

Messenger and Visitor.

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VOLUME I.

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Successive Words.—*Words and Phrases*, edited by the Publishers, has a sharp criticism of the state of affairs of the Congregational churches of New England. In Mass., 160 of these churches report no conversions last year, and 90 more but one or two each. This suggests the remark, "We do not realize that the factors of some of these churches are sections that sinners should have an opportunity of repenting and being converted in the next world." But may it not be the belief that there is a probation after death, has much to do with the dearth of conversions?

The "Disciples" and the "Maritime Provinces."—A few weeks ago we made a little innocent "joking" about the "Disciples" of P. E. Island, in it were the following expressions:

On the Island the "Disciples" have a larger following than in any other place in the Dominion. They are their own churches here largely to themselves in Baptist churches in the past. . . . It is a pity they could not give up the idea that a man is not saved until faith has been supplemented by baptism, and join with us in the belief that baptism is an act of obedience for one already saved.

The Christian.—A little monthly sheet of the "Disciples" of the Maritime Provinces, takes us to task for these statements. It declares our first erroneous, because

According to the census of 1881, New Brunswick had twice as many as P. E. I., Nova Scotia three times, and should the number found on the Island be multiplied by 25, there would be a balance in favor of Ontario.

But our contemporary forgets that New Brunswick has three times, and Nova Scotia four times the population of P. E. Island. Our remark is true of the Maritime Provinces, but it does not hold of Ontario, where the "Disciples" are a little more numerous, in proportion to population, than on the Island. We are glad to be corrected in this latter case.

Here is a paper:

If our existence on the Island is due, not to the truthfulness of our position, nor the zeal of the brethren, but largely to dissensions in Baptist churches, how are we to account for our existence in other places, and that in larger numbers?

We would gently remind our contemporary that the "Disciples" might be helped more by dissension among other denominations, in other places than on the Island. We would also suggest that, if the larger numbers of this body in other places is not to be explained in this way, there are other reasons than the force of truth to account for denominational progress. Peco-baptist denominations are pretty strong in many places, as are also the Catholics. The Methodists, even, are strong in Utah. Must their strength be attributed to the force of the truth they hold, when their strength is not to be accounted for by dissensions in other bodies? There may, also, be real for opinions that are not according to truth. We shall refer to the remainder of the "Christian's" references again.

Ministerialism.—We made the following statement in an editorial note in the Messenger and Visitor of Dec. 1st: "A Christian paper in a family is second to no other agency in shaping the ideas, the characters, and the eternal destinies of its members." A respected brother takes exception to this; because a Christian paper will not bear comparison with the Holy Spirit, the Bible, the Church, and Christian mothers, as agencies and agents for good. We did not suppose any one could construe our remark in this way. The Christian paper is one among the thousand agencies made effectual by the Holy Spirit, and its influence is entirely due to the use the Spirit makes of the truth of God it contains. It is also but one of the multiplied agencies used by the church. We believe a paper of this kind inferior in influence to a Christian mother in a family, where the mother uses all the influence it is her privilege to wield. In a very large proportion of cases, however, the actual influence of the paper is the greater. So far as our remark was justly obvious to the objection our brother makes, we are sorry. We had no idea it was; but it may have been. With this explanation, we shall hold to our statement.

Year Book of the Free Baptist Churches of New Brunswick.—From the F. C. Baptist Year Book, just published, we gather the following facts: There are 46 ordained ministers, and four licensed to preach by the Conference. There are 151 churches. The 115 of these that report, have a membership of 9665, this being a net increase of 400 during the year. \$236 have been contributed to Home and \$7144 to Foreign Missions work, in addition to \$814 given through the Ladies' Aid Societies. There are 97 Sabbath schools in connection with the churches, and a total attendance of 5708.

License.—In the elections just held in British Columbia was carried by a majority of 5257, in a vote of 37,000. Last year it was carried by a majority of 9,000. The progress of public sentiment is in the right

direction, and it is very rapid. It is to be hoped that Boston may soon wipe out the disgrace which has been cast upon her, by consenting to be ruled by a man like

H. M. Stanley.—This intrepid explorer has just paid a visit to the United States. While in New York, he complied with a request to give an address before the Methodist ministers' meeting. He says that the Upper Congo is healthy. In answer to the question on: What have been the causes that have impeded missionary? he thinks their danger lies, largely, in want of tact in dealing with the natives, and because they often go beyond their character as missionaries and become explorers. Scarcely had Mr. Stanley delivered this address, when he was required to hasten back to the Congo. The following from the *Christ. Advocate* explains the reason:—

Mr. Henry M. Stanley has been unexpectedly summoned to Belgium by King Leopold. The recently reported destruction of the Station Stanley Falls, on the Congo, by a petty Mohammedan chieftain known as Tippu Tibb, has probably brought serious consequences to the scattered little garrison which tries to keep peace in the Congo State. This man has an organized band of outcasts 1,500 strong. He has in various ways proved his untrustworthiness, but Mr. Stanley has thus far found it wise to maintain friendship with him. It is supposed that King Leopold, as some action of the Belgian officers, has suddenly determined to depose the Congo and wipe out the evidences of civilization. Mr. Stanley will probably be compelled to return at once to the Congo Valley and suppress him.

