

Messenger and Visitor.

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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR
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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1894.

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The inaugural address of President Austin K. de Blois, of Shurtleff College, Ill., is printed in the Chicago Standard of Oct. 11. Subject: "The College for the People." Alluding to the address the Standard says editorially, "It will be seen at once that a fresh personal force of marked character has entered into the intellectual life of the state. It is rarely that principles so fundamentally vital in education are set forth with such clearness and vigor. President de Blois is evidently a man of convictions and he has the courage of them." The many friends of Dr. de Blois in these provinces will be pleased to know that he finds his new relations very agreeable ones. He has entered upon his work at Shurtleff with characteristic hopefulness and enthusiasm. We trust that his labors may be crowned with the largest measure of success.

The announcement of the retirement of Chancellor Von Caprivi from the post which he has occupied with distinguished honor both to himself and to the German empire, took the world by surprise. It is quite probable that all the reasons which have led to the step are not known. The explanation given is that the Chancellor's policy in reference to the Socialists was not sufficiently vigorous to satisfy the Emperor. It is also said that the Emperor has come to accept the judgment of Bismarck, that the Chancellorship and the Prussian Premiership should be united in one person, and that Caprivi was unwilling to assume the added labor and responsibility. Count Zu Eulenburg, who has held the office of Premier of Prussia, has also resigned, and the duties pertaining to both positions have been undertaken by Prince von Hohenlohe Schillingen, the late governor of Alsace-Lorraine. The new chancellor belongs to an eminent Bavarian family and is a man about 75 years of age.

A recent vigorous speech of Lord Rosebery's, at Bradford, indicates the firm determination of his government to carry out the policy foreshadowed by Mr. Gladstone on the eve of his retirement, in reference to the House of Lords. Lord Rosebery intimated that the exercise of the veto power by the "irresponsible chamber" would prevent the present parliament continuing for anything like the full extent of its natural life, and that the next election would be fought on questions affecting the continued existence of the House of Lords. He characterized that body as it now exists as a mockery and an invitation to revolution. The premier does not favor the abolition of the hereditary chamber, but would have the constitution so amended as to take away from the Lords the absolute power of veto which they now possess. He therefore proposes to submit to parliament a resolution affirming that in the partnership between the Lords and the Commons, the latter should be regarded as the dominant factor. Such a resolution, his lordship has no doubt, the Commons would adopt and the government would appeal to the people to confirm by their suffrages the voice of the Commons. If the popular verdict should prove to be decisively favorable, Lord Rosebery would doubtless feel himself to be in a position to dictate terms to the Lords.

The statement that the Unitarian denomination in proportion to its numbers represents more wealth than any other is no doubt true. Probably, too, no other denomination lays so much stress on the necessity and value of good works. In connection with these facts it seems remarkable that the gifts of Unitarian churches for benevolent objects are comparatively small. No doubt there are wealthy Unitarians who give large sums for benevolent and philanthropic purposes, but the Unitarian churches as such are small givers, and for this statement Senator Hoar, who presided at the Unitarian conference recently held at Saratoga, is authority. As quoted by the *Congregationalist* Senator Hoar, in contrasting the gifts of a conference of Congregational churches with those of the Unitarian faith, said: "These fourteen churches give thousands annually more than the 440 churches of the Unitarian faith, with all their wealth, with all their influence and with all their emphasis on good works." In view of such a fact he asked whether it were worth while to put forth much effort to convert these churches to Unitarianism—"whether they had not better remain with all their errors of faith raising \$50,000 a year rather than be converted to us, if their works are to be performed in future in the Unitarian proportion." A pertinent question certainly.

