

The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

NEW SERIES.
Vol. XXVII, No. 11.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Wednesday, March 15, 1882.

WHOLE SERIES.
Vol. XLVI, No. 11.

Correspondence.

From Chicago.

On Thursday afternoon and evening, Feb. 23rd, jubilee services of the American Baptist Home Mission Society were held in this city. The occasion was the completion of the fiftieth year since the Society sent its first missionary, Rev. Allen B. Freeman, to Chicago. In the opening address of the evening, Dr. Northrup noticed four laws which are illustrated in what has been accomplished within this period: (1) That vast results come from feeble beginnings; (2) That work done for Christ is perpetual in its influence; (3) That it is progressive; and (4) That the church is led to take and hold critical points at critical times. Dr. Morehouse, the Secretary of the Society, gave a brief account of the work the Society has been doing, and then pointed out the present claims, (1) Of the colored population; (2) Of the foreign element; and (3) Of the Indians; upon the Baptists of this country. In his representations of the States farther west, and the vast amount of work which ought to be done in them there was a strong appeal for laborers. The Baptist churches in Chicago are in a flourishing condition. Dr. Lorimer's new edifice is crowded every Sabbath. The Dr. is now engaged in preaching a series of Sunday evening sermons, embracing such themes as "The Portrait of Jesus;" "The Mother of Jesus;" "The Marriage of Jesus;" "The Youth of Jesus," etc. He has been having baptisms every week since the dedication. Yesterday Dr. Henson began his work with the First Church. In him the Baptists have a valuable addition to their already excellent band of Christian preachers. A few weeks ago "Memorial Baptist Church" was dedicated. Rev. J. T. Burhoe, formerly of Prince Edward Island, is pastor. He has shown himself to be a strong man, and is much esteemed by his people.

But the great central point of Baptist interest in this western country is the Theological Seminary at Morgan Park. This institution is now nearing the close of its fifteenth year. Its history has been one of marked progress. Beginning with twenty students, there has been an average increase of about five per year, until this year there are ninety-three in attendance,—the largest number, I believe, at any Baptist Seminary in the world. Of this number about fifty are College graduates. The necessity for young men taking a full College course before entering upon their Theological studies is becoming more and more urgent; and the opportunities for obtaining this leave little excuse, in most cases, for neglecting to take it. Then, while there has been a growth in the number of students at this Institution, there has been a corresponding growth in its wealth and efficiency. Perhaps the most noticeable feature in the way of recent advancement has been the new impetus given to the study of Hebrew. This language has been studied, it must be admitted, too languidly in our Theological Schools in the past. Such is not the case at Morgan Park. The students become enthusiastic over acquiring Hebrew under Professor Harper. He is on fire himself, and he sets his classes on fire. Last summer the Professor opened a school for any who might wish to leave their churches for a time and begin the study, or revive and increase their knowledge, of this language. This enterprise was a decided success, so that the school is no longer an experiment. There were twenty students last summer, and, as an evidence of the good work done by them, we have but to point to their translation of the Pro-

phets of Malachi. On examining this translation, Prof. Delitzsch, of Leipzig, spoke of it in commendatory terms. The number who have made application to join the school next July already exceeds sixty. If there are those in Nova Scotia who would like to acquire greater facility in reading the Old Testament in the original, or those who would like to get an energetic start in this direction, or those who would like to enjoy a series of lectures upon topics connected with the Old Testament by prominent educationists and preachers, or those who would like to see this great western country, let them come out here and form the acquaintance of Prof. Harper. If some come ostensibly to see the West, and make the Hebrew a secondary consideration at the start, before they are here long they will forget about the country and become absorbed in the work of the school, or I am greatly mistaken. There will be two courses of lectures, the first course numbering eighteen—(one lecture being delivered each day)—Dr. Northrup opening with three lectures upon "The Moral Difficulties of the Old Testament;" then comes Dr. Anderson, President of Chicago University, with two lectures, one upon "The Prophets, the Ministers of the Old Testament;" and the second upon "The Schools of the Prophets." Dr. Curtis, Dr. Smith, of the Standard, Prof. Huribert, and others will follow. The second course, of six lectures, will embrace topics relating to the Hebrew language, and three of the number will be given by Prof. Harper himself. The following portions of the Old Testament will be read by the extempore class: Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, I and II Samuel, Esther, Nehemiah, Proverbs, Song of Solomon, Ecclesiastes, Lamentations, and selections from the Psalms, Isaiah, and the Minor Prophets.

