

Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER
Volume LIX.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE MARITIME BAPTIST PUBLISHING COMPANY.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR
Volume XLVIII.

Vol. XII., No. 82.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1896.

The Fifty Second annual meeting of the National Division of the Sons of Temperance of North America was held in Washington, D. C., July 8th. Mr. W. J. Gates, of Halifax, who was present as a representative of the Grand Division of Nova Scotia, was elected Most Worshipful Associate. Mr. Gates, it is noted, also had the honor of declining the office of M. W. P., which he did on the ground that there were senior members of the order in Nova Scotia more entitled to the honor.

The tide of summer travel is at its flood. Many are coming from the south and west to enjoy for a little, during the heated season, the comparatively cool atmosphere of our Maritime summer. Among our Baptist friends from across the border who were in St. John last week were Rev. W. A. Newcombe, of Thomaston, Me.; Col. and Mrs. Bains of Philadelphia; Mr. and Miss Jiles and Mr. Arthur Armstrong of Boston. Col. Bains, who is treasurer of the American Baptist Publication Society, is feeling the effects of overwork. We trust that he may experience much benefit from his trip.

With the many hundreds of respectable tourists from the States and the Upper Provinces, who, during the past week or two, have come this way to attend the Halifax carnival and to enjoy our fine summer climate, there have come also a small army of "crooks" who have been making their presence unpleasantly felt in different quarters. A number of these gentry are of the light-fingered variety, and not a few travellers have been relieved of money and other valuables at the stations and on the trains. Most of the rogues appear to have escaped with their ill gotten gains.

The mate Bram, of the *Herbert Fuller*, who is charged with the murder of Capt. Nash, his wife and the second mate, is said to have a wife living in Boston, whom he had deserted and who expresses no sympathy for him in his present circumstances. According to reports the man's record is hardly of a character to create a presumption of his innocence of the crime with which he stands charged. The reports concerning Capt. Nash are to the effect that he was a man of an unpleasant temper, who was accustomed to quarrel with his officers and who had difficulty in getting men to sail more than one voyage with him. But perhaps not much credence should be given to these reports.

The *New York Tribune* says that "the famous Berlin physician, Professor von Bergmann, who was recently consulted by the officials of the German Health Department, declares that large numbers of the Russians who enter Germany with the intention of proceeding to America are afflicted with leprosy. The increase of the loathsome malady in the western provinces of Russia has become so alarming that the German Government has ordered the immediate establishment of lazarettos at various points along the Russian frontier. Leprosy is a disease that cannot be trifled with, and every effort should be made to prevent its getting a foot hold in this country." If the facts are as stated the warning given by the *Tribune* is one that should be heeded by immigration and quarantine officials in Canada as well as in the United States.

Writing of Newman Hall, a correspondent of the *London Daily News* says: "Never were four score years borne more brightly and buoyantly than by the great Congregationalist minister who first saw the light on May 22nd, 1816. It is but a brief while ago that I watched him chasing an omnibus in the Strand with all the nimbleness of a man of thirty; and when, one day this week, he came into the library of Vine House, Hampstead, to greet me, it required a distinct effort of the imagination to realize that Dr. Newman Hall was within a day or two of eighty. No stranger who met him and conversed with him, without being informed beforehand of the fact, would dream of charging the famous successor of Rowland Hill with the burden of four score years. His good health, Mrs. Hall attributes in large measure to her husband's bright way of looking at things in general and to his singular happy temperament."

Sir William Harcourt does not think it necessary that he should lose any considerable portion of his sleep because the political party of which he is one of the accredited leaders is for the time being in the cold shades of opposition. The distinguished Commoner remarks: "Through long experience I have learned that there is no use in fussing and fuming and fretting till the critical situation arises. Governments according to my observation much more often destroy themselves than they are destroyed by others." The Liberal leader's practical philosophy might have in a general way legitimate application to many situations outside as well as within the sphere of politics. Things are not brought to pass by fretting and fuming.

