

MESSENGER and VISITOR.

When paid within thirty days, \$1.50.

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All correspondence intended for the paper to be addressed to the Editor.

A CHANGE IN ADDRESS will be made provided the old and new addresses are given.

ADVERTISING RATES will be furnished on application.

Messenger and Visitor

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16, 1891.

HELP FOR TROUBLED HEARTS.

"Let not your heart be troubled," said the Lord to His disciples, at a time when their spirits were borne down with sorrow and anxious fore-boding.

What and where is the help for a fainting heart? It is where the ancient Hebrew psalmist found it, "in God."

There were questions which the disciples asked the Lord that night—questions in which faith and doubt and perplexity are mingled.

Such are some of the gracious assurances with which the Lord comforted His disciples, and they have not yet lost their power to comfort the troubled but believing heart.

There is room enough in that mansioned house, and wherever it shall be,—on this earth or on some more glorious sphere—

LICENSE TO PREACH.

We have been asked to say "What qualifies a young man should possess to entitle him to a license to preach in the Baptist denomination?"

As it seems to be understood that a license to preach confers a certain ministerial standing in the denomination on the person receiving the license, we think that a church would do well to consider any case proposed for action in the light 1 Tim. 3: 1-7.

1. Has the applicant for license a thoroughly good reputation in the church and in the community? 2. Does his application grow out of a burning desire to preach Christ and to save men rather than an ambition to enter the ministry?

For a church to grant, without limit as to time, a license to preach which it expects to be recognized by all other churches of the denomination, is not a light thing, and if it is done at all should be done with care and prayerful deliberation.

Would it not be better if the church, instead of granting a license and constituting the applicant a "licensee," should simply pass a resolution approving of his desire to exercise his gifts as preacher, within the bounds of the church or in adjoining mission stations, and for a limited time—say one year.

THE NICOLAITANS.

A correspondent wishes to know what were the doctrines of the Nicolaitans, mentioned in Rev. 2: 15. The only other occurrence of the word in the New Testament is in the same chapter, verse 6, in which their "works" are denounced.

Israel of old engaged, seduced through the subtlety of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the children of Israel to engage in the licentious worship of Baal Peor. (See Numbers, chapter 25.)

Ontario Letter.

The most appropriate song for this season is that sung by Longfellow in "Travels by the Fireside"

"The ceaseless rain is falling fast, And yonder gilded vans, Improve the air for three days past, Points to the misty main."

By way of change we have had heavy rains with flood, and a touch of winter with sleighing; at present we have rain again. In church life, there is almost nothing to chronicle. The pastors have gone to their homes from the convention and have settled down to the winter's work.

Rev. W. H. Cline has accepted the call of the Paris church and preached his farewell sermons in Immanuel, Sunday, November 29. His friends presented him with an address and a purse. The colored Baptist church on Queen St., Toronto, claims to be the mother of all the Baptist churches in the city.

This scribble has been amused lately at seeing in various papers, the MESSENGER AND VISITOR among them, that certain brethren had been elected members of the American Academy of Political Science.

Another sets forth the aims and objects of the society, and particularly mentions the fact that a fee of \$5 per year is expected from all members, in return for which the payer will receive the society's discussions and papers.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Women's Foreign Mission Society of Western Ontario met in London for the annual convention, Oct. 29 and 30.

Mr. P. Newman, editor of the paper as reported the income of the paper as \$97.86, expenses \$87.27, leaving a balance of \$10.59, which was paid into the treasury.

The Women's Foreign Mission Society of Eastern Ontario and Quebec held its annual meeting in Brockville, Oct. 9th. The treasurer's report showed that the circles had raised \$1,600.55, an increase of \$119.00 over the previous year.

other items of interest were presented to an appreciative audience.

