

The Messenger and Visitor

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Personal.

We regret to learn that Rev. Dr. Saunders of Halifax was last week confined to his bed by illness. We have no further particulars, but trust that the illness from which Dr. S. is suffering will not prove to be of a serious character.

A note from our very highly esteemed brother, Rev. S. D. Ervine informs us that he is now permanently settled at San Jacinto, Cal. He hopes that the climate will prove beneficial to his health, so that he may be able to live without suffering, but is doubtful of regaining strength sufficiently to enable him to resume the work of the ministry. Bro. Ervine adds, "But I am in the Lord's hands. His will be done." Our brother's many friends in the East will all hope and pray that his hopes may be more than realized. Mr. Ervine's address is San Jacinto, R. D., Riverside Co., California.

Rev. Richard Kemp who will close his pastorate at West End Baptist Church, Halifax, April 20th, is open to supply vacant pulpits with view to settlement, and would like to correspond with pastorless churches seeking a pastor.

We were pleased to have a call last week from W. L. Bars, Esq., of Halifax, who was southward bound, with the intention of spending a few weeks with friends in Philadelphia or its vicinity. Mr. Bars had just visited his father, the venerable Deacon J. W. Bars, of Wolfville, who is now in his ninetieth year, and who apart from the infirmities which so advanced an age necessarily brings, is still, we are glad to learn, enjoying a good measure of health.

From Heart to Heart.

BY PASTOR J. WEBB.

"Go tell it to Jesus,
And all will be right!"

How many of God's dear children are shut in because of disease and infirmities. Yes! there are heavy hearts and aching heads and deep sighs and scalding tears—all unheard, unseen by a busy world.

How many a bright young mother is shut in, away from the activities of church life, and the elevating influences of Christian gatherings—shut in for weeks and months and sometimes for years with young and delicate children who need her tender, watchful, loving care. Yes! there are yearnings and longings and weariness, all hidden from the outside world.

Cannot something be done to help these drooping ones to lift up their heads? Cannot these sad hearts be made to rejoice? Will not some one draw the curtains aside from the windows of these lonely lives, to let a little sunshine in? The sunshine that is needed must come from heaven—the help that they are crying out for must come from Jesus—the peace that they are sighing for must come from the loving heart of God.

A few nights since the wind was blowing very hard. I could not sleep; my mind could not settle down to rest in the midst of such wild confusion. How hideous the night seemed! I could hear, in the sound of the wind, the heart-rending cry of homeless and hungry children, and the curses of a cruel world; I could hear the mad laughter of drunkards which grew louder and more frightful until it seemed to be changed into the loud wailing of lost souls in hell. Then, I thought that I heard, in the midst of all this, the sad moaning of the grieved, and the piercing cry of the sufferer. Then, all of a sudden, there came an unexpected lull; for about ten minutes there was a sweet calm. How restful was that brief pause! I have en-

joyed whole days with trees and flowers, under a cloudless sky, while birds were singing and the sun was shining, but I have never experienced a sweeter or more restful calm than this. The wind started again, it blew as hard as ever, but I had gained strength; the soothing influence of those few moments did not leave me, I closed my eyes and slept until morning.

There have been times when many of you, dear friends, have felt that the night was so dark you would surely lose your way. There were gloomy thoughts and doubts and fears; and then there were the aching head and the beating heart and the quivering nerves; and to make things worse, there were dark clouds of despair, and the furious tempest which threatened to destroy the home and to make a break in the family circle. But there have been resting-places, pauses and shelters. There have been times when Jesus came to you, walking through the accumulated evils, and upon the troubled waters, and you have heard that commanding and dignified "Hush!" which brought peace to your troubled soul, and made you conscious of the presence of Jesus, as it did to the tempest-tossed disciples on the sea of Galilee.

I have a message for you from heaven. It is just what you need. Jesus says:

"He that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him."