The Boston Watchman remarks that "public speakers of all sorts would do well to familiarize themselves with those sections of a good work on rhetoric which treat of the use and the worth of illustrations." "An illustration," it says, "unless it is an argument from example, proves nothing; it simply makes the speaker's meaning clear by analogy. It is, at this point that sermons which draw spiritual truths from games or sports, a bicycle match or a boat race, are distasteful to thoughtful minds. Because the rider of a bicycle must constantly exert himself to keep the wheel upright and to advance, is no sort of proof that a Christian must be active in order to do good and grow in grace any more than the necessity for Christian activity proves the necessity of physical exertion to use a bicycle. There is a great deal of such loose reliance upon illustration to do the work of argument. But no rational mind is influenced by it in the slightest degree."

Somehow novel in the line of building material is produced at a mill in Christians, Norway. This mill, says the *Manufacturers' Gazette*, Boston, began operations about two years ago, making roofing tiles, and is now shipping to different parts of the globe an article which is of acknowledged superiority in the way of "alates." Norway tiles, as they are termed, are made from wood pulp, which under very high pressure is formed into thin cakes of sizes like the ordinary roofing slate. After a chemical treatment, which is the inventor's secret, the tiles become hard like brick and acquire a deep black appearance, which gives a soft tone to houses with prominent roofs and gables. It is claimed for these tiles that they possess every advantage of the best slates now in use; their composition makes them light, durable and not so liable to breakage as the ordinary slates; they are not subject to any expansion or contraction, and when a roof is once covered with this material it will serve for a good many years without any repairs whatever. The price also of these tiles is very low, admitting of a saving of some 35 per cent. as compared with the cost of other roofing.

In an interview printed in the *New York Sun*, Bishop John P. Newman, of the United States is quoted as saying: "In the conferences committed to my charge there are something over 1000 ministers. I shall call their attention to what I believe is the plain duty of the clergy, and shall urge upon them the importance of using all the influence they possess, in the pulpit and out, against the danger which threatens our country, against the possible triumph of Bryan and Sewall and the election of a Congress that is pledged to pass a free silver coinage measure." This causes the Springfield *Republican* to remark that "the Roman Catholic hierarchy of Quebec tried Bishop Newman's tactics in the recent Canadian parliamentary campaign, and with what woeful results! . . . What happens to meddling clericalism in Canada is quite as likely to happen to meddling clericalism in the United States. This silver question is a matter for discussion and if it is a matter for discussion it is a matter concerning which honest men may differ, and a political and economic question concerning which honest men may differ is not a question calling for the interference of the church. Bishop Newman's thousand parsons can be better occupied than in turning their pulpits and altars into political stumps."

A Boston electrician, Dr. Jacques, claims to have solved the problem of obtaining electricity from coal directly, without the intervention of combustion and steam, and at an expense so moderate as to make the discovery of great practical value. By the present indirect way of converting carbon into electricity a very large percentage of the energy is lost, but by Dr. Jacques's method in which combustion and the production of heat are avoided, from 84 to 96 per cent of the potential force of the coal is converted into electrical energy. In reference to this method the *Montreal Star* says:

"Eminent scientific authorities declare this to be one of the most important inventions of the age, with resultant effects almost beyond calculation. It means, if it has the efficiency claimed for it, the eventual cheapening and popularization of electricity to an extent beyond the wildest dreams of fancy. Not only will it affect city street railways, but create rural ones, reduce the expense of factories, make labor-saving machinery more efficient, lessen the cost of comforts and revolutionize home life both in town and on the farm; the farmer and the farmer's wife will be largely relieved of their drudgery, and working people will not only have unaccustomed luxuries brought within their reach, but be given more time to enjoy them. To many this sounds chimerical, but steam has done far more for the human race than the keenest enthusiast even. In his highest flights of imagination dreamed it would, and in recent years it is being gradually replaced by electricity. The nineteenth century is evidently going to give its near-by successor a capital start in the new era of development and progress, which in a few years will make this generation appear an old foggy as we imagine our grandfathers were."

