

Messenger and Visitor.

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—REV. JAMES A. SPURGEON, of London, brother of the late C. H. Spurgeon, and acting pastor of the London Tabernacle church, has recently received the degree of D. D. from Colgate University, of Hamilton, N. Y.

—THE Western N. B. Association met at Fredericton on Friday afternoon, the 24th inst. Rev. A. B. McDonald, of Cambridge, was chosen as moderator; Rev. B. H. Thomas, of Jacktown, clerk; and Bro. M. S. Hall, treasurer. There was a fair attendance of delegates at the first session. An educational meeting was held in the evening. The report on education was presented by Rev. W. E. McIntyre, of Chipman. Addresses on the subject were delivered by Professor Keirstead of Acadia College and others.

—We shall make no mistake in cultivating as much as possible that temper of mind and heart which is so strongly commended by Paul in the 18th chapter of his first epistle to the Corinthians. The church as well as the world is much in need of that Christian charity that "suffereth long and is kind... that thinketh no evil... believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things." That temper well becomes a man which predisposes him to think good rather than evil of his neighbor. It is beautiful and Christlike. The more it is cultivated among Christians, the more powerful and convincing will be their witness in word and life to the saving and sanctifying power of the gospel of Christ.

—We are disposed at times to quarrel with our daily tasks because they seem so small and insignificant—beginning and ending with the hour, and repeated over and over day after day with wearisome monotony. And yet, if they mean, as every duty faithfully performed must mean, discipline and preparation for a larger life and higher duties in this world or another, then these daily tasks of ours are surely not so very mean and trivial. They are worth doing in God's name. But besides the daily tasks which employ our hands and brains, however small or commonplace, or however great and difficult they may seem to be, there are other duties, moral and religious, connected with our relations to our neighbors—to parents, brothers, sisters, children, and friends—and to God. If these relations and duties are recognized, and if we give ourselves to the performance of them with fidelity and thoroughness, life will not seem to us barren and commonplace, for we shall see that it is something tremendous in its significance and its responsibilities.

—LARGE and enthusiastic meetings have been recently held by the Baptists of England at Nottingham, Leicester and Kettering in celebration of the centenary of foreign missions. At these gatherings sermons and addresses have been delivered by Dr. Landels, Dr. Angus, Dr. Clifford and other well-known men in the denomination, and also by Dr. Edward Parker, Rev. Hugh Price Hughes and Dr. A. T. Pierson—representative men from other religious bodies. Other meetings of a similar character are to be held in London in October. During the last meeting at Kettering, Mr. Baynes, the secretary of the society, spoke of the purpose of the society to celebrate the centenary year by sending out 100 additional missionaries and by raising thanksgiving funds of £100,000, and said that toward this £100,000 nearly £80,000 had now been paid or subscribed. As an example of the sacrifices which the poor are often willing to make for the missionary cause, Mr. Baynes related that the evening before, as he was passing out of the church, some one placed a small parcel in his hand. In the crowd he could not tell from whom it came, but when he opened the parcel he found that it contained five sovereigns "from a Kettering factory girl who feels that it is more blessed to give than to receive."

—AT a meeting lately held in Nottingham, England, in celebration of the centenary of foreign missions, the Rev. T. Graham Tarn, in the course of a notable address, said:

"If the heathen world is to be saved from the evils that afflict it and the more dreadful evils that threaten it... it must be by the apostles of Jesus Christ. Many years ago the leader of Positivism in France directed the attention of his followers to Africa, and he said to them, 'There, in Africa, is a splendid field of missionary enterprise for Positivism. There is an unspoiled race, untainted with the vices of civilization. Let the apostles of Positivism go in and preach it in the name of humanity.' 'Sir, is it not surprising that our missionaries have never told us of the blessed work of Positivism among these native races? That we have heard absolutely nothing of the mission stations and churches for spreading the gospel of humanity? Is it not surprising that we have never come across, in all the re-

ports that come to us, the annual report of the mission of Positivism? We would urge upon the Positivists of England and the Continent to embody their principles in mission work, and to test those principles upon the heathen. I am bound to say that I would readily undertake a journey to the very heart of the Dark Continent to see Frederick Harrison hard at work, telling amongst the unpolished races, to spread his gospel of Positivism. . . . Positivism has no gospel to teach the heathen and no motive that can possibly make it missionary. Everybody knows that the hopes of the heathen are centred in the Lord Jesus Christ and Christianity."

