

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., September 20, 1882.

[The following was intended for our last, but it only came to hand on Tuesday evening, after we had mailed our last week's issue.]

Farewell Service at Amherst.

On Thursday evening, 7th inst., the friends of Rev. W. and Mrs. George assembled in the vestry of the Amherst Church to bid them farewell on their departure for Burma. After refreshments, the company ascended to the audience-room, when the pastor, in a brief address, bade farewell to Bro. George on behalf of the church, and presented him with one hundred dollars as a slight recognition of his services—he having assisted in various ways in promoting the cause of God among us during the three years of his sojourn. Mrs. George was also presented with an address by Mrs. J. G. Harding, on behalf of the ladies, accompanied by thirty dollars, wherewith to purchase a memento of her stay in Amherst. Miss McCully then presented Mrs. G. with the certificate of the W. M. A. Societies, constituting her a life member, the sum requisite, twenty-five dollars, having been raised by the Children's Mission Band. Altogether it was a very interesting time. Rev. D. McKean was with us, and engaged in prayer, that the blessing of heaven might accompany them on their journey. We sang the 1065th hymn, (Psalmist), "For a season called to part," and amid fond farewells separated. Bro. and Sister George and three children embark with the best wishes of a host of friends in Cumberland and elsewhere throughout the Maritime Provinces.—Com.

We often form very imperfect ideas of the work that is being done by missionaries in foreign lands, and fancy that there is but little change in the moral condition of the people, but the more we know of them the more their real appreciation of gospel blessings and their regard for the Word of God is seen. A private letter just received from Rev. H. Morrow, says: "We are very well and very busy. Just now school claims most of our attention. While we have many pupils who will never be preachers, our great aim is to prepare these young men for such labor. Our highest class has arrived at what is called a common school education, at home, but they have a better knowledge of the Scriptures than many who enter our Theological Seminaries at home. Of course they have, in one sense, better chances to be well acquainted with the Bible. It is their daily study, day after day, and year after year. Often in our studies I want to refer to a passage of Scripture, but cannot repeat it in Karen, as I am not sufficiently familiar with the language. If I can hint at it, however, many pupils will take it up and repeat it correctly."

AS OTHERS SEE US! Our worthy Maine contemporary *Zion's Advocate*, now in its 54th year, whose ability, good judgment and correct taste have so long secured the confidence of its constituency, in making an extract from our columns kindly prefaces it by the remark, "The *Christian Messenger*, the excellent Baptist paper published in Halifax, Nova Scotia, &c."

We learn that the newly appointed Foreign Missionary, Mr. I. C. Archibald will not go out to India so early as it was supposed at the time of the Convention.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA, has been in session at Hamilton, Ontario, since Wednesday the 6th inst. This Conference meets but once every four years, and its business and decisions are consequently regarded as of first importance. The Annual Conference held in the several Provinces, have the work of stationing ministers and matters relating more particularly to the separate societies or churches. Dr. Rice was elected President, Dr. Williams, Vice-President, and Dr. Sutherland, Secretary.

Much time was expended in organizing, appointing Committees, and Officers, and making preliminary arrangements. A number of Appeal cases were reported upon and disposed of. An attempt was made to restore "Wesleyan" to the designation of the body, but it was subsequently objected to, and voted down. An effort was made "to see if there is any need to

revise the liturgy of the Church," but the motion was lost without debate.

The question of Union with the Episcopal Methodist body, was introduced, and a committee appointed to meet with a committee of that body to consider the matter.

The proposal to appoint a Conference for Manitoba and the Northwest was agreed to. It was said that there are at present more than double the number of ministers in that province, than constituted the first Methodist Conference of Canada.

A memorial was read from some missionaries in Japan, protesting against the restrictions placed upon them in their addressing the Methodist public, through the press. At a former Conference it had been resolved that their letters must be submitted to the censorship of the Missionary Board, which it was believed was doing, incalculable evil and occasioning the diversion of a large amount of interest from the mission.

A motion was introduced, providing that in legislating on matters effecting the Annual Conference, there should be required a two-thirds majority vote.

A proposal was made by the Sabbath School Board, to appoint a man whose entire time should be occupied in School work throughout the Dominion, and in editing the Sunday School periodicals.

