

# Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER  
VOLUME XLVII.

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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR  
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— An interesting article—"Mission Notes, etc."—will be found on our eighth page. A press of matter this week makes this unusual position necessary.

— Is it right for ministers to attend foot-ball games? Perhaps, but if they do they should take care to keep out of the way of the players and not get mixed up in a "scrimmage," as did Rev. W. A. Benedict, of Newton Centre, Mass. After being laid aside five months from a broken shoulder and internal injuries, the result of his indiscretion and consequent experience on a foot-ball field, he is just getting out again, and thinks he is able fully to appreciate the glory so eagerly striven for on gory fields by College athletes.

— We had hoped that we should not be called upon to publish any further correspondence in respect to the matter of Dr. Day and the Yarmouth church. But as that church has been subject to a good deal of unfavorable criticism in connection with this matter, it appears to have a right to be heard in own defence, and therefore though greatly regretting the necessity, we have felt that we could not do otherwise than accede to the request of the pastor of the Yarmouth church to publish the article which appears elsewhere in this issue.

— ALREADY "the New England Baptist Train" for the May meetings is advertised. As the *Watchman* says, this train has become a recognized institution and has led to an increased attendance of New England Baptists at the annual meetings of the great societies. The meetings are this year to be held in Saratoga, N. Y., and will therefore be convenient to the Maritime Provinces as well as to New England. We call attention to this in good time, so that any of our readers who desire to attend the meetings may be able to make their arrangements in good season.

— THE *Presbyterian Witness* says: "Rev. B. Fay Mills \* \* \* will come to Halifax on or about April 10th. He will conduct services here for about two weeks, possibly for more. Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians are unanimous in inviting Mr. Mills. The services of Mr. Mills at Montreal lately were remarkably successful, and reports from all cities where he has labored are to the same effect." Mr. Mills is at present engaged in holding a series of meetings in Providence, R. I., among the churches on the west side of the city, principally Congregationalist and Baptist.

— Do not fail to read the conclusion of Mr. Baker's sermon, which will be found on our fourth page. It contains some wholesome truths, well put, in reference to the drink evil. The preacher narrates at the close of the appalling results of it, which have come under his own observation. The worst of it is that we all know that his experience in this matter is nothing rare or unique, but is paralleled in the experience of thousands of other ministers. The defenders of the drink traffic tell us that prohibition is impracticable, impossible; but surely Christian Canada will not rest until an honest and heroic effort has been made to obtain deliverance from this terrible curse.

— THE story on our sixth page, by "Grace Dean McLeod,"—Mrs. Rogers, of Amherst—will be read with interest. The conclusion will be given next week. Mrs. Rogers has written a good many short stories, which have found much favor with the public. In the fact and legend connected with the settlement of Acadia and its Indian life, she has found material for a number of charming stories, which have been republished in a volume entitled, "Stories from the Land of Evangeline." In our opinion Mrs. Rogers possesses literary faculty of a high order, and though she has given us some very excellent things, we may confidently expect, as the product of her mature thought and literary culture, things of still greater value.

— We see it stated in one of our exchanges that a Parraboro man has purchased Spencer's Island with the view of turning it into a skunk farm. It is also stated that the first skunk farm in this part of the world was started by a Mr. George Beals, of Midgie, Westmorland county, last year. This may be quite correct, but we are under the impression that we have heard that a certain minister, now in England, went into the skunk business in Cornwallis some years ago. His operations may not have been on so extensive a scale as those of the gentleman referred to above, but we believe we are correct in saying that he succeeded in cornering the market and that he realized a very high percentage upon his investment. But if we are correctly informed, our ministerial friend retired from the business with the conviction that it was one which required very careful handling and, all things considered was scarcely in keeping with his cloth. We believe he has never since sought to secure an option in skunks.