—THE late Hon. Alex. Mackenzie has left a very handsome bequest to the fund of Aged and Infirm Baptist ministers in Ontario. Half his estate, which in all is said to amount to \$58,000, goes to the death of Mrs. Mackenzie to that fund; the other half of the estate is left absolutely to his only daughter, Mrs. Thompson, of Sarnia.

PASSING EVENTS.

SOME measure of regret will no doubt, in the minds of many, mingle with the congratulations to Mr. Blake upon his prospective entrance into the Imperial Parliament. The Montreal Star thinks that there might be, in connection with the public affairs of this Dominion, work as important as any that Mr. Blake will find on the other side of the Atlantic. But the Star, while expressing regret at the loss involved to Canada, thinks that Mr. Blake is scarcely to be blamed for choosing to enter the British rather than the Canadian parliament. It accounts for his willingness to do so by the lack of appreciation and success with which he has met in the past. If he were to re-enter parliament here he would not have a following, but in the Imperial parliament, the Star thinks, "Edward Blake will be a power. He carries his wealth of brains to a place where brains are appreciated. . . . Canadians have made their politics too much a round of pig-feeding to offer elbow-room for statesmen. Some are hoping for the return of Mr. Blake, but a man who has once sat in the chair of Parnell and holds in his hand the slightest hope of becoming the first minister of the empire, can hardly be expected to return in his declining years to take up again what has always been a thankless struggle."

IN the National Convention of the Democratic party assembled last week in Chicago, the first ballot was taken between three and four o'clock on Thursday morning, and resulted in the nomination of Grover Cleveland for the presidency. Of the convention's 9021 votes Mr. Cleveland received 616, some 13 votes more than were required to nominate according to the two-thirds rule. For Hill, of New York, 112 votes were cast, and for Boies, of Iowa, 103. Several other candidates received a smaller number of votes. Cleveland is therefore emphatically the choice of his party. The opposition to him of Tammany and David B. Hill, persistent and unscrupulous as it has been, has counted for nothing so far as the nomination is concerned. The general preference for Cleveland overbalanced all opposition. But it is still quite possible that Hill and Tammany may prevent Cleveland's election, which is pretty generally conceded to be impossible unless he can carry the state of New York. This in Mr. Cleveland's own state, but his course as President—to his credit be it said—was not pleasing to the party bosses. The New York delegation which was elected through Hill's manipulation was deadly opposed to Cleveland's nomination, and though finally the New York delegates voted to make the nomination unanimous, it is quite doubtful whether Cleveland will receive the hearty and unanimous support of the party necessary to insure victory in a state where the Republican and Democratic forces are so nearly equal.

MANY who felt little sympathy with the Hon. James G. Blaine in his failure to secure the nomination of his party at the late convention at Minneapolis, and in the defeat of all his ambitions looking toward the presidency, will be moved with sincere sympathy for the ex-secretary and his family now plunged into deep grief by the sudden death of Emmons Blaine, of Chicago, his eldest surviving son. Emmons Blaine, who had married in 1889 a daughter of Cyrus McCormick, a wealthy Chicagoan, was successfully engaged in railroading, and was at the time of his death vice-president of the Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern road. He had attended the Minneapolis convention, working hard in the interest of his father's nomination. It is supposed that his constant activity and anxiety while he helped to bring on the illness with which he was seized

on his return to Chicago, and which after a few days terminated fatally. While Mr. Blaine was Secretary of State under President Harrison he lost his eldest son, Walker Blaine, and his eldest daughter, Mrs. Alice Coppinger. Thus three of his children have been taken away within a few years; and three still live—Mrs. Walter Damroch, James G. Blaine, Jr., and Miss Harriet Blaine, the youngest child. The news of their son's death reached Mr. and Mrs. Blaine on Saturday, the 18th, at Bar Harbor, whither the family had gone for the summer. On the same day they left for Chicago. The whole party seemed overwhelmed with sorrow as they went on board the ferry steamer. "Mr. Blaine walked with a quick, agitated step, and Mrs. Blaine, who leaned upon his arm, gave way to her sorrow, sobbing and moaning aloud." We have here certainly a striking illustration of the fact that eminent ability and position, with wealth, culture and vast worldly advantages, afford no defence against the keenest disappointments and sorrows to which human life is subject.