Perhaps in writing of this new departure in the study of the language of the Old Testament Scriptures, I am occupying space which will not be filled in a way interesting to the majority of your readers; but I think it ought to be and will be interesting to a very valuable minority. Many, no doubt, would like to avail themselves of this opportunity who cannot do so; but there will be some, who, with little difficulty, could "pull up stakes" for a few weeks, (the school continues but six), and with small expense, as no tuition is charged, reap enduring advantage.

I am watching with interest the movement of affairs in our denomination at home. Especially am I interested in Acadia College. The 29th ult. was observed in the United States as a Day of Prayer for Colleges. No more important object of prayer is presented to Christian people. At the meeting I attended on the day mentioned three facts received especial prominence: (1) In a little time the most important and responsible positions will be filled by those now in our higher schools of learning. (2) What students are when they leave College, they will, in the majority of cases, be throughout their career. Conversions after graduation are comparatively few. (3) The majority of our ministers date their conversion back to their College days; and quite a large proportion of those converted in College enter the Christian ministry. I suppose the Day of Prayer with you for the same object is near at hand. A little reflection upon the importance of the object will make the day an interesting and important one to all. The Institutions at Wolfville have been blessed with revivals beyond most; and perhaps these revivals are not so frequent nor so extensive as in former years. Let the supporters of Acadia bear that Institutions upon increasingly earnest peti-

tions to God's throne in view of the far-reaching and enduring effects of religious life among the body of students. And if I were to say a word to fellow-students it would be to urge them to strive after spiritual growth while seeking to gain knowledge and increased mental strength. "It will not do to build up three sides of a tower and leave the fourth unbuilt."

While I have made this letter too long, Mr. Editor, it is well that I write but seldom.

Most cordially,
R. E. MORGAN,
Morgan Park, Chicago, Ill.,
March 5th, 1882.

For the Christian Messenger.
More about the call for more Ministers.

Mr. Editor,—I would like to refer to Dr. Sawyer's "statement" which appears in your paper of Feb. 22nd, it will be seen that he thinks I am right in supposing that "the very meagre aid given to needy young men who are anxious to fit themselves for the work of the ministry, has something to do with this deficiency of labourers under which we are now suffering." He adds: "The aid given has in many places been too small." If this be so, if there be young men needing aid, how is it that during the year ending August, 1881, the Ministerial Education Board appropriated less than two-thirds of the amount on hand at the beginning of that year; and for the year ending August, 1881, the Ministerial Education Board appropriated less than two-thirds of the amount on hand at the beginning of that year. To say that Dr. H. has said, by way of throwing light or darkness on my former reference to funds in hand, "that the greater part of the contributions to this Board come to the Treasurer after the appropriations of the year have been made," will not, we think, explain that point, at least.

Further if the need of this aid exists how is it that for the last nine years the unappropriated balances of the DeWolf Aid Fund have ranged from \$58.37 to \$140.91 per year? To say that this Fund is not confined to students who intend to enter the ministry, but is open to any student of good character who may need assistance—as any one may know who has a copy of the Convention Minutes of 1864—only makes it the more remarkable that there should be these unappropriated balances.

When the Dr. says, "We have not been just to the young men or acted wisely for the churches in the future," impressed with the fact that the most does he mean the Brethren who have had the management of the above mentioned funds or the denomination? If he mean the denomination, we are long I must surrender my charge; why expect Brethren to contribute largely when there seems already to be a surplus, or when the needs are never brought to the notice of the Brethren composing the Board?