We have received from Rev. J. J. Baker some notes of the Ontario and Quebec convention which it was his privilege to attend. These notes for the most part cover the same ground as the letter of our regular Ontario correspondent. The following sentences will however be of interest to those who also read the "Ontario Letter" in another column:

"There were between three and four hundred delegates in attendance. The meetings were declared to be the best in the history of the body. There was an evident spirit of unity and earnestness. In each department of the work great enthusiasm was manifested. The year has been somewhat trying to the workers because of the financial stringency. There was a marked falling off in the income from invited funds on university account. Here, however, the character of the work done and the number of students sent out afford good reason for great hope. Including the deficits of last year there was a total deficit in the home and foreign work of about \$9,000. The general feeling was one of gratitude—that the failure was only a matter of money. The 11th of Nov. was named as a day for special offerings to balance the accounts in these departments. The income toward the several missions of the body for the year just closed was about \$70,000. The expenses for the current year are about \$85,000."

The death of Hon. Honoré Mercier, ex-premier of Quebec, which occurred on Tuesday last, after a lingering illness, accompanied with great suffering, removes a man who has had a quite remarkable career. He was born—the son of a French Canadian farmer—at Iberville, Quebec, in 1810, and had therefore scarcely more than reached the prime of life when fatal disease laid hold upon him. Mr. Mercier studied law, and was admitted to the bar of his native province in 1835. In the practice of his profession he met with a fair measure of success, but came to devote himself especially to journalism and politics. He was a man of no small intellectual force, an orator, a leader of men, possessing in a generous degree the personal qualities which attract. No man of his generation has so well understood how to arouse and direct as he would the feelings of the French Canadian people. He also understood how to win the favor and support of the Roman Catholic church, and was highly honored by the Pope. But like some other politicians, ancient and modern, his way was not perfect, a nemesis overtook him, he suffered disaster and defeat, and his sun has gone down under a cloud. Formerly Honoré Mercier was not guilty of greater wrong doing than some other politicians who have suffered less for their sins. If, under his leadership, the public treasury was robbed, it does not appear that the stealings went into his private purse. It is said that he died a poor man. But doubtless his condemnation was just, yet in spite of his lack of political virtue, few men probably have been more generally mourned on their death by the French Canadian people.

At the Prohibition Convention recently held at Annapolis the following report, presented by the committee on political action, was adopted:

Whereas, The plebiscite has proved the prevalence of the popular wish for prohibition in the Maritime Provinces, and

Whereas, This wish can be realized by electing more prohibitionists to parliament, and

Whereas, The political party caucuses have generally and persistently treated this issue contemptuously in their nominations; and

Whereas, The prohibitionist electors (now in these parties) are numerous enough, if united, to control the choice of candidates;

Therefore Resolved, That county prohibition-conventions should be organized for the purpose of compelling the old parties to bring our honest prohibitionists as candidates or else to put independent prohibitionists in the field.

In view of the approaching dominion elections, it is very desirable that we, the prohibitionists of the Maritime Provinces, should be in a position to make our influence felt, and to this end we, as a convention, would respectfully urge our friends that they refuse to vote for any candidate who is not:

- 1st. A total abstainer.
- 2nd. A pronounced prohibitionist.
- 3rd. Who will not pledge himself to work for and vote for the immediate prohibition of the liquor traffic, regardless of the attitude of his party and no matter what may be the consequences to his party.
- 4th. Who will not so declare his principles and purposes publicly when addressing the electors and also in all newspapers published in his county in at least four issues preceding the day of election and also in at least six issues of the leading daily papers in his province.

In the event of neither of the present parties bringing out a candidate so pledging himself, then we strongly urge that wherever practicable an independent prohibitionist should be put in the field.

We recommend that the work of or-

ganization be undertaken immediately, and that all county conventions be requested to report annually to this convention, and that all provincial or maritime general temperance societies and religious bodies be asked to formally approve of this convention as the best available common platform for political prohibition effort.

The Illinois Baptist State Association.

The Illinois Baptist State Association has just concluded one of the most enthusiastic meetings in its history. The work began with the pastoral Union on Monday evening and concluded Friday evening. I like the plan better than remaining over Sabbath.

