

# Messenger and Visitor.

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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR  
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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1896.

—JOSEPH COOK, the noted preacher, lecturer and author, arrived in San Francisco last week by steamer from Asia. Mr. Cook is reported to be much broken in health by reason of excessive mental work, and a season of absolute rest is imperative in order to recovery.

—THERE was a good attendance of the St. John Baptist ministers at their regular weekly meeting on Monday morning. Rev. E. K. Ganong had baptised three persons during the past month. Rev. J. A. Gordon, presented the outline of a sermon on 1 John, 3:9, which led to an interesting discussion. Rev. I. W. Corey is to present a paper at the next meeting touching the doctrine of Perseverance.

—EVERY year among high and low death gathers his harvest. Among the distinguished Englishmen who have passed away during 1895 may be mentioned Lord Randolph Churchill, Prof. J. B. Seelye, author of "Eusebius," Sir Henry Hallam, Prof. John Stuart Blackie, Prof. T. H. Huxley, The United States has lost Judge Horace, Graham and Thurman, and Rev. Dr. Scudder, Kinder and Edward Becker, Ex-President Seelye and Prof. James Dwight Dana. Other eminent foreigners who have passed away are Baron Tachibana, Louis Pasteur and Alexandre Dumas.

—ON Thursday last the House of Representatives at Washington passed a tariff bill, which, by advancing the duties on wool and some other articles, will, it is expected, add to the revenue some \$40,000,000 a year. This legislation is to continue in force for two and a half years. This bill is a republican measure, and was opposed by the nearly solid vote of the democratic members. In the judgment of Secretary Carlisle and it is to be presumed of the President also, the bill is not a salutary measure. Whether or not it will receive the assent of the President is a matter of speculation.

—"OPPORTUNITY," says the *Sunday School Times*, "is as important as ability to any man's success in life; for unless a man has an opportunity to show his ability, his ability can never appear to advantage. But opportunities are always showing themselves, while men of ability are not always ready to avail themselves of the opportunities that open before them. When, therefore, you find a man who thinks that all he lacks of success is a good opportunity to display his ability, you find a man who has let slip a great many good opportunities and who is likely to let another slip, while he is complaining of a lack of such openings for good work on his part."

—It will be seen by a communication on the second page of this issue that our esteemed brother, the pastor of the church at Springfield, N. S., has been afflicted with some unpleasant experiences in his sleep. We hope there is nothing prophetic in these dreams, but certainly they must be distressing while they last. Possibly the brother had taken something that did not agree with him. We trust that there will be no recurrence of the trouble, and that Bro. W. may not only be able to keep his Bible in tact and to walk in fellowship with Spurgeon and all the worthies in whose company he has long taken delight, but also to lie down and sleep in peace untroubled by any horrid spectres of false theologies.

—ALLUING to the prevalent war talk, *Zion's Herald* of Boston says:

"Strange incongruity to mingle our brutal demand for war with the Christmas carols which tell of peace on earth and good-will towards men. War! What would it mean between two such powerful nations, where each would fight to the death as do those near of kin when once a feud is started? War is an immediate monster, devouring everything that we hold dear, sacred and holy. War wrecks the family, murders father, husband and son, and drapes the home in black. War destroys in a day the productive industries of years and poisons the moral life of a nation for a century. War is Antichrist, and violates every principle of the New Testament. Let this demand for war by Christian people cease. We need to turn afresh to the teaching of Him whom we call Master."

—BUSINESS bringing joy to the hearts of the jingoes in his own country, Mr. Cleveland's message on the Boundary question has caused wild jubilation among the Venezuelans and made the Central and South American republics generally to shout for joy. They are ready to hail him as a wise and upright judge, a Daniel come to judgment, and to persuade themselves that hereafter they need not be careful how they answer any European power with which they may have a controversy. The one exception to the general hand clapping is found in the case of Chili whose

people, it may be presumed, do not forget that when their Government had a difficulty with that of the United States, the greater country—sister republic though she was—did not see her way clear to pursue that large and generous policy of magnanimity and forbearance which, in the view of Mr. Cleveland and Secretary Olney, seems now so gracious and righteously to become Great Britain in its dealings with Venezuela.

