

Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER,
VOLUME LXII.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR,
VOLUME LI.

Vol. XVI.

ST JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10 1900.

No. 2.

The Situation in South Africa. It is natural that at the opening of the year the situation in South Africa should be passed under review by war correspondents and other writers. That situation upon the most favorable showing, it must be acknowledged, is serious enough for British interests. But in spite of the reverses which have been suffered and the very formidable problem which the war now presents, there are forces at work which may be expected before long to put a different face upon affairs. The checks and reverses which the British arms have suffered have certainly not resulted from any lack of courage or soldierly qualities on the part of the troops and the subordinate officers. Never have the British regulars evinced greater gallantry in the field, and the Colonials have shown a courage and efficiency which has elicited the highest praise. In spite of all differences of opinion as to the wisdom of the diplomacy which led up to the present war, it is evident to the world that the loyalty of the British people to the Crown and to the Empire was never so strong and intelligent as it is today. Through all the arteries of the nation's life are felt the strong pulse beats of the heart of the empire, and colonists in Canada and Australia vie with home-born Britons in their zeal to defend the honor of the nation's flag. The British authorities of the War Office and the generals in command of armies are learning lessons in the sharp school of experience. Mistakes, and consequent disasters, which have resulted from underestimating the strength and prowess of the enemy, and from the lack of sufficient equipment, are not likely to be repeated. With the nation's most trusted military leaders in South Africa and the Empire's resources at their command, the war will doubtless be prosecuted with all the energy and effectiveness that British determination and military science can lend to it. There will be some hard fighting no doubt; but unless there shall be an armed intervention on behalf of the Boers by the nations of Europe—of which there is now no prospect—the conflict must end in the Boers learning that they are not in a position to dictate terms to the British people in South Africa. Great interest at present centres in the fate of Ladysmith. If General White who has made so gallant a defence is unable to hold out until relief shall come, the fall of the place will be felt as a serious, though of course not fatal, blow to the British cause. But with the Boer army in Natal defeated and Ladysmith relieved, the backbone of Boer resistance will be broken, and though there may be much hard fighting after that, the rest of the war will be rather a matter of detail.

General French at Colesburg. During the week some successes have been achieved by British forces operating in northern Cape Colony which, while not of a very important character, have been grateful reading to the British public in contrast with the prevailing reports of reverses or of failure to advance, and which also, it is believed, will have important results in checking the growing disaffection and disloyalty among the people of that part of the colony. On Monday General French carried out successfully a well-planned movement against the Boers about Colesburg, which is situated some fifteen miles, we believe, south of the Orange river and the borders of the Orange Free State. By a rapid detour General French succeeded in surprising the Boers by employing for the purpose a force of cavalry and mounted infantry, with ten guns, leaving a force at Rensburg, a few miles to the south, to hold the enemy in front. The Boers were taken completely

by surprise. Their laager was shelled, their position enfiladed, and their artillery silenced. They were reported also to have evacuated Colesburg and to be in retreat toward the Orange river. But during the night they returned to the positions from which they had been dislodged, and General French found the force at his command insufficient to drive them from the kopjes in the vicinity of Colesburg. General French's success is therefore less significant than was at first supposed, but he believes that with reinforcements, which it is reported are being forwarded to him, he will be able to dislodge the enemy and occupy Colesburg.

Canadians Under Fire.

On Tuesday of last week a part of the Canadian contingent in South Africa was under fire. A force consisting of 200 Queenslanders, 200 of the Cornwall Light Infantry, 100 Canadians of the Toronto Company, with two guns, a horse battery and forty mounted infantry, the whole commanded by Colonel Pilcher, left Belmont at noon on New Year's day for a reconnaissance in a westerly direction. Marching rapidly, they reached Cook's Farms—20 miles from Belmont—the same night, and at six o'clock the next morning they surprised a force of Boers, defeating them and capturing 40 prisoners, besides taking possession of the enemy's laager, including a number of tents, wagons, great store of ammunition, forage, saddles, etc., and numerous incriminating papers. Colonel Pilcher's attack upon the Boer camp appears to have been very skillfully delivered and was attended with complete success. The Colonial troops, both the Queenslanders and the Canadians, behaved finely, showing a steady and prompt courage in action, which has won for them high praise. There were no casualties among the Canadians, but the Queenslanders lost two men killed and had an officer wounded. The Boer's loss in the action is stated at 6 killed and 12 wounded, besides those taken prisoners. The movement in which Col. Pilcher's force was engaged is understood to have been in connection with a more extended reconnaissance under the direction of General Methuen, with a view to finding a suitable crossing of the Riet river—which is an extension of the Modder river—with the purpose of effecting a turning movement on the right flank of the Boer army and so opening up a way to the relief of Kimberley.

Newfoundland.

An international difficulty which it is possible may assume an acute stage during the present year is connected with the claims of the French to fishing rights on the coasts of Newfoundland. For many years past the powers and privileges exercised by the French have excited much dissatisfaction and protest on the part of the people and the Government of the Colony. The *modus vivendi* in reference to these claims, which has been in force during the past ten years having now expired, there is naturally some anxiety as to what may be the result. It appears to be quite certain that the fishing privileges have become quite valueless to France. The business has so declined that it is costing the French Government more to maintain it than it is worth to the nation. But French national pride and anti-British feeling would probably protest against any surrender of their ancient fishing rights though the *quid pro quo* offered should make it an excellent bargain for France. It seems likely, however, that the French Government will agree to an extension of the *modus vivendi* for a longer or shorter period, and that probably, is the best that can be expected at the present time. To the people and Government, who have been fretting and protesting for years past at the existing arrangements, this will be anything but satisfactory. But considering the exigencies of the war in which the Nation is now engaged, it is to be expected that the people of this ancient Colony will show a patient disposition and refrain from adding to the embarrassment of the Imperial Government by pressing for the immediate removal of the grievances of which they have so long and justly complained.

Hon. L. E. Baker. The sudden death of Hon. L. E. Baker of Yarmouth, has removed a gentleman long and honorably connected with the interests of that town. Mr Baker was born at Yarmouth in 1831 and received his education there. In 1855 he entered into business as a member of the firm of Young and Baker. Later Mr. Baker conducted business by himself, carrying on an extensive business in shipping, banking &c., and becoming the most prominent business man of the western part of the Province. He was president of the Bank of Yarmouth, the Yarmouth Steamship Company, the Yarmouth Agricultural Society, the Yarmouth Marine Railway Company and a number of other enterprises. In 1878 Mr. Baker was appointed a member of the Legislative Council of the Province. A free public library and museum which he founded in his native town constitutes a worthy monument to his public spirit.

From the War.

Among the more important news from South Africa during the week is a more specific account of a sortie from Mafeking on December 26. The object of the sortie was to dislodge the Boers from a strong position at Gametree, two miles from Mafeking, from which for several weeks they had been maintaining an annoying artillery and rifle fire against the fort. The sortie appears to have been skillfully organized and the attacking force exhibited the most desperate courage, but the Boer position was evidently much stronger than had been supposed, and the assault failed with lamentably heavy loss of life in officers and men on the British side. Several officers and twenty men were killed in the sortie, besides a large number wounded. Generals Gatacre and French, in the central part of northern Cape Colony, have accomplished something in driving back the enemy's forces, and with comparatively small reinforcements their successes would doubtless be much more decisive. General French, who is operating in the vicinity of Colesburg, has evidently employed his cavalry and mounted artillery with good effect against the enemy. He is obliged, however, to report a "serious accident" to a body of the First Suffolk regiment, by which about seventy British soldiers were cut off from the main body and fell into the hands of the enemy. It appears evident that General French requires considerable reinforcements to make him master of the situation in the district in which he is operating. The vicinity of Ladysmith and Colenso still continues to be that part of the scene of conflict to which attention is most strongly attracted. That the situation for General White has become a most serious one is plainly evident from the despatches. The Boers have been gradually drawing their entrenchments closer to the beleaguered town and their bombardment of it has become more determined. Heliographic communication with Ladysmith was interrupted at the close of the week by cloudy weather, but enough is known to show that the Boers are making a determined attempt to take the town, and that although General White has so far succeeded in repelling their assaults there is felt to be reason for the gravest concern respecting the ultimate result. What makes the situation so serious is that General Buller, with all the force at his command, does not appear to be able to advance to the relief of Ladysmith. The naturally very strong position which the Boers occupy on the banks of the Tugela has been so strengthened by the construction of bomb-proof trenches that apparently General Buller's artillery can make but little impression upon them, while recent heavy rains, which have swollen the Tugela, render the Boer position still more secure from attack. It does not appear that Ladysmith is in pressing need of provisions, and it is possible that General White may still be able to repel the attacks of the enemy and hold the place until stronger reinforcements or more favorable conditions shall enable General Buller to advance, but plainly the situation is now such that the news from Natal must be constantly awaited with the gravest anxiety.

Paul the Ready.

BY C. H. SPURGEON.

"I am ready."—Romans 1: 15.

I think Paul might have used these words as his motto. We had once a Saxon king called Ethelred the Unready; here we have an apostle who might be called Paul the Ready. The Lord Jesus no sooner called to him out of heaven, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" than he answered, "Who art thou, Lord?" Almost directly after, his question was, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" He was no sooner converted, than he was ready for holy service; and "straightway he preached Christ" in the synagogues at Damascus. All through his life, whatever happened to him, he was always ready. If he had to speak to crowds in the street, he had the fitting word; or if to the elite on Mars' hill, he was ready for the philosophers. If he talked to the Pharisees, he knew how to address them; and when he was brought before the Sanhedrim, and perceived the Pharisaic and Sadducean elements in it, he knew how to avail himself of their mutual jealousies to help his own escape. See him before Felix, before Festus, before Agrippa, he is always ready; and when he came to stand before Nero, God was with him, and delivered him out of the mouth of the lion. If you find him on board ship he is ready to comfort men in the storm; and when he gets on shore, a shipwrecked prisoner, he is ready to gather sticks to help make the fires. At all points he is an all-round man, and an all-ready man; always ready to go wherever his Master sends him, and to do whatever his Lord appoints him.

Here we have Paul's readiness to work. "So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also." He had preached the gospel in a great part of Asia, he had crossed over into Europe, he had proclaimed the Word through Greece; and if ever an opportunity should occur for him to get to the capital of the world, whatever might be the danger to which he would be exposed, he was prepared to go. He was ready to go anywhere for Jesus, anywhere to preach the gospel, anywhere to win a soul, anywhere to comfort the people of God. "I am ready." There is no place to which Paul was not ready to go. He was ready to make a journey into Spain; and if he did not come to this island of ours, which is a matter of question, undoubtedly he was ready to have gone to the utmost isles of the sea, and to lands and rivers unknown, to carry his Master's mighty Word. Are we as ready as Paul was to go anywhere for Jesus, or do we feel that we could only work for Christ at home, and that we should not dare to go to the United States, or to Australia, or into some heathen land? Oh, may God keep us always on tiptoe, ready to move if the cloud moves, and equally ready to stay where we are if the cloud moveth not!

If you will kindly turn to Acts 21: 13, you will read, in the second place, of Paul's readiness to suffer. "He says, 'I am ready not to be bound only but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.'" This is perhaps a greater thing than the former one; to be ready to suffer is more than to be ready to serve. To some of us it has become a habit to be ready to preach the Gospel; but here was a man who was ready to suffer for the name of the Lord Jesus; so ready that he could not be dissuaded from it. He must preach the Gospel; but why must he go to Jerusalem? All the world was before him; why must he go to that persecuting city? Everybody told him he would have bonds and imprisonment, and perhaps death; but he cared nothing about all that; he said, "I am ready, I am ready."

Beloved friends, are we ready to be scoffed at, to be thought idiots, to be put down amongst old-fashioned fossils? Perhaps so. Are we ready, if we should be required to do so, to lose friends for Christ's sake, to have the cold shoulder for Christ's sake? Perhaps so. Are we also ready, if it be the Lord's will, to go home, to be carried upstairs, and to lie there for the next three months? Are we as ready as that poor woman, who said, "The Lord said to me, 'Betty, mind the house, look after the children,' and I did it. By-and-by, he said, 'Betty, go upstairs and cough twelve months.' Shall I not do that also, and not complain, for it is all that I can do?" "I am ready." You remember what is on the seal of the American Baptist Missionary Society, an ox with a plough on one side and a halter on the other, ready for either, ready to serve, or ready to suffer. You have not come to the highest style of readiness till you are ready for whatever the will of God may appoint for you. Unreadiness from this point of view is very common; but it shows unsubdued human nature.

The third passage I must now quote is not exactly the same in words; but it means the same as the others. It tells us of Paul's readiness to do unpleasant work. I am afraid many of God's servants fall short here. The passage is in 2 Cor. 10: 6, "And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled." The church at Corinth had sunk into a very sad condition. It was a church that did not have any minister; it had an open ministry, and nobody knows what mischief comes of that kind of thing. Paul recommended what a minister could do for them; for he said,

"I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the first fruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,) that you submit yourselves unto such." They were too gifted for that, and everybody wanted to speak. When a church is all mouth what becomes of the body? If it were all month it would simply become a vacuum nothing more; and the church in Corinth became very much that. It was nobody's business to administer discipline, for it was everybody's business; and what is everybody's business is nobody's business, as we well know; so no discipline was administered, and the church became what we call "all sixes and sevens." It stands in the Scriptures forever as a warning against that method of church government, or, rather of no church government at all.

Paul, when he went among these people, determined to administer discipline, and to try to put things right. He was not going to Corinth with a sword, or with any carnal weapon, or with anything of unkindness or hasty temper; but he was going with the Word of God. He wrote, "The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds;" and he meant to go among the Corinthian professors and pull down the stronghold of heathen vice that had entered the church to such an extent that even at the Lord's table some of them were drunken. Paul meant to deal honestly with all who were dishonoring the name of Christ. Now, dear friends, I speak especially to brethren whom God has put into the ministry, or put into office in the church, are you ready for this unpleasant duty? Oh, it costs some of us a great deal to say a strong thing! Perhaps we cannot say it at all without getting into a temper; and we had better not say it at all. It is not easy to have firmness in the language combined with sweetness in the manner of uttering it. It is easy to congratulate friends, it is not difficult to condemn them in the gross; but it is another thing to speak personally and faithfully to each erring one, and to be assured in our own souls that, as far as we have any responsibility in the matter, we will not tolerate an Achan in the camp, and will not have evil done knowingly in the house of God. It should be our endeavor, as God has made us overseers, not to overlook things that are evil, but really to oversee everything that is committed to our charge, and to try to set right whatever is wrong.

Now, once more, will you kindly turn to 2 Timothy 4: 6, where you have a verse well known to you all, "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand." Paul was ready to die; he was ready to loose his cable from earth, and to sail away to the haven of the blessed; and well he might be, for he could add, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith, henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." Beloved friends, we cannot be ready to die unless we have been taught how to live. We who are active, and have talents to use, and health and strength with which to use those talents, must go on with "the greatest fight in the world" till we can say, "I have fought a good fight." We must go on running the Christian race till we can say, "I have finished my course." We must go on guarding the Word of God, and holding fast the truth of God, till we can say, "I have kept the faith." It will be hard work to lie dying if we have been unfaithful. God's infinite mercy may come in and forgive and help us; and we may be "saved; yet so as by fire;" but if we would look forward to death with perfect readiness, having no dread or fear about it, but being as ready to die as we are to go to our beds tonight, then we must be kept faithful to God by his almighty grace. The faith must keep us, and we must keep the faith.

Thus, you see, Paul was ready for service, ready for suffering, ready for unpleasant duty and ready to die. If I were to go round this tabernacle and ask of every one, "My friend, are you ready in these four ways?" how many would have to shake their heads and say, "I do not know what to say; I am doing my best in some style, but I cannot say that I have the readiness which the apostle claimed."

Let me show you now that Paul's readiness arose from excellent principles.

As for Paul's readiness to preach, I should trace that to his solemn conviction of the truth of the gospel. If a man only thinks it is true, he will not care whether he preaches it or does not preach it; but if he *knows* it is true, then he must preach it. I do not think we need find much fault with people now-a-days for being too positive and dogmatic about the truth of God; the present current runs in quite another direction. A feeble faith, which might also be mistaken for unbelief, is the common thing; and hence there is no great readiness to speak. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "As it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak." If I get a grip of a thing, and know it is true, then I must tell it to others. The backbone of the preaching of Christ is a conviction of the truth of Christ.

Paul also had a dauntless courage in this matter. He

said, "Woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel!" Whatever happened to him if he did preach it, he had counted the cost, and he was quite ready for all the consequences of his action. He had a holy self-denial; so that he put himself out of the question. "I am ready for anything; I am ready to preach this gospel, if I am stoned, if I am thrown out of the city as dead, if I am imprisoned, if I am sent into the den of Cæsar at Rome." Paul was ready because his courage had been given him of God.

Paul had, besides, such love for men, whether they were Jews or Romans or any other people, that he was ready to go anywhere to save them. He had also such zeal for God that it was a happiness to him to think of going to the furthest region if he might but preach Christ where he was not known; not building on another man's foundation, but laying the first stone of the edifice himself. This, then, accounted for his readiness to preach, and of the need of preaching it.

But how ever did Paul screw himself up to be ready to exercise discipline? That is, to me, the ugliest point of all. How could he bring himself to be able to do that? I think it was because he had not received his gospel of men, nor by men; and he had learned not to depend upon men, nor to look for their approval as the support of his life. He was able to lean on the Saviour and to walk alone with his Lord. So long as he had Christ with him he wanted nobody else. Paul had learned the fear of God, which casteth out the fear of man. "Who art thou, that thou shouldst be afraid of a man that shall die, and of the son of man which shall be made as grass; and forgettest the Lord thy Maker?" Remembering man leads to the forgetting of God. If we learn to speak very plainly, yet very lovingly, habitually cultivating frankness towards all Christian people, and even towards the ungodly, and do not know what it is to ask of any man leave to speak the truth, how much better it will be all round! May the Holy Spirit deepen in us the fear of God, and so take away from us the fear of man! Then, with Paul, each of us will be ready to say even concerning the most unpleasant duty, "I am ready."

But how came he to be able to say that he was ready to die? I will not dwell upon that. I have already told you that he felt ready to die because he could say that, as far as he had gone, he had finished the work God gave him to do, and he had kept the faith. Ah, dear friends, it is nothing but keeping faithful to God that will enable you to treat death as a friend! One dereliction of duty will be sufficient to rob you of comfort. When a traveler is walking a very small stone in his shoe will lame him; and a very small offense against the integrity that God requires of his servants may do us great mischief. Did you ever notice in Gideon's life that he had seventy sons, his own legitimate sons, and that he had one son who was the child of a harlot, and that one, Abimelech, killed his father's seventy sons? So it may be that a good man has seventy virtues, but if he tolerates one wrong thing it will be enough to rob him of the comfort of all the good things of this life, so when he comes to die he may go limping and lame. Ay, and all his life long he may go, like David did, halting even to the grave. May the Lord in mercy and love keep us right! If he teaches us how to live we shall know how to die.

It is not dying that is the great difficulty; it is living. If we are but helped to fight the good fight of faith, to finish our course, and to keep the faith, we shall die right enough. As Mr. Wiseley said when the good woman asked him, "Do you not sometimes feel an awe at the thought of dying?" "No," he replied, "if I knew for certain that I was going to die tomorrow night I should do just exactly what I am going to do. I am going to preach (I think it was) at Gloucester this afternoon and this evening; and I shall go to lodge with friend So-and-so, I shall stay up with him till 10 o'clock, and then I shall go to bed; and I shall be up at 5, and ride over to Tewkesbury, and I shall preach there, and shall go to friend So-and-so's for the night, and I shall go to bed at 10 o'clock, and whether I live or die, it does not matter at all to me, for if I die I shall wake up in glory. That is what I am going to do, whether I live or die." It was said of Mr. Whitefield that he never went to bed at night leaving even a pair of gloves out of its place. He used to say that he would like to have everything ready in case he might be taken away. I think I see that good man standing with a bed-room candle in his hand, at the top of the staircase, preaching Christ the last night of his life to the people sitting on the stairs and then going inside the room and commending himself to God, and going straight way to heaven. That is the way to die; but if you do not live like Wesley and Whitefield lived you cannot die like Wesley and Whitefield died. May God grant us grace that we may be perfectly ready to die when the time for our departure is at hand!

Dr. Watson ("Ian Maclaren") makes a fine beginning

of his "Life of the Master" in McClure's Magazine for January with chapters covering the period of youth and childhood. His method is to make full and coherent record of the outer, material facts, but at the same time to make plain all of the inner, spiritual significance; and the result is a presentation interesting as pure narrative and yet of high poetic and devotional quality. The same aim appears also in Mr. C. K. Linsou's pictures. Of these there are eight beautiful full-page pictures in color—a feat in color reproduction beyond anything previously attempted in magazine work; and a number of smaller, but scarcely less beautiful, pictures in black and white.