The main business of the Association is State missions, but education, home and foreign missions, all find a place on the programme. The year has been one of large success; and not withstanding hard times the finances are in a healthy condition. Prominent among the speakers was Dr. Henson of course. His subject was "Our Bible," and he elaborated four points. 1. The inspiration of the Bible is not to be questioned; 2. The Bible is not to be co-ordinated with other religious books; 3. The Bible is not to be subjected to the test of human reason. In concluding his remarks upon this point Dr. Henson said, "As well might a microscope in a drop of water stand upon his hind legs to criticize the stars." 4. The Bible is not to be superseded by any evolution of science.

Dr. Harper, president of the great Chicago University, for the first time found an opportunity in the multitude of his cares to attend the Association. As he appeared the big audience arose with waving handkerchiefs and other demonstrations of applause. It was reassuring to one's faith in the good old book to hear the great man say with sublime simplicity "The Bible does not contain the Word of God; the Bible is the Word of God."

No less demonstrative and certainly not less cordial was the reception of our young Nova Scotia, Dr. de Blois, president of Shurtleff College. The young Dr. appeared twice in the interest of education, and acquitted himself well. The N. S. men present—and we were not a few—were proud to claim him.

Friday was B. Y. P. U. day. The most interesting feature was the presentation of banners. Two came to the state, the Bible Reader's and Junior; those were awarded the local societies which returned the greatest number of successful papers. The Sacred Literature banner is the one most coveted, and a great outburst of enthusiasm was caused by the vowed intention to win it this year. My Nova Scotia blood came to the surface and I was just mean enough to point out that it is a case of forty thousand Baptists competing with a hundred thousand, and if after three years of effort Illinois should win, it will be no great cause for boasting.

The B. Y. P. U. of the Maritime Provinces should look well to their laurels. It seems to me an agitation, might properly come from you, to change the basis upon which this award is made. Let the banner be given the State returning the greatest number of correct papers in proportion to the Baptist church membership in the State. Upon this basis I believe the Province may hold the banner against all comers.

S. H. CAIN.
LaSalle, Ill., Oct. 22.

Letter from Ashville, N. C.

I wish to express through the MESSENGER AND VISITOR my sincerest thanks and heartfelt gratitude to those kind friends in N. B., who assisted me financially, and made it possible for me to try a change of climate. Especially do I thank the kind friends of Springfield, Kings Co., for the sum of \$40 which they cheerfully contributed to defray my expenses south. I am also under obligation of gratitude to the Ledge Dufferin and Rolling Dam churches in Charlotte Co., for the sums of \$9.25 and \$10 respectively. I will not say "God bless them," as that would be superfluous, for I know that He will most surely bless them, inasmuch as they have ministered unto one of the "least of these." Now Brunswick has cold winters, but then she has a host of warm hearted Baptists.

I must not forget to mention the fact that I am equally indebted to pastor Morgan of Jacksonville, and pastor Baker of Woodstock, for the kind interest they have taken in my case. I am quite hopeful of regaining my health, now that I am under sunny skies, and have a superabundance of dry air, which is about the only thing in this country that can be obtained

"without money and without price." Ashville is a beautiful city. As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so they also encircle the town of Ashville, which of itself has an elevation of 2,500 feet above the sea-level; consequently it is a favorite resort for those who are troubled with pulmonary complaints.

Sunday morning I attended service at the First Baptist church, and had the pleasure of hearing Dr. Graves, returned missionary from China. His subject was "The Divine Endowment." This, he claimed was the great need of the church, in the work of foreign missions. Dr. Graves has spent 38 years in China and of course is an authority on missions; withal he is very modest and unassuming in his address.

I also attended service in Mount Zion (colored) Baptist church. The service throughout was intensely amusing; the preaching far beyond my poor power to describe, the text being, "Never man spake like this man," while in the speaker we had a practical illustration of the subject. W. G. COREY.