## PASSING EVENTS.

THE grand topic of discussion during the past week of course has been the retirement of Lord Rosebery and the appointment of Lord Rosebury as his successor. There has been much discussion of the reasons for Mr. Gladstone's resignation and speculations as to whether the ostensible motives were the real ones. The reasons which we noted last week as those which might persuade the aged statesman to embrace the first opportunity moment to lay aside the cares and burdens of office seem to us sufficient, without supposing some unexplained motive for the course which he has taken. Mr. Gladstone is in his 85th year, and though his physical vigor is said to be wonderful considering his great age, his sense of hearing has become quite indistinct, cataracts have formed on his eyes, and the hopes of retaining his sight lies in an operation, the success of which is more or less uncertain. The immediate future in British politics is big with issues too, waiting to be fought out, and the conflict must tax to the utmost the strength of the leaders. Under these circumstances there seems no reason why we should feel obliged to infer concealed reasons or to be surprised that Mr. Gladstone should desire to transfer to younger shoulders the great burdens and responsibilities which he has hitherto borne, and to seek in the retirement of private life and in congenial literary employment that repose which he has so well earned, and which would form a fitting close to his long and great career. It is quite probable, of course, that Mr. Gladstone and Lord Rosebery did not see eye to eye in reference to the necessity of expenditure for naval defence, but that their differences were such as to have much influence among the considerations which decided Mr. Gladstone to retire, there seems to be no sufficient reason to believe. But one can easily believe it is not without some keen feelings of regret that the old warrior lays aside his armor and transfers the leadership to other hands. The world of British politics in its present phase, with all its dangers and difficulties, must doubtless have great attraction for a man of so eminent ability and so great experience in statesmanship, and it is scarcely possible but that Mr. Gladstone has longed for the vigorous strength of his prime, that he might continue to marshal his forces on the great political battle-fields. But "there is no armor against fate." Even the god-like force of a Gladstone is spent at length. Grandly, with no tottering step, he moves aside to make room for a younger man. The man who follows him is no unworthy successor, yet of the retiring premier we well may say, "Take him for all in all, we never shall look upon his like again."

LORD ROSEBERY, as the success or of Mr. Gladstone in the premiership, is naturally much talked and written about at present. His Lordship was born in 1847, and is therefore about 47 years of age. The family name is Primrose. About 200 years ago an ancestor of the present Earl received the title of Viscount Rosebery, and a few years later was made an Earl. Unlike most of his predecessors in the Premiership for the past century, Lord Rosebery has not had to fight his way up to that position through the House of Commons. He took his seat in the House of Lords on attaining his majority, in 1868, and has never been a member of the representative body. He has had little opportunity therefore to distinguish himself as a debater or a parliamentarian. But the great personal force and commanding ability of Lord Rosebery is unquestioned by friend or foe. His administration of foreign affairs in the present and the preceding Gladstone ministries, and his management of the London County Council, of which he was the first chairman have been such as to create great confidence in his capacity for administration. His successful attempt to settle the difficulties between mine-owners and workmen in connection with the great coal strike of last year, added materially to his fame, and won for him the goodwill of the working-men. Other names were canvassed in connection with the Premiership—chiefly those of Lord Spencer, Lord Kimberley and Sir William Vernon Harcourt; but the position doubtless belongs to Lord Rosebery by right of pre-eminence and greater power to unite and command the diverse elements, of which the Gladstonian party is composed. But whether the genius of Lord Rosebery

will prove equal to this herculean task remains to be seen. As a peer and a man of great wealth, it is supposed that Lord Rosebery will stand better with the English aristocracy than did Mr. Gladstone. The Liberal-Unionists now in alliance with the Conservatives, evidently look with more favor upon Lord Rosebery than they have done upon Mr. Gladstone, and would doubtless gladly rally to his standard if he would drop home rule, or possibly if he would consent to some less radical measure of reform in that direction, than that to which Mr. Gladstone had committed his party. But on the other hand, the Irish Nationalists are suspicious of Lord Rosebery and his policy, and murmurs are already heard in that quarter, which are likely to break into a furious storm, unless assurances are promptly given that the Gladstonian policy in respect to Home Rule will be faithfully adhered to. The Radical contingent in the House of Commons, led by Labouchere, objects to Lord Rosebery as premier, because he is a lord, but whether the dissatisfaction in this quarter will pass into open revolt is as yet scarcely apparent. The real situation will probably appear more clearly when parliament re-assembles and the speech from the throne is delivered, as in the speech some general outline of Lord Rosebery's policy may be expected.

