

# Messenger and Visitor.

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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR  
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## PASSING EVENTS.

**THE approaching World's Fair at Chicago is a thing of bewildering magnitude as one reads about it in the newspapers, and it is not to be expected that it will cease to be so when one shall have seen it and exercised all his powers of observation and analysis in his efforts to take it in. Fifty-six separate nations and colonies, we are told, will send complete exhibits, of which twenty-six will be placed in buildings erected by the countries represented. Thirty states and territories of the United States will also erect buildings and make special exhibits. The whole amount to be expended in connection with the exhibition will approximate \$80,000,000, and the fair will surpass in magnitude any enterprise of its kind which the world has hitherto seen. Models of the three vessels which formed Christopher Columbus' fleet are to be exhibited, and will be, without doubt, one of the most interesting features of the fair. The crews are to be dressed in the costume of Spanish sailors of four centuries ago, and the sea-faring conditions of the times of Columbus will be reproduced as nearly as possible. To what extent the fair will be closed on Sunday is not yet determined. Many of the religious bodies have protested strongly against Sunday opening. The United States National Exhibit, according to a resolution passed by Congress, will remain closed on that day. Similar action has been taken by the state of New York. It is said also that it is the intention not to have the machinery run on Sunday. The Exposition will remain open six months.**

**THE present is a time of great political excitement in the neighboring republic. Preparations for the grand presidential contest of November are in active progress. The Republican convention which is to nominate the presidential candidate of that party is, as we write, in session at Minneapolis, and much uncertainty exists as to its outcome. In these matters Canadians naturally feel considerable interest. In February last Mr. Blaine published an explicit statement that he would not be a candidate for the presidency, and that his name would not go before the Republican national convention for the nomination. There were some still skeptical enough to question the sincerity of this declaration, but generally, both because of the explicitness of the statement and the condition of Mr. Blaine's health, which was believed to be too infirm to endure the excitement of a presidential campaign and the onerous duties pertaining to the office itself, it was believed that he had meant what he said, and that "the man from Maine" was not to be counted among available candidates for the presidency. As no other man had been named who seemed able to dispute the honor with President Harrison, it had seemed, for months past, almost a foregone conclusion that he would receive the nomination of his party. It therefore caused a good deal of surprise when, as the time for the convention approached, a strong cry for Blaine was heard, and it became evident that a tremendous effort was being made to bring him to the front. The suspicion that Mr. Blaine, notwithstanding his letter of February, had not been able, if he ever tried, to put aside his grand ambition, was confirmed by the sudden announcement of his resignation as Secretary of State just on the eve of the Minneapolis convention, which act has been generally and naturally interpreted to mean that he would accept, if not promote, the nomination which his friends were apparently so desirous of tendering.**

**THE exceeding brevity and cutness of the correspondence between Mr. Blaine and President Harrison, on the occasion of the former's withdrawal from the cabinet, has been widely remarked upon. No reasons are assigned by the secretary for the step taken, no compliments are exchanged, and no regrets expressed on either side. It is generally understood that the relations between the President and his late Secretary of State have never been very cordial. Mr. Blaine has strongly desired to be president, and he would naturally regard the office as his by right, as the ablest and most widely known man of his party, and has no doubt chafed in his position subordinate to that of a man much his inferior in ability and much less distinguished than himself. The relations between the two men have become more estranged through difference of opinion as to matters of public policy. Apart from the fact that Mr. Harrison is not generally regarded as by any means the ablest man of his party, there are**

complaints that his manner is cold to his friends and galling to his enemies. It seems to be the fact, however, that President Harrison represents the best elements in his party. He has, no doubt, too much conscience and is too little willing to subordinate everything to the baser interests of party to be an acceptable candidate to a number of very influential "practical politicians" among the Republican leaders. It is from this quarter principally that the cry for Blaine has arisen, and these men are probably not so anxious to secure the nomination of Blaine as to defeat that of Harrison. It appears quite evident, however, that Mr. Harrison is the strongest man the party could bring forward and that the success of the effort to defeat his nomination would seriously diminish the probabilities of success for the Republican party in November.