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Christian Experience.

BY REV. S. W. CULYER, A. M.

While Christian experiences differ as widely as the personal traits of different individuals, there are, nevertheless, certain characteristics that are alike in all cases. It may be well for us to take note of what is essential and therefore true of Christian experience in general. It would be a serious thing to mistake here and so live under a ruinous delusion.

In considering the nature of Christian experience, we need to discriminate carefully lest we mistake that for Christian experience which is not even Christian at all. There may be a great deal of religious experience that is not Christian. Undoubtedly the whole religious nature is wrought upon in the case of the heathen devotee, or the Roman Catholic neophyte. Among the ignorant and superstitious, in professedly Christian communities, an emotional craze running easily into animal excitement, is often mistaken for an unusually deep and intense Christian experience. On the other hand an aesthetic sentimentalism gives the easy-going worldling an assurance to which he is by no means entitled. Feeling, it must be conceded, enters largely into genuine Christian experience, but it must also be admitted that there may be as great depth and intensity of feeling when the experience is not genuine, and the individual is the subject of a ruinous delusion. It is possible that, in our evangelistic methods, too much stress is laid on mere feeling, and conversions may be less intelligent and conscientious and resolutely principled than is desirable.

We may say, then, in brief, that a genuine Christian experience is a complete realization of Christianity in every power, and function, and faculty, of the entire human nature. It will operate as a restraint, checking the tendencies to excess. It will give courage in conflicts with evil. It will give comfort to the sorrowing and hope to the despondent. Withal, it will live in the light of eternal verities, giving the energy of victorious life even in the hour and the presence of death.

Do we inquire what is the source of Christian experience? It is supernal in its origin. It is the product of a life that is not an evolution of mere environment, though it may be greatly helped or hindered by surrounding conditions. It comes down from above and is superadded to our common human life. Its source is the Holy Spirit. It is the impress of the Spirit of God on the human spirit. There is always a fellowship with the divine in Christian experience. The experience is altogether human, with, it may be, all the individual's personal idiosyncrasies, but the divine is in it—clearly and distinctly divine. As it was in the incarnate Word, and, by consequence, in the written Word, so it is in this experience of the living Word, the divine and the human co-operate and give the united result. We must therefore bear in mind that the divine is always present, and there is no other source in the universe from which such an experience can originate.

Now, when we speak of the Holy Spirit it seems to some as if we had run into inscrutable mystery. With others it suggests an aimless and unregulated religious excitement. With some it is conceived as an actual ghostly presence, acting upon human souls with all the uncertainties of an infinite caprice. Many of our most pious Christian workers speak of the influence of the Holy Spirit in terms of materialism, as if it were some sort of dynamic force. After all this confusion of representation, there must be some distinctive test by which we can know whether the influence acting upon us is the influence of the Holy Spirit, and this will determine whether the experience it produces is Christian experience.

New Testament instruction leaves no doubt on this point. The Holy Spirit is the "spirit of truth," and this truth centers in one distinct personality—"The Way, the Truth, and the Life." The influence of the Holy Spirit is therefore the influence of the truth in regard to the ever present Christ. "He will glorify me because he will receive of mine and will tell it unto you." It is the influence of this one divine personality, acting as a living presence and power in the human consciousness. A genuine Christian experience, then, is one that is in harmony with this truth; is, in fact, the experience of this truth informing, moving, impelling, inspiring the human spirit. Here, then, is the test, and we have simply to ask in any case, Are these moods and feelings, these tastes and sensibilities, the impulses by which we are being incited to action, moved and molded by the truth as it is in Jesus?

We may readily infer what will be the effects of a true Christian experience. The spirit of truth will, with first and most immediate effect, quicken the intelligence, impelling to thought, reflection, inquiry. It will very naturally put all the thinking powers into vigorous action. So where real Christianity prevails we may reasonably look for progress in knowledge, the broadening of intelligence, and the exercise of superior wisdom. There will also be a new influx of conscientiousness, giving a higher appreciation and approval of the right, and added sensitiveness and repulsion against the wrong; in short, a new righteousness, built upon spiritual foundations, and having a vital energy and power

utterly unattainable by the prescriptive righteousness of a worldly pharisaism.

It will also have immediate effect on the executive powers. One can not receive the spirit of truth without being moved thereby to repentance and the exercise of faith which works by love. Not only will obedience be demanded in the nature of the case, but there will be imparted a spiritual energy to meet the demand, and to enter on the work of Christian enterprise.

If the higher powers are thus brought under the influence of the truth, surely the subordinate powers will be subject to the same influence, and the divine life, that has been received at the first by the intelligence, will course through the whole nature with quickening and renewing power. Self-mastery and consecration to noble achievement will bear witness to the genuineness of the complex experience.

The activities of the Christian life at the first will be largely those which have been prescribed. Love for the Saviour will express itself by faithfulness in this line of things "If ye love me, ye shall keep my commandments." "He that loveth me not, keepeth not my sayings." The integrity of the Christian character will depend upon the fidelity and alacrity with which the individual tasks himself in the duties of the Christian life. The commands of his Saviour will not allow of omission, or change, or substitution. It will not do for him to minify the sense of obligation at this stage.

But it will come to pass at length, in the development of Christian experience, that Christ shall impart his own spiritual nature, his personal qualities of mind and heart to his faithful followers; so that he lives in them, reproducing in them his saving power, and making them the medium for the salvation of others. And it will result that what was done only at the call of duty, at the first, will grow to be the habit of the life, and will become a joyous privilege. Goodness of heart will come into evidence without any special effort or show of self-consciousness. The all-controlling motive will be the love of Christ. And this will produce its own proper moods and feelings, will progressively sweeten the temper, change the dispositions and affections, the emotions, and sentiments, and regards, so that it must needs be that there will be a constant putting off of the old life of sin and the putting on of the new or Christly life. We shall have, therefore, a renovation of the nature by the "renewing of the Holy Spirit;" a process that progressively assimilates the disciple to his Master, the believer to his Saviour. A prosperous Christian experience will, therefore, constantly grow in Christlikeness. And Christlikeness is the root, and carries in it the "promise and the potency" of the heavenly blessedness. Christlikeness is salvation. "We shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is."—Journal and Messenger.

Beginning Afresh.

We do not mean beginning a new century. Despite what has been said on the other side, we believe that the new century will not begin until 1901. It takes 10 units to make a decade and it takes 100 units to make a century. . . .

But we do not mean this so much in this article. It is rather the beginning afresh of the various relationships into which we are brought, and for which the new year gives opportunity, that we have in mind. We are wont to think a good deal of this and it is well that we do. Considerable fun is made over new year's resolutions and the turning over of a new leaf, and all that. And yet, there is very much to be said in favor of something of this kind. We, may as to the filling of positions and the discharge of duty, be conscious, in looking back, of much that might have been different. The beginning afresh, which the new year allows, may be of real help to us. Without formulating a set of resolutions, we may entertain many a helpful thought.

Personally, perhaps, we have not been all that we might have been. We have possibly been indolent where we should have been active, and irritable when we ought to have been sweet tempered. We have not, it may be, made the most of our time, and have not done the best possible for ourselves. It is easy to become somewhat morbid in a retrospection of this kind, and yet, without anything of this, probably the best of us will be willing to recognize shortcomings. This is true of young and old as well. For the latter must, if they live at all, keep on making the best of everything. The richest draught of the wine of life need not be quaffed until the beaker is empty. We need not feel, however, that our best has not been done, because in every instance we may have not succeeded. Failure sometimes is as creditable as success, if the worker's very best has been put into it. Browning says:

"It is not what a man does which exalts him,
But what man would do."

And again:

"What I aspired to be,
And was not, comforts me."

Perhaps these statements of the poets are too broad, but there is something in them. And yet, after all the allowance we may make for ourselves, we are all ready

to say that we have come short of our best, and all wish at least, with the new opportunity, that we may begin afresh.

In our relations to others doubtless the same thing exists. There is a vast deal of philanthropy and helpfulness and chivalry and good-heartedness in this world of ours. There is much selfishness of purpose, doubtless, but in the main we are inclined to think that people would rather help their fellows up than push them down; that they would rather give pleasure than inflict pain. And yet, with all this, we recognize and acknowledge the fact that we might have given more of helpfulness and hindered less, if only we had thought. In our own homes, in our wider associations and business areas, perhaps, we might have been more kind, more inspiring, more encouraging than we have been. At any rate it is well enough for us to think of the possibility of this, and of our being better along these lines. It may help us to be sunshiny when otherwise we might be cloudy; to speak a cheery word and withhold the unkind remark; to exercise a helpful ministry when otherwise we might pass thoughtlessly onward. As the years go by and as our friends depart, it is not the inspiring word or the helping hand, or the kind act that we regret; it is always the reverse that we bemoan when the opportunity is gone forever. We think if we only had said this, or done that, when the chance was in our hands, how glad we would be. There is an opportunity for us along this line to begin afresh.

Well, perhaps it is our church life that we are passing in retrospect. Somehow we have not been quite so faithful as perhaps we might have been. Secular affairs have crept in and the higher life has suffered. The world has been too tangible and the spiritual realm too unreal and far off. Listlessness, perhaps, may have overcome us when there should have been activity, and forgetfulness when we ought to have remembered. But it is not worth while to go on with the catalogue. The thoughtful will discern their own defects and will be glad of another opportunity to begin afresh.

We have not meant in any wise to be gloomy in this old year retrospect. We have simply wanted for ourselves and others, to bring up before us the image of the past that might have been and measure the reality for a moment thereby. If we have not come short of it, for ourselves and our Lord, we have profoundest reason for rejoicing. If we have, there is opportunity to retrieve the fault. Better is always before us than the best we have thus far won. Our promised land is not in yesterday, but in today and tomorrow. Let us move on to possess it, remembering what has been only to forget. Let the past not paralyze us but inspire, and cause us to reach out after larger things to come, which by God's blessing we may yet attain.—Commonwealth.

Mrs Anne Besant having lately made an American tour delivering addresses upon "The Beauties of Hinduism," the "Reis and Rayyet," an influential paper of Northern India, notices her labor of love as follows: "When an English lady of decent culture professes to be an admirer of pantric mysticism and Krishna worship, it behooves every well-wisher of the country (India) to tell her plainly that sensible men do not thank her eloquence for gilding that which is rotten." The Indian Nation, also a straight orthodox Hindu journal, declares that "the pure and undefiled Hinduism which Swami Vivekananda preached has no existence today; in fact, has had no existence for centuries, but on the contrary abomination-worship is the main ingredient of modern Hinduism." The Hindu, published at Madras, says of the endowed temples and shrines of India that "they are corrupt to the core. They are a festering mass of crime and vice and gigantic swindling." The same paper, speaking of the Brahman priesthood, describes these priests as "ignorant, profoundly selfish, immoral." It mentions the popular dancing girls of India only to say that such a girl "insults the Deity by her very existence," and it declares of the "pining child-widow" that "every hair of her head will rise up in judgment before the bar of God in witness against the system which tolerates it." Americans must be densely ignorant of India as it is to endure such addresses as those of Mrs. Besant and Mr. Judge, of the Theosophical Society. Long before Madame Blavatsky or Colonel Olcott was ever heard of Wendall Phillips summed up the whole debate by saying, "The sufficient answer to all claims put forth in the interests of Indian faiths is India."—Interior.

Literary Notices.

The United Kingdom: A Political History. By Goldwin Smith, D. C. L., Author of "The United States: A Political History," etc. Two volumes. Crown 8vo. Price \$4. The Copp, Clark Co., Limited, Toronto.

The purpose of Professor Goldwin Smith's new work is clearly suggested by its sub-title. It is a political history of the United Kingdom from the earliest times to the Reform Bill of 1832. It is a companion work to his former work on "The United States: A Political History," and, read with it, it represents the political growth of the English race. Professor Smith has treated his second work with the same succinctness and with the same epigrammatic force and weight as he did his work on the United States, which The Nation characterized as "a literary masterpiece, as readable as a novel, remarkable for its compression without dryness, and its brilliancy without any rhetorical effort or display."

Messenger and Visitor

The Maritime Baptist Publishing Company, Ltd.

Publishers and Proprietors
 TERMS } \$2.00 PER ANNUM.
 \$1.50 IF PAID IN ADVANCE.

S. McC. BLACK EDITOR.
 A. H. CHIPMAN BUSINESS MANAGER.
 85 Germain Street, St. John, N. B.

Printed by PATERSON & CO., 105 and 107 Germain St.

Good and Bad Literature.

Some good people err in failing to recognize that the difference between fact and fiction in literature is not necessarily a distinction between the true and the false—the good and the evil. The imagination, like every other human faculty, may be, and often is, perverted to ignoble ends and uses; but it is nevertheless one of the noblest with which the Creator has endowed mankind, and its legitimate exercise is one of the highest functions of the human intellect. Take out of the world's literature all that is a creation of the imagination, rather than mere record of fact or process and product of reasoning, and how sadly the world would be impoverished in respect to its most valued and most valuable literary possessions! Such works as Milton's *Paradise Lost* and Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* are works of imagination. Though written with pure and noble purpose, they are to be classed with the literature of fiction rather than with that of fact, and the same may be said of much that is sublimest and most inspiring in poetry or most edifying and authoritative in religious teaching. But does any one read Milton or Bunyan with less profit on account of the fictitious element which he finds in their works? And what shall we say of the parables of our Lord,—is the teaching less valuable or authoritative because presented in allegorical form?

And on the other hand there is much literature—if it may be dignified with the name—which is indeed a record of actual fact, but which is to the last degree evil and debasing. The reports of police courts and prize fights, the narration of vile scandals and much else with which the appetite for the sensational, the prurient and the horrible is constantly being fed, are none the less base and corrupting because they are narrations of what has actually occurred. The *Sunday School Times* puts the matter well when it says: "A story that is not true may be truer than a story that is true. Thus a parable or fable may not be true as a record of fact and at the same time be eminently true as a vehicle of important truth. An inspired parable that would not be accepted as evidence in a police court might have weight as truth before an assembly of saints and angels, and be worth considering and heeding by the wisest and most cautious of men. In this sense it is true that fiction may be a high form of truth. At the same time it should be borne in mind that fiction is not true just because it is fiction, but that on the contrary fiction may be a very low grade of falsehood. This throws a grave responsibility on the hearer or the reader to decide whether a fiction is true fiction or false fiction."

It should be added that it involves also a grave responsibility for parents and all who have a duty to perform in directing the reading and cultivating the literary taste of the young. In this day it is not possible—nor is it desirable—but that intelligent young people shall form some acquaintance with the fictitious literature which is so abundant in our language. But it is in the highest degree important that they should be taught to discern between the good and the evil, that their reading should be among books that are adapted to inform the mind, refine the taste, elevate moral ideals and quicken rather than blunt or paralyze the religious sensibilities. It should be unnecessary to add that no young person should confine his or her reading to fiction, for however good literature may be as fiction, it will lack elements necessary to the cultivation of that intellectual robustness which is essential to a well-developed manhood or womanhood. Let no parent think that he has done his duty by his children in this matter when he has forbidden them to read novels, and has denounced all fictitious literature as wicked and debasing. Children have a right to intelligent guidance in this matter and there are few matters in which such guidance is of greater importance to their best interests.

Those Silent Years.

There is scarcely any point at which we have a stronger desire to draw aside that veil which hides so much that we desire to look into than at that where the narratives of the evangelists have left untold the story of the boyhood and the early manhood of Jesus. How eagerly our minds crave information as to his thoughts, his occupations, his relations with those around him, during all those years in which he was growing from infancy to boyhood and from boyhood to manhood, and still more during those ten years of early manhood which preceded his baptism and entrance upon his public ministry. For such scanty information as we have of that period we are indebted entirely to Luke, for Mark and John make their narratives begin with the entrance of Jesus upon his ministry, and Matthew tells us nothing of the time between the infancy and the baptism except that the family home was at Nazareth. This silence of the evangelists is in striking contrast with the absurdly fictitious stories which the writers of apocryphal gospels have connected with the early life of Jesus.

The mere passing glimpse which Luke's narrative affords of the boyhood and early manhood of our Lord is the more remarkable by contrast with the comparative fulness of his account of the nativity and because it would seem that the information for a fuller account must have been within his reach. It is impossible but that, during those seventeen or eighteen years concerning which the evangelists are entirely silent, there occurred much in the life of Jesus which it would be most natural for a biographer to record and which would have been read by every generation of Christians with the profoundest interest. Must we not conclude then that in this remarkable silence on the part of all four evangelists, there is the indication of a special purpose,—that by some means, whether by direct intimation, or by the guiding influence of the Spirit, our Lord had caused his disciples to understand that from those earlier years the veil was not to be lifted? Can we guess why? It was not, we may be sure, because in those early years there was little or nothing noble or beautiful in speech and action for the biographer's pen to record. Rather, we should say, it was because there was so much in those early years to attract attention and admiration, that the veil of silence was drawn over them. For however beautiful were those years, with the sweet fragrance of a guileless childhood and the beauty of a perfect manhood, it seems evident that, in the ministry upon which Jesus entered at his baptism and which led him swiftly and inevitably to the Cross, there was for the world a significance which did not attach to the earlier period of his life. The great purpose of Christ's coming was not to attract the admiration of the world by giving it an example of a guileless childhood and a guileless manhood. His purpose was to save the world from its sin and condemnation. And, therefore, the aim of the evangelists is not to set before our eyes the Christ child, the boy Jesus, or the young Carpenter of Nazareth, but to cause us to see the love of God revealed for the salvation of the world in the divine teacher and healer, in the Son of God dying for our offences and raised again for our justification, in the Christ who is the Prophet, Priest and King of a sinful but redeemed humanity.

But though so little is told us about the boyhood and early manhood of Jesus, yet this brief story must be recognized as of profound interest and value to every young life which desires to be fashioned according to the will of God. It is clear that it was in the deepest sense a religious life. As a boy, Jesus recognized and loved God as his Father and eagerly improved opportunity to enlarge his knowledge of the sacred Scriptures. While he knew God to be his father, he recognized the ties and the duties of human relationship, living in dutiful submission to Joseph and Mary. In becoming man he had become subject to human conditions. Like other boys he grew in stature and like other boys he advanced in wisdom. As a boy he shared the lot common to boys of a humble condition. The period of youth in respect to the conditions of growth was not for him a royal road any more than it was for other Galilean boys. The difficulties and trials of a boy's life he did not escape. Having accepted the conditions of humanity, he was truly bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh. He accepted for himself the law that demands

that man shall eat his bread in the sweat of his face and acquire knowledge by the diligent use of his mental faculties. And though the great significance for us of the coming of Jesus to our world is not to be sought in the life which he lived as a child, yet, because he was so truly human, these early periods of his life are not without profound interest for us. The fact that the Christ became a babe confers an imperishable glory upon human infancy. The fact that he passed through childhood, youth and manhood lends a dignity to all these stages of our own mortal existence. For every boy with noble purpose in his heart, for every youth seeking to realize in himself a worthy manhood, there is help in the thought that, along these ways of life the feet of the Son of God have passed, that he also has been tried and tempted with the trials and temptations incidental to boyhood and young manhood, yet without sin. And he also is able to succor them that are tempted.

Editorial Notes

—The Baptist Argus of Louisville, Ky., says that the Baptist increase last year in the Southern States, was four times greater among the negroes than among the whites.

—A bill introduced in the Japan Diet for the regulation of religious organizations is said to be remarkably fair and liberal in its provisions. Christianity is no longer merely tolerated but receives recognition. The Buddhists, it is said, have shown unexpectedly liberal spirit and are practically united in giving support to the measure. It is also stated that the feeling of the Japanese in respect to the South African war is strongly pro-British.

—What was Mr. Moody worth? Not very much, if the question is to be answered in the sense in which it is usually asked in financial circles. He accumulated no large fortune for himself and left no large estate to his heirs. But if it is a question of how much Mr. Moody was worth year by year in a financial point of view to an institution to which he devoted himself, then the question will have a very different answer. This is seen by the fact that a call is being made for a fund for \$3,000,000 as endowment for the schools at Northfield and Chicago which heretofore have been supported mainly through Mr. Moody's personal efforts.

—The Foot-path to Peace, as described by Dr. Henry Van Dyke in *The Outlook*, is as follows: "To be glad of life, because it gives you the chance to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars; to be satisfied with your possessions, but not contented with yourself until you have made the best of them; to despise nothing in the world except falsehood and meanness, and to fear nothing except cowardice; to be governed, by your admirations rather than by your disgusts; to covet nothing that is your neighbor's except his kindness of heart and gentleness of manners; to think seldom of your enemies, often of your friends, and every day of Christ; and to spend as much time as you can, with body and with spirit, in God's out-of-doors—these are little guide posts on the foot path to peace."

