbers to attack the sheep-folds, and in some places have even appeared in the streets of cities.

## Converse with the King.

I was about to call the attention of your readers to the little book, by Rev. W. Porter, of Brantford, when I noted the words of "D. A. S." last week. I may now add my word of commendation. We have been reading it in connection with our family worship and find its words well chosen. I think sermons will be born of it. Young people, and older people too, who have to conduct prayer and cottage services, will find the subjects, with the Scriptures so carefully and suggestively arranged, very helpful. J. J. BAKER.

—The merit of Hood's Sarsaparilla is proven by the many wonderful cures it is accomplishing. It is just the medicine for you.

## Trustees of Baptist Churches in N. S.

The trustees of a Baptist church are entrusted with the property of the church. The church appoints them and gives them their power by vote at a meeting, of which previous notice had been given. The place of a trustee is in the church; but it would not be illegal for a church to appoint an outsider a trustee. The resolution to appoint trustees should be carefully worded, providing that in case of death, removal, exclusion or ceasing to act, the other trustees could inform the church, which thereupon would give notice and hold a meeting and fill the vacancy. The quantity of power lodged in the trustees can be fixed by the church when appointing them: if not defined, they would have charge of the church property for church purposes only.

The N. S. Legislature in 1878 (chapter 69) passed an act securing to Baptist churches in Nova Scotia the benefits of incorporation. It consists of eight sections, epitomized as follows:

- (1) Any Baptist church can secure the benefits of incorporation by the following procedure:
- (2) Members of such church duly assembled at the place of worship shall by a majority of votes elect three or six or nine persons as trustees, who (and their successors in office) shall be a body corporate on behalf of said church.
- (3) Public notice shall be given of the meetings for election of trustees under this act, at one regular service of the church on each of the two Sabbaths next preceding such election, the object, time and place of such meeting to be stated in said notice.
- (4) The trustees shall be so divided by lot at the first election that one-third shall go out of office at end of one year; one-third at end of two years, and one-third at end of three years, and three after the term of service of one-third of the board shall expire annually, and their places shall be filled by new election as in section 3. Those going out of office shall be eligible for re-election.
- (5) The trustees first elected shall file in the book of records of church business an account of their election, signed by the chairman and clerk of the church meeting appointing them, and thenceforth the board of trustees shall be a body corporate. Such trustees shall hold meetings to transact business, a majority of whole number of trustees shall be a quorum, and a majority of the votes cast shall decide any question.
- (6) Such trustees shall take charge of the property of said church, both real and personal; but such trustees shall have no right to divert the property of said church from uses appointed by the church, or to incur debts beyond what is necessary for the proper care, repairs and preservation of the property of the said church, unless such authority is specially conferred by such church on such trustees; and such authority to alienate, sell or encumber shall be valid only when approved by a majority present at a meeting of persons qualified to vote for trustees, such meeting to be called as provided in section 3 of this act. In other respects the trustees shall have all the rights, powers and duties granted by law to bodies corporate.
- (7) When a person elected trustee shall die, or for the term of six consecutive months cease to attend or support the worship of said church, his place may be declared vacant by an official notice of the Board of Trustees to the church, and a new election shall be ordered to fill the vacancy.
- (8) This act shall not interfere with the churches already incorporated.

Probably it is well for this old act to be brought to the notice of the churches. Unless other powers are sought there is no need of special incorporation. This act, if complied with, "incorporates" the Board of Trustees who are appointed by the church.

J. PARSONS.

Halifax, Jan. 13.

—"AN Affectionate Message for the Careless, the Anxious, the Convert and the Professor," is the title of a tract prepared by Pastor McDonald, of Halifax, with the hope that it may be of value to winners of souls in special work. The remarks and the citations of Scripture passages under each heading will no doubt be found very helpful in reference to the purpose in view. The tract may be obtained from the Baptist Book Room, Halifax, at 50 cts. per hundred copies, post paid.

CARD OF THANKS.—The Baptist Book and Tract Society tender their thanks to all who have favored them with their orders during the past year, and bespeak a continuance. Wishing all a happy new year. See our advertisement.