**SINCE the preceding paragraphs were written the result of the Minneapolis convention has been announced. After several days spent in preliminary skirmishing the names of James G. Blaine and Benjamin Harrison only were placed before the convention, and the first ballot was taken on Friday. The result was a decisive majority for Harrison. The following statement shows how the vote stood:**

Total vote	9041
Necessary to choose	453
Harrison	5354
Blaine	3687
McKinley	182
Reed	4
Lincoln	1

**Whitehall Reid, editor of the New York Tribune and late United States minister to France, was nominated for vice-president by acclamation. It had become evident, a day or two before the ballot was taken, that the prospect of Mr. Blaine's receiving the nomination was hopeless, but, after all the shouting that had been done for him and all the confident assertions on the part of the Blaine men of his ability to carry the convention, the real dimensions of the Blaine boom, as revealed by the first ballot, was a matter of pretty general surprise. President Harrison had certainly a considerable advantage in the contest in being able to command the support of the large number of office-holders whom he has appointed, but, as we have remarked above, he also had the support of the best elements in his party, while the more unscrupulous leaders have been arrayed against him. As for Mr. Blaine, his action in so abruptly resigning his office and permitting his name to go before the convention, after his explicit declaration to the contrary in February last, cannot easily be defended as honorable, and in a political point of view it must be regarded as a blunder—a blunder which, on the part of so astute a politician, is as inexplicable as it is egregious. It is as good as certain that Mr. Blaine can never be president. It seems equally certain that he can never again be a member of the cabinet. His public career may be considered as ended, and, for a man of so large abilities and ambitions, it can hardly be regarded otherwise than as a "most lame and impotent conclusion."**

**Rev. W. J. Stewart and wife returned last week from their visit to Philadelphia and the May meetings, having very much enjoyed their trip. The congregation of Leinster street church last Sunday greatly enjoyed listening to their former pastor, Rev. E. W. Kelly, lately returned from Burma. The church was well filled both morning and evening. Mr. Kelly preaches in German street church next Sunday.**

**Rev. I. C. ARCHIBALD wishes to give notice that he will supply to any of our Baptist ministers of moderate income, *The Missionary Review of the World* for \$1.50, instead of \$2—the usual price. This well-known monthly, edited by Dr. Pierson, Gordon and others, cannot but prove stimulating and very helpful to every Christian who would keep himself abreast of the times in missionary matters. All communications to be addressed in care of MESSENGER AND VISITOR, St. John, N. B. Orders will be received up to July 1.**

**—A census of Chicago would reveal the fact that many of the men out of employment are those who despise the idea of work, and that many more are men broken down by drink and unable to do a fair day's work for a day's pay. It is undoubtedly true that many of such unemployed men in Chicago, and in all our large cities, are men who are unable to do efficient work because of the effect the drink habit has upon them. In estimating the loss to a community or to the nation through strong drink, this depreciation in the capacity of men and women for useful work on account of the drink habit must be taken into account. The loss of productive ability from this cause is immensely greater than most people realize.**

## COMMENCEMENT WEEK AT ST. MARTINS.

Last week the commencement, or—as we are more accustomed to say in this country—the closing or anniversary exercises in connection with St. Martin's U. B. Seminary took place. The commencement calendar was as follows:

**Terminal Examinations, June 1 to 3.**  
Sermon before Graduating Class,..... 5, 11 a. m.  
Sermon before Missionary Society,..... 5, 7 p. m.  
Public Examinations,..... 6, 10-12.30 p. m.  
Annual Base Ball Match,..... 6, 2 p. m.  
Rhetorical Contest for Medical Students,..... 6, 8 p. m.  
Commencement Exercises,..... 7, 11 a. m.  
Alumni Dinner,..... 7, 1.30 p. m.  
Alumni Society Meeting,..... 7, 3.30 p. m.  
Musical and Literary Concert,..... 7, 6.30 p. m.

For some account of the proceedings of Sunday and Monday we are indebted to our neighbors—the *Sun* and the *Telegraph*.

The annual sermon before the graduating class was preached on Sunday morning by Rev. G. E. Day, D. D. The text was Acts 10: 12. The theme of the discourse was "Difficulties, and how to meet them." The sermon was delivered in the presence of a large congregation, and is spoken of as a very eloquent and impressive discourse. The remarks particularly addressed to the graduating class are summarized as follows:

Before bidding farewell to your teachers and friends at the institution where you have studied, you will permit me, young friends of the graduating class, to emphasize a few thoughts arising out of the theme that I have chosen. Note, first, that spirit is superior to matter. As matter is visible and tangible we call it real, and are apt to attach to it undue importance. The fact is that it is nothing compared with spirit. The superiority of spirit to matter was traced by the speaker in regard to deliverances from danger in the question of our responsibilities and in the matter of prayer. Again, difficulties give way before those on the path of duty. Going out into the world to pursue your studies at other institutions, or to engage in the active duties of life, you will meet difficulties at the very threshold of your course. In the light of experience, I judge that some of you entering upon duty without means or friends or experience may be diverted from your object and may turn aside into the but of obscurity or even the haunts of dissipation. To guard against such a course I urge you to consider how each difficulty can be overcome. Each one mastered becomes a stepping stone. Be not discouraged then, young friends. Although the earth is cursed, the air tainted, and the world enervating, the difficulties you meet will invigorate your character, and lead you on to a more renowned. Competitors, enemies and misfortunes may often fill your eyes with tears, but through these tears you may behold the rainbow of hope spanning the spurs and outliers of the everlasting hills. Arise you on to those who sweep away your earthly prospects may strengthen your ears to hear the harpings of the saints. Then faint not; be faithful unto death! And you will take your exalted place among the white-robed elders of eternity.

On Sunday evening the annual sermon before the Missionary Society was preached by Rev. J. H. Saunders. The sermon discussed the calling, the character, and the mission of the people of God. It was shown that through its fellowship with its Lord and His mission the church of Christ must be a missionary church. The history of the modern missionary movement as connected with the Baptists of this country was briefly sketched, and the work to which our churches are called was set forth. The sermon is spoken of as an able presentation of the subject and was listened to with the closest attention.

The public examinations were held on Monday forenoon. The classes examined were: Physical geography, Miss Hughes; Greek, Miss Lyford; Latin, Dr. deBlais; mathematics, Prof. Trefry; English literature, Miss Butterfield; Bible study, Rev. Mr. Williams. In all these subjects the students exhibited the careful training they had received.

In the afternoon a rather exciting and interesting base ball game was played on the seminary grounds between a St. Martin's team and the Seminary Violas, in the presence of a large crowd of spectators. The game was sharply contested throughout, and though de-

feated, 26 to 29, the seminary boys showed very creditable play. Through the kindness of W. H. Rourke a grand stand has been erected, and when school opens again in September it is hoped that, with grounds in good condition, a number of match games may be had. Mr. Rourke has also guaranteed a flag staff 80 feet high for the front campus, fitted with flags, which will greatly add to the already pleasing appearance of the grounds.

In the evening Assembly Hall was filled to overflowing to witness the rhetorical contest for the medal awarded by H. A. McKeown, M. P. P. The greatest interest was manifested throughout the whole proceedings. Miss Butterfield, the teacher in elocution, is to be congratulated on the faithful training in her department, and the pupils on the skill and ability which they evinced. The judges, Rev. A. M. McNinch (of Sussex), Rev. Messrs. Allison and Williams (of St. Martin's), after careful deliberation decided that Miss Blanche Burnham, of St. John, had carried off the honors of the evening. Special mention was also made of Miss Randolph.

Tuesday was the day set apart for the closing exercises in connection with the graduating class, and if those who had charge of affairs had been permitted to order the day according to their hearts' desire, it could scarcely have been improved, for Tuesday came near to being a perfect June day. Every hour was filled with brilliant sunshine and the deep blue sky was flecked with fleecy clouds that retained a rosy tinge far into the day. There was just enough of the bracing element in the air to insure good spirits and to prevent anyone's complaining of the heat. Quite a large company, taking advantage of the special arrangements, left St. John by the early train, and, after a ride of a few hours, in which the beauties of the day and the landscape were abundantly enjoyed, St. Martin's was reached towards noon. Among the company we observed Revs. G. A. Hartley, G. O. Gates, C. H. Martell and A. E. Ingram, and C. E. Everett, A. C. Smith, M. P. P., Thos. L. Hay, Wm. Lewis, C. B. Pidgeon, Esq., and others, many of whom were accompanied by their wives or other members of their families.

At the station we were met by Rev. C. W. Williams and other friends and directed on our way; and soon we were climbing the ascent to the seminary, while we feasted on the beauties of the landscape for which St. Martin's is celebrated. It was already past the hour for the beginning of the services, but the party coming by train had been considered of sufficient importance to be waited for, and so we had the pleasure of witnessing all the proceedings. Some friends from a distance had arrived previously, and with our party, and those who came in from the village, there was a sufficient number present to comfortably fill the hall. Dr. deBlais and those associated with him on the staff of instructors, occupied seats on the platform, together with a number of the gentlemen mentioned above and others.