The Recommended Catechism.

The attention of Sunday-school workers is hereby called to a small work entitled "A Catechism of Bible Teaching," by John A. Broadus, D. D., L. L. D. It will be remembered that the Maritime Baptist Convention in 1893 recommended the use of a Catechism to the schools within its bounds, and also that, after a year's consideration, choice was made by the meeting of the Convention in August of this year of the Catechism referred to above.

The origin of the work, as stated in the publisher's notice, was as follows: "In 1890, feeling the need of a new and somewhat more extended Baptist Catechism than then existed, the American Baptist Publication Society and the Sunday-school Committee (now S. S. Board) of the Southern Baptist Convention, each at about the same time, asked Dr. John A. Broadus to prepare such a work. At his suggestion it was arranged that the two bodies should unite in the publication. Accordingly the Catechism is now sent forth, having received the sanction of the official committees of both bodies, and by them is commended to their respective constituencies. No one is so well qualified as its honored author to gain a wide hearing in every part of our land, and it is earnestly hoped that the result may be a more thorough acquaintance with the doctrines of God's Word, and a still greater unity in the faith which that Word inspires."

The introductory remarks "to the parent or teacher" will give an idea of the author's method of treatment and indicate how the lessons may be taught. In these the publishers say: "To each lesson some advanced questions are added in fine print, after the manner of school books, in order to make the treatment of the subject a little more complete and to meet the inquiries of many youthful minds. These fine-print portions may be learned at first by some classes or individuals, or may be combined with the lessons in reviewing the work; and some teachers will simply explain them after the lesson is recited."

"The desire has been to present the chief doctrines of the Bible from a devotional and practical point of view; and two or three lessons are introduced of a distinctively practical character. The lessons are arranged in what was thought a natural order, but some of them might be learned without the others, or the order could be varied. Several lessons would need to be divided for many children or classes; and where the Catechism is used in connection with the International Series of Scripture lessons, a small number of questions could be assigned for each Sunday with constant review."

The forty-four pages contain lessons on fifteen subjects, namely: God, Providence of God, The Word of God, Man, The Saviour, The Holy Spirit and the Trinity, The Atonement of Christ, Regeneration, Repentance and Faith, Justification and Sanctification, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, The Lord's Day, Some Duties of the Christian Life, Imitation of Christ, The Future Life. To these is appended a list of sixty-nine Scripture selections under the heading: "Passages for learning by heart."

The following extracts from two of the lessons are given for the double purpose of showing the author's treatment of special subjects and the importance of familiarizing the children with intelligent answers to hard questions:

LESSON II. PROVIDENCE OF GOD.

1. What is meant by the "mes-

sage" of the President of the Maritime Union to the Aid Societies was read by Mrs. H. S. Pipes; the report on home missions by Mrs. Chubbuck, and Mrs. Manning's farewell address to Miss Clark, by Miss Annie Hickman.

But probably the most interesting part of our programme was an address by Mrs. Smith, treasurer W. B. M. U., who takes such a deep interest in the work; as she gave us a report of the work done at Convention, dwelling particularly on the earnest, self-denying work of our sisters in the North-west. We are glad that she promised Mrs. Mellick that the members of the Amherst church would remember them at the Christmas season, as we did last year, by laying aside for the North-west mission the money usually spent on unnecessary or useless Christmas gifts. Perhaps this may be a plan some other church or individual Christian would like to adopt. If so, we have no patent on it, and are glad to suggest it to them. After listening with great interest as she told us, too many things about our new missionaries, which few of us had been privileged to meet, we almost felt as if we knew them personally, and could sympathise more fully with them in the parting from home and loved ones, and would take a deeper and more intelligent interest in their work. Appropriate hymns were sung during the evening, prayers offered and a collection taken toward defraying Mrs. Churchill's expenses to India.

B. C. BALFOUR.

LESSON VIII. REGENERATION.