GEO. A. McDONALD, Sec.-Treas.

## W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR.

"As the Father has sent Me, even so I send you."—John 10: 21.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR JANUARY:

That the Holy Spirit may work mightily on our home fields, Grande Lige, the North West and our own Provinces.

Home Missions.

We have heard from one or two of our societies who observed the day of prayer for home missions. The H. M. Committee will be glad to hear from all in our three provinces who did so. Please drop me a card.

AMY E. JOHNSTONE,  
Dartmouth, N. S.  
Convener H. M. Committee W. B. M. U.

A resolution passed at one of our meetings made the sending of quarterly notes respecting W. B. M. U. work incumbent on the provincial secretaries. Some months this is an easy task, and then again there seems a dearth of "news." This is especially the case during December. And yet we have not been idle. In Yarmouth county the new society at Acadia is doing well, increasing its membership and about to form a Mission Band.

The Mission Band at River Hebert, Cumberland county, has begun the new year grandly. They will send into the treasury \$40, the result of an entertainment on the last day of the old year. To their names of "Cheerful Gleaners" we hope they will add yet one more and let the name read thus: "The Cheerful and Persistent Gleaners."

Clarence Aid Society (Annapolis Co.) sends for leaflets on home mission work. They are endeavoring "to do something more for the Master in that branch of work."

A letter from Miss Cunningham, our secretary for Guysboro county, sends the cheering word that the society in Guysboro observed the special day of prayer for home missions by a good meeting, and a good offering in silver and bills. The ladies of the church and the Mission Band gave a concert and fancy sale in December, and will send, in addition to the sum of ten dollars for the Palmdale buildings, \$12 for home and foreign work.

In Antigonish our secretary writes of good work. Thus the work progresses not as fast as we could wish or, reverently be it said, as fast as the Master would wish it. Nor will it until every Christian in every church makes the work of missions the business of his or her life. Perhaps some of our sisters who are endeavoring to extend the work will find the following from Antigonish helpful: "We have some old ladies living at a distance who cannot meet with us, and for the sake of their interest and prayers we have asked them to contribute what amount they felt they could. . . . They are not 'well off,' but we put their names down as members; in consequence of which we have recorded at least six sisters, paying from 25 cents to \$1.00. All were pleased to have us call in His interest and glad to give."

In all our churches there are many just such willing, loyal hearts among our poorer members waiting for us to give them the privilege of helping on this work.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY N. S.

W. B. M. U. RECEIPTS.

From Dec. 28th to Jan. 10th: Jacksonville, F. M., \$6.00; Tidnish, F. M., 2.25; Union Camp, F. M., 2.00; Aylesford, F. M., 5.00; Lawrencetown, M. J., S. Eaton, F. M., 5.00; Bush-w, F. M., 5.00; Maenague, F. M., 5.00; Acadia Mines, F. M., 3.00; Brook Village (Inverness Co.), Mrs. Robert Pizelle, 1.00; Parrsboro, F. M., 5.00; Little River, Mission Band (Digby Co.), toward share in building fund, 5.00; Benton, F. M., 7.50; River Hebert, "Cheerful Gleaners," proceeds of entertainment, toward Mr. Moore's salary, 35.00; Point D Bate, F. M., 9.25; Clarence, F. M., 15.00; H. M., 5.00; Sussex, E. Allison Trite, F. M., 1.00; Hopewell Hill, F. M., 8.00; H. M., 2.00; Billtown, F. M., 3.50; H. M., 94 cts; Lockeport, F. M., 5.00; Cumberland Bay, to constitute Mrs. Margaret S. Cox a life member, F. M., 25.00.

This society at Cumberland Bay is deserving of special mention. Each year, by perseverance and hard work, they succeed in raising an extra twenty-five dollars, with which they make a life member of the W. B. M. U. We have one society in Nova Scotia (Onslow West) which is doing the same good work. Are there not many societies who, if they would undertake it, would accomplish the same between this and July 31st? Will you not try? What an increase there would be in our receipts at the close of this year if we all go to work in this matter, as well as increase in interest, which would be stimulated. MARY SMITH, Treas.