In my last letter I mentioned the fact that Rev. John McLaughlin, our Foreign Mission secretary, was about returning to India under the American Missionary Union, and will be stationed at Bangalore. In view of this event,

A FAREWELL SERVICE

was held in the First Baptist church, Woodstock, Ont., on Friday evening, Nov. 20th, 1891. The church was crowded to the doors with an enthusiastic audience, made up of people from all congregations.

Rev. D. G. McDonald, of Stratford, Mr. McLaughlin's successor in the secretaryship, spoke of the guest of the evening as an official; Rev. S. S. Bates, of Toronto, gave his impression of Mr. McLaughlin as a private citizen; Professor Farmer uttered the message of the McMaster Hall Faculty; Revs. John Dempsey, of Ingersoll, and T. S. Johnson, of Brantford, joined their voices in a farewell.

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The climax of the meeting was reached when the chairman drew aside a curtain and revealed an oil portrait of Mr. McLaughlin. The likeness is excellent, and will add not a little to the reputation of the artist, Mr. Charles Hatch, brother to our missionary, Miss Isabella Hatch. Rev. Ira Smith, of London, delivered an oration, touching the life and character of the subject, and presented the portrait to Woodstock College, to be hung beside that of Dr. Gye. Principal Huston accepted the gift on behalf of the college, and the service closed with the hymn, "God be with you till we meet again." Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlin expect to sail at once, and reach Bangalore before the New Year.

The Women's Home Mission Society of Eastern Ontario and Quebec, met in Brockville, Ont., Friday, Oct. 9.

It is not my purpose at present to discuss the principle involved. I wish to refer to what took place at the last Convention. The impression has been given, that the meeting held in Monoton was a representative meeting of the Convention. Bro. White in his letter this week speaks of a committee having been "appointed by the Convention," for the purpose of forwarding this movement. That is a mistake.

It was discussed in the Ministers' Institute, and fully half of those taking part in that discussion were decidedly opposed to any kind of organization other than the church, for doing the work entrusted to the church.

The holiday season comes on apace. May the editors and readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

The continual prosperity and attractiveness of Christian Thought is maintained. The Rev. J. D. Gold, M. A., Ph. D., contributes an article upon "The Tread of Philosophy: A Retrospect and Prospect." Prof. A. B. Curtis speaks of "Prof. George S. Morris; His Life and his Philosophy." "Ethicsless D.D." is by T. T. Fleming, Ph. D., D. D., and "Mystical Buddhism in connection with Yoga Philosophy of the Hindus," by Sir Monier Monier-Williams, K. C. I. E., D. C. L., LL. D. \$2 a year, clergymen \$1.50. Single copy, 40 cents. Wilbur B. Ketchum, Publisher, 2 Cooper Union, N. Y.

Regina, N. W. T.

Our building (the vestry) is progressing favorably, and we hope to be worshipping in it by Christmas, at which time also we expect to baptize a number in the baptistry now being placed in the building. New Testament Christians are not so easily made out here in the West as down East. But when they are made it is impossible to unmake them.

The Pedobaptists, who have said the organization of the Baptist church would be a calamity to the town, in view of our building going up, have either ordered to cease firing on the heralds of truth or have been a retreat for a further engagement.

Upon the arrival here, on Nov. 6th, of Mrs. King and myself from Ottawa, Ont., we were greeted by a host of one hundred friends, who gave us a royal reception and presented Mrs. King with a beautiful dinner and tea set of china. For this and all other manifestations of Divine favor we would be grateful.

THE BUILDING FUND.

Praise God that the hearts and purses of some of the Maritime Baptists have been opened to help us in building. The following amounts are gratefully acknowledged, with the hope that many more may imitate the good example set:

- Mrs. C. B. Whidden, Antigonish, \$50 00
J. J. Bostwick, Esq., St. John, 10 00
Maggie Gross, Hillsborough, 1 00
M. M. Halifax, 1 00

Besides the above amounts we have received and previously acknowledged \$200 from the Maritime W. B. M. U., and \$200 from the Manitoba W. B. M. U., sent to them from Ontario. We need yet \$500 to enable us to enter our new vestry clear of debt, and we hope to be forced out of it into the main building, which we will erect as soon as the money comes to hand.