Little Alice was playing with her doll while her mother was writing. When her mother had finished the writing, she told Alice she could come and sit in her lap, and Alice said:

"I am so glad; I wanted to love you so much, mamma."

"Did you, darling?" she clasped her tenderly. "I am very glad my Alice loves me so; but I fancy you were not very lonely while I wrote; you and dolly seemed to be having a happy time together."

"Yes, we had, mamma; but I got tired after awhile of loving her."

"And why?"

"Oh, because she never loves me back!"

"And that is why you love me?"

"That is one why, mamma; but not the first one of the best."

"And what is the first and best?"

"Why, mamma, don't you guess?"—and the blue eyes grew very bright and earnest.

"It's because you loved me when I was too little to love you back; that's why I love you so."—*Watkins.*

This little story touches our hearts; because we remember that one of the greatest reasons we have to love the dear Saviour is because he loved us, not only before we could love him back; but when we returned his love with indifference, ingratitude and sin. Can we ever love him enough?

Appeal to Prejudice.—The *Intelligencer* clips the following from the *Christian Witness* of Boston, the paper of the Higher Life people. It refers to the late action by the Free Baptist Conference, in reference to "intemperate and unchristian conduct, and also, so the recent negotiations for union between the two Baptist bodies in the Maritime Provinces. The *Intelligencer* replies in a dignified and kindly way, urging upon the adherents of the higher life idea among the F. Baptists, to justify themselves, "to correct or repudiate such championship" as the *Witness* gives. This is the extract:

"We do not believe, the authorities of that church, will commit suicide by excluding from church membership the splendid men and women whose only crime is that they love God with all their hearts." "In connection with the persistent invective of the Free Baptists in these two Provinces to get rid of holiness brethren, it is interesting and instructive to note the equal persistent effort of some of the leaders in that denomination to effect a union with their old-time enemies, the Baptists. Here is a large Free Baptist membership, whose only crime is too much love. These must go. Welcome in their places these old antagonists, predestinarianism, and all. What would the fathers of the Free Baptist denomination say to this? It is enough to make them turn over in their graves. That would be a curious state of mind that would turn out one's own brethren, and take in his place a life-long enemy. Not that we object to denominational union; but that we have any sympathy with the Baptist; but we cannot help seeing through such grossly dishonest schemes."

All we wish to say is that this is an illustration of the suspicion and censoriousness so characteristic of the higher life people. It also shows that those who profess the highest attainments in Christianity are not above appeals filed to awaken bitterness and prejudice, were people to pay much attention to them. We hope statements like the above will be taken at their true worth, and allowed to have no weight.

Baptism in Berlin.—The capital of Germany has a population of 1,400,000. It is growing very fast, as is testified by the fact that in 1881, it contained but 624,945. For all these swarming multitudes there are only 61 places of worship of all descriptions, with a seating capacity of 50,000—only enough to hold one in 28 of the people. The Baptist church in Berlin has been much blessed, especially in the last five years, during which time it has

grown from a little over 500 to 1000, and their Sunday schools from an attendance of 350 to 984. Their house of worship, however, will hold but 460. It was our privilege, seven years ago, to attend two services there, and we remember how crowded the audience room then was. They are preparing to build a second house, to cost \$25,000, and have made an appeal to the Baptists of Germany to help them. The German Baptists are poor; but they are doing grandly, according to their means.

Dr. Newman's Article.—Dr. Newman's article contains what is fitted both to arouse serious enquiry and to stimulate to increased effort. We hope it will be carefully read. Reference has frequently been made, in our columns, to some of the facts mentioned. The drain upon the supply of ministers for our churches is a very grave matter. There seems to be no way to keep our young men for our churches, but by educating them at home. Now that we have one of the best theological institutions located here in the Dominion—an institution also which belongs to us—it does seem unfortunate that so many of our young men go elsewhere to study, and to stay. The support of our ministry is also intimately connected with this question. It is time that this important question, broached by Bro. Coburn, should receive more serious attention. Yes, Acadia needs, and she deserves to have, \$150,000 additional endowment. Would that the example of Mr. McMaster might inspire three or four of our wealthiest men and women to start the movement with \$25,000 apiece.

Father Moore's Sermon.—Have all our ministers noticed it? Some may not be able to give the \$5.00 on New Year's day to clear off the debt on the Home Mission Board; but many, no doubt, could do so. Let us say as we can at this good example to their churches. Brothers, all of the churches, will you allow the work of the Board to be crippled? Let one or two thousand more say so, in the shape of an enclosure to Bro. Coburn, as Dr. Day suggests?

The Labels.—This week we finish the labels for Nova Scotia. When the year alone is mentioned, it means the subscriber has paid to January of that year; when a month is added it means that he has paid to the beginning of that month. Let all our subscribers examine the labels on their papers, to see if the credit is right, and if there be any error, let them write us immediately. Would those kind, that have \$5.00 or \$6.00 on these labels, send us at once, and have the figures changed to \$5.

Expansion of China.