Students at St. Martin's are able to reach graduation by any one of four courses. The graduating class of the present year is composed as follows:

**Matriculation course—Charles R. McNally; Frederick; William R. Reud, St. John.**  
**Sermon course—Jennie Patterson, St. Martin's.**  
**English course—Maude Churchill, Yarmouth; Charles W. Fawcett, Sackville; Lizsie Moran, St. Martin's; Brewer Waugh, Summerside.**  
**Music course—Blanche Burnham, St. John.**

Following is the programme presented—  
Music—Processional March; Prayer; Essays: "Rhythm in Nature," Charles R. McNally; "Benevolence," Lizsie Moran; "Sir Walter Raleigh," Charles W. Fawcett; "The Development of Music," Maude Churchill; music; "The Character of Cicero," Jennie Patterson; "Study: Its influence on man's Religious Nature," William R. Reud; "Valedictory," Brewer Waugh. Granting of Diplomas; Awarding of Prizes and Medals; Addresses. God Save the Queen.

With the exception of the essay of Miss Moran, who, at her own request, was excused from reading, the order of exercises proceeded according to the programme.

The exercises passed off very pleasantly and in a manner entirely creditable to the school. The essays gave evidence of careful preparation and were very well presented. The graduates having come upon the platform and received their diplomas from the hand of the principal they were addressed by Dr. deBlais.

In speaking a few words of farewell to you, he said, we wish you Godspeed.

For a time you have lived and studied with us, and we have become deeply interested in you and your welfare. As was said by the valedictorian, this is a special day to you. As among fragrant flowers there are flowers which have a special fragrance, and among bright sunsets, sunsets which have a special glory, so there are days which have a special importance. Such is this day to you—a kind of vantage ground from which you look into the past and into the future. But remember that the present alone is yours. Use well the present; and its hours and moments as they lengthen into months and years will bring honor to you and blessing through you to others. You have chosen your motto well. *Fides et Justitia*. Let it be joined to that of the seminary, *Deo ac Veritate*. Let your lives be controlled by faithfulness to truth and loyalty to God. Cherish the memory of your alma mater, and remember that you owe a duty to the school to seek to promote its prosperity.

Tender reference was made by the principal to Jonathan Titus, a member of the class, who had looked forward to graduating at this time, but death had taken him away. Still in spirit he is present here, and may we all meet with him at last in heaven.

Dr. deBlais then announced the winners of the McKeown and Hetherington medals. The first named was for excellence in rhetoric and had been awarded to Miss Blanche Burnham. The other was for excellence in all studies and had been won by Miss Jennie Patterson. Other prizes were announced and presented as follows:

Senior English Literature prize—W. R. Reud, St. John, N. B.; Senior Mathematical prize—W. R. Reud, St. John, N. B.; Junior Greek prize—Jennie Patterson, St. Martin's, N. B.; Junior Science prize—Frank Patterson, St. Martin's, N. B.; Freshman Latin prize—York A. King, Petitediac, N. B.; English Grammar and Composition prize—Lily Miller, St. Martin's, N. B.

An informal report of the work of the year was given by the principal. While there had been special reasons for sadness during the year, there had also been special reasons for joy. The number of students had not been as large as in former years. The attendance had been as follows:

Senior Class	12
Junior Class	12
Freshman Class	17
Preparatory Department	14
Special Study	17
Total	72

As showing the religious character of the school, five young men among the students had the ministry in view, and four of the students during the year had united with the village church.

The utmost harmony prevailed among the teachers and the attachment between teachers and students was stronger than in any school with which he had ever been acquainted. The school had been under great financial embarrassment, but the \$15,000 required to provide for its immediate necessities had been secured. The services rendered by Rev. C. W. Williams in securing the debt \$3,000 or \$4,000 of this subscription were gratefully acknowledged. The pledges of those who had subscribed were being redeemed and the money was coming into the treasury. At one time during the year sickness had greatly interfered with the work of the school. Then, owing to increasing physical weakness, Dr. Hopper had felt compelled to resign the principalship. It was again a season of great darkness and discouragement, but the hand of God had guided and wrought deliverance. Very tender and touching reference was made to the illness and death of one of the students who it was expected would have been among the graduates. In this time of trouble the kindness and sympathy of the people of St. Martin's had been highly appreciated, and this growing sympathy between the school and the people of the village will prove a source of strength to the seminary.

Improvements now in process of being made or in contemplation were spoken of. A grand stand had been built by W. H. Rourke on the grounds, and the same gentleman had undertaken to provide a flag-staff and a flag for it. Four gentlemen in St. John had agreed to stand behind the school financially and morally for this year's debt. Next year the seminary would have a good library. In order that the curriculum might be enlarged so as to include more business branches a young lady had been engaged to teach shorthand, and typewriting. He had asked that twelve or thirteen men undertake to pay the interest on the debt of the school by each giving \$50 a year for five years. The following gentlemen had agreed to this: Hon. A. F. Randolph, \$100; J. J. Bostwick, A. C.