Educational matters were under consideration on Thursday evening. The educational work of the body is comprised in: 1 Theology and Literature, Institutions at Cobourg; Ont.; Montreal; Quebec; and Sackville, N. B.; 2 University Colleges at Cobourg, and Sackville; 3 Colleges for young ladies in Hamilton, Sackville, Whitby and Stanstead; 4 Academic Institutions at Stanstead and Mount Allison.

Dr. Allison, Superintendent of Education in Nova Scotia, spoke of the position of the Methodist Colleges, and thought "they should be able to offer the Methodist youth of the country, as great opportunities as any one else could." He illustrated his point by showing that graduates of Acadia College went straight to Harvard, and the four years they had served in Acadia College counted as two years at Harvard. They went to Harvard to get the benefit of the instruction of their professors, and because a diploma from Harvard was like a diploma from the London College, it was current coin anywhere. He hoped the people would so support them that the Methodist colleges would be able to offer as great advantages as could be found anywhere."

Dr. Nelles in speaking of the need of endowments to their colleges "vindicated the liberality of the Methodists of Canada, who had given \$1 per member towards the support of the missionary cause, while the greatest Methodist body on the continent had not averaged much more than one-fourth of that amount per member."

A memorial was read asking that a change be made in the length of time of a certain percentage of ministers being transferred—that it be extended to eight years.

It will be perceived that the business of the Conference is as yet largely introductory.

The Nova Scotia Conference of Methodists have received an accession of strength to their ministerial staff by importing five young men. They arrived in the Hibernian on the 9th inst., Their names are as follows:— James Batty, J. H. Buttrick, T. C. Hooper, R. W. Hudgell, and T. Wootton. They will remain in the city until the close of the General Conference, and on the return of the President, Rev. W. C. Brown, will be appointed to their different spheres of labor.

POLITICAL.—The *Presbyterian Witness* of Saturday last says:—"The Syndicate bargain has been accepted, endorsed and proclaimed by our Local Government. This course we expected, and was anticipated when the Government was formed."

The *Morning Chronicle* denies that the Local Government has "endorsed" the said bargain. It says:

"They have 'accepted' and 'proclaimed' it as a matter settled by their predecessors. But they have not endorsed it."

Hon. W. B. Vail sailed from Rim-

ouski on Saturday for England as agent of the Nova Scotia Government to arrange matters with the Railway Syndicate.—Chron.

How rapid is the flight of time! A quarter of a century has passed away since the Rev. David Freeman became pastor of Granville Street Church. The 27th Inst., will be the 25th Anniversary of his wedding day, and now his daughter is the teacher elect of the new St. John, N. B. Baptist Academy. Our brother and Mrs. F. will accept our congratulations on both of these events.

Review of Books.

MISSIONARY LIFE AMONG THE CANNIBALS: being the Life of the Rev. JOHN GEDDIE, D. D., first missionary to the new Hebrides, with a History of the Nova Scotia Presbyterian Mission in that group by the Rev. George Patterson, D. D., Toronto, James Campbell and Son; Halifax, D. McGregor, pp. 512, \$1.25.

This is the title-page of a new book that ought to be read by the friends of missions of all denominations. We regard it a privilege to have known Dr. Geddie. The story of his life is full of interest and instruction. It is an honor to our province to have had such a man go out from it to carry the message of salvation to the heathen, where it may truly have been said "Here every prospect pleases, And only man's vile."

The degraded condition of the South Sea Islanders was rather an attraction than otherwise to Mr. Geddie. He sought for man in his lowest state so that he might be of service in lifting him up to a higher position, and telling him of Christ and his salvation. He found the islands where he first settled peopled by degraded cannibals, but he died and left them a professedly Christian people.

What a marvellous change! There has perhaps never been a more rapid change in any people on earth. The Presbyterian Church have a rich legacy in this biography. Every member of that body should have a copy of this book for the benefit of themselves and families.

HACKETT ON ACTS.—The American Baptist Publication Society will publish this fall, probably ready in October, a new edition of Dr. Hackett's Commentary on the Acts. This edition will contain all of Dr. Hackett, with the Latin and Greek notes translated, and additional notes by the editor, Dr. Alvah Hovey of Newton Theological Seminary. The new index will be made more full and satisfactory than the old, and besides the English text of King James, the text of the Revisers will be given. Hackett is regarded as the best and most thorough commentary on the Acts in the English language, and will be the one in demand the first half of next year when the study of the International Bible Lessons will be on this portion of Scripture.