That China is rapidly taking place among the great powers of the world is one of the most patent facts of modern history. It is scarcely half a dozen years since the great Empire was regarded as simply an inert mass, without influence on the politics of the world, and beyond the hope of material improvement. France began operations against it on a scale hardly greater than that outlined for Madagascar, and even England considered the treaty of Tientsin, something to be fulfilled when occasion required. True, the determined resistance offered by the Kung-fu-fu, and the absorption of Kanbyur, had already indicated its vitality, but both were regarded as mere pressure of bulk, and attracted little attention. But since 1860 the position of China has radically changed, and there is not a statesman in Europe who does not recognize it as a State of the first importance, and who is not desirous of its friendship.

In fact, no other Asiatic State commands anything like its influence and position, and there is hardly a great power in the world whose aims it cannot materially further or retard. It has only to extend its moral support in Tonquin and Annam to overthrow any French ministry, by forcing it to ask for supplies of men and money on a scale which the treasury would be certain to refuse. Indeed, the Peking diplomat is even now exerting this pressure, and in demanding the abrogation of the protectorate over Catholics in China, have France so alternative was defeat or an impracticable war. In Harbin, China could seriously embarrass the British Government, while an alliance with Peking would give England, in case of war with Russia, a point of vantage of scarcely less importance than the control of the Black Sea. India and China united could furnish millions of men for war, and could drive Russia out of Asia by the mere weight of numbers. China alone could be an invasion of Manchuria, from the Northern border to that of a projected war the expense of which would totally bankrupt its treasury. Germany, too, has interests which Peking can materially affect, and even our own country in address of extending its trade with China and of maintaining an influence in that quarter which shall be second to that of no other power. In every European capital the Chinese ambassador is deferred to and honored, as

if the country he represented had already taken rank with the effective great nations of the time. And this new advance of China is permanent and real there is little doubt. The war with France demonstrated its ability to make large bodies of troops and to spend them without feeling it, and a regular force is being organized for the defence of the capital. The navy has been placed on a formidable footing, the forts and artillery strengthened and improved, and a march upon Peking, if not impracticable, would cost an army and expenditure which no nation could well afford. Thus far the advice of General Gordon to move the capital has not been taken, but it may be at any time, and at that event the task of invading it from the coast and the maintaining communications might be a European effort. Indeed, it may be doubted whether another war against China could be successful, for while it could not perhaps defeat a first-class power, it could make it to expensive in men and treasure that once will attack without the gravest reason. The Western powers are doubtless ready enough to fight at any time, but they will hesitate to challenge a nation that can lose ten thousand men a week, and to which time and expense count for nothing. Whether, however, the growing power of the Empire will tend ultimately to promote the world's weal, or, of course, only be counteracted. Just now the trend of opinion is that it will, and there seems little doubt that in view of the passive nature of the population, it is well that it is beyond the probability of conquest. But the danger is that with the increase of power, the desire for isolation may disappear, and that aware that the crowding of population is always a menace, they may extend their borders. Against his statements are content to be on the defensive, but the time may come when they will break out, and when there will be a tremendous calamity in the earth. A power like China, armed with modern weapons, and destroying where destruction is the easiest course, if once set in motion could only be stopped by a slaughter which would ruin half mankind.—*Interior.*

Salvation in Georgia.

One of the presiding elders was holding a quarterly conference in Middle Georgia. At the love-feast one thanked God for a Christian mother and a Christian father; another thanked God he was raised in the lap of piety, and directly a young man, a young man, about twenty-two years old, a Homeist Methodist preacher, just licensed, said:

"I'm sorry I can't give the experience of those who have just taken their seats. I wish I could say that I was raised by a pious mother and a godly father; but it was to the contrary. Two years ago my father was an atheist, my mother an infidel, and my brothers and sister, other than myself, were all infidels and atheists, and I was myself the best I knew how to be. Two years ago I went to a camp-meeting. I happened to go by myself, to have fun, as I usually did. At the first service that night I was standing on the outer edge. All at once every word of the preacher commenced striking fire down in my soul. I stood transfixed. I wanted to be away, but I could not leave. When the preacher invited the penitents I went immediately to the altar and commenced praying. 'God be merciful to me a sinner.' After awhile they dismissed the congregation, and all went to the tents. The preacher came to me and said, 'Come out to the tent and we'll pray with you.' I looked up at the preacher and told him: 'I never knew until an hour ago that there was a God in heaven, and I never expected to leave my knees at this altar till I make him my friend and he promises me heaven.' They sang and prayed with me till one o'clock that night. A little after one, all at once, I felt lifted that I had opened my soul and Christ had come in as my Saviour. I clasped my hands. I said, 'I have made friends with God.' I went out of the tent and laid down and went to sleep. Oh, what a peaceful sleep it was. When I awoke the next morning the bright sun was pouring in upon my face. I thought it was the brightest world I ever looked upon."

"After breakfast I got on my horse and started home and his impression came upon me: 'Your father will never speak to you again. Your mother will despise you. Your brothers and sisters will despise you. Now, what have you done? Oh, how opposed I was! Before I got home I knelt and said, 'God help me to be faithful. God keep me in this day's work.' I went on in the house. I don't say my everyday clothes and went to work. About ten days after my wife and brother and I were cutting timber. We sat on a log I turned to my brother—I hadn't opened my mouth before to say one word and said: 'Brother Tom, I was converted last week at that camp meeting.' Such a look as fell on his face! The big tears were running down his cheeks."

Esau's Lives at Home.