—Some of our churches have been accustomed to send us about this time of year for publication a general statement as to their condition, with more or less of a review of their work during the past year. We would kindly suggest that when this is done pains be taken to make the statements as concise as practicable, so that they may be published without curtailment, a process which involves for the editor time and labor which he cannot well give while the result is likely to be more or less unsatisfactory to the churches concerned. We are always glad to receive and to publish at brief intervals from any and all of our churches notes respecting their work, but it is difficult to find space for reports which embrace in any detail the work of a whole year. To report briefly and frequently is the ideal plan.

—The statement is publicly made by Mr. H. M. Morse, President of the Northfield Seminary, that none of the biographies of Mr. Moody which are being announced will have the authorization or co-operation of Mr. Moody's family. Although Mr. Moody was steadfastly opposed to any biographical notices during his life time, he knew that it could not be avoided after his death, and a few years ago expressed the wish that his eldest son, W. R. Moody, should undertake the preparation of a biography. The family have a large number of private letters, as well as photographs, and other material, which will be reserved for the only authorized biography. The request is made to friends all over the world who can contribute authentic material, to send it to W. R. Moody, East Northfield, Mass. Meanwhile, a briefer biographical sketch will be compiled by his son and issued in the Moody Colportage Library with all possible despatch.

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—Someone among the many who have written of the great Evangelist, recently departed, gives the following description of Mr. Moody's method of preparing sermons: Suppose the subject is Paul. He would take a monstrous envelope capable of holding some hundreds of slips of paper, label it "Paul" and slowly stock it with original notes, cuttings from papers, extracts from books, illustrations, scraps of all kinds, nearly or remotely referring to the subject. After accumulating these it might be for years, he waded through the mass, selected a number of the most striking points, arranged them, and finally made a few jottings in a large hand, and these he carried with him to the platform. Each time the sermon was preached the process of looking through the envelope was repeated. Partly on this account and partly because in preaching he forgot some points or emphasized some rather than others, no two sermons from the same text were ever quite alike.

—Mr. David Sharp Ford, the proprietor, publisher and editor in chief of *The Youth's Companion*, whose death occurred December 24, was a man who not only achieved a remarkable success in business, but was a Christian of broad sympathies, and noble purposes, who employed the great wealth which had come to him in the pursuit of honorable business to promote the social and religious welfare of his fellow-men. In conducting *The Companion* Mr. Ford united great business sagacity with intellectual and moral ideas of the highest character, and his success is probably unparalleled in that line of journalism. He was a man of great strength of character and tenacity of purpose, but one who shrank with abnormal sensitiveness from publicity. His name did not appear in connection with his paper, almost all his business was transacted through other persons and in his large and frequent benefactions to religious and benevolent objects his personality was generally concealed from the public.

—In the heresy case of Rev. Dr. McGiffert, author of "The Apostolic Age," which case was referred by the Presbyterian General Assembly of the United States to the Presbytery of New York, the latter body has taken action, and by a vote of seventy-eight to twenty-seven finds that Dr. McGiffert's teaching is in certain points erroneous and seriously out of harmony with Holy Scripture, but accepts as sincere and reassuring his avowal that he is in accordance with the faith of the Presbyterian church and of evangelical Christendom in all vital and essential matters. The Presbytery further considers that the action already taken by the General Assembly and the Presbytery of New York sufficiently guards the purity of the church's doctrine so far as any teachings of the book in question may affect the same, and that "a trial for heresy would work grave injury to Christ's kingdom." Finally, the Presbytery counsels and enjoins all its members, and especially such as are engaged in critical studies, to refrain from setting forth the disavowed teachings as if endorsed by the Presbyterian church, and while exercising the liberty of scholarship, to be careful to distinguish between the theories of criticism and the certainties of faith, and also faithfully to maintain sound doctrine and loyalty to study the peace of the church.

—Mr. Ford left an estate valued at \$2,500,000, of which the far greater part is bequeathed for the promotion of religious and benevolent objects in which he had felt during his lifetime a special interest. Of the whole estate only \$150,000 goes to Mrs. Hartshorn, Mr. Ford's daughter, as an absolute bequest. The interest of another \$100,000 however is to be at her disposal during her lifetime for the promotion of religious, benevolent and educational objects. Mr. Ford's household furniture and library are also given to his daughter and his late residence is secured to her during her life time. Bequests of from \$5,000 to \$7,000 each are made to several benevolent institutions of Boston, including the Public Library, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. Associations, and three of the hospitals of the city. The Youth's Companion building on Columbus Avenue, valued at \$500,000, is left to the Baptist Social Union of Boston, and the net income is to be used for the religious, moral and intellectual improvement of working men, continuing such a work as Mr. Ford's benevolence had made it possible to carry on for many years past in connection with the Ruggles street church. The Social Union also receives \$350,000 for the erection of a building for its purposes at some central place within the business district of Boston. The remainder of the estate estimated at about \$1,200,000, is to be divided as follows: To the American Baptist H. M. Society, and the A. B. Missionary Union, one sixth each. To the Massachusetts Baptist Charitable Society, the Conference of Baptist Ministers in Massachusetts, the Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts Baptist Conventions, one ninth each. And at Mrs. Hartshorn's death, Mr. Ford's residence, worth \$50,000, goes to the Massachusetts Baptist Convention. It will be observed that the great bulk of Mr. Ford's bequests go to the support of missionary and benevolent work and that nothing is given directly to institutions of learning, also that while he made a generous bequest to Foreign Mission work, the home interests receive the larger consideration.

—The despatches of Monday evening relieved in some degree the very grave anxiety as to the fate of Ladysmith which the morning's news had created. During the afternoon the authorities of the War Office in London published a despatch from General White dated at 2 p. m. Sunday and evidently referring to the engagement of the preceding day. By this despatch it is learned that the attack of the enemy upon Ladysmith was of a most determined character and continued until nightfall. "One point in our position," General White says, "was occupied by the enemy the whole day, but at dark, in a very heavy rain storm, they were turned out of this position at the point of the bayonet in a most gallant manner by the Devons, under Colonel Park. . . . The troops have had a very trying time, and have behaved excellently. They are elated at the service they have rendered the Queen. The enemy were repulsed everywhere with very heavy loss, greatly exceeding that on my side, which will be reported as soon as the lists are complete." This news has sent some rays of light through the gloom. But it cannot be concealed that the situation, as reflected in the despatches, affords grounds for the gravest fears as to General White's ability to hold Ladysmith against the forces now so strongly pressing him. General Buller, it appears, has not advanced beyond the position which he has been holding for some time, nor is there any indication that he will be able soon to rescue General White and his army from their perilous position. In this gloomy situation the Government is doing what everybody now sees should have been done long ago. Strong reinforcements are being hurried forward: Twenty-two transports with 25,000 men and 72 guns will soon be on their way to South Africa, but it is greatly to be feared that the needed help will not arrive in time to avert further disaster. The Canadian and Queensland troops are reported to be rendering excellent service in the vicinity of Belmont.

Arrows From a Hunter's Quiver.

The recent visit to Toronto of Rev. T. DeWit Talmage, D.D., where he preached to 3,000 people in the Metropolitan Methodist church, and lectured to the same number at Massey Hall is a striking illustration of the emphasis upon the minister's personality by the people of today. The sermon he preached was preached at Brighton, England, ten years ago, from the text, "The statutes of the Lord are right," Psalm 12:8. But even so, that sermon lived and acted, flowed and swelled in tremendous power because of the preacher's commanding personality. Whatever may be said of Talmage's methods and career, to hear him preach on this occasion was to be impressed with the truth that it is possible for a man's whole being to become heaven's mightiest artillery in the cause of righteousness as well as the greatest medium of God's saving grace to men. His sermon created a much better impression on his hearers than his lecture on "The Science of Good Cheer," though the latter was joyfully received. In the sermon there was the truth and counsel of God, but in the lecture there was a pandering to the popular craze. What a sacred and sublime mission is theirs who live and labor to body forth the grace of God to men in the gospel! The written word has its place and use, but of man it is as a missile spent, when compared with the Word of God spoken by a personality whose every faculty and power are enervated of God, and harmoniously engaged in his service. And so it is true that in the scheme of raising the human race nothing can take the place of the gospel message believed, lived and spoken by a human personality aflame with God. Hence as there is such a awful emphasis placed on the personality of the minister, is it not his most solemn duty to proclaim the full gospel of Jesus, to instruct and feed the flock of God, to rebuke private and public wrong, to denounce vice and immorality, to educate and mould public opinion and to live his mission?

Toronto, Jan. 1st.

J. HARRY KING.

"A Brakeman's Christian Experience"

I recently had the pleasure of assisting in revival meetings for two weeks at the Baptist church of Newton, a thriving railroad town of some 8,000 inhabitants in Central Kansas. One morning the pastor asked me if I would accompany him to visit a man who had met with an accident. He did not know the man nor anything about him, beyond the fact that he was a brakeman on the Santa Fé railroad and that he had been injured while at his work. Some members of the church had reported the case to the pastor and had requested him to call. We found the sufferer in a dingy boarding house, bedfast with a severe sprain of the knee. He was a stalwart fellow, thirty years of age, with a most prepossessing face. We soon learned that he was a Christian and a member of the First Baptist church of St. Joseph, Mo., which was his home, as far as an unmarried railroad man can be said to have a home. He cheered up wonderfully as we talked and told us his Christian experience, which was somewhat on this wise:

"I was converted five years ago. For many years

before that, like many other railroad men, I never attended church at all, nor took any interest in religion. But one evening, as I was returning from my work between five and six o'clock, my dinner bucket in my hand, I passed some vacant lots where a little man was working with a great big tent. A lot of men were standing round watching him, but nobody offered to help. 'Hello,' I said, 'what are you going to have here, a show?' 'No,' said he, 'we are going to have preaching here tonight if I can get this tent up.' 'Well,' I said, 'here are twenty or more men sauntering around with nothing to do, I'll get some of them to help and put it up for you in a few minutes.' So I did, and just as we had the work done along came two waggons with canvas seats. The little man seemed very friendly, thanked me heartily and said, 'Now, my good man, since you have been so kind in helping me with the tent, won't you come down tonight and hear me talk?' He seemed such a nice little fellow that I replied, 'Yes, I will.' You see I felt somewhat interested, having helped to put up that tent. So after supper I went down to the meeting and got right up in front where I could see and hear good, and when the sermon commenced it wasn't long before that little preacher began feeling pretty close around my heart. In a few evenings I was converted and then I joined the Baptist church, for I believed in being baptized that way."

Such was the man's experience, and it suggested several reflections.

1. Here is the secret of getting people interested in the church. This man did something, hence he had a feeling of proprietorship and wanted to be on hand to see how things would go.

2. Here is the secret of effective preaching. It is when the preacher begins to feel close around the sinner's heart that the message begins to have power.

3. The incident also impressed upon me the value of pastoral visiting to the minister. Sitting by the sick bed we sometimes learn lessons worth far more than those we learned in the schools. W. B. HUTCHINSON, Topeka, Kansas, Dec. 29th.

New Books.

Arnold's Practical Sabbath School Commentary on the International Lessons for 1900. Toronto: Fleming H. Revell Company. Price 50 cents.

The general style of Arnold's Commentary for the present year, is like that of last year. The work on the lessons appear to have been done by competent scholars. Rev. W. B. Olmstead has had charge of the main lesson work. Mrs. Abbie C. Morrow has contributed the practical applications, and Rev. E. C. Best has furnished the blackboard outlines. What is given by way of commentary on the lessons, is intended to put every student upon a good basis where he may continue to study for himself, and gain a fuller knowledge of the Scripture under discussion. It is suited to the busy teachers who have not time for extended study, because it is condensed and practical, and it is suited to the use of scholars, because the plan of the lesson is plain and comprehensive.

The New Evangelism and other Addresses, By Henry Drummond. Toronto: Fleming H. Revell Company. Price \$1.25.

This is a book of 284 pages, consisting of some six or seven papers or articles prepared by the late Professor Drummond, two only of which—those upon "Spiritual Diagnosis" and "The Contributions of Science to Christianity," were published or intended for publication by the author. Others were read before the Theological Society of the Free Church College, Glasgow, or other learned bodies. All are marked by the charm of the author's style and his original vein of thought, and if they are not of a character to add to his fame, they will at least command the interest, and will repay the attention of the reader. In the paper which gives the volume its title, Professor Drummond has discussed the needs of a new Evangelism, and the methods upon which, as he conceived, it should be built up. By a new Evangelism he does not mean a new gospel, but "the particular substance and form of evangel which is adapted to the present state of Men's minds," in a word—"the gospel for the age." That the gospel as now proclaimed is not generally reaching the people and impressing them as the power of God unto salvation, he considers to be most lamentably true. In indicating his idea of what the new evangelism should be, the author says that (1) it must not be doctrinal. For the themes and the substance of his preaching the preacher should go not to the theologians, but to the Bible. (2) The truth must be so presented that it shall appeal not so much to reason, as to the spiritual imagination or spirit of discernment. "As preachers, our aim must be not to prove things, but to make men see things." This was the method of Jesus. "All men cannot reason, but not all men can see."

The Gist of the Lessons, By R. A. Torrey. Toronto: Fleming H. Revell Company. Price 25 cents.

This is a concise exposition of the International S. S. Lessons for 1900. Its purpose is to furnish busy men and women with the text of the S. S. lessons and suggestive comments upon them in such form that they can always carry them with them, and thus improve spare moments for study. It is small enough to be carried easily in the vest pocket. In the comments condensation of thought has been studied. The aim is to suggest thoughts rather than fully carry them out. The book is for study rather than reading. The teacher will find here, in a very convenient form, a great deal that will be helpful in preparing the lessons.

* * The Story Page * *

Eleanor's Inspiration.

BY ELSIE H. RECORD.

"Have you any definite plans for the summer, Eleanor?"

"No. I am simply going to rest and try to do the 'whatsoevers' that come to me."

"That is good, for I have come this afternoon to make a request. Last month a very urgent call was made for more funds to help carry on the work of our denomination in India. Our missionary society is doing comparatively nothing. Why! I know of a country auxiliary that each quarter sends more money to the treasurer of the general society than we send in a year. I know our people are not wealthy; but they are numerous, and it seems to me that we ought to raise a respectable sum this quarter. We could easily do it if our members were more interested. I am so anxious to see this done for the Master, when he has blessed us so abundantly through the entire year."

The blue eyes of the minister's wife filled with tears, for she, at least, was interested. Without pausing for a reply she continued—

"I attended the commencement exercises last week, and was much impressed by your talent. You made an odd subject so interesting. While you were reading your article a new idea, about which I have since talked with Jesus, came to me. As a result of my thought and prayers, I decided to write and even urge you to present to our people next month the needs of the heathen women. Our society is to have a public meeting, and we intend to have a collection taken," breathlessly continued the little woman.

Astonished Eleanor Bryant, from her superior height, looked down into the earnest face and voiced her thoughts. "Mrs. Gilbert, I cannot do what you ask, for I know nothing about India's women. I could tell one member of the missionary society that her children need her more than anyone else. I could tell another the needs of the Smith boys, when they pass her home and hear her remark to a stranger: 'There go the Smith boys. They are quite smart, but awful wild.'" "Yes, indeed, Mrs. Gilbert, I can present the needs of the people in our midst, but I cannot plead for those abroad."

"My dear, could you do, in the name of the Lord Jesus' that which you suggest?" softly queried the listener.

That question almost took Eleanor off her feet; but it brought her to her senses, and she answered humbly enough, "No, were I to do that thing, it would be done in my own name, and 'as unto men.' I beg your pardon for speaking those reckless words. Where will my 'unruly member' lead me? I'll study the needs of India's women, and try to comply with your request."

Ignoring the question Mrs. Gilbert said, "Thanks, dear, I know you will do this heartily, as unto the Lord."

Then she went away; and Eleanor, conquered but not subdued, sank into a rocking chair, swayed to and fro, and wondering what to say in behalf of beings who in her eyes seemed imaginary.

Two weeks later the girl was again seated in that same rocker, with books, papers, and magazines piled so high around her that her brother, entering the room, inquired, "What is going to happen now?"

"Nothing very alarming," responded the sister.

"You look as I imagine Dewey did before his great victory. I would like to take your photograph when your face wears that expression. It would make a capital picture of the 'new woman.' She commands, you know."

"Hush, Leon. You know I won't even whistle, because I hate anything the least mite suggestive of a man."

"Thank you. Shall I repeat that statement to Mr. Sparks, when he rings the bell to-night and asks, 'Is Miss Bryant engaged this evening?'"

"You know I did not mean that. I should have said, 'I whistle because I want to be thoroughly feminine,'" cried blushing Eleanor.

"I accept your apology, and again demand an explanation of your work. Leon bowed with mock ceremony as he spoke.

"Well! If you choose to put it that way, these books and papers are India, I am spying out the country, and these (holding up pencil and paper) are the messengers who are to carry chance information back to camp."

"Ahem! you must love the heathen, to write an essay about them as soon as you have graduated, and are free from that work. Don't come to me for criticism when you have finished. I want a vacation, if you do not."

"I do not love the heathen; I care nothing for them, and I do not like essay-writing any better than I ever did."

"Why, then, do you do it?"

"If I am a 'new woman,' you are an interrogation point. I will answer this question; then you must be quiet, for I want to think."

Eleanor's face grew sweet and grave, as she began her explanation.

"You see, it is like this. I have recently enlisted in the King's army, and this work has been assigned to me by one of my officers."

"Ah! I understand now. Mrs. Gilbert wants to give her husband's parish a missionary shaking, and has invited you to help her do it. I once heard Bennet's sister describe one of the auxiliary meetings here. Mrs. Goding read the last chapter of Matthew, pronouncing each word with clock-like precision. This was followed by an inaudible prayer by timid Mrs. Merrill. Mrs. Bird read a paper, comprised of words as stiff, cold, pointed, and polished as a sewing needle. Then Florence York squealed one of her strange, unearthly solos, and the 'exercises' closed. Must have been highly edifying. Glad I wasn't there. That was when Mrs. Goding was here. It's strange that Mrs. Gilbert's smiles, tears, and interest have so marked effect."

"Only two or three ladies, the 'faithful few,' attend the monthly gatherings now; and you know, Leon, that Dear Mrs. Gilbert's smiles, tears, and interest are considered absurd and childish by such natures as Dea. Stone and Mrs. Jackson possess. Nothing less than an earthquake would arouse these folks, and they and their kindred spirits are the ones in our village who have the money wanted by our missionaries. I'm sure I don't know what I am to say. Until I gave my allegiance to the King I never gave the heathen two thoughts. Then, believing that my work lay over against my own wall, I dismissed them from my mind as beings whom I could never understand and whom I could never help. Truly, Palmer Cox's creations, the Brownies, are much more real to me. I find nothing in these books and papers which ordinary mortals do not know. I wish I could have an inspiration."

Picking up another book, Eleanor opened it at a picture which represented a company of Hindoo girls standing by a river. Their forms were clad in light, graceful draperies; garlands of flowers were twined about their necks and waists; and from their ears dangled rings, while around their ankles were metal bands; their countenances looked happy. Behind them were beautiful tropical plants, before them the yellow water, overhead, the sky.

"Fiddlesticks! They don't look as if they ever had a need in the world. All I can say about them is this:—

"Hi pretty Hindoos tiptoe fine,
I see a pretty girl who suits my mind,
Rings on her ankles, bells in her ears,
Hi diddle, diddle, to all the dears."

"Very good, but you can't read that to the public," interposed Leon.

"I know it," sighed the sister, as she looked again at the picture.

"Nothing in it like America, except the sky!" she suddenly exclaimed.

That glance had brought to her mind first a ray, and then a wave of light.

Above, all was the same. The Hindoo girls were different from Eleanor, their environments were not like hers. Their tempered needs and those of America's daughters presented a striking contrast to each other; but over both lands was stretched the blue arch of heaven, their spiritual needs were the same.

Eleanor thought of her own joys, made brighter because shared by one who loved her; of the petty trials which she had learned to cast upon the Burden Bearer, of the time a few months before, when she had lain upon her bed and tossed with fever until exhausted; of how, when her anxious friends thought she was entering the valley of death, she had placed herself in the Everlasting Arms, and, nestling there, had found perfect rest.

She thought of the joys of Hindoo girls, dulled by heathen customs; of Hindoo heart-aches intensified by faith in hideous stone monsters.

She seemed to see herself standing before a narrow opening to a darkened room. Before her was a radiant light, making beautiful all her surroundings. She moved toward the brightness and the space behind her was illumined. Turning, she saw a dark-hued maiden extending her hands with a more meaning smile than had rested upon the girlish faces in the picture.

"She is my sister, one for whom our Elder Brother died. How thoughtless, selfish and wicked I have been to keep it from her," burst from Eleanor's heart and lips.

