

is our opinion, that from Baptism, and the grace of God, who is merciful, kind and benign to all, none ought to be prohibited, by us, which as it is to be observed and followed with respect to all, so especially with respect to infants, and those that are but just born, who deserve our help and the Divine mercy, because at the first instant of their nativity they beg it by their cries and tears."

There is the dish those venerable bishops served up to Fidas. It is to be hoped he digested it. What a combination of the sublime and the ridiculous, the false and the true, the wise and the silly; and although this was more than sixteen hundred years ago, there are those in this enlightened year of grace 1878, who, judging from their writings belong to the year 254, their views and teachings on the subject of baptism being so remarkably like those of the famous African Council.

J. B.

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from Rev. W. B. Boggs.

11 QUEENS SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY, LONDON, Nov. 24, 1878:

Dear Brother Selden,—

With the exception of a day or two of rough weather we had a very good passage across the Atlantic, and arrived safely at Liverpool on Friday evening, 22nd inst., ten days from Halifax.

The next forenoon we went across to Birkenhead, opposite Liverpool, and out to the cemetery where rest the remains of our dear friend and brother, Arthur Crawley. It is a beautiful spot. As we stood by the grave, and thought of our dear brother's devotion and faithfulness; his noble life, happy death, and the "eternal weight of glory" which must be his, we felt that our own spiritual life was quickened, and our faith and zeal stimulated.

At 2.35 p. m., we took the train and came to London—which is our starting point for the East.

This morning we went to the Metropolitan Tabernacle, hoping to hear again the prince of preachers, C. H. Spurgeon, but he was ill, as is frequently the case of late.

However our disappointment was relieved by hearing his son Thomas Spurgeon, who has supplied for his father for two or three Sundays. He is already, while a beardless youth, becoming known as an able preacher. He is the one who visited Australia lately and preached with such acceptance while there. The father's remarkable gifts, a full clarion voice, and a royal richness of language, are reproduced in the son, while his deep earnestness, and spirituality, and mature understanding are evident. The Tabernacle was nearly as full as usual, and the attention of all was closely held.

This evening we went to Bloomsbury Chapel, and heard the pastor Rev. J. P. Chown, whose name is doubtless familiar to many of your readers, as one of the well known Baptist ministers of London, and the successor of the eminent Dr. Brock. His preaching is sound, spiritual, and impressive. At the close of the service we had the privilege of uniting with them in the Lord's Supper. It has been a happy day for us, a day of refreshing and spiritual comfort.

We are both in our usual good health. We expect to leave here in a few days and go across through France and Italy, and join the steamer at Suez, by which we proceed to India.

Yours sincerely,
W. B. Boggs.

For the Christian Messenger.

King's County Baptist Ministerial Conference.

A meeting of the Baptist ministers of King's County convened in the Vestry of the Baptist Church Wolfville, on Wednesday the 4th Dec., inst., to consider the propriety of organizing a King's Co. Baptist Ministers' Conference and Auxiliary to the N. S. Home Missionary Union. The Rev. S. W. DeBlois was appointed Chairman, and S. March, Secretary.

There were present, Revs. Dr. Crawley, Dr. Cramp, Dr. Welton, S. W. DeBlois, John Chase, Isaiah Wallace, S. March, W. A. Spencer and Bros. A. Whitman and A. Freeman.

It was matter of regret that more of our brethren were not present. A Committee was appointed to draft a Constitution and Bye-laws, consisting of Rev. Isaiah Wallace, Dr. Welton, and S. W. DeBlois.

Revs. Dr. Cramp, Dr. Crawley and Dr. Welton were assigned work to be presented at the next meeting of the Conference.

Dr. Cramp—Paper on the "Second Coming of our Lord."

Dr. Welton—Plan of Sermon.

Dr. Crawley—Exegesis of John iii. 5.

A public meeting was held in the Vestry of the Baptist Church in the evening. In consequence of the storm the gathering was not large. Rev. Isaiah Wallace preached by appointment an interesting discourse on Home Missions. Text, Psalm. lxxxix. 15. Followed by addresses from Revs. S. March, S. W. DeBlois, W. A. Spencer, and A. Freeman.

A collection was taken up for Home Missions.

The next Meeting will be held at an early day on the call of the Committee above named. We hope all our ministering brethren in the County will endeavour to attend, and a fresh impetus be given to our Home Mission Work.

S. MARCH,
Secretary.

Dec. 4th 1878.

For the Christian Messenger.

Home Missions.

But little business was transacted at the meeting of the Home Mission Board yesterday. It being so early in the month only one or two of the monthly and quarterly reports had come to hand.