Regina, Dec. 1.
P. S.—Address all communications to the pastor.

Young People's Organizations.

So much has been said and written on one side of this question recently, that some may begin to think that the Baptists are perfectly agreed as to the wisdom of these organizations. I have written nothing so far, hoping that some one of the many brethren who cannot approve of these methods, would present the other side. There are a few points to which I wish to call attention. I have read carefully all that has appeared in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, in favor of these organizations, and have been a little surprised that no one has attempted to deal with the principle involved in this very serious question, i. e., has not attempted to show that the church is not the best organization for the prosecution of all departments of Christian work.

It is not my purpose at present to discuss the principle involved. I wish to refer to what took place at the last Convention. The impression has been given, that the meeting held in Monoton was a representative meeting of the Convention.

In making this announcement I cannot speak too highly of the value of the service rendered by Rev. Mr. Williams and Dr. de Blois among the Baptists, and Rev. Dr. McLeod among the F. C. Baptists, as well as great devotion to the work among members of the Board, and especially of the noble sacrifices of our president, Mont. McDonald, Esq., who once and again and again placed his shoulder and purse beneath the tottering cause.

A public jubilee meeting will be held in the seminary hall, on the evening of the 16th inst., to celebrate our deliverance. The school will reopen after Christmas holidays, January 7th. The school offers to intending students, in home comforts and instruction, privileges not surpassed by any in the Maritime Provinces. To full instruction in usual departments we have added telegraphy, and are arranging for shorthand and typewriting. We confidently expect to keep the institution in line with the best of its grade.

That seems to me a sorry confession for any pastor to have to make. I have a better opinion of the young people in Baptist churches than to think for a moment that they would demand what the pastor deemed unwise in the matter of organization.

You will find, once in a while, a man brought into the church after his habits have been fixed, arbitrary and self-willed, who is very likely to be opposed to many things favored by the pastor, and often simply because they are favored by the pastor.

What is proposed, according to statement of committee is, that societies should be organized in connection with all our churches, and that each society should send up a delegate to meet in a convention, at the time and place of the meeting of the Convention.

It must not be forgotten that all the members of Baptist churches, old and young, stand on an equal footing so far as all the rights and privileges of membership are concerned. We may have acted unwisely in the past in not appointing more of the young members as delegates to Convention. If so, we are paying them a doubtful compliment now, in proposing to send one of them to Convention to represent a society rather than the church.

It would seem that the history of so called Christian societies other than the church, if carefully studied, would cause us to hesitate to go into them wholesale in connection with Baptist churches. No one rejoices more heartily than I do in that we have so many earnest, active, intelligent young people in our churches, willing and anxious to work. None is more anxious than I am to see their strength and activity developed and utilized, but I feel deeply that it should be accomplished by organizing them within the church, and not outside of the church.

\$15,000 Secured.

It is with devout gratitude to God, and heartfelt thanks to the donors, that we announce the completion of the \$15,000 subscription. This insures the permanency of the Seminary, and will enable the Board of Directors to go on with the work with added energy and efficiency.

The school will reopen after Christmas holidays, January 7th. The school offers to intending students, in home comforts and instruction, privileges not surpassed by any in the Maritime Provinces.

J. E. HOPKES.
St. Martins, N. B., Dec. 14.

The School of Hard Knocks

was where Andrew Carnegie gained his start; forty years ago a poor Scotch boy—to-day, prince of manufacturers, author and philanthropist. It is from his own experience that he is to write for "The Youth's Companion an 'Habit of Thrift.'"

Yar... In a visit to section of Yar... and home com commodious r up farm build with. In these cultivation of ments have b years. A won able in apple tree and qu... now fairly com way, with failure of this country, v disastrous t in supplying rather to be in cultivated farm ing capital of good market f farms.