A prayer for forgiveness, mingled with one for help, flew to the great white throne. Then she dropped the book, seized the pencil and paper, and wrote—wrote with a zeal she had never felt before, not excepting the time when she had written knowing that if she succeeded a ten-dollar prize and its accompanying school-girl honors would be hers.

"The inspiration has come," mused Leon as he watched the swiftly moving fingers.

He was sure of it when the next Sunday afternoon he

sat in church, and, looking into the fair face of his sister, knew that in her heart there must be deep, strong feeling to give such power and pathos to the words she was uttering.

When she had finished, dimes, quarters, and dollars danced hilariously into the contribution box, and as Deacon Stone and Mrs. Jackson each threw into it a five-dollar bill, mischievous Timmie Smith whispered to his chum, "I guess they put them bills in to help quiet such an awful racket in the church."

With glistening eyes Mrs. Bird mentally observed, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not charity I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal."

That evening the Rev. Henry Gilbert took his wife into his arms and told her that she was the weight of that collection lighter than she had been the preceding night. And she raised her eyes and answered, "That collection was good in its place, but the Heavenly Father knew its place was not on my heart."

When Leon was alone with Eleanor he tweaked her ear and made his comment, "New women always instigate reforms.—Morning Star."

Scaring Sis' Abner.

A hundred years ago the northern part of Vermont was mainly a wilderness; but there lived in the town of B—a large family of boys, who managed to make their portion of the woods rather lively. Games were few, and reading matter was scarce, and, judging from the endless anecdotes handed down to the present generation, the "Warren boys" must have found their principal amusement in devising the wildest pranks upon each other, and even upon their grey-headed father, who, however, was a boy himself to the end of his days, and never harbored resentment.

Abner, the middle boy—there being three on either side of him—was the special target, because he was the only one who "scared easy." A sudden whoop would make him jump even in the day time; and he bore the terrible stigma of being afraid in the dark. Sometimes they called him "Sis' Abner," because he now and then tied on the kitchen apron and helped his mother in the daughterless household. But Sis' Abner never cared. A loving look from his mother's tired eyes outweighed all the teasing.

One glowering winter evening Abner was returning from the distant store carrying upon his shoulder a very compact roll of sole leather. He had not counted upon being out after dark, but gathering clouds brought the night early, and rapid walking was not easy in the soft, slippery snow. He was nearly a mile from home, and stumps and thickets and fallen trees began to take on strange shapes as he trudged on, bravely whistling.

"Bout the time I get to them hemlocks the whole caboodle will be jumping out at me," he grumbled to himself.

But the six brothers were up to a more elaborate prank than merely "booming" at Sis' Abner. With considerable ingenuity one of them had rigged himself up to represent a bear. With a long, dark coat, closely buttoned to the chin, two pairs of thick black stockings pulled over his feet, his face blackened with charcoal, the flaps of his cap pinned upright to represent ears, and his hands covered with well-padded mittens, he waddled about on all-fours at the rehearsal behind the barn, or stood upright with his "forepaws" hanging loosely before him, giving low, grunting growls, and sending his brothers into convulsions of suppressed mirth. Then, with aching sides and subdued chuckles, they set out by a circuitous way for a certain thick piece of woods through which Abner must pass.

They had hardly hidden themselves in a dense thicket, with the bear handily stationed near the front, when they heard Abner whistling.

"Now keep still, every one of ye!" said the bear, preparing to emerge; and, as Abner came near, he slowly crawled out of the bushes, which cracked ominously, and, with a savage snarl, slowly raised himself on what, in the dim light, seemed very much like hind legs.

For ten seconds there was profound silence. Poor Abner felt his hair rising under his cap and cold chills racing through his veins. He was only thirteen years old, and had never before been so near a live bear. Then, in a flash, the wild thought that he must fight for his life if he ever expected to see home again, took possession of him. He clutched the solid roll of leather in both hands, lifted it aloft, and, before his astonished enemy could raise so much as a protecting paw, he brought it down with all his might on the place where a bear's nose should be.

The bear dropped in his tracks, and, flinging the leather down, Abner ran for his life.

"He's only stunned—he'll be after me in a minute," was his thought, and he continued to run and slip and

The Young People

fall, and get up and run again, with never a look behind him, until he dashed open the kitchen door and stood before his surprised parents.

"A bear—I knocked him down—with the leather!" he panted.

"A bear? Where's Dan and Abram?" shouted the father, getting down his old gun from above the fireplace. "We'll go after him—the same old feller that was sneakin' round our sheep pen last week, I'll be bound! Dan! Abram!"

But Dan and Abram and all the others had apparently vanished from the farm.

"Just like 'em—never on hand when wanted. But I guess I'm equal to a bear. Come on, Abner, get the pitchfork, and come on!"

Proud to be called upon in such an emergency, and knowing his father to be an unfailing marksman, Abner ran for the pitchfork, and was soon courageously following his excited parent.

They went along the road as rapidly and quietly as possible, keeping a good lookout into its dusky borders, and were within a few rods of the place of Abner's encounter, when they were surprised to see a straggling group of large and small boys approaching. They were walking slowly, and one of them appeared to be supporting a comrade who was groaning loudly.

"Boys, is that you? Who's hurt? Where's the bear?" "Yes, it's us. Dan's hurt. And he's the bear—just rigged him up for fun, and Abner's mighty near killed him!"

Mr. Warren marched up to Dan, examined his face and head in the dim light and felt of his nose, which was still bleeding.

"Ye ain't hurt half as bad as ye ought to be, ye senseless critter," he said, giving him a shake. Then, struck by the boy's ludicrous make-up and the unexpected outcome of the masquerade, he burst into a roar of laughter in which the boys, all but Dan and Abner, gradually joined. The situation began to seem more cheerful.

"Why, Dan, I never dreamt 'twas you," said Abner apologetically.

"Go way; don't ye come nigh me!" growled Dan, nursing his nose with a fresh lump of snow. Then Mr. Warren and all except Abner and Dan roared again.

"Ye served me right, Abner," said Dan after they had reached home, and soothing applications had been made to his swollen nose and protruding under-lip—which even the staid mother could not regard without turning away to smile. "Ye served me right—an' I'll never call ye Sis' again, long as I live."

He kept his promise, but it was a long time before his father and brothers, and the neighbors for ten miles around, got through calling him "Bear Dan."—Forward.

A Clever Imitation.

A certain Cleveland attorney has two bright little children. They are quick at imitation, and have a talent for making up games in which they cleverly burlesque their elders. A few days ago their mamma found they were playing "Doctor." The youngest child was the patient, with head wrapped in a towel, and the older the physician, with a silk hat and a cane. The mother, unseen by the little ones, listened at the doorway.

"I feels awful bad," said the patient.

"We'll fix all that," said the doctor, briskly. "Lemme see your tongue."

Out came the tiny red indicator.

"Hum! Hum! Coated!" said the doctor, looking very grave indeed.

Then, without a word of warning, the skilled physician hauled off and gave the patient a smart slap in the region of the ribs.

"Ouch!" cried the sufferer.

"Feel any pain there?" inquired the doctor.

"Yes," said the patient.

"I thought so," said the healer. "How's the other side?"

"It's all right," said the patient, edging away.

Thereupon the doctor produced a small bottle, filled with what looked like either bread or mud pills, and placed it on the table.

"Take one of these pellets," the physician said, "dissolved in water, every seventeen minutes,—al-ter-mit-ly."

"How long mus' I take 'em?" groaned the patient.

"Till you die," said the doctor.

"Good morning!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

EDITOR, R. OSGOOD MORSE.

All communications intended for this department should be addressed to its Editor, Rev. R. Osgood Morse, Guysboro, N. S. To insure publication, matter must be in the Editor's hands nine days before the date of the issue for which it is intended.



Prayer Meeting Topic.

B. Y. P. U. Topic.—In the Far Country. Luke 15: 11-24.



Daily Bible Readings.

Monday, January 15—Numbers 1: 1-19, (20-43), 44-54. The sum of Israel. Compare Ex 38: 26; Num. 26: 51.

Tuesday, January 16—Numbers 2. The Order of Encampment. Compare Num. 2: 2.

Wednesday, January 17—Numbers 3: 1-13, (14-39), 40-51. Ministers before the Lord. Compare Ex 28: 41.

Thursday, January 18—Numbers 4: 1-20, (21-45), 46-49. Duties of the minister's helpers (vs. 15.) Compare Num. 7: 9; 10: 21.

Friday, January 19—Numbers (5): 6. "The law of the Nazirite." Compare Judg. 13: 5; Luke 1: 15.

Saturday, January 20—Numbers 7: 1-13, (12-83), 84-89. Dedication gifts. Compare Ezra 6: 16, 17.



Prayer Meeting Topic.—January 14.

In the Far Country, Luke 15: 11-24.

The gem of Christ's parables! No parable is more largely quoted or commented upon. No parable is more helpful to the preacher or to the soul seeking the Saviour. Why? Because it gives such a complete picture of our need of a Saviour and the readiness of God to meet that need. It is a mirror into which countless numbers have looked and have thus seen the reflection of their own lives. Let us look at the picture, or succession of pictures, and carefully watch the several steps in the experience of the younger son. Notice, 1. What he asks for, or how sin prompts us. He asked for a free right to use his wealth as his own heart desired; or, in other words, sin was prompting him to break away from restraint. One of the most subtle temptations of Satan. He could not work such tactics upon the elder son, but he knew that the younger son would take the bait for he had already been firing his imagination and perverting his desires. Under the careful teaching of Satan the younger son imagined that while his father kept the goods he himself was not reaping any benefit therefrom. He took no account of the fact that his father was still using his wealth not only for the present but for the future welfare of the son. He forgot, too, that all the wealth of his father's wisdom, gathered with years of experience, was now being used for the benefit of the sons. In every word of advice he saw, instead of the wisest counsel, cruel restraint. His vision had become distorted. And the father granted the request. He would not keep him at home to chafe under what the son thought was restraint, to be discontented and to grow more sullen and moody each day. He had had enough of that sort of thing with the elder son. Better let him go and discover by experience, even though it be bitter, that there are more unhappy places than his father's fireside. And so it is with God. He has created man with a will and the power of choice in using that will, and rather than force him to submission to his purpose he will let him learn by experience, though it be a hard lesson, the folly of using that will in opposition to the will of God. Better let him learn for himself that the only freedom is a freedom in God.

2. Where he went, or where all sin leads. "Into a far country." He wanted to get as far away from home as possible. Not that he so hated that home. He was ashamed to sin and to plunge into his proposed debauch before the members of his home. Something in the very nature of sin makes us ashamed of it. And now watch him in the far country. See the natural consequences of sin unrestrained. Poverty, especially poverty of soul, disgrace and loss of self respect. "He began to be in want." He could have a good time as long as riches lasted. But where was he left when they were gone? Stranded! Without money, without friends, without self respect, but with a sting of conscience that always comes from having indulged in sin. Sent out to feed swine, he knew that was all he ought to expect. Even should he go home he couldn't look for anything more than to be "a hired servant." So hungry that he filled his belly with the husks that he knew could give no nourishment. Down to the depths he had gone and now he clutches, like a drowning man, at a straw, anything, everything that can offer the least semblance of hope. What a picture!

3. How he came home, or the way to break from sin. "He came to himself." He had come to the end of riches, end of friends, end of self respect, almost to the end of existence and it was only by a mighty effort he pulled himself together that he might think on his condition. He had been letting himself go at the rate of madness and now, just as he reaches the last extremity,

he begins to think. Ah, how the Father loves to see a sinner stop to think. Here are all the steps of conversion—the sight of sin, the thought of sin, and repentance for sin. He sees the ruin wrought by sin. Then he compares the two states. His father's home, even though he be no more than a slave in that home, and what he must now endure. He not only sees the ruin that has come into his life, but he sees that by his willful sinning he has brought it upon himself. "I have sinned." And his repentance is genuine for he does not remain in sin. Right about face he turns and back to his father's home he goes. "And he arose and came to his father."

4. His reception at home, or the way the Father treats those who return from sin. We have all seen pictures of this. Out on the road, away down as far as can be seen from the house, the father has run to meet the son. There is the son with his head bowed on his father's shoulder, ashamed to look up into the father's face, and the father with his arms about the boy's neck and a smile upon his face that can't be mistaken. Ah, yes, he has a thousand times forgiven him. He doesn't give the son time enough to make all his confession. He sees repentance in the prostrate form. And when they get home, music in the house. "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

Can any one doubt God's willingness to forgive? "The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." "Him that cometh unto me I will in no wise cast out."

Great Village, N. S. O. N. CHIPMAN.



Spa Springs W. B. M. U.

On Nov. 7th, during the last session of the Annapolis County Convention, a B. Y. P. U. was organized by our pastor, Rev. C. W. Corey. Officers elected were: S. Marshall, Pres.; Mrs. L. F. Wearer, Vice-Pres.; Mrs. S. Marshall, Sec'y. and Treas.; Eva B. Jackson, Cor. Sec'y.

Hurbut's Normal Lessons are taught by the pastor at the weekly meetings, in which a good deal of interest is manifested by our members who number forty-two.

E. B. JACKSON, Cor. Sec'y.



Milton, Queens Co. N. S.

The recently elected officers for the B. Y. P. U. are, Pres. Willard N. Freeman; Vice Pres., Frank Cole; Sec'y., Miss Nellie Nickerson; Cor. Sec'y., Mrs. F. B. Shields; Treas., Miss Blanche Brown. With a membership of eighty, we ought to do good work for the Master through the coming year. The old year with all its opportunities for work has passed away. We will go bravely to work anew, doing our best and relying on God's promises we may expect great things. Yes, and how the thought of His perfect sympathy, His infinite power to help and to save, gives us strength to face the future! The lord is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

MRS. F. B. SHIELDS.



Fairville Baptist Church.

The attendance of our B. Y. P. U. meetings is getting larger now than in the summer months. Our programme for each month is as follows: First Tuesday, consecration service led by our president, on second Tuesday, devotional, led by one of our members, and third we have Conquest Missionary meeting, led by a committee of two appointed to act for six months, fourth same as the second, with the study of the Normal Lessons the last half hour of each meeting, conducted by our pastor, which proves to be of great benefit in the study of the Bible.

CLARA MCKENZIE.



Some of these reports were written on both sides of the sheet. This necessitates the work of transcribing. Please write on one side only.



We would call the attention of the Unions to the recommendation of the Ex-Com. made at the last Convention, that the Cor. Sec'y., wherever possible, be made a prominent officer. The correspondence of the Union is conducted through this officer. It is therefore important that the most suitable person available be elected to this office and continued therein.



The past two weeks we have received and presented several reports from Unions. We have scanned them eagerly, but in vain, for records of Home Mission work being done. Are our young people neglecting our Judea? We fear they are. If this work is neglected we cannot be strong in our Samaria and in the regions beyond. We must lengthen the lines and strengthen the stakes at home, that our basis of supplies may be enlarged. Our Unions must be more than mutual improvement societies. The "Culture for Service," acquired, must be used in aggressive service else it defeats its own end. Do not neglect the work at our door.

Foreign Missions.

W. B. M. U.

"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address MRS. J. W. MANNING, 178 Wentworth Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR JANUARY.

For Parla Kimeidy, the missionaries and native preachers, that their number may be greatly increased, and many souls won to Christ on that field for our Women's Missionary Societies.

The Ecumenical Conference

Most of our readers have heard of this great World's Missionary Conference to be held in New York in April 21st to May 1st. In many respects it will be the grandest meeting of the kind ever held. It is world wide. It will represent no single denomination, no one country, no one continent, but the whole world of Protestant Christendom. Two similar gatherings have been held, one at Midway, 1878, the other in London, 1888. These were great meetings but larger hopes are entertained and greater preparations are being made for this meeting in New York. Special prominence will be given to woman's work that forms such an important factor in these days in all missionary operations. At the Conference held in Midway the names of only two women appear among the delegates, at London ten years after two whole sessions were given to the consideration of woman's work and over four hundred names of women are among the delegates. At this Conference every phase of woman's work will be represented by those who have had experience and representatives from all Women's Boards the world over are expected to be present. On Thursday, April 26, the entire day will be devoted to woman's work, morning afternoon and evening. A series of sectional meetings will be held on Tuesday, April 24, six in number at which will be presented for consideration every phase and problem of woman's work. The subject chosen for Canada is "The Evangelistic Department in Missions." This subject is brought before the meeting in three papers on the following topics: 1st, Methods in presenting Christian truth; 2nd, The work of native Christians; 3rd, General public work on behalf of women. These topics have been given to the Presbyterians, Methodists and Baptists in the order given. Each paper will be followed by discussion by missionaries from all parts of the world engaged in these different departments of work. A glance will plainly show what a feast will here be spread for any one interested in mission work, and what knowledge and inspiration will be gained. We hope to have a number of our sisters from the Maritime Provinces present at this great gathering and every one should be interested and gain all they can by reading and hearing. Please remember these meetings in your prayers, their success after all will not be in the grand preparations, in the bringing together of representatives from all the world, but in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit using their agencies to perform this work. If this great Conference is to carry the church forward with it into the new century in the fulness desired, it must be lifted and carried through on a flood-tide of prayer. As further arrangements are completed we will keep you informed and we trust the blessed influence may extend through all our societies and churches.

On Monday evening, Dec. 25th, the "Marion Morse Mission Band" made its first appearance before the public and was greeted by a large audience. A good missionary and Xmas programme was presented by Band, assisted by the choir. Prof. Chisholm of Halifax School for the Blind added much to the evening's enjoyment by singing in his usual delightful and happy style. At the close of the programme a loaded Xmas tree was soon relieved of its burdens, not as presents for the children, but the articles were sold that some child in far off India, who knows not the joy of the Xmas tide, might through our mites and prayers be enabled to hear the wonderful story of our Saviour which is Christ the Lord, and be led to sing this song, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men." We were much pleased to find that \$30.27 had been realized for this object.

ANNIE S. CHIPMAN, Pres. Great Village, N. S., Dec. 30th.

A Mute Appeal for India's Women.

Some will work more enthusiastically and pray more intelligently if they study this mute appeal.
Number of women in the world 750,000,000
Number of women in India 150,000,000
Number of girls in India who are 14 years of age or under 55,000,000
Number of women in India confined to zenanas 40,000,000
Number of women in India who are widows 24,000,000
Number of women in India who are nominal Christians 1,250,000
Number of women in India who are able to read 1,000,000

Amounts Received from Dec. 15 to Jan. 2nd by the Treasurer of the W. B. M. U.

Campbellton, F. M. \$10, Tidings, 25c; Hazelbrook, F. M. \$4.77, H. M. \$2.38, Doukhobour Mission, \$1.65, Reports, 20c; Chester, F. M. \$6; Pennfield Centre, F. M. \$1, support of Mr Burgdorff, \$1, Tidings, 25c; Albany, F. M. \$2, H. M. \$2, Collections Missionary meeting, F. M. \$4; Lower Cambridge, F. M. \$7; New Annan, F. M. \$2; Salem, 1st Hillsboro, F. M. \$7; Paradise, F. M. \$15, H. M. \$5, Reports, 35c; New Minas collection public meeting per Mrs J. L. Read, F. M. \$3.21; Amherst, a friend, F. M. \$1, H. M. \$1; Alexandra, F. M. \$9.65, H. M. \$1.15; Fourcnie, support of Mr Burgdorff, \$1.38; New Castle, F. M. \$5, H. M. \$1.25; Miss Jennie Lozer, F. M. \$2, Tidings, 25c; North River, to constitute their Treasurer, Mrs. Peter Scott, a Life member, F. M. \$25, Reports, 30c; Long Creek, Queens Co., N. B., Mrs D. F. Fisher, F. M. \$1; Lewisville, "a friend to the cause" F. M. \$10; (MRS.) MARY SMITH, Treas. W. B. M. U. Amherst, P. O. B. 573.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY

Remember the great missionary conference to be held in New York next April, and plan to attend.

Miss Clark writes: "In Bible class today, when I was telling the children of Jesus and how he was obedient to his parents, and in that way fulfilled the law, one boy spoke up after I had applied the lesson, and said, 'If father and mother worship idols must we obey them, when they say we must do the same.' I tried to show them that obedience to God came first, and parents next. But a question might arise here, How soon shall a child begin to disobey his parents, when the wish of the parents clashes with the apparent will of God as revealed in the Bible? Is the child of tender years to sit in judgment upon the acts of the parent? How far is a Christian teacher at liberty to go in this direction? These are questions that might, with some profit, be discussed in the class in moral philosophy at our institutions of learning.

Miss Clark continues: This heathenism is a great problem. It is so hard to renounce all for Christ; but those who have done so are well repaid, and it is a benediction to hear their testimony.

