

Messenger and Visitor

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER

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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1894.

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It is stated that D. L. Moody contemplates a journey to Japan with the purpose of making a six month's tour of the country and preaching in its principal cities.

We are requested to say that copies of the Year Book are being sent out as rapidly as the binder can finish them. One copy will be sent to each minister, and each church will receive its due quota according to the number of its resident members.

We are much pleased to learn from a Madison, Wisconsin, paper that the Baptist church in that town hold their pastor, Rev. A. J. Kempton (late of Castleton, St. John) in very high esteem. The church is being richly blessed under his ministry. Ten were added to its membership by baptism on the first Sunday in November, and twenty-four others who had united with the church by baptism, letter or experience since the previous communion season received the right hand of fellowship.

Mr. HENRY C. VEDDER, editor of the New York Examiner and author of an excellent short history of the Baptists, has accepted an appointment to the chair of church history in Oberlin Theological Seminary. Rev. H. L. Wayland, D. D., formerly editor of the National Baptist, will, the Examiner announces, become editor of that paper on January 1st. He will be associated in the editorial management of the Examiner with Mr. Edward Bright, who has charge of its literary department, and Mr. T. J. Conant, who will take Mr. Vedder's position as managing editor.

We are informed that a union Thanksgiving service of the St. John Baptist churches will be held in the Main St. church at eleven a. m. on Thursday, Nov. 23rd. It is expected, will be the preacher. We hope there may be such attendance, and such an interest manifested in this service as shall indicate that there is in the hearts of our Baptist people in this city a hearty recognition of the divine goodness and mercy which have followed us during the year. Too generally these thanksgiving services are treated as if they were of but little importance.

For the good name of humanity it is certainly to be hoped that the reports which reached London last week of the fiendish massacre of Armenian Christians by the Turkish soldiery are grossly exaggerated. If the reports are to be credited, thousands of Armenians have been ruthlessly butchered; men, women and helpless children sharing the same cruel fate. The women indeed, instead of finding any mercy, suffered the most terrible indignities at the hands of the brutal soldiers, and were afterwards slain by hundreds. Such, in brief, is the terrible story, or a small part of it. It seems impossible that it can be true. But there also seems to be little doubt that there is sufficient grounds for the appeal which the Armenians are making to Great Britain for intervention on their behalf to justify and require a peremptory demand for a thorough investigation of the facts.

Rev. Dr. TALMAGE is said to have reached the conclusion that the burning in succession of three churches in which he ministered is an unmistakable indication of Providence that he is not to confine his labors to one congregation. He has therefore resigned the pastorate of the Brooklyn Tabernacle and will, as Providence may direct, either take another pastorate or go into evangelistic work, "preaching the gospel to all people without money and without price." But if it is necessary for Providence to do something equivalent to the burning of three magnificent churches in order that the preacher may get an inkling of the path of duty, the good doctor's ministry is likely to be rather an expensive one after all.

In connection with the mention of the fact of recent archeological discoveries in the valley of the Euphrates said to possess great interest and value as being confirmatory of the authenticity of Biblical history, the Chicago Standard quotes the Inter Ocean, a leading Chicago daily, as saying editorially: "It is rather curious that at this late day the secrets of the past should be revealed in a way to endorse the statements of Scriptural writers whose evidence the scientific world has taken somewhat reluctantly. But the more science penetrates the arena of mounds and rocks and ruins the more is it necessary to admit the wonders of the Biblical chronicles, and the more is skepticism compelled to recede from a position which circumstances declare to be untenable."

At the recently held meeting of the Inter Seminary Missionary Alliance at Springfield, O., Dr. G. W. Knox, a missionary of many years experience in Japan, speaking on "The Foreign Mission Call," said: "The work demands the best men and women in intellectual power, in intellectual ability and in culture. It is a common and well-nigh fatal error to underrate the intellectual ability and spiritual perception of the Eastern peoples. Many of the questions they put to the advocates of the new religion show great philosophical depth of mind. The real work of converting such races only begins when the upper and educated classes are won." Speaking of the war now going on, Dr. Knox predicted that Japan would be successful in the conflict, and that thereby the walls of conservatism within which the great Chinese Empire has secluded itself would be levelled for the marching in of the armies of the Occas.

