

open toward heaven. Let the blessed light of Jesus' countenance shine in. It will turn tears into rainbows.

AN OLD RELIC—A few days ago I found in a neglected closet a venerable pamphlet, written by Able Morgan, and printed by Benjamin Franklin, Philadelphia, 1648. The title reads thus: "Brief Instruction in the Principles of the Christian Religion, agreeable to the Confession of Faith put forth by the Elders and Brethren of many Congregations of Christians baptized upon profession of their Faith, in London and the country. 6th edition."

It is written by way of question and answer. A brief extract will interest your readers, and instruct some who are taught that what is called close communion is of recent origin:

Question 98. To whom is baptism to be administered? Answer. To those who profess repentance toward God.

Ques. 100. How is baptism rightly administered? Ans. By dipping the whole body in water, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Ques. 103. Who are the proper subjects of the Lord's Supper? Ans. They who have been baptized on a profession of their faith in Christ, and repentance from dead works.—H. M. in National Baptist.

For the Christian Messenger.

THE NEW ACADEMY BUILDING.

Dear Editor,—

Please allow me to acknowledge the following subscriptions to the above object;—

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes H. A. White, Sussex \$15.00, Jas Titus 10.00, Saml. C. Wilbur 15.00, J. S. Trites 5.00, H. C. Stubbs 5.00, Isiah Kierstead, St Martins 1.00, A Friend 5.00, Mrs. Silas Vaughan 5.00, Mrs. Mary Calhoun 5.00, Moses Lawrence, St. John 10.00, William Lewis, plus \$20. given before 10.00, Miss. Charlotte Harit 16.00, Judge Skinner 50.00, A. B. Barnes 5.00, Henry Calhoun 50.00, A Friend, Digby 1.00, Capt. Abram Grant, Weymouth 2.00, Previously acknowledged 7.218.53

Total.....\$7,418.53 For the Committee, D. M. WELTON.

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., DECEMBER 1, 1875

THE EVANGELISTS AT PHILADELPHIA.

Having completed the series of meetings at Brooklyn, New York, Messrs. Moody and Sankey commenced their work at Philadelphia last week. The building they are occupying was formerly used as a freight depot by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and was placed at their disposal by the present owner, Mr. John Wannamaker. It has been fitted up at an expense of about \$20,000. We have gathered the following from the columns of the National Baptist:—

"The floor at the main entrance (Market street) is elevated, and gradually declines for about two thirds of the distance to the platform. It is neatly carpeted, and contains 9,250 chairs. The platform contains about 800. An interior partition, thirty-three feet wide, incloses the audience-room on three sides, excluding noise from the street, and making a passage-way between it and the outer walls. Three large rooms for inquiry meetings have been constructed, also a room for the ushers, and a private room for Mr. Moody. A passage from the latter runs under the floor and communicates with the stairway leading directly to the pulpit. The structure at the corner of Thirteenth and Market streets will be used for the offices of the committee. Four main aisles run the entire length of the audience-room, and are intersected by four cross aisles, and there is also a wide aisle running around the walls. The room is lighted by eleven large reflectors down the centre of the hall, and sixty rings and a series of parallel jets running around the building, making in all about 1,000 burners. Daylight is admitted, and abundant facilities for ventilation are obtained, by skylights in the roof. The building is heated by a hundred-horse power boiler. A choir of 500 voices, selected from the church choirs, and specially trained is under the direction of Mr. Sankey; and some 300 Christian workers, selected by the pastors of the various churches, were prepared by Rev. Drs.

Newton, Hatfield, Breed, and J. Wheaton-Smith, for service in the inquiry room. "Gospel Hymns," a collection by Messrs. Sankey and Bliss, are used at the meetings.

On Saturday afternoon the Committee met to pray for the blessing of God on the labor of the evangelists. The spirit of supplication was poured out, and a truly profitable half hour was passed.

On Saturday evening the singers met for practice, numbering perhaps 400. Prof. Fisher, who has had charge of the choir, conducted the evening's singing. But Mr. Sankey was present and sang a few pieces. He also spoke to the singers a few words of greeting and counsel. He said that at first, in England, they had to take such singers as they could find. But now they desired to have only Christian singers, though of course they would not exclude any who came, desiring not only to sing of Christ, but to find him. He then offered prayer for a blessing on the service of song.