The heroism of private life, the slow, unheroic martyrdoms of the heart, who shall remember? Greater than any knightly dragon slayer of old in the man who overcomes an unholiness, sets his foot upon it, and stands serene and strong in virtue. Greater than Zenobia is the woman who struggles with a love that would wrong another or degrade her own soul, and conquers. The young martyr and tender who turns from the dear love of woman, and buries deep in his heart the sweet instinct of maternity, to devote himself to the care and support of aged parents or an unfortunate sister, and whose life is a long sacrifice, in many cheerfulfulness and majestic spirit, is a hero of the purest type—the type Charles Lamb. I have known but two such.

The young woman who resolutely stays with father or mother in the old home, while brothers and sisters go forth to happy homes of their own; who cheerfully lays on the altar of filial duty that costliest of human sacrifices, the joy of loving and being loved—she is a heroine. I have known many such.

The husband who goes home from every day routine, and the perplexing cares of business, with a cheerful smile and a loving word to his invalid wife; who brings not against her the grievous sin of a long sickness, and reproaches her not for the cost and discomfort thereof; who sees in her languid eyes something dearer than girlish laughter, in the sad face and faded cheeks that blossom into smiles and even blushes at his coming, something lovelier than the old time spring roses—he is a hero. I think I know one such.

The wife who bears her part in the burden of life—even though it be the larger part—bravely, cheerfully, never dreaming that she is a heroine, much less a martyr; who bears with the faults of a husband not altogether congenial, with loving patience and a large charity, and with noble decision hiding them from the world—who makes no complaint and asks no tollendence, who refuses from brooding over shortcomings in sympathy and sentiment, and from seeking pathetic "alleviations" who does not build high-tragedy scenarios on the inevitable, nor feel an earthquake in every family jar, who sees her husband united with herself indissolubly and eternally in their children—she is the wife in every truth, in the inward as in the outward, is a heroine, though of rather an unobtrusive type.—*Orator Occasional.*

It is a vital question that Dr. Matthews asks—what is Christian piety and Christian conduct? "Is there any place in any of our religions, where there is a little bit of unrepentant white by our knees?"

"He said, 'Brother Henry, we've all been watching you since you came back from that camp. Mother says you look and talk like a saint. Sisters say they never saw such a change in a boy in their life. Father says you are the most agreeable and nice about the place. Do you reckon God would do for me what he has done for you?' 'Why, yes, brother Tom. There's a camp meeting begins to-morrow near here. Go there with you. I believe God will do for you just what he has done for me.'"

"We went home. We never opened our mouths to a single one. Next day we put off to that camp. The third night after we got there my brother was soundly converted. Welcome both home. I said, 'Brother Tom, let's put our candles on a candlestick and let it give light to that old dark house. Let's get the Bible down to night and pray, if neither will let us.' About bedtime I said, 'Mother, do you care if brother Tom and I read a chapter here or there and here prayer?' Mother commenced to cry, and said: 'Yes, Henry, you came home ten days ago just ago just like an angel, and here comes your brother Tom this evening with the same expression upon his face. You can do anything you please here, God knows in my heart I want just what lights up the countenance of my two boys.'"

"We got down that old Bible. I read and called on brother Tom to pray. He knelt and prayed earnestly for father and mother and children. I heard weeping over there, and my sister crying over here. Brother Tom got hold upon the horns of the altar, and before we got off our knees, my mother, one of my brothers and one of my sisters were converted. We kept praying night and morning until the last member of the family was converted. There sits my old father, now seventy years old—he was the last one to come in. Now he is clothed and in his right mind and on his way to heaven. Precious Saviour, fill us so full of thy presence, that we shall have our homes filled with thy presence, so that others seeing our good works may be constrained to glorify thee and our Father which is in heaven."—*Sam Jones.*

Esau's Lives at Home.

The heroism of private life, the slow, unheroic martyrdoms of the heart, who shall remember? Greater than any knightly dragon slayer of old in the man who overcomes an unholiness, sets his foot upon it, and stands serene and strong in virtue. Greater than Zenobia is the woman who struggles with a love that would wrong another or degrade her own soul, and conquers. The young martyr and tender who turns from the dear love of woman, and buries deep in his heart the sweet instinct of maternity, to devote himself to the care and support of aged parents or an unfortunate sister, and whose life is a long sacrifice, in many cheerfulfulness and majestic spirit, is a hero of the purest type—the type Charles Lamb. I have known but two such.

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A Brave Showman.

A showman who boasted that nothing could frighten him, was put to the test by two young men. One of them pretended to be dead, and the other, going to the showman, induced him to sit up with the supposed corpse. The showman was in a hurry with some work he had promised to have completed the next morning, so he took his stick and lantern and commenced working beside the corpse. About twelve o'clock it might a cup of black coffee was brought to him to keep him awake. He drank it, resumed his work. About one o'clock, the coffee having exhilarated him, forgetting that he was in the presence of death, he commenced singing a lively tune, keeping time with his hammer. Suddenly the corpse arose, and exclaimed in a hoarse voice, "When a man is in the presence of death he should not sing." The showman started, then suddenly demanding the lantern from the head, exclaiming, "When a man is in the presence of death he should not speak." It was the last time they spoke to each other.

This, That, and the Other.