The following observations of the New York Outlook are worthy the attention of all who wish to prolong the period of their working life: "It is unquestionable that a great many lives are largely wasted by a useless expenditure of nervous force, by restlessness, haste, and by the physical excitement which are induced by the agitation of the body and the brain. The hush which is imposed upon some men by the knowledge of a possibly fatal disease ought to be secured by all men of activity; for the waste of vitality comes not so much from work as from the leakage of haste and useless nervous action. There is an immense amount of activity which is generally regarded as intellectual, but which is purely nervous and which means nothing except ignorance of the laws of health and lack of self-control. The secret of prolonged and sustained working power is the husbanding of all vitality and the direction of it to a single end. The greatest as well as the most delicate machines work with the slightest possible loss of force, because they work with absolute steadiness and ease. A man like Darwin, who was an invalid for many years, accomplished immense results by focusing his entire strength along one line and by living calmly and quietly in the prosecution of his task. Such a man refuses to be agitated or hurried by insignificant events and by uncontrolled emotions. He is steadied by the very magnitude of his task, and the concentration of his energy relieves him, in large measure, of the temptation to waste his power through a thousand obscure and useless rivulets. Fussy people are rarely effective people. The greatest executive force goes with a certain calmness and absence of hurry, and it is a significant fact that the people who accomplish the most always seem to have leisure. The habit of working without waste is frequently one which can be cultivated, and which, after once being consciously adopted, becomes the natural method of work."

PASSING EVENTS.

The funeral train of the late Czar, after its long march northward through the empire, reached St. Petersburg on the morning of Tuesday, November 13th. Everything had been made ready to receive the royal remains. Amid the solemn music of the bands and the chanting of priests and singers, the long train, drawn by two engines, moved slowly into the Nicholas station, which was crowded with representatives of the nobility of Russia and every other European country; and the long platform was covered with black cloth. The hearse with its ever and gold body, a golden canopy, surmounted by a crown and topped and edged with groups of three white feathers, stood ready to receive the body of the dead emperor, and when the mortuary car was opposite the steps leading to the hearse the train came to a halt. Priests with candles and incense lined the steps, while the metropolitan of St. Petersburg and the higher clergy near by bowed a salute. The roll of the drums of the grenadiers mingled with the chanting. A boy choir began a chorus in which the men joined, and the volume of vocal music swelled high upon the air. The grand procession, marked by all the solemn pomp and circumstance supposed to befit the great occasion, was formed and marched through the streets of the capital, Czar Nicholas and the Prince of Wales walking together in the procession. The cathedral of St. Isaacs, where the body was to lie in state, was reached at 1:30 p. m. The coffin was at once placed on the catafalque in the

centre of the cathedral, and after a requiem service which lasted an hour, the body was exposed to public view; and immediately long lines of people, anxious to look upon the face of their dead emperor, began passing through the cathedral. The tomb where the remains of Alexander III. are finally to rest is entered through the pavement on the left side of the cathedral. The body of the Czar will lie near those of his mother and his elder brother who would have reigned over Russia but for the unfortunate blow struck by Alexander's hand, which cut short his life. Just beyond is the tomb of their father. Away beneath these tombs, we are told, there are terrible subterranean dungeons, where, in hopeless imprisonment, some of the brightest minds in Russia are immured—their crimes being that they dared to hope for freer government. Some of these men, it is said, must have heard in their dungeons the cathedral bell toll thirteen years ago for Alexander II., and now they have heard it toll again for his son, but know nothing of what it means.

NOT long ago a Mr. W. W. Smith, station agent at Sutton, Que., on the C. P. Railway, was murderously assaulted and almost killed. The assailant, Mr. Smith was afterwards apprehended and confessed to having committed the assault at the instigation of others, and that he was paid to do the deed by men in that part of the country interested in the liquor traffic. This man and two others—one of them a hotel keeper—are in jail awaiting trial. Mr. Smith, whose life was thus nearly sacrificed to the hate of men engaged in the nefarious business to which most of the crimes committed in the country are directly or indirectly chargeable, was an active temperance man at president of the Bromo County branch of the Dominion Temperance Alliance. A remarkable fact connected with this affair is that Mr. Smith has since been dismissed from the employ of the C. P. R., and—if the statements given to the public are correct—because of the active part he has taken in efforts to suppress the illegal liquor traffic. It does not appear that Mr. Smith is charged with having neglected his duties as station agent or employing time when he should have been on duty as an officer in the employ of the C. P. R. Company, in the prosecution of temperance work. The following is given as an extract from a letter written by the assistant superintendent of the company to Mr. Smith: "You must either quit temperance work or quit the company. It makes no difference whether you are on duty or off duty so far as the company is concerned. They demand the whole and entire time of their men and they are going to have it." This language is certainly not to be charged with lack of explicitness. If the facts are as stated, the following prohibitionist paper of Ontario, do not seem to be out of place: "This subject is broader than Mr. Smith or any individual. It is the question of the right of the citizen to enjoy and exercise the rights of a citizen while employed by such a corporation as the C. P. R. It is the old problem of slave or freeman. The railway is undoubtedly entitled to the best service of its employees while on duty; but, after hours, the citizen should be free to engage in these pleasures and pursuits which do not conflict with the welfare of society and the state. Mr. Smith should be free to participate in the agitation to drive the criminal liquor traffic out of the country, without being called upon to suffer the loss of income. * * * The course of the C. P. R. in dismissing Mr. Smith has been warmly endorsed by the cowardly and murderous liquor gang in Beane, and is so open to the suspicion of being an attempt to coerce the conscience and abridge the liberties of the citizens to serve the liquor interests as to make it imperative that some member of the Commons, which has so largely subsidized that road, demand in the approaching session a public investigation."