Mr. Higgins writes: "You will be glad to know that God has been blessing us here. We baptized eight last week. Some of these are Savaras. It was a great day for the little Savara hamlet nesting among the hills. Mr. Hardy and I started on foot at 2.30 p. m., and in about an hour we were at Gopalpur (the Christian Savara village where Venkiah lives). We examined five candidates, and soon after they were buried with Christ in baptism in the little pond near by. It was just at sunset, and the scene was impressive. This was not the first baptism that had taken place on the hills, for two weeks ago one was baptized at Lankapardu, where Miss Archibald was tenting. On the last Saturday morning in November, there were five baptized in Tekkali, three of whom were Savaras. This makes ten Savaras received this year. About a month ago we baptized a young Mala man here in Tekkali. His wife refused to live with him for a time. Soon after she came to him, and he was very happy over it. He said she was very timid, and would not come near the Mission House, or even the Christians. Gradually her timidity wore away and she said she was going to join the church when she obtained the new heart. To our joy she has come out, a bright, promising convert. Her testimony was clear, and indicated that she had the root of the matter in her, so far as we could tell. The morning of the day that she was baptized, we were visited by two native Brahmin officials. One of these fought against our Scripture doctrine of the Atonement. He declared it to be against all law and reason. The devil seemed to have urged him on to say all that he could against Christ. As we returned in the evening from the baptism, I said to Mr. Hardy, 'I thank thee Father of heaven and earth, because thou hast hidden these things from the wise and prudent, and revealed them unto babes.' Chittama is a poor illiterate scavenger. The Brahmin would utterly ridicule her conversion, and in his sight she was scarcely more worthy of notice than an outcast dog. But how much more of God and truth she knew than he did. One flash of divine illumination had made clear to her dull mind, that which his clear, educated intellect could not grasp. Well, this makes 14 baptized on this field thus far this year. I hope we may have others before the year closes."

"ABLE TO SAVE TO THE UTMOST."

That is what our Christ can do—and most beautiful illustrations are afforded on our mission field of the efficacy of the shed blood. "By grace are ye saved through faith." What abundant reason the Baptists of these provinces have to magnify the riches of that grace on their mission field in India—Would God that we might all see what is doing, and give ourselves with renewed zeal to his work in that far off land.

Mr. Corey says: "Our own work in Parla-Kimeidy

is moving with no great velocity. Thus far to only have been baptized this year. I hope for others on Sunday next, but I never can prophesy about what will happen.

Our cold season is now fairly commenced and is delightful. The crops in this section of the country are only about half what they should be, still we will be spared famine another year at least, although prices are high."

Are you planning to attend the missionary conference in New York?

Concerning the Normal S. S. Lesson Notes.

We would wish to say to those studying the S. S. Normal Notes in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, that we were disappointed in not getting Notes in the last two issues, we were depending on a good brother to forward them direct to the paper. We trust there will be no break in the future. We would say for mutual encouragement, that we know of about 100 who are studying these notes. We would further request that any of the pastors that have classes studying, would please forward the names of those studying. We have received the names of a few who are studying alone. Let us hear from you all. S. H. CORNWALL.

St. Martin's N. B.

Literary Notices.

The Youth's Companion announces a contribution by Prof. John Trowbridge, of Harvard University, showing how a young college graduate learned a lesson in practical mensuration, without instruments, from an old farmer who had little education but plenty of common sense.

The narrative of Capt. Joshua Slocum's "single-handed" circumnavigation of the globe has proved a remarkably popular feature of The Century. In the January number, the Yankee sailor tells of his arrival at Cape Town and visit to the South African Republic, where he was accorded an interview with President Kruger. Everything went smoothly till Capt. Slocum's introducer, Judge Beyers, referred to his voyage "around" the world. "You don't mean round the world," exclaimed their host. "It is impossible. You mean in the world." This flat contradiction of an "outlander" hereby ended the interview. Before it occurred "Oom" Paul had delivered himself of an epigram that revealed his shrewdness as clearly as his geographical "correction" had disclosed his ignorance. "The corner-stone of the South African Republic is dynamite," said he. Of the English he remarked, "They took first my coat and then my trousers."

Four excellent maps are a noticeable feature for the January number of the Missionary Review of The World. Three of these accompany an article on "Protestant Foreign Missions in 1800 and 1900," by Rev. H. P. Beach, Educational Secretary of the Student Volunteer Movement. These maps show the principal mission stations of the world today, the mission fields of 1800; the spheres of influence of Protestant, Papal, and other Political Powers, and the territorial distribution of the various religions of the world. Mr. Beach's article is also a masterpiece, contrasting the religious, political, and missionary situation in the world today with that of 100 years ago. Dr. Pierson follows with an article on the "Missions of the Nineteenth Century," showing the progress of the missionary movement and the notable characteristics of each decade. "The Missionary and Illustrious Situation in South Africa" is the subject of an illustrated article by James C. Dorward of Natal. The Editorials and Book Reviews are full of interest and the General Intelligence is noticeable for an innovation in the form of "black titles" which reveal the contents of each paragraph at a glance and so add much to this part of The Review. Dr. Leonard's statistical tables for 1898-1899 also appear in this number.

Published monthly by Funk & Wagnalls Company, \$2.50 a year.

The Treasury of Religious Thought for January, 1900, begins the year with a most attractive programme. Its frontispiece is an excellent portrait of Rev. Kerr Boyce, D.D., LL.D., the eloquent and able pastor of the First Baptist church, Philadelphia, and the accompanying history of the church is a valuable contribution to the ecclesiastical annals of the city for over two centuries. Though pastor of one of the oldest churches, Dr. Tupper's sermon is on "The Church of the Future," and shows how he looks forward through from the standpoint of absolute and conservative orthodoxy. The Rev. Dwight Mallory Pratt, of Auburndale, Mass., follows Dr. Tupper in an inspiring sermon on "Helps from the Hills;" and he is followed by sketches of sermons from the most distinguished preachers, among which is a timely selection from Rev. Dr. R. S. Storrs, just retiring from his fifty-three years' pastorate in Brooklyn. The list of sermons is completed with a New Year's discourse by the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst. The suggestions for Prayer meeting, Young People's meeting, and Sunday School are carefully handled as usual; the current movements of the time are noted with comment, and among the "Names of Note," with portraits of leading men of the time a place is given to that noble soldier, Gen. Henry W. Lawton. Annual subscription, \$2. Single copies, 20 cents.

E. B. Treat & Co., Publishers, 241-243 West 23d St., New York.

Quarterly and Madaw... the Hartland... Dec. 15th at... the attendan... small. Prea... lowed by ev... Saturday me... ed at 10 a. m... ed some prog... session was f... conference o... Saturday... 2.30-4 p. m... ference was... business mee... Saturday... by E. P. Cal... Atkinson, J... Hayward, P... A. D. Hartl... gave an inter... conducted fo... Sunday m... ly sermon by... Sunday af... devoted to... Pastor Atkin... Sunday e... N. Barton... service. Th... manifested t... been holdin... results. Th... session will... Simonds, C... in March. ... amounted to... Foreign mis...

Rev. J. V... Port Elgin... pastorate of... and desires... his present a... land Co., N...

We are pl... M. Parker... suffering les... than former... should prov... enemy.

Mr. Hugh... list, is now... Evangelist... services. Th... is Rev. F. L... the Baptist U... Canoe the l... Pastor Beals... pastors in th... to secure E... asked to co... His perman... care of Rev...

Evangelist... MESSENGER... He had just... of services... Tingley at... now gone t... Jacksonville... may attend...

Rev. H. F... pastorate of... John, under... congregation... Sunday wer... sermons wer...

MR. EDIT... MESSENGER... hearty than... us during t... was present... by the ladie... after, at th... in Charlotte... Christmas... friends. Th... nice little r... Dresser and... evening wit... We spent... many friend... meet us. B... as a mark... respect, ma... happy and... months. Th... were presen... most belong... with another... sufficient su... fur coat. I... received m... friends in N... We wish th... felt thank... remembered... blessed Chis... and one tha... us. May G... during the c...

Tyne Vall...

Quarterly Meeting

Quarterly meeting of Carleton, Victoria and Madawaska counties convened with the Hartland Baptist church on Friday, Dec. 15th at 7 p. m. Owing to the storm the attendance at the first meeting was small. Preaching by Bro. Hayward followed by evangelistic services.

Saturday morning. Business session opened at 10 a. m. Reports from churches showed some progress in general work. Business session was followed by a short ministerial conference of much interest and power.

Saturday afternoon. Conference from 2.30-4 p. m. An excellent meeting. Conference was followed by an adjourned business meeting.

Saturday evening. Missionary sermon by E. P. Calder, addresses by Revs. F. N. Atkinson, J. B. Daggett (F. B.), A. H. Hayward, Pastor J. D. Wetmore. Sister A. D. Hartley of East Florenceville, also gave an interesting account of her museum conducted for missionary purposes.

Sunday morning. 11 a. m. the Quarterly sermon by Rev. A. H. Hayward.

Sunday afternoon. A platform meeting devoted to Sunday School work led by Pastor Atkinson.

Sunday evening. Sermon by Rev. C. N. Barton followed by an evangelistic service. The revival spirit was so strongly manifested that Pastor Wetmore has since been holding special meetings with good results. The next Quarterly meeting session will convene with the church at Simonds, Carleton Co., on the 2nd Friday in March. The collections of the meeting amounted to \$11.07 devoted to Home and Foreign missions.

E. P. CALDER, Sec'y-Treas.

Personal

Rev. J. W. Gardiner, lately pastor at Port Elgin, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Midgic group of churches and desires his correspondents to note that his present address is Cookville, Westmorland Co., N. B.

We are pleased to learn from Pastor J. M. Parker, of River Hebert, that he is suffering less this winter from rheumatism than formerly. That "coon-skin coat" should prove a strong defence against the enemy.

Mr. Hugh A. MacLean, singing evangelist, is now in Worcester, Mass., assisting Evangelist E. E. Davidson in a series of services. The Baptist pastor in Worcester is Rev. F. L. Wilkins, formerly editor of the Baptist Union. Mr. MacLean goes to Canso the last week in January to assist Pastor Beals for a short time. Any of our pastors in these provinces who would like to secure Bro. MacLean's services are asked to correspond with him promptly. His permanent address is St. John West, care of Rev. M. C. Higgins.

Evangelist J. A. Marple called on the MESSENGER AND VISITOR on Tuesday. He had just concluded a successful series of services in connection with Pastor Tingley at Clementsvalle, N. S., and has now gone to assist Pastor Atkinson at Jacksonville, N. B. We trust that blessings may attend their united labors.

Rev. H. F. Waring has entered upon his pastorate of the Brussels Street church, St. John, under very favorable auspices. The congregations to which he preached on Sunday were large and attentive and the sermons were highly appreciated.

* * *

Thanks.

MR. EDITOR.—Permit me through the MESSENGER AND VISITOR to express our hearty thanks for many kindnesses shown us during the past few weeks. First, I was presented with a good warm overcoat by the ladies of the church. A few days after, at the P. E. I. Conference meeting in Charlottetown, I was presented with a Christmas present by the pastors and friends. This present took the shape of a nice little roll of bills. Two days later Mrs. Dresser and I were invited to spend the evening with a brother in Poplar Grove. We spent a very pleasant evening with many friends, who had gathered there to meet us. Before leaving we were given, as a mark of their Christian love and respect, many things to help make us happy and comfortable during the winter months. Then, last but not least, we were presented by Dr. Long and friends, most belonging to other denominations, with another roll of bills, containing a sufficient sum to buy Mrs. Dresser a nice fur coat. Besides the above we have received many tokens of love from dear friends in Nova Scotia and Old England. We wish therefore to express our heartfelt thanks to all who have so kindly remembered and helped to make this blessed Christmas tide happy and joyous, and one that will long be remembered by us. May God's richest blessings be theirs during the coming year, and forever.

FRANK P. DRESSER.

Tyne Valley, P. E. I., Dec. 27th.

Acknowledgement.

Allow me, by the request of the donor, to acknowledge in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, a gift sent to me Jan. 3rd, by some kind and thoughtful friend, who has not revealed his name nor place of residence, but simply calls himself "One of God's children," asking me to accept the accompanying gift, with kind regards and best wishes for a very happy and prosperous New Year. I appreciate the gift sent, not only for its worth to me, but also that we are made happy in the knowledge that we are not forgotten by some of God's children. May His blessing ever be upon them.

P. R. KNIGHT.

Lower French Village, N. B.

Notices.

The District Meeting of Kings County, N. S., is appointed for Waterville, Tuesday, January 16. M. P. FREEMAN.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned can supply, postage paid, copies of the Report of the Canadian Baptist Missions for the year 1899 at ten cents each, which may be remitted in stamps. This pamphlet usually contains about seventy pages and gives a brief history of the work of the year as carried on in each of the fifteen fields of the Canadian Baptists, followed by a summary of the Minutes of the Union conference to be held early in the New Year, to which valuable statistical tables are appended. Those wishing one or more copies will please make it known promptly as the list must be sent to India not later than January 8th.

I. C. ARCHIBALD.

15 Coburg Road, Halifax, Dec. 19th. Having given up the Buctouche field, I am now open to an engagement as pastor. Any church wishing a supply may secure my services by addressing me at Dorchester, N. B. R. BARRY SMITH.

The Annapolis Co. conference of Baptist churches, will meet Jan. 15 and 16, at Clarence. A good programme is being prepared. Let there be a large gathering, as business of importance will be brought up. L. F. WALLACE, Sec'y.

The Westmorland Quarterly Meeting will convene with the 2nd Moncton church at Bonnell's Corner, about two miles from Berry's Mills, the nearest station, on Tuesday, Jan. 16th, at 2.30 p. m., when Rev. Mr. Parsley will preach the Quarterly sermon. Teams will be at the station to meet the train leaving Moncton at 10.35, standard. F. W. EMMERSON, Sec'y.

Sackville, Jan. 5th, 1900.

Canada and the U.S.

NEW YORK STOCKHOLDER DISCUSSES THEIR RELATIONS.

The Two Countries Have Need of Each Other, and There Should be The Friendliest of Feelings.

(From the New York Stockholder.)

Few of our people realize the extent, resources and development of our neighbor—our nearest neighbor, we may say—Canada, lying right at our doors—its metropolis, Montreal, within 12 miles by rail of ours, Greater New York. Nor is it known generally that Canada in area slightly exceeds in extent the whole of the United States. Then the extent of the trade between Canada and the United States is greater than between Canada and Great Britain, and steadily increasing in volume. Bordering on our domains for 3,000 miles, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, with one great line of railway, the Canadian Pacific, stretching the entire distance, being the longest continuous line of railway in existence; within ten days of Japan on the west, and seven days of Europe on the east, our neighbor is attaining an importance that is worthy of our highest consideration.

Bound together by the ties of geographical affinity, and by the commercial and financial interests inseparable to such proximity, it is surely becoming for these two Anglo-Saxon countries to cultivate relations mutually harmonious, enduring and in consonance with the civil character of both. We can pass over the border without knowing scarcely whether we are in the domains of Her Majesty, the Queen, or in the United States. It is true there have been at times some slight differences of local interest arising between Canada and the United States, for instance the Lynn canal matter at present, but these have been amicably adjusted to the mutual satisfaction of the parties concerned and honorably to both. Nor is it likely that there will be any occasion for trouble be-

tween these two nearest neighbors, that cannot be settled in equitable manner.

The scope for the development of trade between these two extensive countries, lying side by side for thousands of miles, is very great. It would be impossible to attempt to calculate what this inter-trade will amount to. We have made greater strides than Canada, but Canada is now moving along the same lines to populousness and prosperity, and is showing remarkable progress. Canada is highly favored under its union with Great Britain. She has all the powerful protection of the Crown and it does not cost her a penny. Canada regulates her trade with Great Britain just as independently as she does with any other nation, and provides her own legislature. She has really protection and independence co-existing. Our facilities for putting Canada's products in all markets reached by our steamship lines are excellent, and Canada avails of these advantages in no small degree. Canada is a wonderful country in minerals, in lumber, in fisheries, in stock-raising, in agriculture, in furs, and the development in the fields has scarcely begun, and the territory is as yet sparsely settled, but population is seeking its boundaries largely and the coming year must show a material increase.

As a country of natural beauty and diversity Canada may well be said to be unsurpassed, and for the hunter and tourist it is a delight. Think of 30 pound trout, and deer with antlers 5½ feet from tip to tip, to give some idea of Canada as a land for the hunter and fisherman. Its varieties and beauties of scenery, waterscape and landscape mingled in Nature's most lavish perfection, culminating in those falls—the wonder of the world—make Canada in this respect unsurpassable, some claim unapproachable. As these two countries come to know each other better, and understand each other more and more, the ties that unite them commercially, financially, geographically, will increase in number and strength, and the most friendly relations will be established on an enduring basis between them.

Canada has need for us, and we have need for Canada. Her interests will be promoted by intercourse with us; and our interests will be likewise fostered by dealing with her. Interchange of products is already large between us, some \$150,000,000 a year, and this is bound to increase. Montreal, beautiful and historic, with its quarter of a million of inhabitants—half English, half French—half ancient, half modern—rising from the broad St. Lawrence to the slopes of Mount Royal, greets cordially our own great metropolis and gladly is the welcome wafted back. There is no telling what the vicissitudes of the future may be as to Canada and the United States, but the present time is surely bringing them closer and closer together in commercial and financial relations, and inspiring the citizens of the two countries with a higher regard for each other.

Check that Cough
with BROWN'S
BRONCHIAL TROCHES.
Fae-Simile Signature of *John A. Brown* on every box.

The Ultimate Success

of the treatment of Consumption depends altogether on the strength of the patient. The diseases of the lungs might be cured a great many times if the system had the strength to cast off the poison and to bear up under the strain of the cough.

PARK'S PERFECT EMULSION of Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites and Guaiacol renders this possible. It begins by building up the system, correcting and improving the digestion and gradually eradicates the disease. It tones up the entire body and enables the patient to take on firm, healthy flesh and strength.

Park's Perfect Emulsion is composed of the purest Cod Liver Oil combined with the chemically pure Hypophosphites and Guaiacol, a combination that is being universally prescribed by the foremost medical men of nearly all countries for the treatment of all pulmonary diseases. It is prepared in such a way as to entirely eliminate all bad taste or odour, and can be retained by the most capricious stomach.

50c. per bottle. All Druggists.

—Manufactured by—

Hattie & Mylius,
HALIFAX, N. S.

ERYSIPELAS.

This dangerous Blood Disease always cured by Burdock Blood Bitters.

Most people are aware how serious a disease Erysipelas is. Can't rout it out of the system with ordinary remedies.

Like other dangerous blood diseases, though, B.B.B. can cure it every time.

Read what Rachel Patton, Cape Chin, Bruce Co., Ont., says:

"I wish to state that I used Burdock Blood Bitters for Erysipelas in my face and general run down state of my health. I tried many remedies but all failed to cure. I then tried B.B.B. Two bottles nearly cured me and four bottles completely cured me."

Equity Sale.

There will be sold at Public Auction, at Chubb's Corner (so called), in the City of Saint John, in the City and County of St. John, in the Province of New Brunswick, ON SATURDAY, the Tenth day of February next, at the hour of twelve o'clock, noon, pursuant to the directions of a Decreeal Order of the Supreme Court in Equity made on Tuesday, the twenty-first day of November, A. D. 1899, in a certain cause therein pending, wherein Michael Ryan is Plaintiff, and Lawrence McGrath, Christopher Kane and James McGrath are Defendants, with the approbation of the undersigned Referee in Equity, the Mortgage Premises described in said Decreeal Order, as:

"All that certain lot, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the Parish of Simonds, in the City and County of St. John, and bounded and described as follows: Beginning on the western side of the road leading from the City of St. John to Little River, so called, at a point distant from the lands owned by the Commissioners of the Poor for the City and County of St. John, eight hundred and one (801) feet; thence along the said road southerly two hundred and twelve feet to the line of land owned by the heirs of the late John Cotter (Garrett); thence south seventy-three degrees west by Cotter's line five hundred (500) feet to high water mark; thence along the back or shore of Courtney Bay to land owned by one Peter Dean, junior, one hundred and ten (110) feet, more or less; thence north sixty-one degrees fifty minutes east five hundred and twenty (520) feet to the place of beginning, containing by estimation one and one-half acres, more or less, being the same lot of land and premises heretofore sold and conveyed by one Patrick Gallagher and Catherine, his wife, to the said Lawrence McGrath by deed dated the third day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, together with all and singular the buildings, fences and improvements thereon, and the rights and appurtenances to the said lands and premises belonging or appertaining, and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof, and all the estate, title, dower, right of dower, property, claim and demand whatsoever, both at Law and in Equity, of them, the said Defendants, or any or either of them, of, in, to and out of the said lands and premises and every part thereof."

