

# Messenger and Visitor.

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ST. JOHN; N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1900.

{ THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR  
VOLUME LI.

No. 48.

**New Routes for Trade.** A quite noteworthy event of the past week was the arrival in Montreal en route for Avonmouth, England, of the Steamer Monkshaven, a vessel of the Algoma Central Steamship Company. The Monkshaven's port of departure was Cleveleysport on the American side of Lake Erie, and she is laden with steel rails from the Carnegie Iron works. The significance of the matter lies in the fact that it is the initial movement in what may be expected to develop into a great commerce, by way of the St. Lawrence route, between the lake region of the United States and Canada and Great Britain and other European countries. The Monkshaven, with three other ships of like class, was built in England, and passed through to the lakes by way of the St. Lawrence. During the summer season these steamers, with a number of tugs and barges, are employed in transporting mineral products from the Michipicoten region—more than a hundred miles north of Sault Ste. Marie—to ports in the United States. The Algoma Central Company is carrying on very extensive mining operations in the Michipicoten region and is also engaged in railroad building, partly with a view to facilitating these operations and also with an ulterior view to extending their road to Moose Factory on the shores of the Hudson Bay. It is expected to complete the road in three years, and the valuable timber and mineral lands which it will open up, the rich fisheries of Hudson's Bay, and the attractions of Moose Factory as a summer resort are relied upon to make the enterprise a financial success.

**The Depths of Ocean.** The feasibility of a trans-Pacific cable from the United States, and by way of its various insular possessions, to the coast of Asia, the New York Tribune declares, is now well assured. Tremendous "depths" had been discovered in the direct pathway of the proposed cable, and it was believed by many that on this account the scheme could not be realized. But further explorations, it is said, show that these depths of the ocean may be avoided, and that the cable can be laid, connecting with the United States all its possessions in the Pacific without touching upon those of any other nation. It is hard for the mind to form an idea of the depth of these great abysses of the ocean. Measure from the level of the sea to the cloud capped and snow-clad summits of the loftiest mountains of the world, and you have a perpendicular distance of some five and a half miles. Then measure from the sea level to the bottom of the deepest abyss discovered in the Pacific ocean and you have a distance of 5,269 fathoms—only 76 feet less than six miles, and nearly half a mile more than the height of the loftiest mountain peaks of the world. At that depth, it is said, "the temperature is only two or three degrees above freezing, while the stillness, the darkness and the pressure of the overlying miles of water are beyond appreciation. It is a world of chilly gloom, of absolute silence, of ooze and of red clay."

**Cruelty to Horses.** In setting her example and influence against the custom of docking the tails of horses, Queen Victoria has done that for which many long-suffering members of the equine race will have reason to feel grateful. A tail was given to the horse both as an ornament and as a necessary protection against insect tormentors, and in case of horses which are much exposed to the attacks of flies it is especially cruel to deprive them of this natural weapon of defence. There is another way, however, in which man's inhumanity to his noble servant finds expression, which seems to us still more senseless and inexcusable than the custom of docking. It is hardly necessary to say that we mean that diabolical invention—the overdraw check. There are of course some horses which do not suffer much from the overdraw, because as they naturally hold their heads high, it interferes comparatively little with their comfort. But with

horses which are not naturally high-headed the case is very different. A tightly drawn overdraw check forces them to keep their heads in an altogether unnatural position, straining the muscles of the neck and putting the poor animals in acute misery. It is a piteous thing to see a horse with his head drawn up with a check-rein, adjusted by someone too ignorant to know the effect of it, or too callous to have any feeling for the suffering it causes, in such a way that the poor animal is kept turning its head to this side and to that, trying vainly in every way to get relief from the agony which it is compelled to suffer. After all that has been said and written on the subject and all that has been done by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty, it is still far too common to see horses suffering thus. If our good Queen could so exert her gracious influence as to banish forever the overdraw check, all the horses, and all the men and women who have any compassion for the noble animal would have additional reason to rejoice.