By 7 o'clock on Sabbath morning any one on Broad street, or, indeed, on any of the main streets, could but be struck to see so many persons all tending toward Thirteenth and Market streets. By 8, it was substantially full; though the 10,000 chairs were not all occupied, yet there were enough persons standing to have filled them. On the platform were the singers, the ministers, the members of the Executive Committee, and many ladies and strangers. The audience was evidently made up of church-going people, it was the design of this first meeting to reach the Christians of the city. The attendance at this early hour was most remarkable. The audience, as seen from the platform, was a most striking and inspiring sight. Just as the services were about to begin, several white pigeons flew in and around the building, suggesting Isaiah's prophecy, "Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as doves to their windows," and seeming to promise the descent of the Spirit.

At 8 o'clock, Mr. Moody took the stand, and, after leading in prayer, gave out a hymn. His voice is strong. He is heard by reason of the force rather than the distinctness and perfection of his articulation. Mr. Moody read John iv. 21-42. After naming the chapter, he said: "I wish all that heard what chapter I gave out, would raise their hands." Hands were raised all over the house. He dwelt on the need of perfect silence and stillness in order that so large an audience all might hear. He gave notice that at each of the services the doors would be closed at the appointed hour. "If the President of the United States comes after the time, he will have to stay outside. If Mr. Stuart, the Chairman of the Committee, comes after the time, he cannot get in." Mr. Stuart smiled and nodded approval. While Mr. Moody was preaching, some one walked across the building. He paused till the person had taken his seat.

After the reading, Mr. Sankey sang, "Sowing the seed by the daylight fair." Mr. Moody offered prayer. The choir sang, "Ring the bells of heaven."

Then Mr. Moody gave out his text, John iv. 35: "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

Mr. Moody closed abruptly; in fact no one knew that he had closed, till Mr. Sankey began singing.

"Hark, the voice of Jesus crying, Who will work for me to day?"

After the doxology, Dr. Hatfield pronounced the benediction.

IN THE AFTERNOON.

Approaching the building at half past three o'clock, Thirteenth and Market streets were almost impassable. The house being full, the doors had been closed some twenty minutes, and thousands of people tarried in the vain hope of being admitted, while very many had already gone away. The thought that all these people were lingering about a place of worship, longing to enter, but unable to do so, aroused peculiar emotions, and called vividly to mind the solemn parable of the virgins who came knocking at the door when it had been finally closed.

At four o'clock, Mr. Geo. H. Stuart requested the audience to rise and sing the 51st hymn, and presently, "There is a fountain filled with blood," was borne upwards on eleven thousand voices. Prayer was offered by Dr. J. Wheaton Smith.

Mr. Moody then read a few verses

from the first chapter of Joshua, where the Lord exhorts Joshua to "be strong and of a good courage." Before he began his discourse, Mr. Sankey sang, "Jesus of Nazareth pass-eth by."

A solemn hush was on the vast assembly, and the last refrain—"Too late! too late! Jesus of Nazareth passed by!"

thrilled them like a bitter wail from the lips of the doomed.

Mr. Moody said that the meetings this week would be for Christians. We want to stir each other up. If we can only get on fire ourselves there will be no difficulty in reaching the outlying masses.

Mr. Sankey sang the 82d hymn—"Only an armor-bearer, proudly I stand."

Mr. Moody said he had two words to talk about this afternoon—Courage and Enthusiasm:

After his discourse on this theme Mr. Moody said the 14th hymn would be sung by Mr. Sankey, the audience joining in the chorus. He related an incident in the late war, in which one of our positions was just about to be surrendered, and the commanding general signaled from an adjacent mountain, "Hold the fort, I am coming!" The Master is coming and we expect not less than ten thousand recruits. Mr. Sankey then began to sing—

"Ho, my comrades, see the signal Waving in the sky, Reinforcements now appearing, Victory is nigh!"

The benediction was pronounced by Bishop Peck.

A RUM EDUCATED PREACHER.—A visitor at one of our city Lodges last week, in the course of his speech made the following statement. "I once had some business at Waterville, and called at the house of Mrs. — to get some dinner. Noticing a number of men in another room, I inquired what she kept there, she replied that she 'kept something to sweeten your breath.' I said I would take a little, and she asked me if I would take brandy! I replied no! I don't drink brandy, and added, I don't think the temperance men of the place are awake, or they would not allow you to sell liquor so openly. She replied, 'Well! I don't think people need to make such a terrible fuss about it; my son joined the Baptist Church last spring and I am trying to raise a little money from the sale of liquor to educate him for a minister.' I said I would like to hear a rum educated minister preach as I had never yet heard one. By this time she was rather excited and said in a very boisterous style, that she was bound she would educate him for a minister, if she had to sell rum in the dark, behind the door!" She has passed through many difficulties and quite recently been convicted for selling, but still she sells "in the dark and behind the door."