THE golden opinions which the Earl and Countess of Aberdeen are winning on every hand in Canada, and the increasing regard which is felt for their Excellencies because of the active interest which they manifest in the social and moral welfare of the people, will dispose our readers to wish to know something of Lady Aberdeen's father, the late Lord Tweedmouth, whose death occurred in Bath, England, on the 4th inst. Lord Tweedmouth did not inherit his title, but was raised to the peerage in 1881. The family name is Majoribanks—which the English people pronounce *Marshbanks*. The late Baron was Dudley Coutts, son of Edward Majoribanks. He was born in 1820, educated at Oxford, served for a time as director of the East India Company, was called to the bar of the Middle Temple in 1848, and speedily rose to prominence in his profession. In 1863 Mr. Majoribanks became a member of Parliament, representing in the House of Commons the constituency of Berwick-on-Tweed, and continued to do so in the Liberal interest until 1881, when he was raised to the Peerage with the title Baron Tweedmouth, of Edington. Lord Tweedmouth was a man of literary taste, and his fine library contained many books of rare value. He was also an enthusiastic art collector. His collection of original Wedgwood pottery is widely celebrated, and contained many famous specimens of antique art. In the earlier part of his life he acquired an estate in the highlands of Scotland, where also he made his home when his parliamentary duties permitted. Much of this property Lord Tweedmouth reclaimed for agricultural purposes, making it one of the finest estates in the North of Scotland. His herd of polled Aberdeen Angus cattle became famous throughout Great Britain. Besides employing much labor upon his property, Lord Tweedmouth built a model village upon his estate, and in other ways materially enhanced the welfare of the people of that part of the country. The Countess of Aberdeen has doubtless inherited the benevolent spirit of her father and has profited by his excellent example. The Right Hon. Edward Majoribanks, the eldest son, now succeeds to the peerage. He is well-known as a member of Parliament, and as Chief Government whip in the House of Commons. He is regarded as a man of sagacity and tact. His wife is sister to Lord Randolph Churchill. Two younger sons of the late Baron Tweedmouth are at present in Canada, one of them, the Hon. Coutts Majoribanks is joint manager of the estate of his Excellency, the Governor General, in British Columbia.

PRESIDENT ELIOT, of Harvard, in his annual report to the Board of Overseers of the University, has dealt at some length with the matter of college athletics. Athletic exercises and sports, in his view, are, in a general way, to be commended as affording wholesome amusement and as being of indispensable importance in developing and maintaining the physical powers of the student; but to make these sports and exercises a means of getting money or of winning popular applause is to misuse and degrade them. Against most of the sports of the campus and gymnasium nothing is

to be objected on this score, but there are some—as boat-racing and football—which have become a source of serious evil. The preparation for the great public contests absorbs so much of the time and energy of the students who engage in them that they have little left to devote to their studies. The overtraining involved is in itself an evil, and the large sums which come into the hands of the students as gate money is often unwisely spent. Recent developments in the game of foot ball have made the game more dangerous without compensating advantage. Among the recommendations which President Eliot makes in connection with this subject, are the following: That intercollegiate races or matches should not be permitted; that intercollegiate games, or games in which the students of a college engage, should not be played elsewhere than on college fields; that no student should be a member of a university team or crew in more than one sport within the same year; that no foot-ball should be played until the rules are so amended as to diminish the number and violence of the collisions between the players, and to provide for the enforcement of the rules; that intercollegiate contests in any one sport should not take place oftener than every other year. If these provisions should prove insufficient as safe guards against the evils which have become connected with intercollegiate contests, then, President Eliot holds, these contests should be abolished.

THE Negro problem in the United States is still a problem, and will probably continue to be so for some time to come. There is sufficient proof that the negro in America is not incapable of a high degree of intelligence and culture. With equal conditions as to heredity and environment, it is doubtful if in intellectual ability he would stand much if at all inferior to the Anglo-Saxon. But it must be admitted, we suppose, that outside of the few who have enjoyed the benefit of special training, the character of the average negro on its intellectual and moral sides is not such as to command a very high degree of respect. Nor does it appear that the condition and character of the black man are being materially improved by association on terms of citizenship with his white-skinned brother in the land where all men are, in theory, born free and equal. It is believed by many, that the influence of the white race upon the black is for the worse rather than for the better. It has been proposed by some leading men among the negroes of America that their race should be transplanted to its native soil on the African Continent. But the difficulties in the way of carrying out such a scheme are many, and the negroes of America, as a class, do not appear ever to have been greatly attracted by it. Now, we are told, it is proposed to segregate the negro population of the United States in a state or commonwealth by themselves, but forming a part of the nation. The Southern Negroes, it is said, are preparing a monster memorial to be presented to Congress, asking for such a separate state in which they may have the exclusive right to live and vote and hold office, sending their representatives to Congress, and working out their racial destiny apart from the competitors and prejudices of other people. It is included in the plan that only in this proposed Negro Commonwealth should the negro in the United States possess the rights of citizenship. Bishop Turner and other intelligent representatives of the race are said to favor the scheme.