—To the Rambler: Have you ever in your ramblings discovered why a few drops of rain on Sunday morning have such a sedative (let-in-the-house) effect on many people, while on Monday morning the same people can be seen facing a blowing rain? Have you found out why plain, every-day school dresses will keep children drier better than Sunday clothes, and why it is never too windy and stormy to go to school, but often out of the question to attend Sunday school and church? Have you discovered good people who get in church just as the text is announced simply to be entertained and not to join in the worship of God? I am curious to know if the eagle-eyed Rambler has seen such things, and if he has a remedy.—*National Baptist.*

The more we have known of the plagues of our own hearts, the more inconceivably wonderful this indwelling of Christ will appear, a more wonderful fact than He chose a manger as His royal resting place, for that had never been defiled by sin, and had never harbored His enemy.—*Francis Ridley Havergal.*

—From the reports presented at the May meeting of the English Baptists, it appears that that denomination has now 3654 churches and chapels, with accommodations for 1,187,000 persons; that the church membership is 215,940, an increase of 3470 and the number of Sunday School scholars 472,000, an increase of 4000. In 1821 the church membership was only 42,000. While the population increased 75 per cent., the number of Baptist Church members has increased 600 per cent. Out of 1906 Baptist ministers 1100 are reported to be pledged teetotalers, and of the remainder a large part are practical abstainers.

—What looks more like an onward flow of water than the ocean waves? Perhaps, no unpracticed eye ever saw these waves for the first time, without the impression that an onward flow was also seen. But there is none, or next to none. Now, is not this a fair image of the false excitement springing up under the preaching of sensational evangelists? Do not these excitements only seem to carry a people forward in the Christian life? In both cases, we fear, "the form of the wave is progressive; the water of the wave simply moves up and down and does not advance."

—A personal Jesus accepted is salvation; a personal Jesus obeyed is sanctification; a personal Jesus trusted is perpetual joy; a personal Jesus possessed is our only power. Without him all preaching is empty clamor; without him all church memberships are idle chatter. If we covet a genuine revival of spiritual life and power, let us open our lips, our purses, our hands, and our hearts, to this deepest, grandest, most heaven-born of petitions, "Come, Lord Jesus!"—*Dr. T. J. Cuyler.*

—A sale of orchids was held for four consecutive days in New York, two weeks ago. Two thousand plants that had been collected by Mrs. Mary J. Morgan were disposed of for \$20,700. They cost \$200,000 originally, and \$100,000 more had been spent in their cultivation. For one plant \$2000 was given.

—The island of Barbados with 166 square miles supports a population of 175,000 or 1,000 persons to the square mile. This was thought to be the most densely inhabited portion of the earth's surface, but it is now found that the island of Malak, with 50 square miles of surface, contains 148,500 inhabitants, or 1,500 to the square mile. With this ratio the New England States would hold a population of 149,533,000, or the State of New York 70,000,000.

—A minister said of a venerable congressman, "If the Lord was engaged in a controversy with the devil himself, the old man would say, 'Dear brethren, let's split the difference!'"

The Bless of Blessing

BY REV. THEODORE CUTLER, D. D.

"He blessed him there? Where? On the spot. The scene of Jacob's wrestling with the heavenly presence..."

"So much for the piece in which Jacob received the remarkable blessings which gave color to his whole life..."

"He never blesses a man while in the attitude of disobedience. Jonah playing trumpet is never out of the sea..."

"A young lawyer, during a powerful revival in his church at B... left home in order to escape from the 'big God'..."

"But she has no money to travel with," blurted out Mrs. Robbins. "She wants to send her twenty dollars..."

"And she sat down and wrote to Walter Robbins' widow, enclosing that last twenty dollar bill..."

"(4) Life is a continued fight with the adversary. Blessed is the man that endures temptation..."

"In many congregations the question now is, 'How shall we obtain a blessing?'..."

"Who will send the MESSENGER AND VISITOR as a Christmas present to a friend, or to one of the Lord's poor?"

"Who will spend a day in canvassing for subscribers for the MESSENGER AND VISITOR?"

Trusting in Providence

"It's gone! to be snappin' cold, to-night, mother, and so I tell you," said Miss Eliza Robbins...

"I rather guess so," responded Eliza with a shiver. "Stare shinin' like a new moon behind the trees..."

"You're always fadin' out some good thing or other, mother," said Eliza, a little petulantly.

"Well, then, the world is full of 'em!" said Mrs. Robbins, who had a sweet, plaintive voice like a whip-poor-will.

"Up garret," said Eliza, "overt the west store-room."

"Well, it's lively it ain't leakin' in the rooms we live in," said the inveterate old woman...

"Bless me!" said Mrs. Robbins. "Well, there ain't much but rock and malleable iron in the place..."

"And I have a letter from Walter's widow," added Eliza; "and she wants to come here with her children."

"But, mother," said Eliza, "think what you are doing. Another family in this cramped-up little house..."

"But, mother," said Eliza, "think what you are doing. Another family in this cramped-up little house..."

"Well, child—well," serenely interposed the old lady, "God will provide. He always does it, pricking him every hour, and in a week he returned home."

"But she has no money to travel with," blurted out Mrs. Robbins. "She wants to send her twenty dollars..."

"Well—but, mother," pleaded Eliza, "we haven't got any money, either—to spare."