"He that loveth me"—Do you love Jesus? Then you can confide in him. He is really your friend. You can unobscure your heart to him. If you are sinful, or tempted and harassed, by the enemy of souls, if you are lonely because of in want of a friend, or weary because of long nights of suffering and dark days of pain and anxiety, there is so much comfort in feeling that you can tell Jesus all about it.

Do you love Jesus? Then—delightful thought!—Jesus loves you. "We love him because he first loved us." Then you are greatly blessed, for "The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him." You know already something about God's secrets. You have heard the small, still voice of the Lord. It is in these gentle heart whispers that you receive his love-tokens. You do not receive such manifestations from the loud thunders of Sinai; it is from the solemn stillness of Calvary, while angels stop their music, and while nature seems to pause, and while the ravings of demons are hushed into silence. "Tis here, where there is no sound but that of the blood flowing and falling upon this sin-cursed earth, that you hear the sweet whispers of pardon and peace; 'tis here, through the broken and bruised body of Jesus, that the love of God flows from his heart into yours; 'tis here where your heart melts with a love that is purer and

holier than earthly affection, 'tis here that your eyes fill with tears, not of sorrow but of joy, and you feel that heaven is not far from you, but is somehow beautifully blended with this earth.

Some Christians stay too long on this earth; their minds are filled with business and cares; they, like Martha, are "cumbered about much serving." They are too much concerned in regard to the food that they eat, and the clothes that they wear, and the house that they live in. Do not stay down in this dark world longer than you can possibly help, for the soul, like a delicate plant, needs the beautiful sunshine. It is from the light of His eyes, and from the sound of His voice, and from the virtue of His body that the soul gathers its dignity of stature and its nobleness of character.

Do you love Jesus? Then come a little nearer to him. Behold the dear Lamb of God who is your sacrifice, your atonement, your High Priest, your Saviour, your Friend. As your eyes behold him, whose face is marred, whose brow is pierced with thorns, whose body is mangled and torn, he will become transformed into "The chiefest among ten thousand;" and while others look and say: "He hath no form nor comeliness . . . There is no beauty that we should desire him," your soul's affections, like the ivy tendrils, will reach out and only be satisfied in finding a resting place in his loving heart.

Physicians may fail to cure or even relieve—friends may fail in their kindly attempts to chase away the gloom—but when Jesus unveils his lovely face, what a change takes place! Then you can say with that dear saint in heaven:

"Oh, I leave it all with Jesus, for he knows,
How to steal the bitter from life's woes;
How to gild the tear of sorrow with his smile,
Make the desert garden bloom awhile,
Then with all my weakness leaning on
his might
All is right! all is right!"

CIGARETTE SMOKING.

"The Quarterly Journal of Inebriety," in quoting J. M. French on this subject, finds fault only with the use of cigarettes, and not with the pipe or cigars. Mr. French considers the habit injurious chiefly because it is indulged in to great extent by young and growing boys, because, being small, the cigarette is often smoked almost constantly, and because it is the common practice to inhale the smoke, thus largely increasing the poisonous effects of the nicotine. He declares that statistics prove that in Yale College the non-users of tobacco gain in weight, in height and in chest girth more than the regular or occasional users. The same conditions obtain in Amherst. In the Polytechnic School in France it was found that the non-smokers took the highest rank in every grade, and that the smokers continually fell behind. In an experimental observation of eighty-eight boys of all classes of society who had been using tobacco for from two months to two years, twenty-seven showed severe injury to the constitution and insufficient growth, and two-thirds showed irregularity of the heart's action, disordered stomachs, coughs, and a craving for alcohol. Within six months after they had abandoned the use of tobacco, one-half were free from their former symptoms, and the remainder recovered by the end of the year.

SAWDUST BRIQUETTES FOR FUEL.