THE Non-conformist ministers of Ulster, to the number of 999, some weeks ago addressed a letter of remonstrance to Mr. Gladstone, and also an appeal to the Non-conformists of England and Scotland to save them from Catholic domination by defeating Home Rule. This has been followed more recently by a grand assembly and demonstration of 10,000 people at Belfast, at which, amid intense enthusiasm, resolutions were adopted protesting against a measure which would rob them of representation in the Imperial parliament, and declaring their determination to have nothing to do with a Dublin parliament, certain to be controlled by men responsible for the "crimes and outrages of the Land League." The attempt to set up such a parliament in Ireland, it was declared, would inevitably result in disorder, violence and bloodshed such as have not been experienced in this century, and "we announce our resolve to take no part in the election or the proceedings of such a parliament, the authority of which, should it ever be constituted, we shall be forced to repudiate." How far this manifestation of feeling is due to the promptings of Conservative politicians we cannot undertake to say. There can be no doubt, however, that people of the highest character and influence are taking a leading part in the demonstrations and that the feeling in Ulster against Home Rule is exceedingly bitter. The resulting political situation is certainly a grave one. These men mean what they say—that they will take no part in electing an Irish parliament, that they will not submit to be ruled by such a parliament, and that an attempt to enforce its authority would result in bloodshed. But neither the arguments nor the threats of the Ulstermen are sufficient to move Mr. Gladstone from his purpose, if returned to power, to bring in a Home Rule measure for Ireland. He has declared that he is fully committed to that line of action, and that to it the remainder of his strength must be devoted. In answer to the outcry of the people of Ulster he only reiterates what he has before said, that in the measure which he will introduce, the rights and liberties of Ulster will be well secured. Home Rule for Ireland will, at all events, be the issue upon which Mr. Gladstone will meet his opponents in this, which will doubtless be the last of the veteran statesman's great political battles.

THE rumors which were generally current and generally believed a few weeks ago of the death of Emin Pacha, who was said to have fallen a victim to smallpox in Central Africa, are now, it seems, authentically contradicted. A despatch reached Berlin last week, stating that Emin had arrived at Bukoba, where he had rejoined his chief lieutenant, Dr. Stuhlman. Owing to a lack of provisions and the impossibility of obtaining carriers, they had been unable to extend their journey as far as they desired into the interior, and Dr. Stuhlman had accordingly returned with the greater part of the expedition to the coast, some time ago. Emin, now recovered from the attack of smallpox, which had prevented his accompanying Dr. Stuhlman, has also returned, and is reported to be in good health. It is stated that in the course of their explorations Emin's company came upon a number of poor wretches, victims of a slave hunters' raid, and victims also of the terrible smallpox, by which they had been smitten down, and left in their chains to die. Emin ministered to these miserable people, contracted the disease and, necessarily it would seem, was left behind by the expedition, as it returned

to the coast. Nothing, it would seem, was more probable than that Emin would succumb to the disease. But if the reports which now reach us are correct, he has recovered his health and has returned to civilization as has been justly remarked with new claims to the respect and admiration of the world.

Bro. D. C. Crosby; (8) "Prohibition of the drink curse; the political aspect of the question," address by Rev. D. H. Simpson. The congregation was full and enthusiastic. The report was tabled to be further dealt with. On Monday this report was unanimously adopted.

N. S. WESTERN ASSOCIATION.

The Western Baptist Association of N. S. met this year with the Hebron church, in Yarmouth county, of which Rev. F. H. Beals is pastor. That the association might be more pleasantly convened, and the church in its worship more tastefully accommodated, this church home has recently been reconstructed and beautifully renovated. The re-dedication services were held on Friday evening, the 17th inst. The Rev. A. T. Dykeman, of Digby, by appointment, preached a popular sermon; text Rom. 14:7; subject, "Personal influence." The Rev. J. H. Foshey, of 1st Yarmouth church, gave an instructive paper on "The Ideal of Public Worship." The efforts of these brethren were highly appreciated by a large audience. A large choir, led by Prof. Hall, furnished music—devotional and pleasing.

During the pastorate of the late Fathers H. Harding and Wm. Burton, the Baptist brotherhood at the "Ponds" and vicinity—now Hebron—built one of the largest and best houses of worship then owned by the Baptists of Nova Scotia. Just as it was about finished it was accidentally burned down. Nothing daunted, this people arose and builded larger. The house when completed cost six hundred pounds (£600), and would comfortably seat six hundred people. This was in 1834. In 1857 this building was remodelled to suit the taste and convenience of that generation. A new pulpit was put in and a tower was added. Now that pulpit has given place to a platform which will accommodate both preacher and choir, and a fine toned bell has been hung in the tower. A change in the order of services is here, as elsewhere in our churches, observed, and the platform is tastefully and properly decorated with flowers. If but the old Gospel is preached, appreciated and made the power of God unto the salvation of souls, all lovers of our sions may be satisfied when the present generation follows the dictates of their tastes and preferences in the worship of God, as our fathers did before us.