1. What is meant by the word regeneration? Regeneration is God's causing a person to be born again.
2. Does God act according to purposes formed beforehand? God has always intended to do whatever He does. Eph. 1: 11; 1 Pet. 1: 20.
3. Do God's purposes destroy our freedom of action? We choose and act freely, and are accountable for all we do. Jas. 2: 15; Rom. 14: 15.

4. Is this new birth necessary in order to salvation? Without the new birth no one can be saved. John 3: 3.
5. Are people regenerated through baptism? No, only those whose hearts are already changed ought to be baptized.
6. Does faith come before the new birth? No, it is the new heart that truly repents and believes.
7. What is the proof of having a new heart? The proof of having a new heart is living a new life. John 2: 29; 2 Cor. 5: 17.

It is very desirable that this Catechism should be introduced into our schools and families. Above all let us have uniformity in the kind used. The voice of the convention should be regarded. Orders will be filled at the Baptist Book Room, Halifax. I have twelve dozen copies on hand, and will be glad to send a sample to anyone on receipt of cost—five cents.

F. H. BEALS,
Ch. Con. com. on S. schools.
Hebron, Oct. 31, '94.

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:
"Be ye strong therefore and let not your hands be weak for your work shall be rewarded."

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

PRAYER TOPIC FOR NOVEMBER.

For the work at Chicoutimi, that this month may see many turning to God and publicly avowing Him.

For the home workers that the spirit of consecration may be an all.

Let us pray earnestly for Chicoutimi and all its laborers this month. For the faithful missionaries, the native preachers, teachers and Bible women, and especially for those whom Mrs. Archibald mentions in *Tellings*, who are delighting in the study of God's Word, that all who are secretly believing may nobly come forth and confess Christ; and for the thousands of idolaters on that large field. Pray in faith, my sisters, every day this month. Remember what God did in answer to our prayers last January for Bimilipatan.

Letter received from Miss Clark, mailed at Queenstown, Ire., reports a very rough stormy passage, but she has enjoyed it very much, not being seasick and able to be at table every meal. Mrs. Corey did not fare so well; she was ill all the way. The captain was very kind and attentive. They were several days behind time on account of the severe storm, and so could not make connection and will remain in London for two weeks.

Reports from Crusade Day, Amherst.

At the risk of having it considered "ancient history," we send you a short notice of how we spent "Crusade Day" in Amherst. For local reasons we observed the day on Thursday, the 11th. During the morning we trust that many earnest prayers arose from sincere hearts that God's richest blessings might rest upon all missionary effort, whether on the home or foreign field. In the afternoon a faithful few went out to stimulate to greater effort and interest the large proportion of the sisters in our society who, because of various reasons, cannot meet with us for even one hour in the month to pray and plan for the coming of His kingdom in the world.

Instead of the regular weekly prayer meeting in the evening, we had a mass meeting of rather an interesting character; our pastor presiding.

As it was thought possible that all of our church members may not find time to read all the yearly reports of our denominational work, it was deemed advisable to present some matter that had already appeared in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. Accordingly, after reading of Scripture, prayer and remarks by Pastor Steele and Mrs. Harding, president of our society, explaining the object of our meeting, the "mes-

sage" of the President of the Maritime Union to the Aid Societies was read by Mrs. H. S. Pipes; the report on home missions by Mrs. Chubbuck, and Mrs. Manning's farewell address to Miss Clark, by Miss Annie Hickman.