In Europe, where the prices of coal are a little higher than in America, and where the people are better trained to economical habits, perhaps, many efforts have been made to utilize sawdust as fuel. It is compressed into cakes, or briquettes, sometimes with and sometimes without the addition of a glutinous substance to bind the particles together. Germany seems to have led off in this practice, but the American consul at Berne reports that the Swiss are also doing something of the sort. He describes the cakes made in Switzerland as octagon shaped, 6 1/2 inches long, 3 1/2 inches wide and three-quarters of an inch thick, and weighing about half a pound each. In the district surrounding the factory where these cakes were made the schools were heated by them, the combustion leaving very little ash and proceeding without a large flame. No binding ingredient is said to be used, the sawdust being simply dried and pressed into the desired briquette shape, and owing

thus to the absence of tarry or oily substances there is no smoke in burning. The weight of such a briquette indicates the heavy pressure under which it takes its shape, and the edges look like polished oak; in fact, it is heavier than a piece of hardwood of the same size.

The demand created by the popularity of the fuel exceeded the supply of sawdust obtainable in the vicinity of the factory, and shiploads were therefore procured from Sweden and carloads from distant manufactories. Sawdust which previously could be had for the asking, demanded a market price as soon as it became known that a certain factory could make use of it. Even then it was profitable to manufacture the briquette; but unfortunately, the factory was destroyed by fire and operations came to a standstill. Making sawdust briquettes of this kind would therefore seem to be worth inquiring into further.

It might not pay to transport the raw material for any great distance in America, but the finished product should be valuable here enough to compete with coal in the vicinity of many sawmills.—New York Tribune.

Notices.

The next District Meeting of Guysboro East, Antigonish and Port Hawkesbury will be held with the Church at Half Island Cove on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 8th and 9th. First session Tuesday evening. O. N. CHIPMAN.

Cape Breton Quarterly Conference.

Notice is hereby given that the next Cape Breton Quarterly Conference will convene with the Gabarus Baptist church on Tuesday, April 15th. Delegates had better go to Louisburg on Monday evening whence teams will convey them to Gabarus. Please remember that the Gabarus church desires us to send delegates at this time to consider the advisability of ordaining Pastor Carpenter. If it is decided to ordain the brother the following programme will (D. V.) be carried out. Service conducted by Pastor Archibald, ordination sermon, Pastor Young, charge to candidate, Pastor Vincent, charge to church, Pastor Weeks, ordaining prayer, Pastor Kinley, Again, take notice, that Baptists at Louisburg desire church organization. It is requested that the delegates for the ordination stop at Louisburg on Wednesday, April 16th, on their return from Gabarus and assist Pastor Kinley in the organization of the Louisburg Baptist church. The Quarterly Conference, the ordination and the organization together demand that the churches send large delegations. Pastors who cannot be present please notify the secretary. A. J. ARCHIBALD, Sec'y.

The next meeting of the Cumberland County Quarterly Conference will be held at Oxford, N. S., April 7th and 8th. The first session, Monday evening, April 7th. The programme consists among other things of a book review by Dr. Steele; papers on Sunday School and pastoral work by Pastors Haverstock, Belyea and Steeves; sermons by Pastor Huntley and the secretary. The W. M. A. S. will have a meeting on Tuesday, p. m., led by Mrs. Haverstock. D. H. McQUARRIE, Sec'y.

At the Home Mission Board meeting convened in Yarmouth Sept. 10, a provisional committee of the Board was appointed to take charge of the work hitherto carried on by Bro. Cohoon, until such time as his successor could be obtained or a permanent satisfactory disposition of his work be arranged. Correspondence upon all Home Mission questions should be addressed to me during this provisional arrangement. Any correspondence forwarded to me, will be immediately submitted to the members of the committee. P. G. MOORE, Sec'y. Prov. Com.

Yarmouth, P. O. Box 322.
P. S.—I would like it to be understood that I have nothing whatever to do with the finances of Home Missions. Do not send any money to me, but to A. Cohoon, Wolfville, N. S. who is still Treasurer of Denominational Funds for Nova Scotia, and he will see that the Home Mission portion reaches our Treasurer in due time. This will save trouble and prevent mistakes. P. G. M.

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