"But that was to buy you a warm, woolen coat, mother."

"Well, I'll make the old gray shawl do for another year," said Mrs. Robbins.

"You don't care for her hard gray eyes," said Mrs. Robbins, looking wistfully up.

"But that was to buy you a warm, woolen coat, mother."

"And Eliza broke out laughing with her mouth open at her hard gray eyes."

"You don't care for her hard gray eyes," said Mrs. Robbins, looking wistfully up.

"There's a fire, dear," said Mrs. Robbins, "but we can't have much, for there's only a peck of coal left in the box."

"Mamma," went on the child, "why don't you fire shine red and bright like the fire I see through other people's windows sometimes?"

"We can't afford it, dear," sighed the widow. "If you let the coal blaze and crackle it soon turns into ashes, and we must economize."

"Mamma," spoke up a tiny voice from the bed, "I'd like to see a fire like that."

"There is no more, Bessie," said Mrs. Robbins, with a pang, sharper than any serpent tooth at her heart.

"We can't have all the milk we want, mamma, can we?" said she.

"I don't know," said Mrs. Robbins, with a quiver in her voice. "No, she is not a quiver in her voice."

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To Sunday-School Workers

One of the most valuable helps for the Sunday-School workers is the 'CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS'...

Optimism regarding this new little Bible is a help. It has a completeness not to be found in any other Bible...

Send for a list of books for Sunday-schools and for terms for same. Price \$1.00. Address: AMERICAN PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, 111 N. 3rd St., N. Y. C.

WOMEN'S WORK advertisement with logo and text describing women's work and products.

PAIN-KILLER advertisement for Dr. J. H. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

ST. JOHN BUILDING SOCIETY advertisement for Odd Fellows Hall, incorporated 1861.

COOKING STOVES advertisement for Ranges & Co. with details on products and prices.

J. HARRIS & Co. advertisement for 27 & 29 Water St., SAINT JOHN, N. B.

NOTICE TO ALL advertisement regarding legal matters and business notices.

E. H. MACALPINE, A. M. advertisement for Barrister, Notary, etc., with contact information.

Small advertisement for a business or service, possibly related to the building society.

NOTICE OF CO-PARTNERSHIP.

I HAVE this day associated with me...

Spring Announcement, 1886.

I am prepared to receive orders for...

Spring Tweeds, Diagonals, Coatings, Fant Goods...

JAMES S. MAY, ROBERT MAY, JAMES H. HAY & SON.

GATES' VEGETABLE PLASTER.

A most valuable remedy for all...

Large Rock Granite.

Large Rock Granite, Granite & Marble...

HERBERT W. MOORE.

Battistor at-Law, Solicitor in Equity, Conveyancer...

NEW GOODS!

In Gentlemen's Department...

27 King Street, New Brunswick...

MANCHESTER, ROBERTSON, & ALLISON.

31 and 33 South Street, New Brunswick...

C. C. Richards & Co. Sole Proprietors.

It is an invaluable Hair Restorer...

THE BRANFORD DISEASE DEFENDER.

QUESTIONS: 1. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished...

McINT, McDONALL, Barrieter, Attorney-at-Law.

Solicitor, Etc. Office: No. 1 Barnhill's Building, Princess St.

WANTED—AN ENERGETIC PERSON.

For a position of Assistant Secretary...

Sabbath School.

BIBLE LESSONS.

STUDIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT—GENESIS.

THE BEGINNING.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth...

The Two-fold Nature of Man.

The more detailed account of the creation of man...

Man's Origin.

Man's origin is a subject of great interest...

Man's Nature.

Man's nature is a subject of great interest...

Man's Family.

The true family is composed of one husband and one wife...

Man's Sabbath.

God's Sabbath is a subject of great interest...

Man's Light.

As the train sped along in the night...

Man's Sabbath.

QUESTIONS: 1. The Sabbath was made for man...

Man's Sabbath.

QUESTIONS: 1. Only Two Worlds.

Man's Sabbath.

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hink, and ride, and smoke, and drink, and dance...

—To bring one child to the boom of Christ would be reward for all our pains...

A friend of mine in America went to see Jacob Strong...

And then he took him to another view from the cupola...

My friend said, "What have you got in here?"

He replied, "I have got nothing there."

At the train sped along in the night...

The conductor looked around and abashed as with hasty glances he replied...

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SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE.

JANUARY NUMBER, No. 1, Vol. 1.

CONTENTS.

LETTER FROM THE REPUBLIC OF FRANCE. PROCLAIMED BY HONORABLE FRANK DEWEY...

THE NEW YEAR. MARY FERRELL. A VIOLIN SONG.

THE REMEDIAL COMPOUND. A POSITIVE CURE FOR ALL THESE PAINFUL COMPLAINTS...

REMEDIAL ELIVER PILLS (sugar coated) cure Torpidity of the Liver...

V.C. Stock, Food & Condition Powders. THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

HOLIDAY MUSIC, FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS. No gift so low of value...

ADVERTISERS can learn the exact cost of advertising in American papers...

I CURE FITS! I have cured many cases of epilepsy...

EQUITY SALE.

THERE will be sold at Public Auction a Chub's corack...

OUR Machine Rubber was prepared a high reputation for durability...