THE scheme to connect the Northern and Southern Continents of America by means of an inter-continental railway has probably much more to commend it on the score both of feasibility and utility than the project of railway connection between America and Asia by way of Alaska and Behring Strait. A proposed route for the former, it is stated, has been surveyed, and, utilizing existing routes, it is found that about 4,000 miles of new road would need to be laid. The route would be principally along the Andes and the engineering difficulties through great, are not insurmountable. Probably in the course of time, this scheme will take shape and the proposed road will be built, but as its estimated cost is \$20,000,000, it is safe to say that it will not be undertaken until the capitalists of the world get into a more speculative mood than they are at present.

IF the plans now being discussed for extending the limits of New York city shall be realized, there will be embraced within its boundaries Brooklyn, Long Island city, Gravesend, Coney Island, Rockaway Beach, Moth Haven, Creedmoor and other places, and its population will be raised from 1,800,000 to 3,000,000. That this ambitious scheme will be carried out appears quite probable, though some opposition is expected on the part of Brooklyn, which does not altogether regard with favor the idea of losing its name and place among the great American cities in order to form a part of "the greater New York." As to the advantages to accrue from the proposed consolidation one paper says, "An expansion of civic pride among the citizens of the district is not the least of them." Then it is thought that the cause or reform in civic government in opposition to the power of Tammany will be aided by bringing within the city limits a class of voters who have been gradually moving beyond the boundaries of the city proper into the suburban districts; and the construction of bridges and other means of rapid transit, which it is expected would follow consolidation, would also secure to these districts a more rapid development. Another argument urged in favor of this "Greater New York" scheme is that united action on the part of the 3,000,000 people who would thus be consolidated under one municipal government, "would strengthen the movement already on foot to enlarge the traffic connections with the great lakes, and avert the threatened diversion of trade to Canadian canals and parallel railroad routes."

"A Cook stove in the basement never gives any spiritual warmth to a church."—*Ram's Horn*. This sounds smart, but it is true? No doubt cook stoves may be so used as to be a means of grace. Nevertheless we are much inclined to believe that there should be a cook stove in the basement or in some other part of the church-building, and that this homely and highly-prized institution may play a very important part in promoting the spiritual interests of the church. Social intercourse among the members of a church is by no means incompatible with spiritual progress. There are a good many churches which are suffering for lack of sociability among their members. They do not know each other, and the church provides no means for making them acquainted. A good social one in a while is worth more to a church than a sermon. We say let there be a cook stove in the basement and let it be used, not to provide tea-meetings and oyster suppers for money-making purposes, but to promote sociability in the church. Let the rich and the poor, the old and the young meet together and remember that the Lord is the maker of them all and the redeemer of them all. Let them eat and drink and talk together, and learn through pleasant social intercourse to take a more intimate and generous interest in one another's welfare.

GOVERNOR RUSSELL, of Massachusetts, last year appointed a commission to inquire into the merits of the Gøtheburg and Norwegian methods of conducting the liquor traffic. The commission has reported in favor of the Norwegian plan, and a bill has been drafted which provides permissively for the adoption of this system by Massachusetts towns which vote "license." The general features of this system seems to be quite similar to the Gøtheburg. According to the account which *Zion's Herald* gives of it, it places the business in the hands of a company or corporation, and limits its profits to five per cent. on the sales. Any profits above this percentage are expended in some way for the public benefit. As it is expected that the company undertaking this traffic will be composed of those who favor sobriety and good morals, it is urged by the advocates of this system that its adoption will tend to abolish all immoral accessories of the saloon, to check the consumption of liquor and to divorce liquor-selling from politics. Only one corporation is to be permitted in a town or city, and the system once adopted is to continue in force for three years. The journal from which we have quoted says that it stands for prohibition now and always, but if the people insist upon license, this Scandinavian system, it believes, is the best that can be devised.

Many can testify to the great healing properties of LARDER'S LINIMENT.