THE ANABAPTISTS OF SWITZERLAND; By Henry S. Burrage, D. D.

Dr. Burrage has made the records of the life and labors of the Anabaptists of Switzerland a special study for some years. The work which he has here undertaken is to bring out clearly the lives, the principles, and the spirit of these early advocates of the truths which the millions of Baptists of the nineteenth century hold. Greble, Mantz, Reublin, Blarock, Hetzer, Hubmeier, Stumpf, and their fellow-laborers were persecuted, and many of them slain for holding and teaching some of the distinctive truths which are now the common heritage of evangelical Christians.

The American Baptist Publication Society will have ready, Oct. 1, a new BAPTIST HYMNAL, prepared by W. Howard Doane, Mus. Doc., and E. A. Johnson, D. D. This book will contain about 700 hymns, and about the same number of tunes. The hymns have been selected by twenty prominent Baptist pastors. The special features of this Hymnal are: 1. A collection of hymns shown by trial to be useful. 2. A choice, subject to few exceptions, between tunes universally known, and more classical compositions. Price about \$1.25—possibly \$1.00.

The Society will also issue, about Oct. 1, a new Sunday-school Music Book, entitled SONGS OF PRAISE, edited by E. H. Johnson, D. D. It will contain about 123 pages, filled with the finest collection of Standard Sunday-School Music that the best talent can procure. No expense has been spared in its preparation, and, when completed, will be the best and finest book of the kind that has ever been offered to the public.

The American Baptist Publication Society will with January, issue a new Sunday-school paper, called *The Sunlight*. This new paper will be adapted for the same grade of scholars as those now taking *The Young Reaper*. It

will be the same in size, quality, and price as the *Reaper*, and will be published semi-monthly. The object is to furnish four papers a month for those schools that wish that number. By this means, the Society will furnish a special paper; *Our Little Ones*, every week, for the little folks; two semi-monthly papers, *The Young Reaper* and *The Sunlight*, for intermediate scholars; and an advanced paper, *Our Young People*, for the older scholars.

BAPTISM: an argument and a reply, by Rev. C. Goodspeed, A. M., Yarmouth, N. S. pp. 99. Price 15 cents.

This pamphlet was originally prepared about two years ago as a reply to a pamphlet published by Rev. W. A. McKay, a Presbyterian minister of Ontario. That gentleman has since issued a revised and enlarged edition of his work and replies to Mr. Goodspeed's pamphlet. To meet this and refute the statements of Mr. McKay has been the design of the author in the above work. Attention is also given to Rev. Mr. Lathern's work "Baptism."

The author deals with the subject in a manly spirit, and maintains the most fair and honorable position with the positions taken by the writers abovementioned. There is the entire absence of anything like rancor or bitterness so often found in dealing with matters of controversy. Mr. G. maintains a most kind and courteous spirit. He uses the strongest arguments, but with out a word that need offend any one. The points are well taken. The book should be read by everybody.

THE MINERALS OF NOVA SCOTIA, by Edwin Gilpin, Jr., A. M., F. G. S., M. R. S. C., Inspector of Mines, &c. pp. 14.

This small pamphlet was prepared to accompany the collection of Nova Scotia Minerals sent to the Dominion Exhibition at Kingston, Ontario, 1882. It contains information which should be in the minds and memories of every Nova Scotian, to enable them to properly appreciate the country in which they live. A few extracts may be taken from the pamphlet, affording, in brief, the information that should properly be given to our readers.

The Sydney Coal Field has an area of available coal estimated at 300 square miles. It contains ten coal seams, from 3 to 12 feet in thickness, besides numerous smaller beds. The coals are highly bituminous and coking. Many of the seams yield coal well adapted for gas making. Several of the seams enjoy an enviable reputation as good domestic coals, for grate and range purposes.

The following analysis will show the general character of these coals:

Table with 2 columns: Component and Percentage. Moisture 1.260, Volatile combustible matter 35.514, Fixed carbon 59.111, Ash 4.115, Sulphur 1.300.

Coal is also found at several other points in Cape Breton.

The Pictou Coal Field covers an area of about 35 square miles, and is noted for the unusual development of some of the beds. There are 16 seams known, from 3 to 34 feet in thickness. The coal has its chief reputation as a good strong steam coal, adapted for use under all forms of boilers, and is largely used on the Intercolonial, Grand Trunk and other Canadian Railways.