We copy the above from the last issue of the Alliance Journal. The editor may be unwilling to spoil a joke for the sake of a denomination, and may regard the paragraph as quite an innocent piece of spice for a temperance paper. We do not so regard it. It is either true or not. If true why say "Mrs.—" and so cast a slur on Baptist students generally, instead of giving the name of the person willing to do evil that good may come. We would not, because of its absurdity pronounce the statement an entire fabrication, but, until it is properly authenticated, we shall take the liberty of calling the whole thing in question, and rather believing it as a very broad and wicked joke, unworthy of repetition, for any woman to say such an absurd thing.

Rev. D. Freeman, has, we understand, returned to New Glasgow, to labor with the church recently formed there. We hope to hear of great good following his efforts to lead sinners to Christ and break to them the bread of life.

Rev. George Armstrong made us a short visit on Saturday on his way from Sydney, C. B. to St. John, N. B. where he purposes making his residence, having purchased the proprietorship of the Christian Visitor. We are sorry to lose Brother Armstrong from the number of pastors in the Eastern Association of this province, where they are so much needed; but we trust that our brother may be blessed in his literary labors in New Brunswick. A fine field presents itself there for christian work, and we promise ourselves a pleasant fraternal relationship with him.

THE HALIFAX RUMSELLERS.—The Alliance Journal in its last issue gives a list of about two hundred persons who have licenses to sell liquor, and their residences; together with the boundaries of the several licensing districts into which the city is divided.

The editor prefaces the list by some remarks as to the disreputable business, and affirms that "the ratepayers of the different districts signed petitions for all these people to get licenses." The editor no doubt thinks he is justified in making such a statement. Is he quite sure that he is correct? It would be well if the names of the "ratepayers" who "signed petitions" were also published so that it might be known who they are of whom he says, "We may truly say, the people are responsible."

We have been told that names appear on some of the petitions that ought not to be there—whether put there without permission or not we have not learned. It is an evasion of the law to keep these petitions hidden away out of sight—a respectable business needs no secrecy. Here is some work for our sprightly contemporary. He will be doing a kindness to let the people know who of "the people" take upon themselves to petition for liquor shops near their own homes.

THE NEW ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Presbyterian Witness of Saturday last says of the recent appointment:—

"We confess we were astounded at the courage of the Government in making Mr. Weeks, Attorney General. If they wanted a first class lawyer and a man of character why not select Alexander James for instance? We do not wish to dictate or to find fault needlessly, but this last appointment appears to us simply deplorable."

With regard to this nomination of Mr. James for the office, we doubt not his name would command respect from a large portion of the people in any county. We also might make a nomination of one who might appear to us a more suitable man than Mr. Weeks; but, what right have we, or the Witness either, to controvert such distinction? and therefore we hardly think it worth while for us to do so. The government would not be likely to accept the Witness's nomination more readily than they would the Messenger's. It is now for the people of Guysboro County to say whether they are willing to accept Mr. Weeks in place of Mr. Wilde. The latter gentleman was entrusted with the interests of the county, but choosing to relinquish them sooner than he need have done, they will soon speak out their views either for Mr. Weeks or Capt. Hadly, who is well known amongst them.

New Brunswick Ministers are multiplying in Ontario and Nova Scotia. We regret their absence from their native Province, but it is satisfactory to learn that in the sister Provinces they are highly esteemed in love for their work's sake. Rev. J. C. Bleakney informs us that he has decided to remain at Hantsport. He has a large place in the affections and confidence of the churches of this Province that enjoyed the advantages of his early ministerial life, and it affords us pleasure to hear that he is equally successful in gaining the good-will of the churches of our sister Province. We trust increasing success will attend his faithful ministrations in the service of the Master!

We copy the above from the Visitor. Brother Blakeney, being in his second pastorate in this province, we had come to regard him as about as much a Nova Scotian as if he had not come from New Brunswick. Our contributions to New Brunswick, in that line have been greater, we believe, than from there to here. The Editor himself, we do not forget was a loan from this province. Another minister—Rev. George Armstrong—who we learn on the best authority is shortly to be his successor, is also from this province. We are pleased to be able to affirm too, that the Nova Scotia men are highly appreciated over the border and in the Upper Province also.

We prefer that they go to New Brunswick than farther off, as in such case, we do not give them up as hopelessly gone, and we have occasion to meet them, from time to time, in one or other of these provinces and exchange a word of christian intercourse at some of our annual gatherings, and thus keep up our pleasant acquaintance.