For terms of sale apply to the Plaintiff's Solicitor.

Dated this Twenty-ninth day of November, A. D. 1899. HUGH H. McLEAN, Referee.

AMON A. WILSON, Plaintiff's Solicitor.

Hale Old Age.

Sad to see people advanced in years suffering from Back-ache, Lame Back, Urinary Troubles and Kidney Weakness. A hale old age; free from pains and aches, can only be attained by keeping the kidneys right and the blood pure.

DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS

befriend the aged by freeing them from pain and correcting all Disorders of the Kidneys and Urinary System.

Mr. Thomas Ash, an old resident of Renfrew, Ont., speaks as follows:

"I am 72 years of age, and have been troubled for a number of years with pains across my back. When I would stoop over it gave agonizing pain & straighten up. I was so bad that I could scarcely walk. I have taken many kinds of medicines, but got nothing to help me. Being recommended to try Doan's Kidney Pills I got a box. After taking three doses I noticed a great change for the better, and I can now get around as smart as a cricket. I can split my own wood and am, in fact, just like a new man."

ALWAYS KEEP ON HAND

Pain-Killer


THERE IS NO KIND OF PAIN OR ACHE, INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL, THAT PAIN-KILLER WILL NOT RELIEVE.

LOOK OUT FOR IMITATIONS AND SUBSTITUTES. THE GENUINE BOTTLE BEARS THE NAME,


PERRY DAVIS & SON.

Better stop that cough now with a few doses of Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup than let it run on to end perhaps in Bronchitis, Pneumonia or Consumption. It's a wonderful lung healing remedy that cures the worst kinds of coughs and colds when others fail.

Price 25c. & 50c. All dealers.



Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup.



LAXATIVE PILLS—Cure constipation, biliousness, sick headache and dyspepsia. Every pill guaranteed perfect and to act without any griping, weakening or sickening effects. 50c. at all druggists.

CAT'S

Invigorating Syrup,

Well known throughout the country, is an excellent TONIC, PHYSIC and APPETIZER.

Safe and Reliable and should be in every house. For Coughs, Colds and La Grippe a little night and morning will soon break them up.

DYSPEPTICS will find great relief by taking a little after eating.

For Irregularities of the Bowels nothing can be found to excel it, as it causes no griping or pain.

For Asthma and Palpitation of the Heart one swallow gives instant relief. It is an invigorator of the whole system, has been well tested already, and will do all that we say of it.

Put up in large bottles at 50 cents each and sold everywhere.

ONLY A COUGH!

But it may be a sign of some serious malady fastening itself upon the vital parts.

Puttner's Emulsion will dislodge it and restore the irritated and inflamed tissue to healthy action.

Always get PUTTNER'S it is THE BEST.

FOR SCIATICA, PLEURISY, STITCHES, CRICKS, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, LAME BACK.

MENTHOL THE D & L PLASTER

THE BEST ANTI-RHEUMATIC PLASTER MADE

EACH PLASTER IN ENAMELED TIN BOX PRICE 25¢ ALSO IN 1/2 YARD ROLLS PRICE \$1.00

DAVIS & LAWRENCE CO. LTD. MANUFACTURERS MONTREAL

The Home

T. H. ESTABROOKS

The Building up of a Great Tea Business in St. John.

Date Creams.

Break into a bowl the white of one egg, add an equal quantity of water, and stir in confectioners' sugar till stiff enough to mould into shape with the hands. Flavor with vanilla. Seed some shapely dates, and fill the cavity with the cream, allowing it to protrude and form a white stripe. A little of the cream may also be placed on the top, if desired. Dry on oiled paper. Date nougats are made by placing an almond or other nut in the cavity from which the stone was removed. Roll the nut in a little of the cream, and put a thick layer of the cream outside the whole. Ready at the end of twelve hours.

SCHOOL LUNCHEONS.—Mrs. Rorer, the well known authority upon foods and cookery, gives the following sensible advice on the subject of school lunches: School children's luncheons must be plain and suitable in quality. The albuminous foods, building the muscles and tissues, must be in good condition; then the diet may contain a certain amount of starch as whole wheat bread; a certain amount of fat, as good butter; but it need not contain sugar. Avoid pies, cakes and jams, and substitute in their place, finely chopped meat between two slices of brown bread; now and then a hard boiled egg pressed through a sieve, seasoned and put between two slices of bread; send a little cup custard, a small jar of rice pudding, or sound, fresh fruit. It is far better to fill the luncheon basket with wholesome food than to give money for the child to visit the nearest confectioners', where he will make his luncheon upon sweets. A little thought should be expended upon school lunches.

ENGLISH PLUM PUDDING.—Seed first one pound of raisins, when preparing to make an English pudding; mix with them a pound of currants and half a pound of minced orange peel; dust a quarter of a pound of flour. Chop fine one pound of suet; add to it a quarter of a pound of brown sugar, half a nutmeg, grated, three-quarters of a pound of stale, dry bread-crumbs. Mix all the ingredients together. Beat five eggs, without separating, until light; add to them half a pint of grape juice; pour over the dry ingredients and mix thoroughly. The mixture should not be wet, but each particle should be moistened. Pack this into small greased kettles or moulds. It will fill two three-pound kettles. Put on the covers, stand the moulds in the steamer, and steam steadily for ten hours. The easier way is to get the ingredients ready the night before; mix and put them on early in the morning, allowing them to cook all day. Take them from the steamer, remove the lids of the kettles or moulds, and allow the puddings to cool; then replace the lids and put the puddings away. They will keep, in a cool place, for several months or a year.

PROPER HEATING OF THE HOUSE.—Seventy degrees Fahrenheit is a good temperature at which to keep the house. If the ventilation is so arranged that the impure air passes out, and there is a proper supply of pure air, all the healthy members of the family will feel comfortably warm. It is a mistake to make one or two rooms hot and keep the rest of the house at a much lower temperature; no better system could be devised for producing colds.

Time He Was.

At a recent wedding all went merry until the bridegroom was called upon to produce the wedding-ring. It vain he felt in his trousers pockets for the indispensable trifle. Nothing could be found except a hole through which the ring had evidently fallen. What was he to do? Suddenly a happy thought struck the parson.

"Take your shoe off," he said. The suspense and silence was painful. The organist, at the clergyman's bidding struck up a voluntary.

The young man removed the shoe, the ring was found, also a hole in his stocking, and the worthy minister remarked, evidently with more than the delay of the ceremony on his mind:

"Young man, it's high time you were married."—Sel.

The MESSENGER AND VISITOR takes pleasure in directing the attention of its readers to the advertisement of Mr. T. H. Estabrooks, the well-known importer and blender of teas, whose warehouse on North Wharf, is probably the largest devoted exclusively to the tea trade in Canada. St. John is well suited to be a distributing centre for the trade of the maritime provinces. Mr. Estabrooks recognized this fact and also the fact that exclusive attention to one branch of business ought to bring the best results. For some years past, he has devoted his whole attention to the tea trade, with the result that he occupies the very large premises already referred to, employs three travellers, has a large plant, operated by electric power, for the blending and packing of teas; and has with him in his office, Mr. W. R. Miles, who learned the tea business in London, represented a great London house here for a number of years, and is recognized as a tea expert. Both Mr. Estabrooks and Mr. Miles have a thorough knowledge of the tea trade, and of the kinds of tea most pleasing to the maritime province consumers. Mr. Estabrooks imports his teas direct from China, Ceylon and India, and it was only recently a day paper noted the fact that he had just received a shipment of 45 tons from China and Formosa. That alone would mean more than a pound of tea for every family in New Brunswick, assuming only four persons to a family. The tea blending and packing department is an important one in Mr. Estabrooks' business. That neatness and cleanliness which delight the housekeeper are observed in every part of the work and no blend is produced until a thorough test has been made, to ensure evenness of quality, so it can be truly said of any particular blend that one package is as good and of exactly the same quality as another. The most popular of Mr. Estabrooks' teas, is "Red Rose" which has an enormous sale all through the maritime provinces.

Traveller Talks.

J. H. Ireland, the Well-known Commercial Traveller Interviewed at the Queen Hotel, Halifax.

In Excellent Health and Spirits—Back No Longer Bothers Him—Speaks Highly of Dodd's Kidney Pills.

HALIFAX, N. S. JAN. 8.—When Mr. J. H. Ireland comes to Halifax he generally stops at the Queen Hotel, and there the reporter found him.

Mr. Ireland is one of the oldest travellers on the road and is known from one end of Canada to the other. "The many friends Mr. Ireland has made in his journeyings will be glad to learn that that genial gentleman is no longer troubled with his back as formerly.

"I am entirely free from all that," said Mr. Ireland to the reporter, when asked about it.

"How did you get rid of it?" asked the reporter.

"Well," said Mr. Ireland, on my trip to the Maritime Provinces last winter I was complaining everywhere of Backache and one day somebody advised me to use Dodd's Kidney Pills. It was the one medicine that struck me as a specific for the disease and I got some. The pain in my back was severe and it had been with me for some time. Well I didn't have to take one box before I was completely cured."

"It didn't take long," observed the reporter.

"The first dose seemed to go right to the spot," said Mr. Ireland. "The trouble up to date has now and I think will not return. Dodd's Kidney Pills cure to stay cured."

"Then you think Dodd's Kidney Pills will do what they are advertised to do?"

"Well, as for Bright's Disease, Diabetes, Rheumatism, Urinary and Bladder Complaints, Heart Disease, and all those other forms of Kidney Disease, for which Dodd's Kidney Pills are recommended I can't say authoritatively, not having had any personal experience. But judging from the way they cure Backache it is entirely likely they will do exactly as advertised. In my own mind there is not the least doubt of it," concluded Mr. Ireland.



For Internal and External Use
NO NARCOTIC OR DELETERIOUS DRUGS enter into the composition of Radway's Ready Relief.

It is Highly Important That Every Family Keep a Supply of Radway's Ready Relief

Always in the house. Its use will prove beneficial on all occasions of pain or sickness. There is nothing in the world that will stop pain or arrest the progress of disease as quick as the Ready Relief.

PNEUMONIA AND CROUP

"I take my pen in hand to inform you of the great cure effected by your medicines. Some time ago my husband was taken down with lung fever. It came on him with a chill in the night. It happened I had a supply of your medicine in the house at the time. I rubbed his chest and back with the Ready Relief. I gave him a teaspoonful in a little hot water to drink, to help warm and stimulate him, and in about half an hour three of the Ready's Pills. By the time the doctor came the next morning he was much better. The doctor wanted to know what I had been doing. I told him. He said that was good, that they were good medicines. Another case I had was with my little nephew who was staying with me. He was taken with croup. I rubbed his throat, chest and back with the Ready Relief, gave him doses about an hour apart, followed it by a dose of pills. By the next day he was about all right. I have been using this medicine, with my family and my neighbors, for about 90 years, and never knew it to fail, when the directions were carefully followed. I would feel greatly obliged to you to please forward me 'False and True,' one of your publications, for which I enclose stamp, for I absolutely need it at once, if you please. You are at liberty to make use of this testimony as you may think proper."

Yours respectfully,
MRS. ELIZA DUNN,
Jacksonville, Morgan Co., Illinois,
November 2, 1898.

No matter how violent or excruciating the pain, the Rheumatic, Bed-ridden, Infirm, Crippled, Nervous, Neuralgic or prostrated with disease may suffer.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF
Will Afford Instant Ease.

A CURE FOR ALL

Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Influenza, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Swelling of the Joints, Lumbago, Inflammations, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Frostbites, Chills, Headaches, Toothache, Asthma, Difficult Breathing.

A half to a teaspoonful in half a tumbler of water will in a few minutes cure Cramps, Spasms, Sour Stomach, Heartburn, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Sick Headache, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Colic, Flatulency and all internal pains.

There is not a remedial agent in the world that will cure Fever and Ague and all other Malarious, Bilious and other fevers, aided by Radway's Pills, so quickly as Radway's Ready Relief.

50 cents per bottle. Sold by druggists.

Dr. Radway & Co.,
55 Elm Street, New York.

Cowan's
Royal Navy Chocolate and Hygienic Cocoa
are always the favorites in the homes
The COWAN CO. TORONTO

BOOK AGENTS WANTED FOR the grandest and fastest-selling book ever published,
Pulpit Echoes

OR LIVING TRUTHS FOR HEAD AND HEART. Containing Mr. MOODY'S best sermons, with 500 Thrilling Stories, Incidents, Personal Experiences, etc., as told
By **D. L. Moody**

Annals. With a complete history of his life by Rev. CHAR. F. GOSB, Pastor of Mr. Moody's Chicago Church for five years, and an introduction by Rev. LYMAN ABBOTT, D. D. Bound new, 604 pp., beautifully illustrated. \$7.1. 000 more AGENTS WANTED—Men and Women. 50¢ Sale Immense—a harvest time for agents. Send for terms to A. B. WORTHINGTON & Co., Hartford, Conn.

Crispness, Variety, Brightness, Symmetry, Thoroughness, Up-to-Dateness.

These are some of the features which characterize our courses of study and qualify our students for their successes. Send for our Business and Short-hand Catalogues.

S. KERR & SON,
Oddfellows' Hall.

Largest Foundry on Earth making
CHURCH BELLS & CHIMES & PEALS
Purest copper and tin only. Terms, etc., from MORGAN BELL FOUNDRY, Baltimore, Md.

From the Churches.

Denominational Funds.

Fifteen thousand dollars wanted from the churches of Nova Scotia during the present Convention year. All contributions, whether for division according to the scale, or for any one of the seven objects, should be sent to A. Cohoon, Treasurer, Wolfville, N. S. Envelopes for gathering these funds can be obtained free on application to A. Cohoon, Wolfville, N. S.

CENTREVILLE, CARLETON CO.—Centre-ville Baptist church and Knoxford, Good Settlement and Bloomfield churches have engaged the services of Rev. E. P. Calder for the ensuing year.

MARYSVILLE, N. B.—Under the management of Bro. C. A. Smith and his staff of efficient teachers our Sunday School is in a most flourishing condition. The concert and Christmas tree on the evening of Dec. 25th were all that could be desired. A crowded house listened attentively to the well rendered programme. The presents were gratefully received, especially the gold watch and chain by the pastor from the members of his church and congregation. H. B. SLOAT.

PENBOSQUIS, N. B.—We had a great day at Penbosquis last Sunday. The following persons put on Christ by baptism: Miss Jessie McLeod, Miss Florence Morton, Mr. Willard Graves, Mrs. Willard Graves, Mr. Richard Gross, Miss Ella Goddard, Mr. Herbert Morley, Mrs. Joel Gross united by letter, making an addition of eight valuable members. The outlook of this church (which is known in the Year Book as the Cardwell church) is very encouraging. The people of this field are kind and generous and our labors with them have been very pleasant.

Sussex, N. B., Jan. 3rd. W. CAMP.

NEW CANADA, N. S.—Quite a large number of friends met at the Baptist parsonage on the evening of Dec. 27th and spent a pleasant evening, and on leaving left their pastor and his family quite well supplied with potatoes, turnips, carrots, meat, butter, apples and other articles, \$18.62 in value, besides \$4.05 in cash, total \$22.67. May these dear people feel that it is more blessed to give than to receive. But we felt that it was blessed to receive. Yours in the work, JAS. A. PORTER.

LOWER EAST JEDDOR, N. S.—Kindly allow me through the MESSENGER AND VISITOR to correct a grave error made by Rev. C. S. Stearns in your last issue. He calls the church clerk to account with reference to the church roll. He said there were 168 names on the roll and only 94 reported. Now this is untrue, because the list on the church book is 173, and again if he had seen the list of diminutions he never would have made the blunder he has made. There was no report from this church this year, 1899, and I suppose that is the reason why Bro. Stearns takes the clerk to ad about it, because he did not see the two added on the report that he baptized. The present resident membership would have been 93 if the report had been sent this spring, but as it stands now the number is 91.

ENOS BAKER, Church Clerk.

LITTLE RIVER.—It has been my privilege to spend two Sundays with the church in this place preaching to large and attentive audiences. As I have been going about among the people for the past week I find wherever I go words of commendation for the former pastor, Rev. R. Barry Smith. Although Bro. Smith did not have the privilege of seeing large numbers added to the church, I believe he did a grand work for the church and community during the year that he was here, and he leaves a great many warm friends in the community. There are only a few Baptists here but they are struggling on under great difficulties, and they ask the readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR to pray for them that God's blessing may rest upon them in their efforts to sustain the cause and hold up Baptist principles.

C. N. SABLES.

FIRST HILLSBOROUGH.—We record gratefully that within the past month a debt of \$200, which remained on our parsonage, has been wiped out. Also that a very important addition has been made to the parsonage in the shape of a fine new furnace, which has greatly increased the comfort of the pastor and his family. This latter undertaking was due to the kind thoughtfulness of our sisters, who initiated it and collected all the funds necessary. So generous were the responses that after paying for the furnace (costing \$90) quite a balance was left in hand. To all who contributed to this noble result we are

deeply grateful. Above all we thank God and take courage. We have received many kind remembrances during the Christmas season, which has rendered it a specially pleasant one to us.

C. W. TOWNSEND.

HOPKINTON, N. Y.—We have completed eight months of our second pastorate of the First Baptist church in this town. The work has been very pleasant, and prosperity in all the departments of the church has cheered and encouraged us. The Bible school has doubled in membership, congregations have increased, the ordinance of baptism has been administered, and we hope that others may soon follow in this blessed rite. We were placed on the sunny side by many valuable Christmas gifts from our friends in the parish, one of which was \$65 in greenbacks. Ours was verily "a green Christmas." But these acts of kindness are not new to the people of our charge. They are characteristic of them. Among the multitudinous favors bestowed upon their pastor may be mentioned the payment of quite a sum of money to secure for him access to the Boston General Theological Library. A church can greatly aid its pastor, as this one has done, by placing within his reach a good library. We welcome the weekly visits of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, and rejoice when it brings tidings of Zion's prosperity in the Maritimes.

J. W. TINGLEY.

TYNE VALLEY, P. E. I.—I have entered on my second year's work on this field. I am sorry I have little to report, yet little as it is we have much to thank our dear Father for. In Tyne Valley there is nothing new to report, we might just say "All's well." In Enmore river we have very fine meetings; the members, though few, are a godly, earnest little band and take great interest in the work of the Lord. Mrs. Clark, of Cavendish, started a W. M. A. S. there about ten weeks ago. It is doing well and more are being added to the roll. We thank God for Enmore, it is a bright little spot on this field. Poplar Grove, another of our out stations, has greatly improved during the past year; the people take more interest in the work and the outlook is cheerful for the future. Lot 10 is in better working order than it has been for a very long time. The Sunday School we organized in July is well attended, and a growing interest is taken in the work. Many who were silent when we came, take an active part in the prayer meetings and in many other ways help the work along. We thank God for these blessings, yet pray for greater things.

FRANK P. DRESSER.

NEWCASTLE BRIDGE, QUEBENS CO., N. B.—We are still holding the fort at both Upper and Lower Newcastle. Our Sunday preaching services are better attended than we could expect considering our being foreigners. Our Tuesday evenings at Upper and Thursday evening at Lower Newcastle we generally have an audience of from thirty to fifty, mostly young people. This for a country place is not a small audience for mid-week meeting. May God bless our young people, and God, our heavenly Father, shall have all the glory. Last Tuesday evening, Dec. 26th, as the pastor and family were sitting quietly meditating upon all the blessings which God had sent to us during the past year and wondering what would come during the new, all at once bells were heard sounding their Merry Christmas in almost every direction. Looking out of the window we found the house perfectly surrounded. Mrs. Gross was looking very pale when she turned to me with a look of surprise, asking, "What is it?" Evidently she was thinking of the Boers. But it proved to be only friends and good friends at that, because after taking possession of the house for a few hours they presented the pastor with a purse containing \$21.50 and left provisions to the amount of about \$30, making the pastor a donation of about \$50 in all. May God bless the Lower Newcastle church who so kindly thought of their pastor.

N. P. GROSS.

TABERNACLE CHURCH, ST. JOHN.—Sunday, Jan. 7th, was a great day in our history as a church. In the morning three happy believers were baptized in the likeness of Christ's death and resurrection. In the evening the right hand of fellowship was extended to the 58 new members, who have united with us during the last ten weeks of meetings. 24 of these are men,

who will be a great source of strength to us. Since the services began we have baptized Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Methodists, Plymouth Brethren, and Free Baptists. About one-half of the number received into the church have come from Pedobaptist families. 22 heads of families have united with us. Fully 130 people have expressed a desire to lead a new life in response to the invitations that have been nightly given out. We are still continuing our special meetings, and are looking for many more to accept Christ as their Saviour. Perhaps it would not be out of place for the pastor to express in these columns, his appreciation of the many acts of kindness he has recently received from the members of his church and congregation. On Dec. 24th, Deacon Patterson, on behalf of the church, presented the pastor with an address and a sum of \$32. On Jan. 7th, the church and congregation presented him with a combination desk and book-case. It is a beautiful piece of furniture standing ten feet high. The desk is filled with drawers and pigeon-holes for papers. The loving spirit which actuated these gifts fills our hearts with gratitude to God, for permitting us to labor with such a true and loyal people.

