

Messenger and Visitor.

Published weekly on Wednesdays...

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1885.

FIRST PRINCIPLES.

In what pertains to truth we can never be too conservative...

Now, we are firm believers in the doctrine that for over 1800 years there has been no further revelation of truth...

But we cannot insist too strenuously on the principle that in all pertaining to religion, to the character and action of individuals, and the constitution and methods of churches...

Many churches have been, and are still being, richly blessed. The hearts of the multitudes are glowing with the warmth of the Saviour's love...

ing in the hesitancy of uncertainty, if we would have a reputation for thoughtfulness, and would be popular with very many.

Under such circumstances as these, all will see the need of a careful and prayerful study of God's instructions...

REVIVALS AND BENEVOLENCE.

A few weeks since the Chicago Standard had a very suggestive article under this caption. The attention of the editor had been called to the fact that contributions to outside objects fell off during seasons of special religious interest...

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EXPLANATORY.

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The Woodstock College was controlled by a Board appointed by those who had contributed to her funds.

During the time we were in Ontario, some of the leaders in the denomination began to be deeply impressed with the inconclusiveness of this way of doing things.

and, after much labor and discussion, a Union was formed, as far as the difficulties of the situation permitted...

A little over a year ago, however, the old leaves began to work again. After much discussion in the press, at a general gathering of the body...

It appears, however, that these boards have not been very quick to adopt this recommendation, and so the completion of the change from the old close corporation to the new representative principle...

Now we are a very firm believer in the doctrine that the church was intended to be the executive body through which the work of believers should be done.

WAR.

While our attention has been on the strain during the last few weeks, following the progress of the war in the Sudan, and Russia toward war, this week we have been surprised by an uprising nearer home...

The government declares, however, that a large proportion of its claims for land by the half-breeds of the Territories were fraudulent, being made by those who had sold their grants in Manitoba...

This uprising, even though it does not kindle the savage flame of an Indian war, and is speedily stamped out, must be most injurious to the Northwest.

THE BAPTIST BOOK ROOM.

Many will be glad to see the announcement, in another column, of the sale of the Book Room in St. John, in connection with the Christian Visitor Office...

now again seeds of discord and division. We believe that the sympathies of the brethren in the different provinces are being rapidly fused together...

We may say that the transfer of the Book Room in St. John to become part of our Book Room in Halifax, has taken place with the hearty assent of Dr. Hopper.

It is well also that our people should know that every cent made by the Book Room is expended in paying the salaries of devoted colporteurs...

MEXICAN MISSION.

The Baptist Mission, in Mexico, is having great success. The latest news is that at Salado, a town 150 miles west of Saltillo, where the mission is located, nearly all the people are believers...

At Saltillo, 21 have been added to the church in a revival, which is still in progress.

A gentleman went 120 miles to be baptized.

Mr. Powell, the missionary, writes: "I must say that the Lord is going before us and leading us into new fields. I am just in receipt of a letter from a Presbyterian missionary in Parra, who has never seen a Baptist minister...

Letter From India.

REV. J. B. HUTCHINSON.

Late and heavy rains, and illness arising partly from injuries received when assaulted by the ferryman in Sept., prevented me from recommending district work until November.

Here, as the sun was rising one beautiful morning, in the river below the grove where our tents were pitched I baptized three persons, a woman and two men.

We spent nearly a week in Kindly and did much evangelized work. Two large fairs were visited, in one of which three New Testaments were sold.

Soon the enemies of the truth adopted other means to get rid of the Christian. They stoned his house by night, and probably would have burnt it down had not its thatch joined that of the next one.

One morning I walked out to the Savara village. It is situated in a beautiful cove of the green hills. The converts there have set apart a nice clean room for worship.

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The road from Tekkali to Malapputi, a large village 6 miles from Kindly, runs for 10 miles of the 18 through a narrow valley densely covered with jungle.

In Malapputi we remained for 5 days, preaching the gospel in nearly all the surrounding villages. In all we had good hearings. One morning we planned to visit two, about a mile away.

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There was to be a double wedding in

Alkalatampara on the 24th of November. James was to marry the young girl whom I had just baptized, and Bagavan Bayrah's daughter was to become the wife of a sturdy farmer from the neighboring village of Commatipilla.

Owing to the non-receipt of a portion of the school grant for 1884, there was a debt of \$16 on the chapel. After the sermon on Sunday morning B. B. suggested that an effort be made to lift the debt at the afternoon service.

"Mercy Clouds."

Your editorial remarks "Mercy clouds hovering over churches, yet unemptied," etc., are to the point. I trust the working members of such churches together may be in earnest at the Throne of Grace, pleading for a "letting down" of the refreshing heavenly showers...

Our Lord works by means now, as he did when on earth. If the dead Lazarus is to come forth at the command of the Master, the stone must be first rolled away.

Yes, individuals as well as churches are sowing the seed, and so "what shall the harvest be" surely something depends upon the quality of the seed and condition of the soil, as well as the promised sunshine and showers.

Why not believe the word of the Lord, and work in his vineyard to-day, and stand no longer idle? He says, "Whoever sows in right, that shall ye receive."

English Baptists.

The Baptist Handbook for 1885 gives much information as to the denomination in Great Britain and Ireland, though it is by no means free from errors.

Statistics. Churches, Membs., Pastors, Evange. England 2,006 227,441 1,433 3,212 Wales 276 72,711 373 262 Scotland 24 10,666 86 18 Ireland 23 1,647 16 13

Total 2,699 312,465 1,908 3,505 From the paper of Br. Angus we learn that the 470 churches of England and Wales that existed in 1789, with their 25,000 or 30,000 members, had become in 1863 rather more than 2,000 churches with a membership of 200,000.

In 1863 our membership was 200,000; in 1883 it was 300,000. The increase of population in these 20 years was 28 per cent; the increase of our membership 50 per cent.

This is encouraging to those who watch the progress of Christ's Kingdom; but Dr. Angus says that while the increase is a matter for devout thankfulness, it is not satisfactory. The united effort of 46,000 Sunday School teachers, 1,901 pastors, 3,600 evangelists, 300,000 church members, every one of whom is a witness for God, yields a net increase in 20 years of only

100,000, or 5,000 per cent a church.

"What we need is leadership, wisdom, not in churches, parishes, or parsons, but in the hearts of the people."

But let us learn not an easy one; we can, on any score of Hosts with us; we can only by obeying the small-church rule with us. One sixth of us feel in our aggressive work of the Welsh church.

Dickinson is a constant on the N. street roads in the city of Birmingham, and about 40 miles from London.

There is also a great obstacle before the year round or eating hay. Be laden with sheep last autumn.

It is also interesting to contemplate roasting coal excellent food. It is also choice food, and makes delicious getting scarce.

The cause of God is advancing slowly. The wheels of the gospel belief, and indifference to hoping and trusting the fields, the harvest.

I trust about the owners are delightful - can boast of so much through the year as Dakota is comparatively short times still the atmosphere winter that one does not cast. Then there is everywhere that fuel is scarce is nearly gone streams are open, and far.

We beg to announce to the Maritime Provinces, pooled of our entire stock supplies, and the good will is lost line, to the Baptist Society, of Halifax. We opportunity of returning for the very liberal patron we have been favored with "Visitor B. K. Store," a speak a continuance of love Society. Send your the Secretary, George A. Onanville Street, Halifax, promptly filled. We

W. J. G.