PASSING EVENTS.

MR. William Jennings Bryan, the nominee of the Silver Democrats for the presidency of the United States, is a gentleman now very much in evidence, as the phrase goes, but of whom the great world had heard little or nothing before the meeting of the now historic Chicago Convention. Whatever may be thought of Mr. Bryan's political creed and affiliations, he is no doubt possessed of considerable ability—especially oratorical ability—and it would appear that in personal character he is such a man as a Christian nation might rightly desire to have as its Chief Magistrate. Mr. Bryan is a native of Salem, Ill. He is 36 years of age, he comes of Scotch Irish ancestry and is a man of fine physique. His early years were spent on a farm, and he received his education at Whipple Academy and Illinois College. He is a lawyer by profession and his home since 1887 has been in Lincoln, Neb. His parents were Presbyterians of an eminently religious type and he has followed in their steps. Both Mr. Bryan and his wife are said to be Sunday School teachers and otherwise active workers in their church. Mr. A. R. Talbot, who is Mr. Bryan's law partner in Lincoln and who was a fellow student with him in college, alluding to Bryan in his student days, writes: "He was a strong Democrat and he comes honestly by his Democracy, for his father, Silas Bryan, was one of the staunchest Democrats in Illinois. And, by the way, his father was a character. He was a politician, but at the same time he was known as a religious enthusiast. He was a great man to pray. He would pray at any time or in any place. You never could tell when Silas Bryan was going to break out in prayer. He served in the Legislature, and he invariably dropped on his knees and offered up a silent prayer before he addressed the chair, and often during the proceedings he would get down on his knees for a few moments of prayer. Then he was made a circuit judge and he continued to pray. When Bryan became a politician as was his father, only he is less demonstrative."

ALLUDING to the Jameson trial the *New York Evening Post* contrasts the British and the American way of dealing with such matters to the disadvantage of the latter. It says: "They have strange ways of administering justice in England. We are surprised to have substantially the same criminal jurisprudence in this country, but if Dr. Jameson and his associates had been put on trial in New York, no one can say how long the trial would have taken, or whether a conviction would have been reached. It is very doubtful if a conviction could have been obtained any way. In the first place, it would probably have taken a month to get a jury. Everybody that had any business or religion would have tried to escape serving, and who would have had clear convictions, as in such a matter as the Jameson raid people that keep informed of the course of events must have, would have been challenged. After a jury entirely free from every suspicion of intelligence and independent judgment had been obtained, the lawyers would have had unlimited opportunities for irrelevant inquiries and misapprehensions, and the incompetent jury would have been so thoroughly confused as to be unable to agree on a verdict. The expense of all this would have been enormous, and the law would have been brought into greater contempt. But in England the whole thing is over in less time than it would have taken here to secure a couple of jurors; and the court being strongly constituted, there is no reason to expect a pardon. The sentences were certainly light in view of the bloodshed that was occasioned by the raid, but it must be remembered that almost the only sufferers were Dr. Jameson's followers, who were as guilty as he was. Considering all the influences and sentiments involved, it must be said that the majesty of the law has been vindicated, and that too with most satisfactory promptness."