**Prison Reform.** There are few subjects more worthy to call forth thought and philanthropic effort on the part of the people of this country than that of prison reform. The criminal population of Canada, as compared with other countries, is not large. At the same time the whole number of men and women incarcerated in the jails, prisons and penitentiaries of the Dominion is very considerable, and the question as to the conditions under which these prisoners are placed, and the purpose and result of the treatment which is meted out to them are of very serious import in reference both to the prisoners themselves and to the public which is responsible for the way in which the inmates of the prisons are being dealt with. Unfortunately it must be admitted that in the present state of this country and of the world generally, prisons are a necessity. But there is no reason why jails and prisons should be of the character that they too frequently are. The grand aim in dealing with prisoners should not be their punishment merely, but their reformation. When a man, because of vicious disposition, makes himself an enemy of society and it becomes necessary to deprive him of his liberty, he should be taken hold of by the forces of a Christian civilization wisely and persistently applied with a view to effecting his reform. All that wholesome surroundings, firm but kindly discipline, wise and patient instruction, with Christian sympathy, can do, should be done to emancipate him from vicious propensities and fit him to take his place again in the world as an honest and virtuous member of society. Admitting that there are some whose propensities to vice and crime are so strong as to render them incorrigible, yet doubtless there are a very large number of those who become inmates of our jails and prisons, who are not beyond the reach of such methods of reform as must be possible in this advanced day of Christian civilization. What are the actual conditions to be found in our jails and prisons too few of us care to enquire, and there is too little disposition to move in the direction of reform when the great and urgent need of it is shown.

**The St. John Jail.** The attention of the people of St. John has been somewhat forcibly called to the condition of the city jail by some statements contained in a sermon recently delivered by Rev. J. A. Richardson, Rector of Trinity church. Mr. Richardson has no doubt described things as they are, and the description is certainly one which should stir the people of the city and county of St. John to do away with a condition of things which is a reproach and a disgrace to any Christian community. It may be that conditions here are no worse than in some other Canadian cities, but if that is true so much the worse. According to Mr. Richardson's statement, which is supported by that of Judge Forbes in an address to the Grand Jury, the jail building is greatly overcrowded, so that it is sometimes necessary to place six or more prisoners in one cell of 12 by 14 feet in size. The bathing facilities are quite inadequate, there is no provision for change of clothing, the

prisoners are in a filthy condition, some by choice and some by necessity. The jail being used also as a prison for the confinement of persons whose sentence is under two years, there is not only overcrowding, but young persons, even before they have been convicted, are thrown into association with hardened criminals. Another result of the overcrowding is that there is not the complete separation of the sexes that should be, but men and women occupy cells on the same flat. The prisoners are kept in idleness, with all the evil influences that an idle life under such conditions involves. Some three or four of the men are detailed to do little odds and ends of work about the jail, but for the rest there is nothing to do—nothing for the help of either mind or body, and the time is spent principally in smoking and in filthy and blasphemous conversation. Certainly the last state of a man who serves out a sentence under such conditions is likely to be vastly worse than the first. And is such a disgraceful and degrading condition of things necessary? Is it not quite possible to make our jails such that, with the exception of a few of the more hardened, the influence upon its inmates, and especially in the case of youthful criminals, would be for good rather than for evil? The conditions should be made physically wholesome, and so far as possible intellectually and morally wholesome also. Over-crowding should be avoided, cleanliness enforced, wholesome literature and instruction provided, and everyone who can work should be compelled to work at something that would exercise his physical and mental faculties. All this would involve an overturn of the jail system as it now exists in St. John, and for the most part elsewhere. It would take time. But it does not seem to us chimerical to suppose that such a reform could be effected, and it is so important that no time should be lost in getting about it. Mr. Richardson has done well to call attention sharply to the great need of reform in this matter, and we hope that his motion will have many vigorous seconders.

—The continued illness of the Czar is causing much apprehension. The latest official bulletins indicate that the condition of the royal patient is somewhat more serious than it was a week ago. If however the trouble from which the Czar is suffering is, as it is said to be, typhoid fever, the rise in temperature reported need not be regarded as an alarming symptom. There are however persistent rumors that the Czar's illness is of a much more serious character than the official bulletins have indicated and the credence which these rumors obtain in generally well-informed quarters is to be taken into account. The apprehensions so generally felt as to the result of the Czar's illness are quite natural, considering the great influence of Russia in the political world and the general confidence that is felt in the pacific disposition of Nicholas. It seems to be quite true that the Czar's disposition and the foreign policy of Russia are two quite different things. Nicholas is indeed in name an absolute ruler, but the power which really governs seems to be quite as little dependent upon the will of the monarch in Russia as in Great Britain, though in the one case the power is embodied in a Parliament, in the other in a bureaucracy. But doubtless the Czar has an influence upon the politics of his nation and the world in proportion to the strength of his personality. And it therefore means much for the peace of the world if the occupant of the Russian throne is at heart a man of peace.