APPOINTMENT.

Bro. Wm. McGregor, of Hawkesbury, was appointed a mission of six weeks to West Bay, C. B. Mission to extend from December till May 31st, 1879.

WE WANT MONEY.

Our great need at present is money. Orders drawn at the November meeting have not yet been cashed, and salaries amounting to about \$400 are now due. At the next meeting reports from these missionaries will be before us and we desire very much to be able to send them their pay at once. Will you not move in this matter immediately and send forward your contributions before the next meeting.

A. COHOON,
Cor. Sec.

Hebron, Dec. 3rd, 1878.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., December 11, 1878.

DEATH OF REV. WILLARD G. PARKER.

A brief note from Rev. J. Melbourne Parker, on Saturday, informed us of the sudden death of his father, Rev. Willard G. Parker, on Thursday night last, of which he had then only heard by telegraph.

Brother Parker was pastor of the Baptist Church at Pine Grove, Wilmot, and had been so for several years past. When at his house attending the Western Baptist Association, held with that Church, in June last, Brother Parker appeared to us one of the most likely men of the whole to live on for many years yet. How suggestive is his death of the uncertainty of our life. Whilst we have a number of more aged and enfeebled ministers in the province, yet these are spared, and one in the full vigor of his work is taken away to his rest. Not having the particulars of our departed brother's death, we must wait for further information. He was about sixty-two years of age. He was ordained on the 20th of January, 1843, at New Albany. He has consequently been laboring for upwards of thirty-five years, with several of the churches in the Western Association, and also we believe in the Eastern. There are few more genial, kind-hearted, affectionate men than he was. Always ready to give a cheerful word, and to speak for the Master. The Foreign Mission work was dear to his heart. He had not enjoyed the early educational advantages of many, yet his preaching was of a high order. He was an eloquent man and a popular preacher. As a pastor he was highly successful in leading men to Christ. Some of the years of his ministry shew large additions by baptism. It was a rare thing for the church of which he was pastor to have no additions to report. But we must not anticipate his biographer, who will doubtless give a better analysis of his character and labors than we can at the present time. We tender to Mrs. Parker and his bereaved family, and the church at Pine Grove, our most sincere condolence and sympathy under the sudden departure of our beloved friend.

Yours sincerely,
W. B. Boggs.

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ALL NEW SUBSCRIBERS for the Messenger who send \$2.00 for 1879, get the remainder of 1878 free.

GRAPES IN NOVA SCOTIA.—The editor of the Journal of Agriculture says:

We have received from E. B. Hyson, Esq., of Mahone Bay, a few very nice bunches of well ripened Grapes, grown at Mahone Bay. Anxious to know by what process he had succeeded in growing them so well, we made enquiry, and here is his reply:

Mahone Bay, Nov. 5th, 1878.

Your favor of 30th ult. duly received, contents noted. The Grapes I sent you were raised in the open air without any glass being nigh them, the name of the Grape vine is the Concord. It was planted in the Spring of 1872. It has been bearing for the last three years. I raised last season some very large bunches, but this year the bunches were not so large, as the vine had upwards of a bushel on it, and the vine grew to a very large size.

Halifax is by the press generally accorded the palm in the way of the reception accorded the vice regal party. The New York Herald speaking of Montreal said "the reception there did not begin to compare with the beauty in pageantry, the stateliness, the taste, the good order and the faultless police arrangements of the city of Halifax by the distant sea."

We learn from the Berwick Star that on the 2nd Inst, the Anniversary of the Great Fire, the students of Acadia College and Horton Collegiate Academy met together on the old college site, and had some appropriate addresses and passed a vote of thanks to the many friends who had come forward so nobly to aid in rebuilding.

The past twelve months have greatly changed the aspect of the Hill. All parties concerned may well indulge in congratulations on the achievements of the year.

It is hoped from recent communications received from the Ameer of Afghanistan that the war will be of but short duration. The letter concludes with the declaration that Shere Ali entertains no enmity towards the British Government, that he desires to resume the former friendly relation, and will not resist a visit of the British mission to Cabul.

A telegram from Lahore on Thursday last said General Roberts gained a complete victory over the Ameer's forces, capturing Piewar and Khotal and all the Afghan cannon. The enemy's loss is heavy. The British loss is 80 killed and wounded.

Baptists must never cease to be missionaries, and especially Home Missionaries, or they will fail to represent the Divine Missionary. This honor belongs to all the followers of Jesus. Brethren, read the appeal of the Home Mission Board and let each one ask, What can I do? Regard it as an opportunity of doing something for Christ, and be assured that He is worthy for whom you are invited to do this. Then surely help will be forthcoming. Let it be said of you as the Saviour said of the grateful woman in the gospel, "She hath done what she could."