THE Irish Land Bill passed the House of Commons on Wednesday last, but not without encountering vigorous opposition from Conservative members representing the Irish landlord interest. By the Nationalists the measure is received as an instalment of justice toward the tenant class. The Bill, which has now passed its second reading in the House of Lords, was introduced in the House of Commons on April 13 by the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Gerald Balfour. It provides for facilitating the purchase of the holdings and prevents the leasee from having rent levied on his improvements. It also embodies some of the least contentious proposals of the Irish land bill of 1895, and modifies other propositions. The measure provides that the tenant, on the payment of two years' arrears, shall be deemed to be in just possession of his holdings, leaving

the landlord to recover the remainder of the arrears in the ordinary way. There is no alteration in the statutory term of fifteen years for fixing a fair rent. Purchase will not be compulsory, the terms for the repayment will be extended from forty-nine years to over seventy years, and relief will be given to the tenants towards the end of their tenancy, payments decreasing with the length of tenancy, enabling every purchaser to buy in less than twenty years' purchase. At the start there will be 30 per cent. less rent than now paid, and the tenant will also be relieved of 10 per cent. during the first thirty years. The new bill also extends the power of the congested Districts Board and enables it to borrow to the extent of £1,500,000 (£750,000).

A speech of Mr. Laurier delivered recently at St. John's, P. Q., has naturally attracted considerable attention as the first public and formal utterance of the new Premier since assuming the responsibilities of leadership in the government. In reference to the fiscal policy of the administration, Mr. Laurier intimated that the position of his party was unchanged in this respect, what they had advocated in opposition they would carry out when in power. The Liberal policy on this point was one of tariff reform. Changes would be made cautiously and with due regard to established interests. The session of Parliament called for August 19 would, he said, be very short. No legislation would be introduced at that time. Supplies necessary to carry on the business of the country would be voted and Parliament would adjourn until January or February. In the meantime the Finance Minister would give attention to the subject, and a scheme of tariff reform would be elaborated with a view to lessening the burden of taxation. He proposed to promote the development of the Northwest, and to help the farmers by establishing rapid transit facilities and easier communication with European markets. The proposal for preferential trade with England received favorable consideration and he hoped to be able to promote a better feeling and freer trade relations between Canada and the United States. Respecting the Manitoba school question, Mr. Laurier expressed the belief that it would be settled by conciliation within six months.

THERE has just been handed down the decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the contempt case of Fielding against Thomas, which was argued before that tribunal a year ago. The decision is against Mr. Thomas. The case is of some importance as serving to define more clearly the powers of provincial Legislatures in such cases. As will be remembered, the case arose in connection with the proceedings in the Nova Scotia Legislature some two years ago. Mr. Thomas being at that time Mayor of Truro was summoned to appear before the House of Assembly on account of an alleged libel on one of its members. Mr. Thomas appeared in answer to the summons, and having made his statement before the House, withdrew. Being summoned to appear a second time he refused to do so and was accordingly dealt with for contempt and was imprisoned for two days. Subsequently Mr. Thomas brought an action in the courts and obtained a verdict of \$200 against those who had voted for his imprisonment. The case was then appealed to the Supreme Court of the province, which divided equally, and no decision was reached. It was then carried by the Leader of the Government to the Privy Council, and, as has been seen, the judgment of the Nova Scotia court has been reversed and the action of the Legislature upheld. Mr. Thomas is adjudged to pay the cost of the suit.

THE nominee of the Chicago Democrat Convention for President, Mr. Bryan, has also received the nomination of the Populist Convention which met in St. Louis. But the Populists were not willing to accept the Democratic nomination for Vice President, Mr. Sewell, and nominated for that office Mr. Thomas E. Watson, of Georgia. Mr. Watson is about 40 years of age. He was elected to Congress in 1890 as a Democrat and sought re-election unsuccessfully in 1892 as a Populist. Like Mr. Bryan, he possesses oratorical powers which enable him to exert a strong influence over a popular assembly. The nomination of Bryan by the St. Louis Convention was in spite of his declaration that he could not accept it, unless his running mate, Mr. Sewell, was included in the nomination. This, however, was not at all the mind of the great majority of the Populists, and Bryan and Watson were

accordingly nominated. Of course Mr. Bryan cannot prevent the Populists from making him their candidate, and it looks as if there was a possibility that Mr. Bryan might in this way become his own "dearest foe." But it seems probable that some plan of "fusion" will be arranged between the Democrats and the Populist Bryanites, so that in States where they have unitedly, but neither one singly, a majority over the Republicans, they will combine forces to carry those States for Bryan. It looks, however, as if Mr. Hobart, the Republican nominee for Vice President, might feel pretty sure of being elected, whatever may become of Mr. McKinley.