COMMODORE GOODENOUGH.—The death of this officer, from wounds inflicted by the natives of the Santa Cruz Island, has been announced in the papers. The following extract of a letter written by an officer of the Pearl, (the ship commanded by the Commodore) will be read with deep interest:

Every precaution that medical skill could suggest was used, and knowing, as every one in the ship did, the great danger from the deadly poisons used on the arrows by all these islanders, the greatest anxiety prevailed. We started at once for Sydney, but in five days symptoms of tetanus became apparent in the Commodore and two

of the men's cases, and on the sixth day after the occurrence one of the men died, on the seventh the Commodore, and on the eighth the other man. The rest of the wounded are recovering. The Commodore, it appears, had studied the subject of tetanus—as, indeed, he had, most things—and he knew the symptoms at once, and that he was doomed. So, when he felt that he must die, he sent for all the officers, and bid them a most touching farewell. He exhorted them to seek Christ, said he had always done so, and that now he died with perfect happiness. I cannot tell you all he said, but suffice it to say that it made the deepest impression; there was not one dry eye literally, and that is much to say for a large number of naval men, who are, I think, harder than others, seeing death as they continually do. After seeing the officers in his cabin, for each of whom he had a loving word, showing how he had thought of each of them, although he never showed it he made us carry him out on to the gundeck to say goodbye to the ship's company, though the surgeon said it would be a great risk; but he said, "If I can only do good to the soul of the most insignificant one of the lot I will take the risk"—and I really believe that what he said will be ever remembered by many. The whole ship's company were in tears, old and young, most of them probably not having cried since they were children. He was loved by them all, and with good reason, as he was very kind to them. The officers watched by him night and day till he died. He bore the fearful pain wonderfully never even groaning, and smilingly apologized to the officers for giving so much trouble. The weather being cold, we were able to preserve the body till we arrived at Sydney, which seemed a great consolation to Mrs. Goodenough. She bore her great loss resignedly. The C. B. only arrived by last mail, too late for the Commodore to hear of its arrival; but he wants nothing from any Government now, thank God! He is happier than any honour on earth could make him. His was a glorious end to a noble life, doing good to the last."

WIDE AWAKE for December is dazzling with pictures, and displays a tempting table of contents. Besides the serial of child-life, "Young Rick," there are six good stories: "Kim's Last Whipping," "Tim's Partner," "Mysie's Thanksgiving," "The Birds' Harvest," "Out of the Frying Pan," and "Five Pounds of Cinnamon," by Sophie May, Amanda M. Douglas, Miss Farmon, Mrs. J. D. Chaplin, M. Quad, and Holme Maxwell. There are poems and six capital illustrations, also musical pages by Dr. Bourje, and the editorial departments, are unusually good this month.

D. LOTARF & Co., BOSTON. \$2.00 per annum.

Attention is invited to the advertisement in another column, of the opening of the New Academy building at Wolfville. We feel assured that, if the weather is at all favorable, a large company will be on hand to congratulate each other on the occasion of such a handsome addition being made to the Academical accomodation.

BELCHER'S FARMER'S ALMANAC for 1876, should have been noticed by us before. The proprietors Messrs. M. Alpine and Barnes have here crowded into 248 pages a vast amount of information and advertisements, useful to everybody. They have made a step forward by omitting the pretense of predicting, a year in advance, what weather shall be all through the year. It contains fair woodcuts of Dalhousie College, Fort Massey Church, and the Y. M. C. Association Building.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Letters from Rev. W. F. Armstrong, dated Sept. 25th and 26th, have been received by Revds. Dr. Cramp and W. P. Everett.

He is residing at present in the town of Samulcotta, 8 or 9 miles north west of Cocanada, where the three other families of our mission still remain.

This place was, until eight or nine years since, the head-quarters of a regiment, but having been abandoned, there were several officers' houses that were empty, and so Bro. A. has secured a convenient home for a mere nominal rent.

The locality being elevated, is pronounced very conducive to health.

Bro. A. judges that the facilities for studying the Telooogo language renders it the most desirable location at the present time.

The natives bring themselves into personal contact with the missionaries more readily and constantly than they do in the populous city. He says: "We are having the sounds dinned into our ears, and have excellent opportunities of using every new word we get. And of course, we have grand opportunities for work here. For a good deal of work may be done, even while acquiring the language, and one be not hindered, but be greatly helped in getting the command of the new tongue." Mrs. Armstrong has already gathered