PERFECTIONISM.—The inconsistencies of error are often seen. Other persons are surprised to find how oblivious the perpetrators are to the figure they cut, and how their own conduct shows up the very error they wish to propagate:

The Rev. J. Hyatt Smith says, that he recently received a letter exhorting him to be perfect: "that the writer folded it into a newspaper, wrapped it so that the manuscript could not be seen and then put a one cent stamp on it. That man wrote six pages on sinless perfection, and then cheated the Government out of two cents."

A Nova Scotia Herd Book is to be prepared and published. The following gentlemen have consented to aid and receive information in the several Departments of thorough bred Stock: For Devons, Colonel Laurie, Oakfield. For Ayrshires, David Matheson, Esq., Pictou. For Short Horn Durhams, Colonel W. E. Starratt, Paradise, Co. Annapolis. For Jerseys, Mayor Longworth, Truro.

THE BAPTIST YEAR BOOK OF NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1878: printed at the Christian Visitor Office, St. John, N. B.

We have received a copy of the Year Book. It is got up in good style. It indicates as usual a good deal of careful work done by the Secretaries and gives us a large amount of information respecting the denomination in these Maritime Provinces. We were sorry to find in the Convention Record what appeared to be a diminu-

tion of membership. It there appears that in 1877 there were 36,691 members, and in 1878, 36,680, but on referring to the report of the Committee to whom was referred the Report on the State of the Denomination (page 56) we find that the latter number should be 36,741, shewing a slight increase. It would be well for parties receiving the Year Book to make an alteration with the pen in the Convention Record. The membership of the Eastern N. B. Association as given in the Report on the State of the Denomination is 4,834, but after correction as given in the Statistics of the Churches, page 77, it is 7,125. We mention this not so much to shew these discrepancies as to suggest to the parties concerned the importance of having correctness in the future in Church Letters, and in the Minutes of Associations from which the Year Book is compiled.

THE BAPTIST QUESTION BOOK, on the International Bible Lessons, 1879. THE PRIMARY QUESTION BOOK for 1879. Published by the American Baptist Publication Society.

These two little books are got up in very compact form, a real *multum in parvo*, and are well suited to assist teachers and pupils in their classes; at 15 cents each.

Portraits of the Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise abound, but the nicest we have yet seen is a steel plate engraving by F. F. Stuart, sent us by W. H. Russel, St. John, N. price 25 cents, on thick paper.

General Meteorological Register 1877, for Halifax, N. S., by Frederic A. Allison. Here we have a record of each month of the past year and of all the changes that took place in the matter of heat and cold, cloud and sunshine, wet and dry, thunder and lightning, wind and snow. It appears that there were in December of the past year but 3 days of sleighing whilst in January there were 31 days and in February 28 days of sleighing. The present month seems likely to pass off as mildly as last December.

THE PREACHER AND HOMILETIC MONTHLY for December, has a number of sketches of sermons by various popular preachers, and matters in relation to preachers and preaching. It is edited by Rev. J. K. Funk, and published by the Religious Newspaper Agency, 21 Barclay Street, New York, at \$2.50 a year, or 25 cents a single number.

Notices.

We have been obliged to defer an article, and a communication from Rev. G. N. Ballentine, on Mysterious Manifestations.

RECEIVED FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS. Per Miss Alice Connolly, collections at Jacksonville, N. B. \$14 00 Per M. C. McDonald Esq., M. D. Collection at Queen's Co. Quarterly Meeting..... 7 06 Per Rev. S. B. Kempton, Canard, N. S. Baptist Church..... 5 00 Per John M. Smith, St. Mary's Bay, Digby Co. N. S..... 3 90 \$29 06 THOS. P. DAVIES, Treas. F. M. Board. St. John, N. B., Dec. 11, 1878.

CASH RECEIVED TOWARDS FUND FOR BUILDING OF ACADIA COLLEGE. Helen Johnson, Waterford, Digby Neck \$ 1 00 George Johnson, do 1 00 Henry Bishop, Canaan 10 00 Mr. and Mrs. Sampson Morse, Charleston, Mass. 300 00 Miss Bars, Wolfville 5 00 Miss Mary Bars, do 5 00 "Frank" English Corner 4 00 A. D. W. BARRS, Treasurer. Wolfville, Dec. 7th, 1878.