THE present summer appears to be characterized by more than usually violent atmospheric disturbances in parts of the United States. The storms have extended over a very wide area and have resulted in immense destruction of property and much loss of life. A little more than a week ago the State of Colorado was visited by a series of cyclones which wrought great destruction. Many lives were lost and a vast amount of property destroyed. The destruction was largely in the mountainous and mining sections of the country. Damage was done to railroads which it will require sometime to repair and as many of the mining towns are dependent on Denver for their supplies of provisions, no large stocks being kept by the local dealers, it is said that people living in the towns affected by the disasters to the railroads, unless they move away, will be in a starving condition before the roads can be got in running condition again. Closely following the cyclones in Colorado there have been violent cyclonic storms in Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Milwaukee, the scene of the late B. Y. P. U. Convention, has had a cloudburst, which however does not appear to have inflicted much damage beyond deluging streets and cellars.

THE crop prospects in the Maritime Provinces from all we can learn are very good. There are complaints from some sections that the hay on the uplands is light, but in most counties it will probably be a fair average. The prospect for the later hay—large quantities of which are produced on the Westmorland and Cumberland marshes—appears to be excellent. A valuable feature of the hay crop this year on the dyked lands is the unusual quantity of clover which appears. Grain and root crops promise well. In some places cut worms have done considerable damage and the potato bug is troublesome. But the timely rains have caused a rapid growth and the outlook for the turnip crop appears to be especially good. From Ontario and Quebec reports are generally favorable, but the hay crop, especially in Ontario, seems to be somewhat less than an average, though generally well secured. The apple crop will probably be one of the largest in the history of Canada.—In Manitoba and the Northwest the conditions seem to have been generally favorable for the crops, but a short time ago the wheat crop in Manitoba was said to be seriously threatened by rust. Frost also is always to be reckoned with as a contingency in the Northwest, so that it is impossible to estimate results with any great degree of certainty until the grain is ready for harvesting.

THE case of Dr. Jameson and others associated with him in the raid into the Transvaal was concluded before the High Court of Justice on Tuesday last, and the accused were found guilty of the charges which had been preferred against them. The Lord Chief Justice in delivering his charge said that if the things charged against the accused had been done by the Queen's authority they would have amounted to an act of war, and that done by the Queen's subjects, without her authority, amounted to an illegal filibustering raid. The jury after an hour's deliberation brought in a verdict of guilty. The court then passed sentence as follows: Dr. Jameson to fifteen months imprisonment without labor; Major Sir John Willoughby to ten months imprisonment; Major R. White to seven months imprisonment and three others to sentences of five months each. Considering the seriousness of the offence it must be felt that the prisoners have escaped with a light punishment, but the prompt manner in which the offenders have been dealt with is at least commendable and probably the sentence is as severe as the general public sentiment of England would endorse.

Sir Donald A. Smith is to return to London as High Commissioner.

W. B. M. U.

NOTE FOR THE YEAR:
"We are laborers together with God."

Contributions to this column will please go to Mrs. A. W. Mansfield, St. John's, N. B. P. O. Box 100.

FRATERNITY FOR AUGUST

For Mr. and Mrs. Archibald, that health and vigor be theirs, and that their work be blessed. For our annual meeting, that it may be to their glory who have called us to be laborers together with Him.

Outline of Program for the Annual Meeting of W. B. M. U. to be held at St. John's, Aug. 21st, 1896.