OILS. Special quotations on Machine Oil, Castor Oil, Sperm Oil, Seal Oil...

Illustrative Sample Free. SELF PRESERVATION. HEAL THYSELF!

"BELL" ORGANS. Unapproached for Tone and Quality. CATALOGUES FREE.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION. The COMPANION has now reached a weekly circulation of nearly 400,000 copies...

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Messenger and Visitor.

100.00 per Annum when paid within Thirty days; otherwise 90.00.

All communications respecting advertising should be addressed to E. A. POWERS, publisher, St. John, N. B.

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WEDNESDAY, December 22, 1896.

THE "MESSENGER AND VISITOR" FOR 1897.

The MESSENGER AND VISITOR continues to be published at the same terms as during this year.

The price of the paper is \$1.00 per year when paid within thirty days, otherwise \$2.00.

AMUSEMENTS.

The holiday season is upon us. The doors of all the haunts of pleasure are flung wide open, and soon, doubtless, rink and theatre and dance hall will be thronged by those who give themselves up to the kind of enjoyment which these places afford.

It is a fact that many Christians are relaxing the rigor of the old views respecting theatres and dancing floors.

Are there any clear and well-defined principles to aid those who wish to decide aright the question as to what amusements are proper for Christians and what improper?

We lay down the following principles with great confidence:

1. Let no Christian indulge in that which his conscience questions. It is to be expected that conscience, considering how imperfect is our moral nature, will not be over-sensitive; but the reverse, except in the few cases where it has become morbid.

2. Do not engage in that which may prove injurious to others, when there is no prospect that it will do them good.

theatre, the skating rink, and the dance are free from harmful influences to many? The confessions of hundreds, and the testimony of observers everywhere, combine to show that these places do more than waste time, bring into evil associations and encourage tastes which make the life trivial rather than noble.

This power to do good is the most priceless of the treasures of our endowment. It is the highest power that heaven can bestow upon a man.

There can be no question about this. It was only last week we were talking about this question of amusements with a gentleman, a non-professor.

He referred to a certain young man who was in the habit of attending dance and what parties, but who still took part in the regular prayer meetings of his church.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Yes, Christmas is a merry time, and who would have it otherwise? The child that has no green Christmas memories has met with a life-long robbery.

As Christmas draws on, the interest grows more intense. Little bright-eyed children can hardly be got to bed, so full are they of excitement.

Class, of course, are pulled out of plethoric stockings legs. And so the glad day opens brightly, to be followed by other forms of pleasure, provided by loving forethought, and fitted to leave memories that will glow brightly, when the shadows of after years fall thickly over the life.

A man would be a churl, indeed, if he should desire this day to be less full of sunshine; this day of all the year, when the poor as well as the rich seek to drive the shadows back, and have one twelve hours given up to impart and receive happiness. And is there not a kind of fitness in making this a day of joy and gladness?

Neither is the custom of making and receiving gifts, at this time, to be censured. What a gift came to me to-day, my dear Lord, when on the morning the angels hovered in joy and wonder, over Bethlehem.

In conclusion, will all our readers accept our heartiest wish that they, one and all, may have a very merry Christmas in deed, and a happy new year.

THE METROPOLITAN AND TEMPERANCE.

Bishop Medley of Fredericton, by virtue of being the oldest bishop of the Episcopal church of the Dominion, is called the Metropolitan of Canada.

His Lordship is reported to have said, "In reality, liquor of any kind should not be called intoxicating—it was a misnomer. It was not intoxicating unless we take too much of it."

The monthly missionary day has proved a great blessing to faculty and students, and is an institution from which we may safely look for the most valuable results.

The ground that total abstinence advocates occupy is impregnable. It is according to the best philosophy, the best common sense and the highest form of Christian charity to abstain, totally, from intoxicants, as a beverage.

"In the Globe report, from which we took the quotations given above, no reference is made to the other addresses given at the meeting at which the Metropolitan gave his deliverance.

The fall term of this institution is nearing its close, in fact will have reached its close before this letter is in the hands of its readers.

Toronto Baptist College.

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In no department of the College has the increase in interest been so marked as in that of Semitic languages.

of Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba, are not availing themselves more fully of the provision that has been made for the training of the rising ministry.

The fall term of this institution is nearing its close, in fact will have reached its close before this letter is in the hands of its readers.

1. Let each pastor and all others who take an interest in the cause of Christ, seek out among their acquaintances, young men who give promise, when properly trained, of possessing capacity for the work of the ministry, and, by the use of such means as will readily suggest themselves, endeavor to induce them to consecrate themselves to the work, and endeavor to provide ways and means for at least the beginning of a course of study.

2. Let pastors and other brethren and sisters take a deep, practical interest in the work of educating young men for the ministry, as it is being carried on at Acadia College and McMaster Hall.

3. I believe that the time has come when the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces should make a slight effort to the equipment and the endowment of Acadia College.

not spend itself until it should have brought the other departments of the work to the same level.

Are there not four brethren who will gladden the hearts of the self-sacrificing men who are giving their time and strength to educational work at Wolfville, and the hearts of Baptists everywhere, by intimating to Dr. Sawyer during the Christmas holidays their willingness to give \$25,000 each, on condition that \$150,000 in all are raised in a certain reasonable time?