RECEIVED FOR HOME MISSIONS. From Aux. Board, Hants Co., a contribution From Windsor Baptist Church... \$25 68 " Waterville do do ... 2 32 " Newport do do ... 2 57 " Rawdon do do ... 1 92 A collection at Board meeting, Maitland 2 00 Do. at Summerville 1 87 \$36 36 J. C. ANDERSON, Treas. H. M. Board. Yarmouth, Nov. 30, 1878.

ACADIA COLLEGE. There will be a meeting of the Board of Governors in the Temporary College Building, on Tuesday, Dec. 19th, at 2 o'clock, P. M. STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS, Wolfville, Nov. 29, 1878.

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

Newport.—Mrs. Judson Dimock, \$16 00 M. R. SELDEN, Sec'y. Halifax, Dec. 10th, 1878.

The Ladies of the Baptist Church at Mahone Bay, will have a Tea Meeting and Fancy sale on first Christmas day and if the day is not fine on second Christmas day.

JOSEPH HAM, Mahone Bay, Nov. 29, 1878.

Rev. G. H. Goudey has settled at Shelburne, and wish all correspondence mailed to him there. Bro. G. adds "This is an important field—plenty of hard work. We solicit your prayers."

Letters Received.

S. A. Bishop, \$4, 1 sub. R. Harlow, 1 sub. T. H. Patten, \$10. M. Kinsman, \$2. Rev. W. H. Richan, (2) \$4. A. E. Durland, Esq., \$2, 1 sub. Rev. Dr. Tupper, \$6. Rev. R. S. Morton, \$2, 1 sub. Gardner Tufts, \$2. N. R. Morse, \$2. A. A. Doane, \$2.

Local News.

The body of Mr. William Robinson who disappeared from the Acadian Hotel on the 23rd of October, was found on the shore of the North West Arm on Sunday afternoon. In his pockets were found a razor, about \$14 in notes and a few cents, a gold watch and chain; some empty powder papers, and some papers with writing on them, illegible on account of having been so long in the water. A Coronor's Inquest was held on Monday afternoon. Verdict: Drowned during temporary aberration of mind.

The City Schools are to be closed from the 20th of December to the 6th of January for the Christmas holidays.

Thanksgiving Day was observed by a portion of the Halifax citizens. Quite a number went on a railway excursion.

A valuable present has been made to the Halifax Historical Society by Henry W. Crawley, Esq., of Sydney, C. B., of a collection of Provincial newspapers extending over the last 70 years.

A woman named Catherine Gordon was accidentally killed on the iron bridge, west of New Glasgow on Tuesday last. The jury exonerate the railway officials from blame.

The weather of the past week has been something note worthy. Throughout the lower provinces it is the same, surpassing in mildness anything remembered by the oldest inhabitant. No severe frost till the 7th of December and then only just enough to harden the roads.

Flowers were being picked in the gardens and Mayflowers in the woods last week.

The P. E. I. Merchants' Bank has resumed payment. The other Island banks are paying 10 per cent. dividends.

Mr. Allen Farquhar, son of Jacob Farquhar, 22 years of age, residing with his parents at Western Head, accidentally fell down, and a knife, which he held in his hand at the time, entered his throat, severing an artery, and he bled to death.

A young man named Prince Hopkins was drowned near Chebogue Point, Yarmouth on Friday. He was formerly of Barrington and the main support of a widowed mother.

The Halifax Law Club propose to debate the question, Is it lawful for a man to marry his deceased wife's sister?

The second trial of the Osborne family for the murder of McCarthy is now closing up. The evidence for the prosecution is all in. The cost of this trial will be some thing fearful and it is doubtful if it comes to a conviction.

The Sixty-fifth Anniversary of the Nova Scotia Auxiliary Bible Society will be held (D. V.) in Chalmers' Church in this city on Tuesday the 17th inst. When the annual Report will be submitted and several leading clergymen and laymen will address the meeting.

We were exposed last week to a pitiless storm, that wet our feet and stockings, and indeed our person all over. In fact we took a cracking cold, which brought sore throat and severe symptoms of fever. The good wife asserted her authority, plunged our feet into hot water, wrapped us in hot blankets, and sent our faithful son for a bottle of AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL. It is a splendid medicine—pleasant to take, and did the job. We slept soundly through the night and awoke well the next morning. We know we owe our quick recovery to the Pectoral, and shall not hesitate to recommend it to all who need such a medicine.—Tehuacane (Texas) Presbyterian.

There is no remedy top of the earth that possesses so much real absolute merit as Johnson's Anodyne Liniment. It is both for internal and external use and is worth more in a family than a seventh son.

One single box of Parsons' Purgative Pills taken one a night will make more new rich blood, and will more effectually purify the blood in the system than \$10 worth of any other remedy known at the present time.