—According to late despatches from Peking the prospect is favorable for an agreement of the foreign powers upon the terms of a settlement with China. The representatives of the powers in Peking are indeed reported to have reached an agreement and it only remains to secure the approval of the respective governments before definite negotiations with the Chinese peace commissioners can be begun. The precise terms of settlement have not yet been made public; but it is believed, outside the diplomatic corps, that the main points are in substantial agreement with those contained in the French note to the powers, namely, punishment for the guilty, indemnity to governments and individuals, retention of strong legation guards and the occupation of certain places between Peking and Taku.













Foreign Missions.

W. B. M. U.

"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address MRS. J. W. MANNING, 240 Duke Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR DECEMBER.

For Chicacole, the lady missionaries and their helpers, the school and Hospital, that God would use them all for the salvation of souls. For the Northwest and Indian work.

A letter received from Mrs. Churchill, Bobbili, India, makes reference to the money sent for famine sufferers that will be interesting to all. "How poor the people are! Many of them respectable women and would die rather than beg. Many of them are simply bones with the skin drawn over and I think those at home who sent the famine money, would be only too glad for me to distribute a little among the very poor of Bobbili. If we are not in the famine district we have much suffering here from the very high prices and the poor cannot get enough to eat day by day, and have nothing to cover their nakedness and now the cold season is coming on they will suffer greatly, and many will die from colds and fevers. Thousands in India have been saved from starvation by the money our people sent. Most of the money is out of our hands now, and there will be plenty of needy people on whom we spend the rest before harvests are gathered. The prices are so high that many of our Christians could not get sufficient food to eat, and we have had to supply them somewhat, and as Mr. Churchill has been appointed Treasurer of the famine fund, we have done all we could to put all the money sent into the hands of missionaries, who really needed it for starving people and for clothing the destitute. When sending one remittance we would ask them to write of their needs and we would send more. A great many letters have come with hearty thanks for searching them out, and to our people at home for their great kindness in remembering the starving. Some have asked for more and it was sent promptly, others have written they have sufficient for present needs. Of course those who have taken in orphans are always needing funds. But they will seek these from their own boards at home, though we have helped many. We have sent to Pandita, Ramaibai, three times. I think she has 1,500 girls now under her charge, but of course she has a large constituency from which to draw, England, Canada and United States. I trust by your prayers and the Lord working through your missionaries, very many of the heathen may be brought to Christ. Four of my Bible Class and one from Siamma's class have been baptized since we came from the hills. Those who were excluded from the church have been restored. We will praise God and take courage.

Chelsea, N. S.

We have sent no reports to your columns as yet, the Society being so small, but our number being increased by thirteen in July, we feel strengthened to more effort. Our monthly meetings are fairly well attended and considerable interest manifested. We held a concert in the Baptist church on the evening of Nov 4th. Mrs. MacPherson, a returned missionary of the Freewill Baptist church, addressed the audience. She gave a vivid account of the people of India, their idol worship, etc., making us see heathenism as it really is. Her intense interest in, and love for the work, her earnest appeal to those present to do what they could for benighted India, stirred the Society to fuller consecration. Exercises and recitations by the children, music and an address by the president, closed the concert. The proceeds of this and a previous concert held in July \$5 is in aid of Mrs. Archibald's school for girls at Chicacole.

MRS. DESMOND, Sec'y

St. Stephen.