But probably the most interesting part of our programme was an address by Mrs. Smith, treasurer W. B. M. U., who takes such a deep interest in the work; as she gave us a report of the work done at Convention, dwelling particularly on the earnest, self-denying work of our sisters in the North-west. We are glad that she promised Mrs. Mellick that the members of the Amherst church would remember them at the Christmas season, as we did last year, by laying aside for the North-west mission the money usually spent on unnecessary or useless Christmas gifts. Perhaps this may be a plan some other church or individual Christian would like to adopt. If so, we have no patent on it, and are glad to suggest it to them. After listening with great interest as she told us, too many things about our new missionaries, which few of us had been privileged to meet, we almost felt as if we knew them personally, and could sympathise more fully with them in the parting from home and loved ones, and would take a deeper and more intelligent interest in their work. Appropriate hymns were sung during the evening, prayers offered and a collection taken toward defraying Mrs. Churchill's expenses to India.

B. C. BALFOUR.

Crusade Day at St. Martins.

A special canvas being made by the sisters, the result was a large number in attendance with a deeply interesting and profitable meeting, led by our vice-president, Mr. J. S. Titus. Members of our Sunday-school assisted in appropriate music. Our work and its needs were presented to the sisters and an interest manifested, which we hope will be lasting. It was our privilege to have with us Miss McIntyre, wife of the Principal of N. B. Seminary, who addressed the meeting in a pleasing and helpful manner.

Mite boxes for the quarter were opened, contents encouraging. Loving mention was made of our president, Mrs. M. W. Williams, now of Denver, Col. Six members were added to our society and others expressed their intention of soon becoming members. Then followed an hour of social intercourse, during which the gentlemen joined us and tea was served. It was an enjoyable time for all. We trust such meetings may tend to awaken interest in the uninterested and stimulate to more concerted service those already interested in our Master's work in India.

G. A. BRADSHAW, Sec.

Albert County Quarterly Meeting.

The Albert county quarterly meeting recently held with 3rd Eglis church was a gathering of much interest and profit. The ministers present were J. E. Fillmore, W. W. Corey, J. W. Manning, D. Blakeney, J. O. Steadman, H. H. Saunders, I. B. Colwell, besides a number of lay delegates. The president, Rev. B. N. Hughes, being unable to attend on account of sickness, the conference was led by Rev. J. E. Fillmore. At the first business session the officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: Rev. H. H. Saunders, president, R. W. W. Corey vice-president, I. B. Colwell Secretary-treasurer.

Rev. J. W. Manning was asked to preside at the quarterly session, to which he consented, choosing for his text Gen. 7: 1-7. He preached a power ul and telling discourse. Wednesday morning the report on Sunday-schools, written by Sister M. F. Fillmore, was read, freely discussed and unanimously adopted. Rev. H. H. Saunders then taught the S. S. lesson for Oct. 21st to the profit of all present.

The afternoon was devoted to business. One of the principle questions was, What are we as a quarterly meeting doing by way of stirring up the churches in the county to their duty in reference to denominational work? After considerable discussion it was unanimously resolved that this quarterly ask the Baptist churches of the county to contribute this year for denominational purposes the following amounts: Alma \$10, Caledonia \$10, Coaticook \$10, Coaticook 1st \$10, Coaticook 2nd \$10, Coaticook 3rd \$10, Eglis 1st \$75, Eglis 2nd \$20, Eglis 3rd \$25, Forest Glen \$45, Gersuautun \$15, Harvey 1st, \$45, Harvey 2nd \$10, Hillsboro 1st \$250, Hillsboro 2nd \$30, Hillsboro 3rd \$15, Hillsboro 4th \$10, Hopewell \$150, New Haven \$10, Valley church \$25. The pastors, deacons and all interested in Christ's cause are asked to do what they can in raising these sums.

In the evening R. W. W. Corey preached a gospel discourse from Luke 5: 9. After the sermon a number witnessed to the blessing of the gospel and the blessed spirit that had pervaded all the meetings. The meeting then adjourned, to meet the 2nd Tuesday in January with the First Coaticook church at Berry Station.

Collections during the quarterly amounted to \$897. After \$4 was deducted for current expenses the remainder, by a vote of the quarterly, was given to J. W. Manning for foreign missions. I. B. COLWELL, Sec. Treas.