The following analysis will show the general character of these coals:

Table with 2 columns: Component and Percentage. Moisture 2.10, Volatile combustible matter 29.20, Fixed Carbon 61.15, Ash 7.55, Sulphur .50.

The Cumberland Coal Field is not yet explored over its whole extent, but its area has been estimated at 300 square miles.

During the year 1881 there were 1,124,270 tons raised. This gave employment to 1,863 men, and 462 boys underground, and to 1,077 men and 165 boys above ground. 327 horses were employed.

The Gold Fields of Nova Scotia.—The Atlantic shore from Canso to Yarmouth is occupied by the auriferous strata. The width of the district varies from 10 to 40 miles, and its area is estimated at 6,000 square miles.

There are about 20 localities which have yielded returns for a number of years, besides hundreds of localities containing the drift of good ore.

As yet "alluvial" gold has not figured to any extent in our returns. Although the district does not present the vast accumulations of auriferous soil characterizing many parts of California, there can be no doubt that at many points the surface of our mining districts, and the beds of the drainage systems passing across them will be found, on proper exploration, to promise profitable returns.

The Iron Ores of Nova Scotia.—There can be little doubt that in the near future the smelting of our varied stores of iron ore will prove a most important industry in this province. Here alone in the Dominion do the ores, the fuel and the fluxes occur in that juxtaposition which is indispensable to the economical production of pig iron, and the innumerable industries directly

occupied in its conversion into manufactured iron and steel.

Besides these minerals there are found in this Province Copper, Lead, Silver, Manganese, Gypsum, Paints, Barytes, Salt, Mineral Springs. Building Stone of several varieties in great abundance, and stone from which Grindstones have long been manufactured.

News from the Churches.

Ordination at Antigonish, N. S.

Pursuant to a call from the Baptist Church at Antigonish, delegates from five churches met with them in Ecclesiastical Council on Sept. 12th, at 4 o'clock, P. M., to advise them in the matter of publicly setting apart Brother F. M. Young to the work of the Christian ministry. After singing the hymn, "Not all the blood of beasts On Jewish altars slain," and prayer by the Rev. C. H. Martell, the Council was organized by the appointment of the Rev. J. W. Manning of Halifax as chairman, and the Rev. W. H. Robinson as Secretary.

The following delegates were present:—Rev. J. W. Manning, North Church, Halifax; Rev. J. E. Goucher, and Wm. Cummings, Truro Church; Rev. C. H. Martell, Onslow Church; Rev. H. B. Shaffner, Guysborough Church; Rev. W. H. Robinson, Brothers Peter Paint, Junr., and Solomon Embree, Hawkesbury Church.

By request of the Council, Brother T. M. King read the Minutes of the church relative to the matter of ordaining Bro. Young. The Council on hearing the wish of the church and being satisfied that due provision had been made by the church for the support of their minister, requested the candidate to give a relation of his Christian experience, and call to the ministry, and to state his views of Christian doctrine and church polity.

The candidate having made full and clear statements on these topics and having given satisfactory answers to the numerous questions asked by the Council, it was moved by the Rev. C. H. Martell, and seconded by the Rev. J. E. Goucher, and unanimously resolved that the Council advise the church to proceed with the ordination. It was also resolved that the Rev. J. W. Manning preach the ordination sermon; the Rev. J. E. Goucher offer the ordaining prayer; the Rev. W. H. Robinson give the hand of fellowship; the Rev. C. H. Martell give the charge to the candidate; and the Rev. H. B. Shaffner give the charge to the church. It was further resolved that this Council be dissolved after the ordination services in the evening. After prayer by the Rev. H. B. Shaffner, the Council adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock, the time appointed by the church.

The public meeting was held according to appointment, and the above arrangement carried out. The ordination sermon, text 2 Cor. v. 20, "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ" &c., was full of good and fresh thoughts and was delivered in a very impressive manner. The meeting closed by the Rev. F. M. Young pronouncing the benediction. The services in the evening were deeply interesting. The music furnished by the choir was excellent and added much to the interest and enjoyment of the occasion.