Smith, M. P. P., R. C. Ekin, Mont. McDonald, and W. G. Clark, of Fredericton, \$50 each. He (the principal) proposed to give a like amount. There would be no trouble, he thought, in getting the required number. He had secured as lecturers for the coming year Dr. Silas Alward, M. P. P., H. A. McKeown, M. P. P., Hon. A. S. White, Dr. Day and Prof. Tufts of Acadia. There was no cause for despondency now. The crisis had been passed and a bright future was before the school. God is blessing the school. We are growing and are destined to grow! The late principal, Dr. Hopper, who labored so long and so faithfully for the seminary, will be able to rejoice in knowing that his work was not in vain.

At the close of Dr. deBlais' remarks short addresses were given by Revs. G. O. Gates, G. A. Hartley, and Rev. Mr. McKel, Episcopal minister at St. Martin's, who all spoke in appreciative and congratulatory terms of the school, its work and its prospects.

Between two and three o'clock the Alumni dinner was served in the dining room of the seminary, a large number availing themselves of the abundant provision which had been made for satisfying the needs of the inner man, which had by this time become somewhat imperious. After dinner there were a number of speeches, Rev. C. W. Williams, at the request of Principal deBlais, presiding, Chas. A. Everett, Esq., referred to his connection as a student with the seminary at Fredericton many years ago. The school had done and was now doing good work in preparing men for the duties of life. The young men who had gone out into the great world from these provinces had been able to give a good account of themselves. A. C. Smith, M. P. P., spoke in warm terms of the work of the school, the constituency which it represented and his personal interest in its prosperity. S. McC. Black expressed his pleasure at what he had seen and heard during the morning. He congratulated the school on the brighter day that had dawned upon it and its prospects for the future. G. J. C. White, one of the governors of Acadia College, brought Acadia's greetings, and said the seminary would prove a great feeder of the college. Rev. Mr. McNinch, of Sussex, suggested that 500 young men give \$10 each to show their interest in the school, the old men having done their share towards its maintenance. The school was greatly in need of a cow, and he promised to give them one this summer. Rev. David Long, of Norton, a graduate of the school, made very kindly reference to the late principal of the school, and regretted that he was not able to be present at these closing exercises.

Dr. Day added a few remarks, recalling his connection as a teacher with the seminary at Fredericton years ago.

Later in the afternoon the Alumni Society met. The officers elected for the year are as follows: President, Rev. David Long; vice-president, Miss L. B. Hughes; secretary-treasurer, Mr. W. R. Reud. Executive committee: Mr. Brewer Waugh, Rev. C. W. Williams, Miss Patterson, Prof. J. H. Trefry, Rev. A. E. Ingram. The society resolved to take in hand the matter of providing a suitable gymnasium for the use of the seminary students. A meeting of the society will be held in St. John the last of the present month.

At 6.30 a concert was given in the hall. The attendance was good and the concert was highly appreciated. The programme was as follows:

Instrumental duet, Misses Vaughan and Williams; Vocal solo, "Through the Clover," Miss Mamie Coleman; Instrumental solo, "Morning Glory," Miss Annie Purdy; Reading, "The Bell of St. Basil," Miss Hughes; Solo (Violin obligato), "Nearer My God to Thee," Mrs. deBlais; Instrumental solo, "Spring Song," Miss Blanche Burnham; Vocal solo, "In the Springtime," Miss Pio Randolph; Instrumental trio, Misses Purdy, Randolph and Smith; Vocal solo, "Greeting Home," Mrs. deBlais; Violin solo, "Midsommer Night's Dream," Miss Williams; Vocal solo, "The Song that reached my heart," David Milton; Reading, "Paddy's Prophecy," Miss Butterfield.

At the close of the concert most of the visitors from St. John made their way without delay to the station and boarded the returning train. Connection was made at Hampton with the C. P. R. train and all arrived safely in the city, having spent a very pleasant day and having brought away most favorable impressions concerning the educational work which is being done at St. Martin's.

—A statement presented to the Congregational Union at Montreal shows that fifty-one churches contributed in 1892 to college support, being eleven less than in 1891. Quebec showed a decrease in the contributions of \$241; Ontario, \$187; and Nova Scotia, \$180; while there is \$5 of an increase from New Brunswick.