ASSET H. NEWBARI.

Toronto, Dec. 14.

Home Missions.

The December meeting of the H. M. Board was held on the 13th inst. Reports were received from British Columbia, D. S. McFarlane, Spurr, Gaudet, W. J. Blake, Hamilton, Normandy, Miller, John Williams, D. Freeman, and I. Wallace.

1. To Springhill field, Cum. Co., N. B. \$100, for the year beginning Sept. 27, '96, Rev. J. Murray, pastor.

1. Let each pastor and all others who take an interest in the cause of Christ, seek out among their acquaintances, young men who give promise, when properly trained, of possessing capacity for the work of the ministry, and, by the use of such means as will readily suggest themselves, endeavor to induce them to consecrate themselves to the work, and endeavor to provide ways and means for at least the beginning of a course of study.

Missionary Correspondence.

S. S. MACARTHUR, Nov. 22, 1896.

We are nearing Port Said, where there will be an opportunity of mailing letters, and as some of our friends will care to know how we are progressing, I send a few lines to the MESSENGER AND VISITOR.

There has scarcely been any excuse even for me, O. I. I have been in that way a good deal. We left Liverpool on Wednesday morning, Nov. 16th, and passed Gibraltar on the next Monday.

With the two apostolic successors on board of course I, as a dissector, am quite relieved of any share in the religious services. They coolly and quietly ignore me.

THE HOME

Christmas Treasures

I count my treasures of my care; The little toy that baby knew, A little sock of faded blue, A little lock of golden hair.

John's Thanksgiving

"You must think I am a fool, Carrie? No answer. 'Or else you think money grows on the trees?'"

THE FARM

Escape from "Rural New Yorker"

"Your farm is not thoroughly drained, do you know, or composted, and fresh as soon as possible."

"Do not build a home larger than you want. A thousand dollars worth of house for other people to look at is a costly vanity."

"What kind of a place is this?" John cried. "I've already made the infernal mistake."

"Where am I?" he moaned. "The quiet answered the oldest man."

"There is nothing to eat," she said to the children. "You remember there were no crops raised this year."

"What?" cried John; "no home, no clothes, nothing to eat! How thankful I

would be if we were back in the old home, with everything stored in for the winter!"

TEMPERANCE

"I want to Save My Poor Papa"

Tim was a poor little boy, the only son of a village blacksmith, without any education, except a few lessons in spelling and reading he learned in the Sunday school.

The day was when he went along on his usual errand, merrily whistling, with no thought except he was doing his father's bidding; but after a while, when he began to loiter, he saw a man who he knew and loved.

"Well," said the awakened boy, "I am enjoying my life very much, but I am not sure that I am doing my duty."

"I don't know," said the man, "but I am sure that I am doing my duty."

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There are some very good people, persons who would claim good social standing, who are guilty of committing discourtesies.

"Don't be Fooled"—When you require a warm expeller ask for Nelson's Cherry Vermine and take no other.

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RUPTURE

NEWS SUMMARY. A. J. King... Mr. Thomas Maclean...

There is a man in West Point, aged 35...

At the annual meeting of the Halifax school for the blind...

Leading temperance workers in Portland, N. B. have formed a Scott Act League...

During the past Thursday night two cars were run from siding into the main line near Truro...

A meeting is to be held in Halifax tomorrow, having for its object the formation of a branch of the Imperial Federation League...

The Pictou, N. S. bank, at its annual meeting next month, will ask its shareholders to sanction an application to parliament for an act to authorize the winding up of its affairs...

A heavy rain storm on Saturday carried off all the snow, and it looks now as if St. John would have a "green Christmas."

Barque "Nellie Moody," Webster, of Yarmouth, N. S., arrived at Gloucester, on Sunday, having been several days crossing the ocean.

Ontario elections are to be held on the 25th. The Puruss steamer "Ulunda" arrived at Halifax from London Saturday night, nineteen days out.

Mr. J. H. Hinks Beach from the office of Chief Secretary for Ireland, because he favors a "mild enforcement" of the law...

The Times says the government show that they are not a Congress sitting at Dorchester, New York...

The Dublin Nation learns in connection with the proposal to send a British envoy to the Yalta, that Lord Iddelburgh asked the right of objecting to undesirable appointments to Catholic vacancies in Great Britain...

Prize Ferdinand, of Szabo-Coburg-Gotha, is willing to accept the Bulgarian throne if the Sobranje elect him and the Powers concur in his election.

The public feeling of uneasiness, owing to the war scare, is beginning to visibly affect business and credit...

Russian newspapers announce that all custom officials on the western frontier of Russia will be dismissed in January...

The British force in Egypt is to be reduced to 4,000 early next year, and no British troops will be stationed north of Cairo.

Committees have been organized in London, with a view of raising a fund for a women's and girls' offering to Queen Victoria in honor of the 50th year of her reign.

Major O'Brien (Democrat) has been re-elected in Boston. This will be his third term in office.

Children starting to die on account of their inability to digest food, will find their most marvelous food and remedy in Scott's Emulsion...

JUST LOVELY! I have just received and am opening, for the Holiday Season, a most beautiful assortment of fine Gold and Silver WATCHES.

ENGLISH WALKING CANES. I would invite attention to, as I will offer very low to Cash Customers.

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