—Rev. S. M. COTTRELL of Cambridge, Mass., addresses to his people the following wise and timely words:

"This generation has been studying the lives of two men—Lincoln and Napoleon. Which does it admire and which will it most readily follow? Is Lincoln, calm, patient, and yet courageous, pleading for peace, and yet faithful unto death, still the man who truly represents the plain people of the land? If so, then not only the honor but the peace of our country is secure. When a great nation, without offensive arrogance, and with malice toward none, plants itself on a principle which it thoroughly understands, that principle will be respected. But is it possible that Napoleon has among our younger generations more worshippers than Lincoln? Is the blood of our young men stirred when for a moment our country speaks with a masterful tone, and does that seem in itself something glorious? Do vague and grandiose suggestions of conquest loom up in their imaginations, and are they quick to follow those who would realize them? Do great masses of the people feel that the best way of showing their love of their country is by the hatred of all others? If so, then there is the destructive force which our statesmen can evoke by a word, but which they may find themselves powerless to control."

—ON the centenary of the birth of Thomas Carlyle, a meeting, presided over by Mr. John Morley and attended by a number of notable men, was held at the Southwest London Polytechnic Institute, when the deed of the house in Cheyne Row, which was for many years Carlyle's home, was handed over to the members of the Memorial Trust to be held in perpetuity in memory of the great Scotsman. Mr. Morley delivered an address upon the occasion, dealing with Carlyle and his literary work in a most interesting and felicitous manner. He distinctly disapproved, however, the designation so commonly applied to Carlyle, "the Sage of Chelsea." In Mr. Morley's judgment a Sage was just what Carlyle was not. "A poet, an artist, a prophet, a preacher if you will, but the very opposite of a Sage." He was far too stormy and tempestuous a person and was too systematically opposed to anything like balance and too uniformly on the side of emphasis and over emphasis. His was not that radiant sanity of vision and serene humanity which belonged to such men as Goethe and Emerson. Mr. Morley describes Carlyle in contrast to one who was described as "seeking truth with many sighs" as one who "sighed truth by the hair of the head and sought it with oburgations and imprecations." While gladly acknowledging the world's debt to Carlyle's genius, Mr. Morley's tribute does not certainly err by way of undue appreciation.

—ALLUING to the "hired-man theory" of pastoral service and the expression frequently heard in some communities "hiring the minister," the *Watchman* makes some remarks which are worthy of being read and pondered. We quote the following paragraph:

"This hard commercial way of looking at the pastorate reacts unfavorably both upon ministers and churches. A church that has a good pastor makes a fatal mistake if it comes to believe that it simply has what it pays for. As a matter of fact God has given it what it cannot pay for. That wise, patient, spiritual leadership under which it flourishes, is not a commodity that it has purchased in the open market; it is one of the gifts of God to that church. A vast deal of the narrow, uncharitable, censorious criticism of pastors which embitters their lives and hampers their work, arises from the false and low view of the pastoral relation which overlooks the fact that a good pastor is God's gift to the church, and simply regards him as a hired man, whose pay represents his value. And the emphasis put upon the hard, cold, commercial aspect of this relation is doing more than any one thing to take the heart out of ministers. They need the sympathy, the co-operation, and spiritual fellowship of the members of their churches. Little can be accomplished without it. But when they see that they are regarded simply as 'hired men' who are to perform external duties, when they feel that their congregations are blind to the higher, spiritual aspects of their work and that sympathy has been replaced by calculation as to whether the congregation is getting the worth of its money, it is not at all strange that they come to feel like Elijah under the juniper bush."

A congressional return at Washington shows that during the past five years the imports and exports from and to British possessions aggregated respectively \$1,252,727,545, \$1,575,709,597, and Canada's share was, imports, \$116,184,682; exports, \$237,760,769.

## PASSING EVENTS.

THE commotion in the international atmosphere occasioned by the throwing of the presidential bombshell at Washington has, as a matter of course, subsided. The sober thought and the Christian sentiment of the nation have had time to express themselves, and they give no uncertain sound. How far the best elements—the wisdom and the righteousness of the nation—do or can control public policy in the United States is indeed a question; but there can be no doubt that these elements are not supporting Mr. Cleveland in his bellicose attitude toward England. Influential newspapers which had hitherto given the President most loyal support, standing by him courageously in unpopular situations, decline positively to follow him in this unheeded folly and do not scruple to tell him that he has made an egregious and criminal blunder by assuming a position which is an unnecessary as it is arrogant and unjustifiable. The men who do the nation's thinking, free from the influences of heated partisan strife, appear to be practically unanimous in this view. There are, certainly, differences of opinion as to the scope of the Monroe doctrine and as to the duty of the British government to submit the matter in dispute to arbitration; but in condemnation of the assumption that such refusal is to be taken as *prima facie* evidence of dishonest intention and as justifying the United States in imposing upon England, with a threat of war, its own conclusions as to the proper Venezuelan boundary, the men of real light and leading in the United States are substantially in agreement. It is gratifying to observe that the religious press of the United States has generally taken similar ground and that the pulpit on both sides the Atlantic has made its voice heard strongly and positively in the interests of peace. The *New York Evening Post*, alluding to the attitude of the American pulpit on the subject, says: "We doubt if the voice of the clergy has been so emphatic as it was yesterday since the firing on Sumter."