Thursday, Aug. 20th, 7 p. m., executive meeting; Friday, Aug. 21st, 9:30 a. m., prayer-meeting; 10:30 a. m., enrollment of delegates; appointment of committees; Secretaries report, Mrs. Henry Swartz; treasurers report, Mrs. Mary Smith; provincial secretaries reports—Nova Scotia, Miss A. E. Johnston; New Brunswick, Mrs. Margaret Cox; P. E. Island, Miss M. E. Davies; Home Mission report, Miss Johnston; report on literature, Miss Myra Black; appointment of officers for the coming year; Friday, 2:30, praise-meeting; president's address; address on Mission Band work, by Mrs. R. P. Foster; map exercise on our Territory, by Rev. W. V. Higgins; address on the work among the French, by Mrs. Grenier; greetings from other societies; open conference. Saturday, 9:30 a. m., Bible reading by Miss Harrison; verbal reports from delegates; memorial services for those who have been called up higher during the year; unfinished business; Saturday, 3 p. m., platform meeting. We are expecting to have the largest number of missionaries ever present at our annual meeting and this session will be given up to them: Mrs. Higgins, Miss Gray, Mrs. Laffamme, Mrs. Gaudin, Miss Harrison, Miss Newcombe and others.

The meeting of the Aid Societies in connection with the Eastern Association, was held in the Temperance Hall, Homeville on Saturday afternoon, July 11th. On motion of Mrs. D. G. McDonald, Mrs. Beatty took the chair and conducted the service. After a hymn had been sung, Mrs. McCallum, of Truro, read the thirty fifth chapter of Isaiah, and three of the sisters presented in prayer. A paper prepared by Mrs. Foster, was read by Mrs. Gillis. This urged the importance of training the children to give and to work, and it thought our aim should be to have a Mission Band in every church. Reports from the societies were then called for. Only a few societies responded, but the reports given were nearly all hopeful and encouraging. After the Societies had been heard from, Mrs. D. G. McDonald read a very interesting paper written by Miss Shafner. She showed what an influence woman may exert now, and in how many ways she may make that influence felt. A collection was then taken amounting to \$278. As the sisters belonging to Homeville seemed to wish it, an Aid Society was organized there at the close of the meeting. The following officers were elected: President, Miss Katie Holmes; vice president, Miss Cydnie Holmes; sec. Miss Isabel Holmes; treas. Miss Lilla Dixon. The meeting closed with singing.

SABIE HARRINGTON, Sec.

TRURO, P. E. I.

Perhaps a few words for our Society would be interesting to the readers of our column. During the year our meetings have been very interesting and the attendance good. We started out this year aiming to visit every sister in the church who was not already a member of our Society. Though we were not able to observe "Crusade Day" in the regular way, a committee was appointed to visit the sisters within a month, and eight new members. We feel that the Lord has put it in the hearts of our sisters to do better work for Him this year than ever before; it is evident that they love the work by their readiness they make to attend the meetings and increase the funds. A public missionary meeting was held June 14th, at Westmorland, being the first meeting of the kind ever held under the auspices of the W. B. M. U. An opening address was read by our president Mrs. Oakes, suitable readings were read by Mrs. Murrill and Mrs. Price, with appropriate music by the choir; also an address on our work in Telugu land; by the pastor, using the new map. A collection was taken up for the work. We pray that it may be the means of increasing the missionary spirit in our midst. Monday, June 29th, a special meeting was called at the home of Mr. J. W. Newcomb to present our dear aged sister, Mrs. James Newcomb, with a certificate of life membership. The large number present indicated the love and respect of the Society. After the devotional exercises and the business was gone through the presentation was made. Mrs. Newcomb replied with much feeling, taking us back 24 years to the organization, and comparing the weak struggling band of workers then, with the present number and force, and praising the Lord for his goodness. Several addresses expressing kindly feelings were then given. While enjoying the pleasant surprise to our sister, we felt that we were helping her on the Lord's work and joy came to our hearts in being "Workers together with Him." The total amount raised this year is \$71.23. We thank the Lord and take courage. "We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us." Yours in the work, MARY J. PRICE, July 28.