The associational exercises proper began Saturday morning, June the 18th, at 10 a.m. Rev. E. P. Coldwell of Freeport—the moderator—presided. After devotional services the list of representatives from the churches, so far as the clerk had been advised, was read. The choice for moderator fell on Rev. W. B. Bradshaw, Ph. D., of Nictaux. The Rev. I. E. Bill, of Liverpool, was re-elected clerk, and Bro. I. E. Bill, jr. (lic), assistant clerk; Deacon B. H. Parker, of Nictaux, treasurer, and Deacon Jas. Crosby, of Hebron, assistant.

The letters from the churches as read were of usual interest. They indicated much work done in the churches, and good results experienced. In 45 churches, of the 72 composing this association, 707 had been added by baptism. The reading of statistical reports from the churches took up quite a portion of the morning and afternoon sessions; and, as usual, a lively discussion was had on this method of receiving and using these letters. Numerous plans, wise and otherwise, were suggested. The matter was at length placed in the hands of a committee, who subsequently reported a plan acceptable to the association which, it is hoped, will meet all the difficulties of the case.

A thoughtful and suggestive report on Sabbath-schools was presented by Rev. D. H. Simpson, chairman. Quite an extended discussion followed the reading of this paper, indicating, by what was said and not said, much zeal and thoughtfulness on the part of many of our Sabbath-school workers.

SATURDAY EVENING

was given to a platform temperance meeting. The report of the committee on Temperance was read by Bro. D. C. Crosby, of Port Maitland. This report gave of no uncertain sound. It dealt vigorously with prohibition, the Compulsion wine question, and the use of tobacco. A well-arranged programme was followed. The speeches were pointed and practical, the singing excellent and appropriate. The themes discussed were—

(1) "The Importance of Education in the principles of Total Abstinence," by Rev. A. A. Locke, of Pine Grove; (2) "Tobacco: a great evil and inconsistent with a Christian profession," spoken of by Revs. I. E. Bill, W. H. Robinson, and

the missionary sermon was preached by Rev. G. O. Gates, of St. John; text, Rom. 1:14; theme, "The Christian a debtor." The preacher was at his best, the subject appropriate and well thought out. The large audience was deeply interested and instructed.

SABBATH MORNING

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SABBATH AFTERNOON

a packed audience greeted our sisters of the Missionary Union. Miss A. Johnstone presided. The following order was observed: Mrs. G. R. White read the Scriptures; silent prayer; prayer by Rev. G. R. White; address by Miss Johnstone on "The test of our faith in the use of little things along the common walks of life, in accomplishing the great work of saving the lost"; Miss A. Chipman read a well-conceived paper on "The honor of Christ assailed"; prayer by Rev. F. H. Beals. Mrs. D. H. Simpson had for her theme, "The training of our children for mission work." In a most pleasing and forceful way this subject was presented. "What has been accomplished by modern missions" was reviewed by Mrs. Trueman Bishop. Encouraging and instructive facts in the history of our mission to the heathen were presented as incentives to persevering and consecrated effort. The Rev. D. H. Simpson gave the closing address. At the request of the president, Rev. A. Cohoon offered prayer. These public meetings of the sisters with the brethren evidently mark an advance movement in the right direction. What God hath joined together let not man or woman put asunder.

SABBATH EVENING

was also given to the subject of missions. The report was presented by Rev. G. R. White. Addresses followed: (1) by Rev. G. O. Gates on "Facts and Lessons of the past one hundred years of mission effort"; (2) Rev. I. C. Archibald on "Our Telugu Mission"; (3) Rev. S. H. Cain, "A century ago and one hundred years to come."

This was emphatically a missionary day, and the sustained interests of large audiences shows that the missionary spirit in our churches is strong and abiding.

MONDAY MORNING

was dark and rainy. This somewhat interfered with the attendance of the people, but as the hour of opening came many were present. After some routine business was done, the circular letter was read by Rev. A. F. Browne, of Tusket. The theme selected was "The regular duties of church members." This letter is an able plea against spasmodic and in favor of a uniform effort in church work, sustained by an abiding spiritual life in the church. As the association voted that this letter be printed in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, our readers may have ere long the pleasure of reading it.