## W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR  
"Lord what will Thou have me to do?"  
Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. Baker, 31 Princess Street, St. John, N. B.  
PRAYER TOPIC FOR MARCH  
FOR OUR MISSIONARIES AND BROTHER WORKERS AT VIZIANGRAM.

Letter From Miss Gray to the Cor. Secretary.

Bimlipatam, India, Jan. 1894.  
MY DEAR MRS. MARFIELD  
I have something to tell you which will cause your heart to rejoice. Six of our boarding girls have been truly converted. On Sunday, the 7th inst., the Lord came into our midst with power. From morning till evening the children kept coming with sob and tears and anguish of soul, pleading with me to pray for them. Their repentance was genuine and their sorrow deep. Before six o'clock fear had yielded their hearts to the Saviour. Two did not find peace till Monday morning. I have never spent such a happy day in India, though all alone. Mr. and Mrs. Morse having gone to Viziangram to attend the Telugu Association. I felt that I should stay at home a few days longer, and did so without any particular reason; but the Lord had this blessing in store for us. On Monday, a letter was on its way to V—to tell me what great things the Holy Spirit had wrought among us. At seven in the evening the post handed me a telegram with the message, "Could fly home on wings of joy, hallelujah!"  
A few days after the girls were converted, the MESSENGER and VISITOR came. On opening it to see what the W. B. M. U. had for us, my eye fell on the prayer topic for December, viz. "For the workers at Bimlipatam, and the new converts."  
Are you not glad, that you prayed for us in December? And take notice that it was the 7th of January, the next day of the week of prayer, that the Lord visited us. Is this not encouraging to those who prayed? I like to think that these children were converted in answer to your prayers. "Be ye strong, therefore, and let not your hands be weak; for your work shall be rewarded." Believe, dear friends, that this is only the beginning of a great ingathering. I have never seen so much interest manifested on this field as there is for whom we have prayed during the past fifteen months. I do not last evening that he had found the Saviour. Two others are under deep conviction.  
You will hear from Mr. Morse about the men from Polshilly, being baptized last Sunday. This is the first month of the new year, and what may we not see before its close?  
Pray for us, that we may be filled with the Holy Ghost, and have power from on high. Without this we are helpless. I never loved this work more, was never more hopeful regarding the Telugu, and never more grateful to you for sending me to India.  
Now, for the benefit and encouragement of Sunday-schools, and Mission Bands, supporting these girls, I shall give the names of those who are converted, as follows: Mary, Unkamma, Narsamma, Appalamma, Peggy Kavats and Mary Acadia Graves.  
Pray for these dear children, that they may be kept in the fear of the Lord, and grow in grace. Yours in the work.  
A. C. GRAY.

THE LEGEND OF THE TABLEY.  
A Bill of Chinese Literature Translated by Missionary Richter, Amoy, China.  
Years ago a poor old widow, with her children, was struggling with poverty to maintain her family in food and clothing. She was a kind and loving mother, sharing neither time nor patience, and ever enduring suffering if thereby she could only provide some pleasure for the loved ones. Such devotion and love won the affection and reciprocal love from all her children, save one. This one son, in his hardness of heart could touch his mother's so hard to please him. He found fault with everything. His dinner was either too hot or too cold, too early or too late; his clothes too thick or too thin; and every demonstration on his mother's part met with snarls and growls on his. The lad was a shepherd by occupation, and one day he failed to put in an appearance at dinner time. The mother, not without all the abuse she had received at his hand, was exceedingly anxious about his non-appearance. She delayed the meal, and waited and waited until she found there was no need of waiting longer, when she took a little basket, filling it full of the choicest things, and set out to find her absent boy. She found him—not starving—but miserably sullen. The kind and thoughtful deed of his mother, instead of awakening affection, aroused his anger to frenzy. Becoming violently enraged, he began to abuse her, while in an uncontrollable fit of passion, he struck her a blow that sent her staggering on the brink of a precipice near which they were standing, and before she could recover herself she went over and down into the abyss below. Frantic with grief now, the shepherd rushed madly down the mountain side in search of his mother; but look where he would, not a sign of her could he discover. The only thing he could see was a tiny wooden tablet, into which he was led to believe the spirit of his mother had entered. Taking it up tenderly, he carried it to his desolate home, and ever after made it his shrine.