And the sermons were remarkably outspoken. Few of them were content with mere platitudes about peace. The directness and force with which the ablest clergymen in this city and throughout the country, as far as reported, addressed themselves to Mr. Cleveland's betrayal of the nation were refreshing. . . . Bishop Potter's characterization of the whole thing as a "punch-beck patriots" ought to stick to them. Nor where the congregations behind the pulpits in reproaching the President's mad appeal to the basest passions of the mob. He got his fill of the fray of the mob on Wednesday and Thursday; on Friday and Saturday he was overwhelmed with the execrations of business men; on Sunday he received the most crushing rebuke that the pulpit of this country has ever addressed to a President. He made his appeal to the conscience of the mob; he has now heard from the conscience of the God-fearing people, and their judgment upon him leaves him morally impeached of high crimes and misdemeanors." Considering that the *Post*, perhaps more than any other daily in the United States, addresses itself to the intelligence of the country and that it has been one of the staunchest supporters of Mr. Cleveland, the utterances above quoted are certainly significant.

IF the Venezuelan incident and the high-handed diplomacy of Messrs. Cleveland and Olney shall have the effect of arousing the better mind of the United States to a consideration of the length to which demagogues and and British sentiment have carried matters in that country, something at least will have been gained. It cannot be indeed a pleasant thing for a right-minded citizen of either that country or this to reflect how apparently possible it is for an unwise or unscrupulous United States politician who may happen to occupy an influential position in the government to commit the country to the awful crime of an unjust war with England. The plain facts that the good people who are now so righteously indignant at the arrogant jingoism of the President and his Secretary are themselves, many of them, by no means free from blame in this matter, inasmuch as they have been willing to wink at the cultivation of the anti-British sentiment among their people. This sentiment is as foolish and unreasonable as it is pernicious. Great Britain is commercially and in every way the best friend which the United States has among the nations. The mother country recognizes heartily the ties of common blood, language and religion, and in her heart there

is no unfriendly or ungenerous feeling toward her illustrious offspring, the great American republic. So far from the United States having any ground for jealousy of the Mother land, it must be evident to every intelligent mind that it would have been wholly impossible for the English race on this continent to have achieved its present development but for the blood that England has shed in defence of human liberty and the bulwarks which she has erected against the despotisms of Europe. It is unnecessary to claim that Great Britain has always been free from unworthy ambitions in her relations with foreign peoples, but it is a fact indisputable, and one of which every man on this continent with the blood of British ancestors in his veins should be proud, that her influence among the nations has been on the whole righteously, and immensely beneficial. The idea that in Britain's wealth and military power in the world or in her position and policy on this continent, there is involved any menace to the interests of the United States, is the merest absurdity. And yet, by appealing to inherited revolutionary prejudices and by pandering to Irish antipathies, certain public men and newspapers of the United States have succeeded in so developing anti-British feeling in that country that the President, the Congress and a very considerable portion of the people seem willing to make of such a bagatelle as the Venezuelan difficulty a cause of war.

THE bill so precipitately passed by the U. S. House of Representatives and more deliberately confirmed by the Senate, providing for the appointment of a commission to ascertain the correct boundary line between Venezuela and British Guiana, has received the signature of the President. The commission to whom Mr. Cleveland will intrust the business of determining a part of the boundary line of the British Empire have not yet been named. The personnel of the commission and the methods by which it will proceed to its conclusions are accordingly as yet matters of speculation. It is said to be the President's intention to appoint on the commission men of unquestioned fairness and ability and it is also intimated as probable that an effort will be made to obtain at Madrid and the Hague knowledge of "that documentary evidence which underlies the whole dispute." This is virtually to acknowledge that Secretary Olney's note and the President's message were based upon *ex parte* information and that when Mr. Cleveland sent his war message to Congress he had no valid evidence that Lord Salisbury's position was otherwise than wholly reasonable. In this connection it is at least interesting to read what Lord Salisbury says concerning the British title, derived from the Dutch, to the territory on the Cuyuni River, the region now in dispute. Lord Salisbury says:

"But of the territory claimed and actually occupied by the Dutch, which were those acquired from them by Great Britain, there exists the most authentic declarations. In 1759, and again in 1789, the States General of Holland addressed formal remonstrances to the Court of Madrid against the incursions of the Spaniards into their posts and settlements in the basin of the Cuyuni. In those remonstrances they distinctly claimed all the branches of the Essequibo River, and especially the Cuyuni River, as lying within Dutch territory. They demanded immediate reparation for the proceeding of the Spaniards, and reinstatement of the posts said to have been injured by them, and suggested that a proper delimitation between the colony of Essequibo and the Rio Orinoco should be laid down by authority. To this claim the Spanish Government never attempted to make any reply. But it is evident from the archives which are preserved in Spain, and to which, by the courtesy of the Spanish Government, reference has been made, that the Council of State did not consider that they had the means of rebutting it, and that neither they nor the Governor of Guiana were prepared seriously to maintain the claims which were suggested in reports from his subordinate officer, the Commandant at Guiana. These reports were characterized by the Spanish ministers as insufficient and unsatisfactory, as professing to show the Province of Guiana under too favorable a light, and finally by the Council of State as appearing from other information to be very improbable."

THE way in which the action taken by the Executive and Congress of the United States in reference to the Venezuelan difficulty is regarded by a very large number of sober thinking American citizens, is well illustrated by the following remarks of Hon. Isidor Raynor, (Dem.) of Maryland, who is recognized as a warm personal and political friend of the President, and who served for six years upon the committee of Foreign Affairs in Congress. Mr. Raynor,

after expressing the conviction that there will be no war says:

"I have had some occasion to investigate these questions, especially the progress of the Monroe doctrine, and has never contended that it applies to the care of the settlement of lines, in which controversy each party is alleging a bona fide claim of title. Mr. Olney's argument on this branch of the discussion is not at all convincing to the legal mind. I wish the whole correspondence had been submitted to Congress for its action and that there had been no recommendation for a commission that has no power or jurisdiction in the premises. Great Britain for over a century has had virtual possession of a great portion of the disputed territory and she is willing now to go in arbitration upon the title to the remainder, but we step in and say to her, unless you arbitrate as to the whole we will appoint a commission to settle your boundary lines, for you and compel you to obey its decree at the point of the bayonet. I do not think President Monroe ever conceived of such an application of the message that he sent to Congress in 1823. I do not like the festivities that Senators Morgan and Lodge are engaged in over the message. It does not look exactly right when two of the President's bitterest enemies are applauding his action and his warmest friends are criticizing it."

In this connection it is interesting and instructive to read, also, the following words which President Seth Lowe of Columbia University has written to the *New York Journal*:

"Even admitting that we should be concerned in the boundary dispute between Venezuela and Great Britain on a given state of facts, I can imagine nothing more unstatesmanlike than to hint at war while the facts are admittedly in dispute. For this aspect of the matter the president alone is responsible. No body could have believed it possible until last Tuesday that a president of the United States should base such a message upon a state of facts that perhaps do not justify our interference at all. The action of Congress and the expressions of the people leave no doubt that the Monroe doctrine is a cherished part of the political beliefs of the people of the United States. It is a pity that the doctrine itself, in its reasonable interpretation, should be discredited by an application of it that places the country, at the outset, in the lamentable position of appointing a commission to find out whether the doctrine applies to the case in hand or not, while subjecting every interest in the country to the dangers of panic and the unreckonable losses of a prolonged period of uncertainty. Sensible people, ordinarily, do not talk of war until the occasion for it is so clear as to leave no doubt as to its justice and necessity. The duty of the hour seems to me to be, to keep cool, to remember that calm self-control is vital to the restoration of confidence in us on the part of others, and, above all, to insist that no further steps shall be taken in this matter except with deliberation and with appreciation of the gravity of the interests involved."