Our Missionary Aid Society observed Crusade Day on Tuesday, Oct. 30. The president made several calls, and in the evening we held a public meeting in the vestry at 7.30. The president presided at this meeting. Meeting opened with singing of the hymn "Jesus shall reign"—Scripture reading by Mrs. W. C. Goucher, prayer offered by our pastor. President then stated the object of Crusade Day and read parts of the W. B. M. U. president's address. Miss A. Wry sang a solo, and then several sisters read different parts from the report of the W. B. M. U. Mrs. F. Grimmer and Mrs. W. Grimmer sang a duet, "God is Love." "In Memoriam," was read, pastor gave an address and referred to the work of the women in missions. Refreshments were served by the ladies of the Society. Two new members were added. Collection \$5. O. E. LINDOW, Sec'y.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

A letter to hand from a good sister speaks volumes. My heart was greatly touched in reading it, and it occurred to me that others might be benefited as well.

"Enclosed you will find P. O. Order for \$4 for Foreign Missions. It is sent by Mrs. — as a special thank-offering for God's goodness to her during the past year. She wished me not to mention her name, but I think when gifts are made with such self-sacrifice it helps those who are laboring so long, and often under such trying circumstances, to know about them. Mrs. — has been an invalid for some years and for the past three has only been able to lie in a bed or chair. She cannot walk at all, and is not able to sit up for one half hour without intense pain, caused by spinal disease of some kind. Four small children are in the home. Many times you would wonder what she finds to give special thanks for, and yet during all her illness I have never heard a murmur against His will. I have often been helped and strengthened by her unwavering faith and implicit trust in the strange dispensations of His providence."

Such gifts are twice blessed,—they bless those who give and also those who receive. A thousand of such givers to missions in these Provinces would be a power for good in our churches. This sister is not alone in her self-sacrifice. There are others. The number is increasing. They ought to be multiplied ten-fold.

Look at these figures for the last eight years and note the giving through the Convention Fund for Foreign Missions, and then note the quarterly statement of the Secretary-Treasurer for the quarter ending November 1, and say whether there ought not to be some changes somewhere.

Table with 3 columns: Year, Location, Amount. Rows include 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900 for N.S. and N.B. & P.E.I.

From which it will be seen that in 1896 the largest amount was received from churches in Nova Scotia—\$3311.52, and in 1895 the largest amount was received from the churches in N. B. and P. E. I.—\$2083.29. In 1900 there was a shrinkage from these figures of \$624.38, so far as the offerings from churches in N. S. are concerned and \$558.46 from churches in N. B. and P. E. I.

Were it not for offerings from individuals and other sources our work would be badly crippled. The weak place in our work financially is the income which is received through the offerings as per Convention Plan.

This is clear by a comparison of the above figures. We ought to have a revival of Christian beneficence—Certainly \$4211.97 from our more than 400 churches with a contributing membership of 25,000 is not sufficient for the great and growing needs of our Foreign Mission work.

"Physical wants strike a deeper note of sympathy in many hearts than spiritual destitution. The Missionary Union without making an appeal, received over \$50,000 for the famine sufferers in India, and many urgent appeals for such an addition to missionary funds probably would have been comparatively unheeded. Church after church gave far more for the famine relief than they have given for carrying the gospel to those ignorant of it. We do not mention this fact to condemn in the least this relief of physical suffering. These ought we to have done and not to leave the other undone. What a pity that churches should take the attitude of saying that they must do less for sending the gospel to India because they have done so much in giving bread to India!"

The above is taken from an editorial note in the Watchman of Boston. The same thing might be said of churches and individuals in these Provinces, more than \$3000 were contributed for the India Famine Relief and only a little over \$4000 for the awful spiritual needs of hungry souls. We need some spiritual eye salve that will help us see the worth of a soul in the sight of him with whom we have to do.

Again the Watchman says:—"We do not believe that any candid mind can survey

the religious life of the closing century without seeing that the most distinctive thing in it, at least so far as the English speaking world is concerned, is the foreign mission enterprise."

That is good testimony. Ponder its import and hold it in memory as a potent factor in your life.

Josiah Strong says: "What are churches for but to make missionaries? What is education for but to train them? What is commerce for but to carry them? What is money for but to send them? What is life itself for but to fulfil the purpose of missions enthroning Jesus Christ in the hearts of men?"

That man is perfect in faith who can come to God in the utter dearth of his feelings and his desires without a glow or an aspiration, with the weight of low thoughts, failures, neglects and wandering forgetfulness, and say to him: "Thou art my refuge, because thou art my home."—George Macdonald.