The war between the two great Asiatic powers still goes on, though from the contradictory character of the despatches received it is impossible to arrive at any very accurate knowledge as to the real facts in connection with it. The report received and generally credited a week ago that Port Arthur, a strongly fortified position of great strategic importance, had been taken by the Japanese is now contradicted, and if the reports now being received, which seem to come from Chinese sources, are to be credited, the recent victories of the Japanese have been of a much less decisive character than the despatches sent out by them have intimated. On the whole it is probably fair to conclude that the

Japanese are gaining steadily and making progress toward Peking, but not without meeting stubborn resistance, and that Port Arthur and Moukden which are strongly fortified places will be stubbornly defended by the Chinese, but, if the war continues, will fall before the superior military science and organization of the invaders, and Peking will eventually fall into their hands. This appears to be what Japan intends, but to carry out this programme, even if the European powers offer no interference, will cost Japan heavily, and if she is not too much intoxicated with success she will be likely to listen to reasonable proposals for peace. China has appealed to the European powers to put an end to the war. England strongly desires peace. France and Russia support this position. The United States government has signified to China and Japan its willingness to act as arbitrator between them. China is said to have declared her willingness to accept the proffered mediation, but Japan has not yet been heard from in the matter. It is said, however, that Japan is willing for peace on the condition that China shall renounce all claims to Korea and pay to Japan an indemnity sufficient to cover what the war has cost her. Probably Japan will hardly venture to push her demands to a very extreme point in view of the contingency of the interference of the European powers if reasonable offers of peace shall be rejected.

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Kansas Letter.

The Kansas Baptist State Convention met Oct. 15-18 at Winfield, a beautiful town of 8000 inhabitants in Southern Kansas, just twenty miles from the Oklahoma line. The attendance was about 200 delegates with, perhaps, 100 more young people on B. Y. P. U. day. In spite of "hard times" and the industrial and political unrest of the year, it has proved to be a very prosperous year in Baptist affairs. Through the untiring efforts of Rev. J. D. Newell, missionary secretary, \$5,126.00 was raised within the State for the aid of feeble churches; and this amount, together with \$5,500.00 contributed by the Home Mission Society, has been expended in keeping district missionaries in the field, building new church edifices, and in supplementing the salaries of missionary pastors. At the beginning of the convention year our State mission work was encumbered with a debt of \$2,000.00, which is now reduced to \$500.00. Altogether during the year there have been in the field forty missionaries and missionary pastors. Among these have been our general missionary, Rev. I. D. Newell, and two district missionaries—Rev. J. M. Whitehead for Eastern Kansas, and Rev. William Wilbur for the Western half of the State. A number of missionary pastors in Western Kansas have fields covering two or three counties. One good brother who wore out his horse in this work last year received a special appropriation from the Convention Board to enable him to buy a new one. In Eastern Kansas our work is grandly progressive, and in all the leading towns Baptist churches are building up solidly. We are waiting to see what irrigation may do for the drought-stricken regions of the West before very much money is invested there.

Baptist work in Kansas is beset by some peculiar difficulties. Here, as in some other border states between the north and the south, "landmarkism" divides many churches. The convention Board has done much to remove ill-feeling from this source by its wise policy in appointing missionary pastors. It has always refused to discriminate against any man for holding "landmark" views or anti-landmark views, provided he be a godly man and not a schismatic. This policy has done so much towards establishing a better feeling that recently the "landmark" Baptist churches gave up a separate association which they had maintained for several years and have joined our regular associations. Another difficulty arises from the presence among us of numerous Campbellite churches. This denomination, which in the West rejects all names but that of "the Christian church," claims to outnumber the Baptists in Kansas almost two to one. Their State Board endorses and sends into the field a host of evangelists, who collect their pay as they go, and who have a wonderful way of counting their converts by the hundred in every town where they labor. At their state convention, held in October, they reported 10,000 additions to their churches during the past year. As their teaching

flatly denies any operation of the Holy Spirit in conversion, and makes baptism a necessary link in the chain of salvation, and as their usual mode of receiving members is for the candidate to "come forward" at any meeting and read a confession to a confession made by the preacher, such numerical results are not to be wondered at. Neither is it surprising that some weak kneed Baptists are drawn towards these churches. On the other hand many of their more spiritually minded members are constantly coming to us.