PERRY J. STACKHOUSE.

Acadia's Forward Movement List.

Chas Rogers, \$2.50; Lenfest Buggles, \$2.50; J. F. Reagh, \$1; J. A. Clendenning, \$5; Mrs Chas R. Grant, \$5; Rev W. N. Hutchins, \$5; Mrs Jas Percy, \$1; David DeLong and wife, \$3; John L. Churchill, \$10; Whitman Giffin, \$10; Hugh McMillan, \$5; Robt C. McMillan, \$5; Spencer H. Giffin, \$5; John H. Giffin, \$5; Freeman McMillan, \$3; Mrs Ashley McMillan, \$2.50; F. R. Bezanon, \$3; Geo Giffin, \$1.25; Levi S. Jones, \$1; Jas Giffin, 50c; Chas G. Giffin, \$2.50; C. H. Hankerson, \$10; H. S. Charlton, \$2.50; I. J. Whitman, \$2.50; B. E. Black, \$2; F. A. Sweet, \$25; W. H. Giffin, \$5; Mrs Debra Clark, \$1; Miss Plo MacKintosh, \$2; Enos Millard, \$2.50; Thos Annis, \$2.50; W. F. West, \$2.50; Rev H. S. Shaw, \$5; S. C. West, \$2; Solomon Fader, \$1; Isaac Cannuing, \$4; W. J. Gillespie, \$2.50; J. T. Horseman, \$5; A. G. Goudey, \$1; Jas M. Finnigan, \$1; A. F. Haines, \$2; Annie McDonald, \$1; T. W. Colpitts, \$8; J. D. Manu-l, \$2.50; Jos S. Longley, \$10; Rev A. H. Hayward and wife, \$10; D. N. Esty, \$5; Alveretta H. Estabrook, \$2.50; Isaac North, \$5; H. E. Haley, \$15; Mrs Alfred Everett, \$1; L. J. Walker estate, \$50; Wallace Baird, \$2; Clifford Baird, \$1; E. C. Simonson, \$10; John A. Baxter, \$2.50; John MacKinnon, \$10; Jas Martin, \$1; Geo W. Brown, \$2; S. Spurr, \$6.25; Rev H. N. Parry, \$5; Capt J. Beagh, 50c; Edward Mosher, \$1; Caleb Phinney estate, \$4; John W. Clark, \$2; Jacob Beagh, \$1; Edward Thorne, \$4; Chas Moody, \$2; Daniel Fales, \$6.25; F. Wayland Porter, \$10; Chas B. Seaman, \$1.50; Miss R. E. Bradshaw, \$4; Miss Cora B. Elliott, \$1; W. E. Saunders, \$1; Wm Corning, \$5; Layton McCabe, \$5; Rev E. A. Allaby, \$10; Miss Fannie Corning, \$1; Geo H. Durland, \$1; Jacob Crosby, \$1; Lemuel Goudy, \$5; Mrs Geo M. Goudy, \$1; W. S. Porter, \$1; Mrs J. E. Barteaux, \$5; Mrs E. C. Cann, \$1; Second Chipman Church, \$10; Ezra Keith, \$5; Jas E. Howatt, \$2.50; C. W. Crosby, \$2.50; Rev T. A. Blackadar, \$5; Sam'l Minard, \$1; Robt Atkins, \$1; Chas Allison, \$2; Capt J. B.

ROYAL Baking Powder
Made from pure cream of tartar.
Safeguards the food against alum.
Alum baking powders are the greatest menaces to health of the present day.
ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

Tingley, \$50; I. B. Oakes, \$62.50; Belle and Grace Patricuin, \$2; J. L. Martin, \$5; "Two friends," \$250; Norman Longley, \$5; W. T. Harris & Son, \$12.50; J. Hunt (Mabou), \$10. In last issue for H. T. Rose, read H. T. Ross, for Enoch Giffin read E. Griffin. Last month did not reach our hopes by \$1000. Almost is but to fail. Will not every friend of Acadia help and help quickly. Let us see by the issue of the 17th inst. how many friends Acadia has.
93 North St., Halifax. WM. E. HALL.

National Baptist Convention.
The First National Baptist Convention will be held in Winnipeg, July 5th to 13th, 1900. The Baptist Young People's Societies of Canada will have one day on the programme for their national meeting. Address all communications as to transportation, rates, etc., to Henry E. Sharpe, Esq., Winnipeg, and other communications to Rev. Charles A. Eaton, 34 Roxborough St. W., Toronto.

CANCER And Tumors cured, at home; no knife, plaster or pain. For Canadian testimonials & 130-page book—free, write Dept. 12, MASON MEDICINE Co., 377 Sherbourne Street, Toronto Ontario.

Our Clean Chiselled Way
of doing business has won us many friends. A fair price to all, and that as low as high grade goods and fine work will permit.
Today we direct attention to a Black Worsted Cutaway Suit. A model of the tailor's art. The price, \$22.50.
A. GILMOUR,
68 King Street,
St. John, N. B.
Custom Tailoring.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RY. EXCURSION RATES.
Christmas and New Year's Holidays.
ONE WAY FIRST-CLASS FARE FOR THE ROUND TRIP between all Stations on the Atlantic Division and from Atlantic Division Stations to points in Canada, Port Arthur and east.
GENERAL PUBLIC.—Tickets on sale Dec. 21st to Jan. 1st, inclusive, good to return till Jan. 4th, 1900.
SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES.—Tickets on sale on presentation of school certificates Dec. 9th to 31st, inclusive, good to return till Jan. 31st, 1900.
COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS.—Tickets on sale to points in Canada on presentation of certificate, Dec. 15th to 20th, inclusive, good to return till Jan. 4th, 1900.
Above arrangements also apply from all Stations on the Intercolonial and Dominion Atlantic Railways to Canadian Pacific Railway Stations named above.
TO BOSTON, MASS.—First-class unlimited one-way fare for the round trip from St. John, Fredericton, St. Stephen, St. Andrews and intermediate Stations. Tickets on sale Dec. 20th to 30th, inclusive, good to return thirty days from date of issue.
For any further information as to rates, train service, etc., or to reserve berths on the Popular Short Line Express to Montreal or All Rail Line to Boston, write D. P. A., St. John, N. B.
Passengers will note that the Canadian Pacific has Dining Cars on day express between Montreal and Toronto, as well as on Short Line, Truro to Brownville.
A. J. HEATH,
D. P. A., St. John, N. B.

The D. & L. EMULSION
The D. & L. EMULSION
Is the best and most palatable preparation of Cod Liver Oil, agreeing with the most delicate stomachs.
The D. & L. EMULSION
Is prescribed by the leading physicians of Canada.
The D. & L. EMULSION
Is a marvellous flesh producer and will give you an appetite. 50c. & \$1 per Bottle.
Be sure you get DAVIS & LAWRENCE the genuine CO., Limited, Montreal.
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Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is or is not patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Handbook on Patents sent free. (Does not apply for securing patents.) Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the **Scientific American.**
A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year; four months, \$1. Sold by all newsdealers.
MUNN & Co., 361 Broadway, New York
Branch Office, 25 F St., Washington, D. C.

MARRIAGES.

WILLETT-WILLETT.—At the Homestead, Granville Ferry, on Dec. 27th, by Rev. Isaiah Wallace, A. M., Lawrence C. Willett, Esq., and Mrs. Mary E. Willett, both of Granville Ferry, N. S.

McDONALD-MURRAY.—In the Baptist church, Shelburne, Dec. 28th, by Rev. Joseph Murray, M. A., George T. McDonald, druggist, and Josie Eloise, youngest daughter of the pastor.

POWER-PALMER.—At the home of the bride's parents, Welsford, on Saturday Dec. 23rd, by Rev. D. H. Simpson, B. D., assisted by Rev. E. O. Read, Rufus Power and Ella M. Palmer, both of Welsford.

PATTERSON-WELTON.—At the Baptist parsonage, Berwick, Nov. 22nd, by Rev. D. H. Simpson, B. D., Stanley H. Patterson and Blanche E. Welton, both of Aylesford.

McPHAIL-McQUARRIE.—At Charlottetown, P. E. I., on Dec. 27th, by Rev. G. P. Raymond, James G. McPhail of Appian Road, Lot 30, to Mary Alice McQuarrie of Elmwood, Lot 61.

LOUDEN-CORNEY.—At Charlottetown, P. E. I., on Dec. 27th, by Rev. G. P. Raymond, James Henry Loudon to Mary Ann Corney, both of Charlottetown.

WILLIAMS-HUNT.—On Dec. 25th at the residence of the bride's mother, Mrs. Ethel Hunt, by the pastor, Robert Reed Williams, formerly of Kershaw, South Carolina, was united in marriage to Ina E. Hunt of this place.

DEDRICK-FREEMAN.—At the residence of the bride's parents, Nov. 30th, by Rev. Frank E. Bishop, Kenneth Dedrick and Abbie D., youngest daughter of Enoch Freeman, Esq., all of Greenfield, Queens Co., N. S.

KEIRSTEAD-BANKS.—At the home of the bride's parents, North Williamston, Dec. 20th, by pastor J. W. Brown, Arthur R. Keirstead, of Albert, Albert Co., N. B., and Matilda A. Banks of North Williamston, Annapolis Co., N. S.

SHAW-PIKE.—On Thursday, Nov. 16th, at St. George's church, Basseterre, St. Kitts, by the Rev. W. Evered, assisted by the Rev. A. W. Watt, Carl Addison Shaw of Berwick, N. S., to Elsie Pike of Burford, Salisbury, England.

BRIGGS-ORCHARD.—At Chipman Station, N. B., on 26th ult., by Rev. W. E. McIntyre, Herbert O. Briggs to Dora A. Orchard, both of Chipman.

HENDERSON-BROWN.—At Chipman Station, N. B., on 27th ult., by Rev. W. E. McIntyre, James W. Henderson, of Chipman, to Matilda J. Brown of Harcourt, Kent Co.

CARTER-HOLMES.—At Parrsboro, Dec. 20th, by Rev. D. H. MacQuarrie, Edwin O. Carter, of Maccan, N. S., and Martha Holmes of Parrsboro, N. S.

PARSONS-YORKE.—At Diligent River, Dec. 25th, by Rev. D. H. MacQuarrie, Wilbert Parsons and Helen Yorke, both of Diligent River, Cumberland Co., N. B.

DEATHS.

HARDING.—At the home of her son, Mr. William Harding, Port Hillford, Dec. 24th, Mrs. Harding, relict of the late Richard Harding, in the 82nd year of her age. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

DUNPHY.—At his son's residence, Mouth of Keswick, Dec. 26th, George Dunphy, in the 95th year of his age. Bro. Dunphy enjoyed remarkable good health up to a few days of his departure. His funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. George Howard. He died in the triumph of faith.

BISHOP.—In Arizona, Dec. 23rd, and interred at Harvey, Jan. 4th, Norman Bishop, aged 27 years. Our brother had resided in Boston for several years. Some two years ago his health failed him, since then he has been travelling in quest of health. His peace was made with God when 10 years of age, and he always adored his profession.

WHITE.—At Limestone, Me., on the 20th Dec., Rebecca, beloved wife of Frank

White, M. D., and second daughter of the late Thomas Hendry, of Wickham, Queens Co., aged 22 years. She was a member of Lower Wickham Baptist church. Her body was brought to her old home, where kindred and friends, with love and hope, committed it to the tomb, to await "the bright immortal morning."

STAPLES.—At Belmont, on Dec. the 27th, at her residence, Mrs. Mary, beloved wife of Deacon James W. Staples, aged 40 years. Our sister was a member of the Onslow Baptist church, and only one week before her death she contracted a severe cold which settled on her lungs and proved fatal. She leaves a sorrowing husband, three children, and a number of friends to mourn their loss.

RINDRESS.—At Wallace River, Dec. 13th, aged 49 years, Elizabeth, beloved wife of Wm. A. Rindress, and daughter of the late Charles and Elizabeth Onderkirk. Our sister became a Christian early in life and united with the Baptist church, of which she remained a most active and worthy member until called to her reward. The church has sustained a great loss by the removal of this sister, who was always ready to put her heart and hand to every good work. The Sunday school will miss her tender teaching, the conference and prayer meeting will miss her loving words of testimony. A husband and three children are left to mourn their irreparable loss. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

LEMON.—A memorial sermon was preached in the New Canada Baptist church on Sunday, Dec. 17th, for Bro. Caleb Lemon's wife and three children. Mrs. C. Lemon died Sept. 17th, aged 30 years. Reuben C. Lemon died Sept. 19th, aged 5 years. Jennie A. Lemon died Sept. 11th, aged 3 years, and a young child died Sept. 24th. All died of diphtheria severe throat. Mrs. C. Lemon was baptized by Rev. Mr. Raymond in 1892 and united with the New Canada Baptist church, Lunenburg Co., N. S. A husband and two small children are left to mourn their loss. Bro. Lemon is a member of New Canada Baptist church. Bro. Lemon has the sympathy of a large number of friends.

LOCKE.—At his home at Port Clyde, Dec. 24th, John W. Locke, aged 54 years. Bro. Locke suffered from disease of the stomach all summer, in November his doctor advised him to go to the hospital at Halifax. Soon it was discovered that his case was incurable. He returned home on Wednesday, Dec. 20th and on the 24th his spirit took its flight to the better land. Bro. Locke professed faith in Christ when a young man, united with the Sand Point and Jordan Bay Baptist church, 17 years ago he settled at Port Clyde and at the organization of the Baptist church in Clyde he became one of the constituent members. His life was godly, his walk was with Christ, his end was peace. He leaves a widow and an adopted daughter to mourn their loss. May the Lord bless and sustain them. [Shelburne papers please copy.]

SANDFORD.—At Woodside, Kings Co., N. S., Oct. 31st, aged 91 years, Mrs. Caroline Sandford, relict of the late Benjamin Sandford. Her illness was only a few days' duration, and God took his servant home. In many respects she was a remarkable woman, possessing great strength of character, and throughout her whole life retained her faculties almost unimpaired, her memory was a store-house of the events and incidents of nearly a century's course. She was the last of a large family of sisters who had preceded her to the spirit land, all of them had reached extreme old age. She had always been a Baptist in sentiment, but was far advanced in life when she united with the 5th Baptist church of Cornwallis, during the pastorate of the Rev. David Freeman about 30 years ago. She was well acquainted with the early fathers of the Denomination, especially Father Manning. Her end was peace. May her stalwart faith be the heritage of her sorrowing children.

O'HARA.—On Sept. 24th, after a lingering illness, borne with Christian fortitude, Dea. Edward O'Hara, of New Harbor, Guysboro Co., N. S., in the 87th year of

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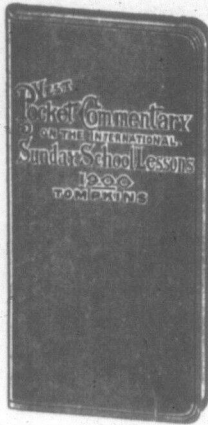
his age. Brother O'Hara has filled the office of deacon in the New Harbor church from the date of its organization, in April 24th, 1862, he being baptized and ordained a deacon on the day of organization. His life has been a consistent one throughout. Up to the time of his last illness he was always found in his place in the house of God, and at all the services he always gave a clear testimony for God. The Bible was his constant companion, and very much of the Sacred Word was hidden in his heart. During his last illness he would repeat passage after passage to those who came to see him, thus showing that even in the presence of the messenger of death he was able to trust and not be afraid. He left a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn their loss. His end was peace.

THORNE.—On Dec. 13th, at the residence of his son, A. R. Thorne, Dea. James Thorne, age 87 years. Bro. Thorne was baptized by Rev. James Bleakney, and is the last one of the old Board of Deacons of the Butternut Ridge Baptist church, also one of the oldest settlers of the place. For many years he filled the office of deacon. He was constantly at his post, until he was unable to attend to the duties of his office on account of age and infirmities. He then requested the church to appoint Bro. Richard Mullin to fill the duties of his office. When the church unanimously elected him honorary deacon, and as he requested, elected Bro. Mullin deacon. Since then he has almost constantly been confined to his house. With the kind care of his son and family, he enjoyed life as well as it was possible for a person to. The writer had the pleasure of visiting him several times, and he seemed always contented, and patiently waiting for the time to come when his Master would call him home. The time came, on the 14th his many friends laid him away to rest. He was highly respected by all. He leaves five sons, and three daughters, and many friends to mourn their loss. Funeral service was conducted by Rev. Frederick T. Snell.

WIGGINS.—Rev. H. N. Wiggins, form-

erly of Queens Co., N. B., died of consumption, Dec. 23rd, in the 32nd year of his age. Bro. Wiggins was born at Waterboro, N. B., Feb. 17th, 1868. He was born again April 11th, 1887, and was baptized by Rev. M. P. King, April 24th, 1887, and united with the Wiggins Cove Baptist church. He was elected Deacon of that church and Superintendent of the Sunday School. Mr. Wiggins was a young man of more than ordinary talents and soon began to lead prayer meetings and exhort with much acceptance. It was not long before he felt called of God to preach the gospel. He resisted the call for a time but finally had to yield. He was licensed to preach in June, 1892, and after that he spent some months in missionary work in N. B. In May, 1893, he accepted a call to the Baptist church in Stratham, N. H., and was ordained there October 24th of the same year. He labored with that church three and one half years, and added a number by baptism. He then accepted a call to the Baptist churches of Greenville and New Ipswich, N. H., where he did excellent work, but had to resign in September on account of ill health. He went to California thinking the climate there would be beneficial to him, but after a few weeks, finding that his health was rapidly failing, he left for home and got as far as North Carolina, where he died. His body was brought to Greenville, N. H., where it was laid to rest until the morning of the Resurrection. The funeral sermon was preached by Pastor J. W. Higgins from 2 Timothy 4: 7 to a large congregation of all denominations, including six ministers who came to pay the last tribute of love to this honored servant of God. In 1894 Bro. Wiggins was elected clerk and treasurer of the Portsmouth Baptist Association, which office he filled with credit. He was appointed to preach the Milford Association sermon last year, which he did before that body in September. It was one of his last sermons. "Servant of God well done." He leaves a sorrowing wife and two children, a mother, four sisters and two brothers to mourn their loss.

Advertisement for Walter Baker & Co.'s Breakfast Cocoa. Includes an illustration of a woman in a long dress holding a tray with a cup and saucer. Text: "A PERFECT FOOD—as Wholesome as it is Delicious." "The firm of Walter Baker & Co. Ltd., of Dorchester, Mass., put up one of the few really pure cocoas, and physicians are quite safe in specifying their brand." "Dominion Medical Monthly." "A copy of Miss Parloa's 'Choice Receipts' will be mailed free upon application." WALTER BAKER & CO. Ltd. ESTABLISHED 1780. Branch House, 6 Hospital St., Montreal.



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News Summary

For the first time in many years the Mississippi river is frozen over at St Louis.

Milloecker, the composer, who had been suffering from a paralytic stroke, died at Vienna on Sunday.

The bank clearings for Montreal reached a total of \$794,000,000 last year, compared with \$732,000,000 for the year before.

The boy Clayton, belonging to Doaktown, whose feet were amputated at the Frederickton Hospital because they were frozen, died on Tuesday.

Aguinaldo's wife, sisters and eighteen Filipinos have surrendered to Major March's battalion of the 3rd Infantry at Bontoc, province of that name.

Rev. Robert Codman, jr., rector of St. John's church, Boston, on Sunday announced his acceptance of the election to the Bishopric of the Maine Diocese.

Reports from Achalkalek, in the government of Tiflis, Russia, show that six hundred lives were lost during the earthquake which visited that district on Monday.

British Steamer Borgese, of Glasgow, foundered off Cape Finisterre last Friday during a hurricane. Twenty-one of the crew were drowned. The survivors, nine in number, have arrived at Bristol.

The Boston Board of Police has ordered the discharge of Patrolman Leon M. Harris, of the Mounted Squad, on the charge of deliberately clubbing a spectator during the Dewey parade last October.

The Conservatives have decided not to nominate a candidate to contest the by-election in Winnipeg, but to wait for the general elections. D. Martin, Independent Liberal, and A. Puttee, Labor candidate, will probably be the only candidates in the field.

Mrs. Louisa Lawson, editor of the Australian women's paper, the Sydney Dawn, has invented a patent mail bag fastener, which has been adopted in the New South Wales postal and telegraph service, and has given great satisfaction.