PREMIER GREENWAY has lately issued a reply to the Order-in-Council of the Dominion Government, of the date of July 27, 1895, relating to public schools in the province of Manitoba. Whatever view one may take of the general merits of the Manitoba school question, it must be admitted that Mr. Greenway has made an able presentation of the case from his standpoint, which is that also of a large majority of the Manitoba Legislature, and, it is to be presumed, of an equally large majority of the people of the province. It was possible for the Government of Manitoba, while retaining the present school law in principle, to make concession to the Roman Catholics in the matter of its administration, such for instance as have been made in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and thereby to satisfy, or at least to conciliate, that element in its population, there are many who would think it wise to have taken such a course rather than by maintaining an obnoxious attitude, to perpetuate bitterness and friction and to invite on the part of the Dominion Government a resort to remedial legislation which must be worse than futile. Mr. Greenway holds, whether rightly or wrongly, that no concession short of state-aided separate schools would be accepted as a solution of the difficulty. Such a concession, the Premier maintains, the province is not prepared to make, since the present law has not only been declared constitutional by the Imperial Privy Council but was also re-endorsed by the people of the province in 1892; and further he deems, as the law does not involve injustice to any section of the population but was framed with an impartial regard to the rights of all. Mr. Greenway argues, and no doubt correctly—though there appears to be, as he intimates, much misapprehension abroad on the matter—that the Governor General-in-Council was in no way bound by the constitution to issue a remedial order granting the prayer of the R. C. minority of Manitoba, either in whole or in part. And the Dominion Parliament is in no wise bound to give effect to any

such order. It rests with Parliament, as it rested with the Government, to decide whether or not on grounds of justice to minority and on principles of public policy, remedial legislation is required. The case as presented in the Order-in-Council of July 27, is to be submitted to the Legislature which is to meet after the provincial elections, on the 23rd inst. The vote then taken will represent the present public sentiment of the province on the school question and it is not probable that it will materially change the situation in Manitoba. On account of the large Roman Catholic element in the country and in the Dominion Parliament, the question which has arisen is necessarily one of extreme difficulty for any Government which has to deal with it. But there are two things in connection with the matter which seem to us pretty clear. Remedial legislation is not demanded on constitutional grounds and, if enacted, will afford no solution of the existing difficulty.

SO far as can be learned there seems to be no immediate prospect of a better condition of things in the Turkish Empire. No doubt if Great Britain were free to act, the terrible cry of persecuted and slaughtered Armenians would not remain unanswered and their blood unavenged. But the tremendous contingencies which hang on intervention, the mutual jealousies of the European powers, Britain's immense interests in the East, the danger of arousing fanatical feeling in her vast Moslem population and bringing on a "holy war" make her hesitate to strike a blow for justice and liberty, while in every honest Briton's heart the fires of indignation are hotly smouldering. If, at such a juncture, the United States were adding its mighty influence to that of the mother land in the cause of human liberty, the situation would be changed, the issue might be vastly different. But that is exactly what that country is not doing. On the contrary its government has seized this moment which seems charged with so much of real or woe to the world to raise an issue with England over a matter of comparatively trivial importance, with the result of adding as much as possible to the embarrasment of her position. In this connection the *Journal and Messenger*, of Cincinnati, remarks:

"Mr. Cleveland has also come to the rescue of the unspcakable Turk. For the last six months Lord Salisbury has been holding the Powers together. Whatever is said of his slowness, England has been the leading spirit, and has proceeded as fast as other Powers would allow. If there is prospect of war with the United States, England must not press reforms in Turkey. Nobody is quicker to see these things than the Turks, who are masters of diplomacy. They will go on butchering the Armenians with a feeling of more security now that England is threatened with fire in the rear."

But more serious than this is the weakening of the ties of friendship which were being strengthened between the two great Protestant nations of the earth. Whatever may be said of her insolence, England brings law and order to every land she touches. Her colonies have free government. There is and has been a growing disposition in England for a better understanding with the United States in the interest of civilization."

THE Cuban rebellion continues and the Spanish government has not yet found the means of reducing the malecontents to submission. A good deal of excitement has been felt in Havana during the past week. The insurgents have invaded the province of Matanzas and though the Spanish authorities made fight of any danger to the city and declared that the insurgents were retreating, yet according to the last accounts received, the city was being pushed vigorously and a very nervous feeling was prevailing among the merchants who fear an uprising in Havana and the entrance of the insurgent troops into the city, which, it is said, would certainly be the signal for wholesale looting and serious disorders. The Spanish authorities declare, however, that there is absolutely no danger of the insurgent troops getting near Havana.

The W. R. M. U. matter appears this week on the *FREE* page. The reason of its being out of place is that the copy was mislaid and was not found until this page had been made up.

Mrs. Kingsley, who is conducting some extraordinary "explorations" in Africa, writes that she has been associating with cannibals for months, and that one of the strange things she had seen recently was a number of human corpses hung up in a Fawge house like hams, to be eaten by the occupants!

Yinard's Lament—Once tried always used.