This association, in a commendable way, keeps up a correspondence with our aged and infirm bro. ministers, who are forbidden the privilege of former years of meeting the brotherhood in annual gatherings. In accordance with this custom, fraternal letters were received this year from Revs. J. A. Stubbert, J. Rowe and A. W. Bars, all of whom are laid aside from their loved homes in the ministry of the Word. The report on Missions was taken from the table, when Rev. A. Cohoon gave an interesting address, as he discussed the subject, of which he is master. He reported progress all along the line of Home, Grande Ligne and Northwest missions. On our home field this has been a harvest year, 820 having been baptized by our missionaries.

MONDAY AFTERNOON

the report of the committee on Obituaries was presented by Rev. W. H. Richan. None of the ministers of this association had been removed by death during the year. The demise of several prominent deacons was reported.

The committee on Denominational Literature reported through Rev. C. C. Burgess. In this the proper literature for our Sabbath-schools was recommended. Our Book Room in Halifax and the MESSENGER AND VISITOR received suitable commendation.

The chairman of the several districts reported on the work of the churches along the lines of beneficence. These reports showed that a high standard of benevolence is aimed at by our pastors, and that they are diligently studying and applying the best methods for this end. A resolution in favor of monthly con-

tributions in the churches for our Convention Fund, instead of quarterly, was passed and ordered to be published in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR.

MONDAY EVENING

the annual sermon was preached by Rev. F. M. Young, Ph. B., of Bridgetown. The text chosen was Isa. 52:1; subject, "A call to a sleeping giant." This sermon was clear in thought, forcefully delivered, instructive and inspiring. The association voted thanks to the preacher, and requested that it be placed in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR.

The report on Education was read by Rev. D. H. McQuarrie. In it reference was had to Acadia University, Acadia Seminary, and Horton and St. Martins Academics. All these institutions were reported as in a hopeful condition. Grateful mention was made of the generous gift of Chas. E. Young, Esq., who is erecting the new manual training building.

The cause of education was ably advocated by—

Rev. D. H. McQuarrie, who gave a paper on "The economic value of higher education."

Principal Oakes presented the claims of Horton Academy. He referred to the Christian influences operating upon the character of the students at the academy. The majority were professing Christians. The religious exercises were regularly maintained. The recent internal improvements were a great boon to the students. Never before had better provision been made for their comfort. He referred to the excellence of Mr. Mome's former work as teacher in the academy, and regarded his return upon the staff after two years at Harvard University as a matter for congratulation. He described the successive steps in the Manual Training movement at Wolfville, and was glad the enterprise was meeting with such general public favor. Mr. McDonald, the manual training director, would be at Wolfville Aug. 1st to supervise the equipment of the new department. Students pursuing manual training would take the same studies as formerly and would matriculate just as quickly. Manual training would, in part, take the place of recreation. Its advantages were now widely recognized. Professional men and women should be able to use their hands skillfully. The stitch in time saves the nine, and the nine often means nine dollars and sometimes more. Many boys sent to academies were better adapted to mechanical pursuits than for professional life. Why should they not have opportunity of discovering their aptitudes and developing them, instead of being forced along into an uncongenial and disappointing profession. Our courses of study in schools and colleges look chiefly toward the professions, yet a large proportion of our young people are seeking to become artisans, engineers, etc. Why should doors not be opened for these? Our business men are anxious to see such provision made; they contribute largely toward our Wolfville institutions. Why should we not seek to meet their wishes, and thus bring them into closer sympathy with our educational work? He was now collecting funds for the furnishing of the new department, and urged liberal contributions.

Miss Alice M. D. Fitch, M. A., of the teaching staff of Acadia Seminary, addressed the association in behalf of that institution. This departure from the ordinary course was much to the delight of the audience. Miss Fitch fully demonstrated that Acadia Seminary needs no abler advocates of her claims to the support of our people, than she can furnish from her own staff of teachers.

The Rev. A. Cohoon had a few minutes in which to speak of Acadia University's work and plans for the future. This session closed the 42nd annual session of the N. S. Western Association. These meetings may be characterized as pleasant and fraternal. The morning and evening prayer-meetings were seasons of spiritual refreshing. The singing, as led by the choir, was devotional and uplifting. The business was wisely directed by the moderator, and the purpose of the association were well pursued by the brethren generally. The location is pleasant and the hospitality abundant. The future for our churches in the west of Nova Scotia is promising.

The minister who makes himself a specialist as a temperance reformer, or an anti-Romanist, or a champion of the laboring classes, or a crusader against tobacco, or a defender of the Sabbath, practically ceases to be a minister of the gospel of Christ. He may be all these and so subordinate them to His message, which proclaims the redemption of men and of society through Christ, as not to narrow his calling. He cannot be any one of these exclusively and remain in truth a Christian minister.—Congregationalist.