Bro. Young who is a recent graduate of Newton, enters upon his work with a hopeful outlook. He is held in high esteem by his people and has their hearty co-operation in all his efforts to advance the Redeemer's Kingdom. The church is not large as to numbers, but it is large in "good works." We bespeak for him a pleasant and successful pastorate.

W. H. ROBINSON, Secretary of Council.

Havelock, N. B. Notes.

Dear Bro. Selden,— Possibly our old friends in Nova Scotia would like to hear from us, and doubtless any indications of advancement will be looked upon with joy, by your readers generally. For their information I would like to say that "The lives have fallen unto us in pleasant places, yea we have a goodly heritage." We are occupying the Parsonage recently purchased by the church and congregation for our accommodation, and so kindly placed at our disposal,

It consists of nearly four acres of land on which is a snug little cottage with convenient out buildings &c. Its locality and surroundings are agreeable and pleasant. We are all in excellent health and enjoying the fruits of the orchard and vegetable garden which afford us an ample supply. We dwell in the midst of a social kind-hearted people and already have received substantial tokens of their kindness, not among the least of which is the gratuitous use of a good cow from Mr. Chas. Keith one of our well-to-do farmers.

There is one meeting house in the centre and six out-stations where services are held in school-houses. Congregations are good and on the increase and the outlook is on the whole, rather encouraging. Prayer and Conference meetings have, of late, been more than usually interesting. Some few at least, are mourning over the desolations of Zion and praying and longing for the revival of pure religion among us. These are the exceptions; however, while it must be confessed that, as a rule the church is in a low state religiously. But we hope for better days, and believe that mercy is in store for us. Let us have an interest in your prayers that showers of blessing may descend upon us.

Yours very truly, I. J. SKINNER. Havelock, N. B., Sept. 7, 1882.

TRURO.—Rev. J. E. Goucher writes Sept. 18th:—"It was my privilege to baptize a promising young man yesterday. The work moves on slowly but surely."

A SHAMEFUL EXCUSE.—It is a sad fact that some professed Christians, like those mentioned in the parable by our Saviour, begin to make excuse when the claims of missions are urged upon them. They say: "We have enough heathen at home. Let us convert them first before we go to the heathen abroad." "That plea," says Philip Brooks, "we all know, and I think it sounds more cheap and more shameful every year. What can be more shameful than to make the imperfections of our Christianity at home an excuse for our not doing work abroad? It is as shameful as it is shameful. It pleads for exemption and indulgence on the ground of its own neglect and sin. It is like the murderer of his father asking the judge to have pity on his orphanhood. Even the men who make such a plea feel, I think, how unheroic it is."

News of the World.

The War in Egypt.

It will be joyful news to our readers, as it will to Christian people in all lands, that on Wednesday last, a decisive battle was fought, and the rebellion under Arabi Pasha brought to a close, that its leaders have surrendered to the British arms, and the army of the enemy scattered. The remarkable movement, by which this was effected, will be regarded as one of the most skillful and bold maneuvers in the history of Britain's many victories. The following is Gen. Wolseley's official report of the battle at Tel el Kebir, on the 13th inst.:

"We struck camp at Kassassin Lock last evening and bivouacked on a high ridge above the camp until 1.30 this morning. We then advanced upon a very extensive and very strongly fortified position held by Arabi Pasha, with 20,000 regulars, of whom 2,500 were cavalry, with 70 guns, and 6,000 Bedouins and irregulars. My force was about 11,000 bayonets, 2,000 sabres and 60 guns. To have attacked so strong a position by daylight, with the troops I could place in the field, would have entailed very great loss. I resolved therefore to attack before day-break, marching the six miles that intervened between my camp and the enemy's position in the darkness. The cavalry and two batteries of horse artillery on the right had orders to sweep round the enemy's line at day-break. The first division of the second Brigade, under Gen. Graham, supported by the Foot Guards under the Duke of Connaught; seven batteries of artillery, numbering 42 guns, with a supporting brigade, the second division of the Highland brigade, leading the Indian contingent, and the naval brigade on the railway advanced. Great emulation was evinced by the regiments to be first in the enemy's works. All of them went at them straight, the Royal Irish particularly distinguishing itself by its dash, and the manner in which it closed with the enemy. All the enemy's works and camp are now in our possession. I do not yet know exactly the number of guns captured but it is considerable. Several trains with immense quantities of supplies were captured. The enemy ran away