Introduced to our departing missionary. The meeting was solemn and impressive. Mrs. Churchill was almost exhausted from the constant strain on nerves and body, and it was with a great effort that she delivered this, her last address in the home land. God grant that His blessing may accompany it to all our hearts. Mrs. Wm. Alwood, in behalf of the W. B. M. U., presented an address to Mrs. Churchill. Mrs. Alwood referred to the scene twenty-two years ago when our first band of missionaries said their farewell words in Brussels St. church. Mrs. Carey and Mrs. Alwood are the only two here who were on the Board at that time. The interest that has ever followed Mrs. Churchill in all her work and through her darkest days in India was tenderly spoken of, and our prayers and sympathy pledged for the future.

Perhaps the most sacred and solemn of all these meetings was the one held at Wolfville in Mr. Sanford's parlor on Wednesday. It was thus described by Mrs. Kempton: No appointment was made; only about a dozen there, for few knew that Mrs. Churchill was to leave that day—missionaries, mothers and sisters of missionaries, Sister Churchill and her daughter and a few others. Dr. Boggs read from God's Word and prayed as only one missionary can pray for another.

Then we went to the station and were met by some other friends. I thought, as I looked into the faces of those four sisters, who, twenty-two years ago, in the strength and beauty of young womanhood, stood together on the platform of the Baptist church in Windsor—at that farewell convention meeting—and remembered what they each had gone through of sorrow and separation. Sister Churchill laid two boys beneath an Indian sky; Sister Curry saw her husband go to return so more, while she is left to bear life's burdens with three helpless children. Sister Boggs left an infant to be cared for by others, and sent her two boys home from India when most they needed a mother's loving care. Sister Sanford was for four years separated from her husband. And now what a struggle is going on in Sister Churchill's heart, as her only child clings to her. Here is sacrifice indeed that we know nothing about.

With a glad puff the cruel train comes in; the last word is spoken, the last embrace is given. But from the open car window mother and child grasp hands until the moving train separates them. The paleness of death is on the mother's face, yet it is radiant with peace and joy. The sacrifice is a willing one. I turn to speak to the daughter, she has fled like a wounded deer to the quiet chamber, where her soul was comforted—for the Healer was there.

I said to her as we went to the train, "When father and mother forsake thee the Lord will take you up." "Oh what could I do only for that." "Be ready. Dear sisters is it right that all the sacrifices shall be on the part of those who go as our representatives to a foreign field? Should we not bear a part. Now is the time. Read Matt. 23:31-40.

Mrs. Churchill sails from New York on the 17th. We have four missionaries on the straggly seas, let us never fail to pray daily for their safety. They expect to be in India by Christmas and meet all the missionaries at conference in Coocanada. What a gathering that will be.

A letter received from Miss Clark says: "B. R. Golconda left London Nov. 20th, after a very pleasant stay there. There are a large number of passengers on board, and I think enough pleasant people to make the journey enjoyable. Nearly all the sailors, waiters, &c. are natives of India, so we will have a chance to get acquainted with the looks at least of the people among whom we are to live and labor.

To-night we had rice and curry for dinner; it was rather hot for my taste; but I suppose I will get used to it.

The Quarterly Meeting of the W. B. M. U. was held at the Mission Room, Prince William street, Nov. 13th, at 3 p. m. The meeting was opened with scripture reading by Mrs. Alwood and prayer by Mrs. Martell. The minutes of the previous meeting and also those of the executive meetings, held at Bear River, were read and approved. The treasurer's quarterly statement was then presented. Letters from Mr. Archibald and Mrs. Martell were read. A communication was received from Miss Buchan in acknowledgment of greetings sent from the W. B. M. U. to the Ontario Board at their annual gathering.

The vacancy on the Board, caused by the removal of Mrs. J. J. Baker from St. John, was filled by the appointment of Mrs. J. A. Gordon.

It was decided that the monthly prayer meetings would be resumed on the third Thursday in January. The meeting was closed with prayer by Mrs. Long.

C. GATES,
Recording Sec'y.

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