PLEASE NOTE

that all money orders sent to this office for subscriptions to the paper should be made payable to

THE MESSENGER AND VISITOR.

—The MESSENGER AND VISITOR will be sent from date to January 1st, 1902, for one year's subscription, \$1.50.

If any present subscriber to the MESSENGER AND VISITOR will send us one new name and \$2.50, it will be accepted as payment for a year's subscription to the paper both for himself and for the new subscriber.

Pastors and other friends of the paper may help much just at this time by commending it to those who are not upon our subscription list and urging the importance of their taking the denominational paper.

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Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including "November 28, 1900" and various names and dates.









From the Churches.

Denominational Funds.

Fifteen thousand dollars wanted from the churches of Nova Scotia during the present Convention year.

CLEMENTSPORT - Our period of six years with Clementsport and Smith Cove churches is closed, we preached our farewell Nov 25th.

REV. J. T. EATON.

NEW GERMANY, N. S. - Nov. 13 being the anniversary of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Prescott Webber, a large number of friends made them a genuine surprise party.

H. B. SMITH.

BELLEISLE STATION, KINGS COUNTY. - The Third Springfield Baptist church have engaged the services of the Rev. R. K. Gaoung for the fourth year.

SUSSEX, N. B. - In a previous communication I mentioned the fact that Mr. C. T. White and Mr. G. H. White, members of our congregation had undertaken certain repairs on the parsonage.

Yours in the work, W. CAMP.

THE LIVING AGE for 1901. During the fifty-seven years of its existence this sterling weekly magazine has steadily maintained its high standard.

Quarterly Meeting.

The Shelburne County Baptist Quarterly Meeting met with the Lew's Head church, Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 13th and 14th. Delightful weather, a large attendance, and the finest of Christian fellowship united to make the sessions interesting, helpful and inspiring.

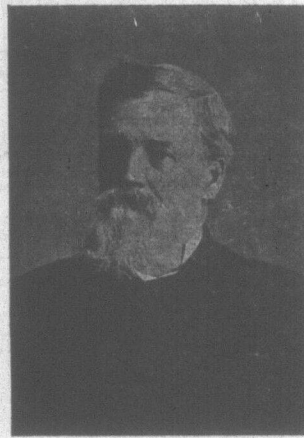
Ordination

A council met at Lewis Head, Shelburne county on Nov. 14th inst., on the invitation of the Sable River church, to consider the advisability of ordaining to the gospel ministry their pastor, Bro. Sheldon S. Poole, B. A., of Yarmouth.

H. S. SHAW, Clerk of Council.

In the Sunshine.

Members of my congregation at Half Island Cove and Queensport, N. S., in the presentation to me on my birthday (Nov. 16 h.) of a fine ebony staff, gold headed walking stick, my name and date engraved upon the head.



REV. J. W. S. YOUNG.

Sunday School Convention.

The Yarmouth Co. Baptist S. S. Convention met in semi-annual session with the Zion church, Yarmouth, on the 8th inst. The schools of the county were well represented and a good degree of interest in the work manifested.

A good audience assembled in the evening notwithstanding the storm. The first paper at this session was by E. J. Grant, on "Are we really seeking and securing results in our S. S. work."

E. J. GRANT, Sec'y.

P. S. Of the eleven pastors now in this county, four of them have come from P. E. Island within the past seven months, and three of them were at the Convention in Yarmouth last week.

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Personal.

Rev. A. C. Shaw has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Tusket church, Yarmouth Co., N. S., and desires his correspondents to make note of his new address.

Bro. H. A. McLean who renders the gospel in song with such affect and is so favorably known to many of our churches,

desires us to say that his permanent address is Truro, N. S. He will be glad to hear from pastors who may desire to engage his services in connection with evangelistic work.

Rev. J. H. Parshley, pastor of the first Moucton Church, and Mrs. Parshley have been spending a few days in St. John.

1901

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Vertical text on the far right edge of the page, including names like PUDDING, COREY-C, TURNER, WOOD-B, HENRY W, BUCKERS, BORGLE, PATTERSON, TINGLEY, MCELHIN, BEAMAN, NICKERSON, SADLER, JOHNSON.