The Globe's St. Martins correspondent says: One of the oldest horses in the province died here a few weeks ago while "in the harness." He was thirty years old and owned by Mr. James Rourke. Senile decay was the cause of death.

On Tuesday morning in the Deering district, Portland, Maine, the Longfellow House was burned. This house was built by Alexander Longfellow, a brother of the poet, in the early years of the century, and the poet often spent his summers there. Of late it had passed out of the ownership of the family.

King Humbert on Sunday proclaimed amnesty for all persons convicted of or charged with crimes against the public security and the freedom of labor as well as political press offences. This implies a pardon for those punished for participation in the riots that startled Italy during the early part of the year.

Mayor Payment was elected to the chief magistracy of Ottawa on Monday for a second term, defeating his opponent, Ald. Campbell, by 302 votes. E. A. MacDonald the Georgian Bay canal promoter, was elected mayor of Toronto by a plurality of 2,643 over E. F. Clarke, M. P., and 6,593 over Ald. Hallam. This was the fourth time that Mr. MacDonald sought the office.

A Kimberley despatch to the Herald, dated Dec. 29, says that pains are being taken by the Boers to conceal their losses in the recent battles; that Boshof is full of wounded men, and that at Jacobsdorp there are at least two hundred and fifty. There is a field hospital containing another hundred attached to the camp at Olifantsdam.

Emperor William of Germany in addressing the officers of the garrison at Berlin on New Year's day announced his intention to "unflinchingly carry on and carry through the work of reorganizing my navy, in order that it may be justified in standing by the side of my land-forces, and that by it the German Empire may also be in a position to win the place which it has not yet attained."

An explosion of gas in Kinkead hotel, at Fairmount, W. Va., Sunday, caused a destructive fire and probably the loss of four lives. An unknown man leaped from the fourth story window of the hotel when the fire was at its height and received probably fatal injuries. Besides the hotel the armory building, containing a gatling gun, Springfield rifles, with 5,000 loads of ammunition, tents, uniforms and other equipment belonging to the West Virginia National Guard was destroyed or ruined. Loss \$50,000.

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January

If the farmer should have some success with the sheep he need not handle and keep should have some have new feed if there is danger that they can't fields during the farm for nearly send to market eighty hogs each duct of five or year. But when the number double the profit had trouble. the market worth considering

The second year off 125 we got land under the when disease came to divide them a ing or pasture results of such greater than to been able to cut put them on fresh ately go back to that we had the ling. Instead of six or seven, and other arrangements we kept five. V the greater number and spent more ducts, but this work very much clover and grass sible to convert and believe it i nature's way an to the health of Jamison, in Farm

Winter F

Often injury to feeding animals The sheep can keeping itself v healthy so long amount and of th It needs plentiful make the fleece these are given in to be trouble with to the manufacturer that average wo look into. Quite over a fleece there running through distance from the hard and dry, whi be moist and rat ought to be. So further growth. B temporary and qu there will be fine t through the harsh into good wool at no less than wh entirely arrested where the wool is The most import give a due propor green food, so as t at all times, but w Old meadow hay is unless clover is giv are better than tim of the coarser part silage is better still should always be g it from causing should be of the b that has come to t it will not be sour. should be given as as they are very dai mussy mess is left o eat from the same d Sheep have a natu and tender twigs o them quite greedily bitter as well as the

The Farm.

Success with Hogs.

If the farmer enjoys the presence of swine on the farm and takes pleasure in seeing them well fed he will generally succeed with them. Then the only question he need consider is how many he can handle and keep them healthy. No farmer should have so many hogs that he cannot have new feeding grounds to put them on if there is danger from disease, or so many that they cannot be shifted to different fields during the year. On eighty-six acre farm for nearly ten years we were able to send to market in two lots from seventy to eighty hogs each year. This was the product of five sows having two litters each year. But when we undertook to double the number of brood sows and nearly double the product of fattened animals we had trouble. The first year we put on the market over ninety, with no loss worth considering.

The second year when we wanted to put off 125 we got all our available pasture land under the tramp of the hogs, and when disease came we had no opportunity to divide them and put them on new feeding or pasture land. The consequent results of such conditions were doubtless greater than they would have been had we been able to cut the herd to pieces and put them on fresh land. We shall immediately go back to about the same number that we had the greatest success in handling. Instead of five sows we will keep six or seven, as we have better shedding and other arrangements than we had when we kept five. We could doubtless carry the greater number if we had more lots and spent more time feeding grain products, but this would increase the cost of pork very much over that made from clover and grass. We aim so far as possible to convert these products into pork and believe it is more in the line of nature's way and certainly is conducive to the health of the swine.—(John M. Jamison, in Farmer's Advocate.)

Winter Feeding of Sheep.

Often injury to wool is done by over-feeding animals that are being fattened. The sheep can digest even poor feed, keeping itself vigorous and its fleece healthy so long as it gets sufficient in amount and of the proper nutritive value. It needs plentiful supplies of proteids to make the fleece grow properly. Unless these are given in some form there is sure to be trouble with the fleece when it comes to the manufacturer. Yet this is a matter that average wool buyers very seldom look into. Quite frequently, in looking over a fleece there will be found a streak running through it at about the same distance from the surface that will show hard and dry, while beneath the wool will be moist and rather oily, as good wool ought to be. Sometimes this will stop further growth. But if the check was only temporary and quickly recovered from, there will be fine threads of wool growing through the harsh portion and branching into good wool at the surface. But this no less than where the wool growth is entirely arrested makes a weak place where the wool is to be woven.

The most important part in feeding is to give a due proportion even in winter of green food, so as to keep the bowels open at all times, but without producing scours. Old meadow hay is not fit food for sheep, unless clover is given with it. Corn stalks are better than timothy hay, though much of the coarser part will be wasted. Ensilage is better still, though some dry feed should always be given with it to prevent it from causing scours. The ensilage should be of the best quality, from corn that has come to the earing stage. Then it will not be sour. Only as much ensilage should be given as the sheep will eat clean as they are very dainty, and whenever any mussy mess is left over they will refuse to eat from the same dish afterward.

Sheep have a natural liking for the buds and tender twigs of trees, and will eat them quite greedily, taking those that are bitter as well as the sweet. We think it a

good plan to cut browse for them occasionally during the winter and let them eat what they will. It at least increases the variety of their food, and the tender twigs being rich in potash help to furnish this important element in all good wool. There is considerable potash in clover hay as well as nitrogen, which also abounds in wool, as is shown, by the difficulty found in burning it. A small feed of clover should be given daily where cornstalks and grain straw are the main diet. If the clover hay cannot be had, cut the grain straw, and after moistening it with hot water put on a little grain meal, to which may be added a tablespoonful per day of linseed meal. This will do more than any thing else to secure a healthy growth of wool of the best quality.—(American Cultivator.)

Edam Cheese.

Hollanders have long been known as careful cheese makers, and Edam cheese is a Holland speciality. The northern part of the little country is the seat of the Edam cheese industry, and great cleanliness and care are exercised in the making. The cheese is made from fresh cow's milk. As soon as curdled by the rennet the whey is drawn off and the curd kneaded and pressed into the ball-like moulds until quite dry. The ball is then wrapped in a linen cloth and kept for ten days or two weeks until quite solid, when the cloth is removed and the cheese put into salt lye.

It is next put into a vessel and washed with whey and scraped to remove the white crust of salt. It is then carried into a cool room and laid on shelves, where it is turned regularly. Ripening Edam cheese takes from two to three months, the round balls assuming their fine yellow or reddish color. Those cheeses intended for export to this country are often more highly colored by vegetable dyes.—(Ohio Farmer.)

Protecting Young Fruit Trees.

Much protection against mice and borers can be given young fruit trees by wrapping the lower part of the trunk with tarred paper, if this is done in the following fashion, suggested by New England Homestead: Dig away the earth about the tree so the paper can be put down below the surface. Then fold the paper about the trunk, making the edges join as do the edges of a stovepipe. This prevents the entrance of insects to lay eggs under the bark. When the paper is in place, put back the earth about it and tie the top of the paper closely to the tree.

The Way to Excuse.

A little brown-eyed maid, no taller than the dinner-table, came to her mother with her apron wet down the front.

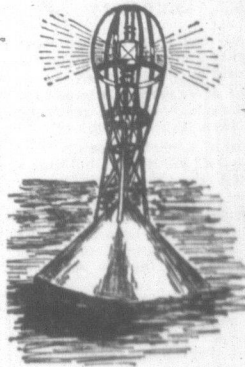
"Agnes! Agnes!" exclaimed the vexed mother, "you have been to the water-cooler again, when I told you not to go. I shall be obliged to punish you this time."

"No, mudder," said the trembling little voice, "you'll have to 'scuse me this time, 'cause Lila was so sirsty she cried for a drink, and nobody was there to give it to her but me."

"Well, daughter, as it was for Lila's sake you did it, I will excuse you this time, but you must not turn the spigot again, no matter who cries. Will you remember?"

The little one promised, her face all sunshine again, and the mother took her off for a dry apron. But that was only a small part of the mischief, and in the worry and fatigue of mopping up the water that had run over the pantry floor and collected dangerously near the flour barrel, the mother's temper gave way. "I declare, Agnes!" she said, "you are too much bother for anything! Why can't you learn to let things alone?"

Hearing no sound she looked up, and she will not soon forget the look of disappointment on the little face. "Why, mudder," said the baby, "I thought you said you would 'scuse me. I don't call this 'scusing me!"—The Evangelist.



A Danger Signal.

Just as the lightbuoy is a signal of danger to sailors, and the red light to railway men, so has nature equipped individuals with danger signals of one kind or another when their physical condition is not quite right. It may simply be a tired feeling, a slight cold, weakness of the muscles, fickle appetite or some other sign—slight at first—which indicates that your condition is not a healthy one. If the danger signal is not heeded, serious results will follow and a complete collapse may occur. In nine cases out of ten the direct cause of the trouble is impoverished blood, or weak nerves. You need something to brace you up—to make your blood rich and your nerves strong. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is the only medicine that can do this promptly and effectively. They strengthen from first dose to last.

Mr. John Siddons, London, Ont., says: "I can speak most favorably of the virtue of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. They prove invaluable in strengthening and toning up the system when debilitated. Having used them for some time past I can speak most favorably of their beneficial results. As an investigator of the constitution they are all that they claim to be."

Sold by all dealers or postpaid at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, by addressing the Dr. Williams' Med. Co., Brockville.

The conspiracy trial before the French senate sitting as the high court came to an end Wednesday. Out of the seventy-five alleged conspirators who were thrown into prison five months ago and who have been since released in batches owing to want of evidence, only MM. Deroulede, Guerin and Buffet have been found guilty; and these three are accorded "extenuating circumstances," which reduces their punishment to detention in a fortress or banishment. The trial has cost 800,000 francs in addition to the expenses of detention.

A colored alderman died at Jackson, Miss., the other day and the white Mayor and alderman acted as pall-bearers.

The United States quartermaster's tug Resolute was sunk in Boston harbor Wednesday morning in a collision with the steel ocean tug Swatara. All on board are believed to have been saved, except Engineer Harry Ottobine.

Major Pellatt, of the Queen's Own, has received a letter from Col. Otter, commander of the first Canadian contingent, describing the trip out. He details the means taken to keep the men in good physical condition and says all were eager for the fray. Col. Otter is evidently proud of his command, as he writes that the men are as soldierly, as smart and as good soldiers as any commander could wish. He states that the greatest hardship on the voyage was the lack of news from the outside world.

FREE COMBINATION OFFER NO MONEY WANTED

FROM YOUR OWN POCKET

In order to introduce our Assorted Steel Pens we are giving away Watches and Chains, Rings, Bracelets, Autoharps, Jack Knives, Fountain Pens, Air Rifles, Cameras, Chairs, Clocks, Scales, Sleds, and numerous other beautiful premiums. LADIES, BOYS and GIRLS send us your full name and address and we will send you 13 packages of our Assorted Steel Pens to sell among your neighbors and friends at 10c. per package. When sold remit us amount due, \$1.30, and we will forward premium you select from our mammoth catalogue which we mail with goods. Send to day. Address

STANDARD WATCH & NOVELTY CO., P. O. Box 626, ST JOHN, N. B.

Adamson's Botanic Cough Balsam

Neglect a Trifling Cold

and the most serious consequences will follow. It lives on your vitality. The stronger it becomes the weaker you are. Membranes become inflamed—causing a cough, and, until the irritation is reduced and the sore places healed, there is no possibility of stopping the disorder. ADAMSON'S BALSAM gives instantaneous relief and inevitably brings a perfect cure if taken as directed.

25c. AT ALL DRUGGISTS.

BE SURE

BE SURE and get our BARGAIN prices and terms on our slightly used Karn Pianos and Organs.
BE SURE and get the aforesaid before buying elsewhere.
WE MUST SELL our large and increasing stock of slightly used Karn Pianos and Organs to make room for the GOODS WE REPRESENT.

MILLER BROS.

101, 103 Barrington Street HALIFAX, N. S.

PAST RECORD

of
Life Saving.

Paine's Celery Compound
Is Now and Will Ever
Be the Great
Home Medicine.

The past record of Paine's Celery Compound will live long in the hearts of tens of thousands of our Canadian men and women.

They can never forget the fact that it was Paine's Celery Compound that brought back strength, health and new, vigorous life after failures with the many common advertised remedies, as well as with physicians and hospital treatment.

Amongst the most notable and marvelous records of cures effected by Paine's Celery Compound in the year just closed are the cases of thousands who have been given up by physicians as hopeless.

These hopeless cases were men and women suffering from kidney and liver diseases, stomach troubles, rheumatism, nervous prostration and long standing dyspepsia—all on the brink of the dark grave.

At the eleventh hour, when hope had fled, and deep, black despondency reigned supreme, Paine's Celery Compound was recommended by some good friend as a last resort.

It did not require weeks or months for Paine's Celery Compound to show its powers and virtues. A few hours or days sufficed to convince every sufferer that he or she had in truth found a medicine that could cope with disease and health.

The past record of life saving is maintained and fortified by thousands of the strongest testimonials written by men and women now enjoying the full blessings of good health.

This glorious past record of Paine's Celery Compound as a disease banisher has given the wondrous medicine a place in the majority of the homes of Canada, where it is known as "The home physician," "The home protector against disease."

Are you a sufferer from any of the troubles mentioned above? Are you weak and nervous? Are you sleepless, despondent or morose? Have you periodical headache, poor appetite or faulty digestion? If so, try what Paine's Celery Compound can do for you. A bottle or two will give you satisfaction and delight.

Denominational Funds, Nova Scotia.

Five months of another Convention year are now passed. This means that we have entered on the last month of the 2nd quarter of the year. The total amount received by me from churches, etc., in Nova Scotia to date for this work is \$2,444 12. We are sorry to say that some of the churches have not been heard from. We hope that all will send in something before the end of this month. Envelopes for collections of Denominational Funds will be sent free on application to me. We hope that all will take hold of this work, and that the record for the year may be the best in our history.

A. COHOON,
Treas. Den. Funds, N. S.
Wolville, N. S., Jan. 4th.

On Dec. 22nd, Pastor E. A. Allaby was placed on the sunny side, by a pleasant visit of a large number of his people, bringing with them many useful articles, among them a beautiful dining table and a generous purse of money. After a very social evening, spent in music, speech making, etc., they withdrew, leaving the pastor and wife grateful for the generous gifts, and greatly encouraged by the kind things said of their work among them, and above all, thankful to be permitted to work among so kind and appreciative people. A gracious revival of religion has been experienced here.

The Mighty Curer
THERE IS NOTHING SURER
—FOR—
INDIGESTION Than



Highest Endorsements. FREE SAMPLES for the Asking.
K. D. C. Co., Limited, New Glasgow, N. S.,
or 127 State Street, Boston.

News Summary

The failures in the Dominion last week numbered twenty-four, against twenty-six in the corresponding week of 1899.

The Bank of Nova Scotia, it is said, is considering the advisability of removing its head office from Halifax to Toronto.

According to a special despatch from Cape Town General Methuen is building a railroad around the Boers' position at Magersfontein.

It is announced at Harvard that in all probability the \$100,000 bequest by the will of Mrs. Caroline Brewer Croft to the University will be used for the study of cancer.

The production of iron in the United States for the year 1899 is now estimated at 13,500,000 tons. This puts that country far in advance of its closest competitors, Great Britain and Germany.

Fire broke out Friday in the Merchants' and Planters' tobacco warehouse at Richmond, Va., where were stored 3,600 hogsheads of tobacco. The building and contents were destroyed. Total loss is \$400,000.

Advices from Belmont, South Africa say that two companies of Canadians despatched to cover the return of Col. Pilcher's column, occupied a pass six miles out to prevent any attempt of the Boers to cut off the force.

The British fire insurance companies doing business in the United States had a bad year in 1899, the competition being so hot that it is getting doubtful whether it is worth their while to attempt to get business in the United States.

An order in council has been passed renewing the *modus vivendi* for another year with the United States in regard to the transmission of vessels of that country entering any port on the Atlantic coast for the purchase of bait supplies and other purposes.

At Yarmouth Thursday the remains of the late Hon. L. E. Baker were interred. The cortege formed at the residence at 2 p. m. and went to Holy Trinity. Every profession and corporation in Yarmouth was represented, and all the leading men of the town attended the funeral.

The French government has cabled the commandant of the naval squadron in the Atlantic to proceed immediately to Santo Domingo. This order is probably in connection with the recent demand upon the black republic to pay an indemnity to a French citizen in the matter of a local damage claim.

Histories of England, which furnished supplementary reading for the seventh and eighth grades in Chicago public schools, were thrown out by the school management committee board of education Thursday and the directors were ordered to recommend other books on English history which would not contain any reference to England as the "mother country."

Lumbering operations on the Tobique river are more extensive than any former season. Men are scarce and wages high. There is considerable sickness in the camps. It is asserted that the camps generally are too small for the number of men employed therein. There should be some regulation as to space and ventilation in the camps. The health of animals are looked after, while humanity are neglected.

W. F. McCreary, immigration commissioner at Winnipeg, says that about 50,000 immigrants have been placed in the Canadian Northwest last year. Eight thousand homesteads have been taken up. This is the largest number that has been taken in any year. Hon. T. M. Daly reckoned the number of settlers by multiplying the new homesteads by five. By this mode of calculation the new settlers would be 40,000 this year, but Mr. McCreary says that every year homesteads are becoming more inaccessible and a large number have entered the country who have not taken up homesteads from the Dominion. By actual count he places the new comers last year at 50,000. All kinds of business, he says, is booming in the West and the people generally are prosperous.

Clothes Pride.

You'll be proud of your clothes if they are washed with SURPRISE Soap.

They'll be perfectly clean, sweet, dainty—free from streak, spot or odor.

No scalding, boiling, or hard rubbing either.

Only 5 cents for a large cake that will do better work and more of it than any other soap.

Remember the name—
"SURPRISE."

SURPRISE SOAP

Dykeman's { Three Entrances } 97 King st.
59 Charlotte
6 S. Market

Great Reductions in Dress Goods.

Double width meltons in Black and Navy, Green, Brown, Cardinal and grey at 13c. per yard. Regular 22c. quality.

Wool Box Cloth—Regular 55c. quality for 35c. in two shades of Brown and Royal Purple.

Brocade'd Black Goods 60c. quality for 40c.

Black Crepons 75c. quality for 45c.

\$1.00 Black Crepons for 69c.

SEND FOR SAMPLES—We pay expressage on all parcels amounting to \$5.00 or over. On all orders amounting to \$50.00 and over we will allow a discount of 5 per cent.

F. A. DYKEMAN & CO., St. John.

We Open the Ball for the New Year

By cutting our prices on Men and Boys Clothing still lower, to reduce our stock before February 1st that being date for closing our books for the fiscal year. Bargains in it for you.

FRASER, FRASER & CO.,
FOSTER'S CORNER,
40 and 42 King Street, St. John, N. B.

Important to Agents.

A New Book on the "WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA" is now in preparation by competent writers and will be issued in due time. Sample prospectus will soon be ready. This book will cover the whole field of the great struggle between Great Britain and the Boers, historically and otherwise. It will be profusely illustrated. We want agents for it in all parts of Canada. Best terms guaranteed. Full particulars on application. As this book will be new and fresh it will pay agents to handle it instead of the old "African War" books that are now on the market. Address
R. A. H. MORROW,
50 Garden Street St. John, N. B.

1900 THE NEW YEAR

The Sunday School Lessons for the year are
STUDIES in the LIFE OF JESUS.
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PELOUBET'S SELECT NOTES \$1.07 will greatly aid you. Send at once for a copy.

BLACKBOARD CLOTH
Every well regulated Sunday School will have one or more yards—48 in. wide. Send \$1.50 and get a yard.

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continues. Order up a box and get selection for your School.
Maps of Palestine for \$2.00.
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