In 1860, the question of Ministerial Education as relates to the point under discussion, was taken hold of by the Redeemer's glorious cause. And yet Convention, and until 1864, reports are many things for which I were presented. Since that date should thank God and take courage. has been nothing but a financial statement. The Lord has blessed me with remission, sometimes prefaced by the remarkably good health. For this I hope of the Brethren composing the Board thankful. During these twenty years of my ministry. While taking a review of the past and the present, I have been deeply impressed with the fact that the most of my days are gone, the prime of life had the management of the above mentioned funds or the denomination? If he mean the denomination, we are long I must surrender my charge; why expect Brethren to contribute largely when there seems already to be a surplus, or when the needs are never brought to the notice of the Brethren composing the Board?

From the following recommendations: Tupper, D. D., J. L. Read, Wm. which appears in the report of the Board for 1861, it will be seen that they sought to do more than to assist young men.

The Board beg leave to recommend the following to the Convention and the churches:

1st. That Pastors bring the subject of Ministerial Education more frequently before the people in public and in private; enlightening them upon it, tracing out its bearings and their obligations, and seeking to create a more healthy public sentiment in regard to it. 2nd. That the churches have an eye to the young men whom the Lord is pleased to add unto them from time to time, to see if there may not be those who give indications, quite unconsciously to themselves it may be, that they are called of God to become preachers of the Gospel. (Such calls are not always understood by the persons themselves. They have to be interpreted and oft-times enforced by others, and not infrequently in cases when there would seem the least room for mistake or doubt in relation to the matter. Samuel needed the instruction of Eli. Saul of Tarsus had to be "sought" at his home, and drawn to the great work for which he had been specially designed, and to which he had so signally been called.)

In conclusion I wish to say that when I write as Secretary of the Home Mission Board, I so subscribe myself but when otherwise, I am

A. COBURN.
Hebron, March 7, 1882.

For the Christian Messenger.
Reinforcements.

offer themselves to go to the front, and they do it for a corruptible crown."

Bro. Hutchinson asks for at least one more man!

Brethren of the Maritime churches, let us respond at once. This means more money. Very well let us put in SPECIAL DONATIONS for a few weeks, of one, five, ten, or fifty dollars, to enable the Board to meet this absolute necessity. Your church treasurer will forward your donation with the Convention Scheme Fund, or you can enclose it to the Foreign Missionary Treasurer, St. John.

A MEMBER OF THE BOARD.

For the Christian Messenger.
Review of Twenty-five years of Ministry.

BY W. L. PARKER.

Taking a review of the past and the present, I have been deeply impressed with the fact that the most of my days are gone, the prime of life had the management of the above mentioned funds or the denomination? If he mean the denomination, we are long I must surrender my charge; why expect Brethren to contribute largely when there seems already to be a surplus, or when the needs are never brought to the notice of the Brethren composing the Board?

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will be seen that of these twelve, six have gone to their rest. During these years I have baptized and welcomed to the churches in my fields of labor 723 persons. Buried 223. Have preached in 187 different houses, and preached during my ministry 3,028 sermons.
Barton, March 6th, 1882.

News of the Churches.

TRURO.—Rev. J. E. Goucher writes March 8th:—Dear Bro. Selden, I baptized six in Truro last Sabbath, some besides have found peace in believing, and others are enquiring. I am glad to hear of the good work going on in Granville St., Tabernacle, and Dartmouth Churches. What about my old field, the dear North Church? Let the prayer go up from every pastor's and church member's heart, more earnestly than ever, "O Lord revive thy work."

*We are pleased to be able to inform our brother that the meetings at the North Church are deeply interesting, and quite a number of young men have given indications of their intention to become followers of Christ.

LOWER GRANVILLE.—Dear Editor, Yesterday was a memorable day in the history of the Lower Granville Baptist Church. It was my privilege to baptize five persons at Sion's Beach—four noble young men and one woman, the mother of a large family—in the presence of a very large assembly. The power of the Lord were graciously felt, and many were affected to tears.

In the evening these and five others received by letter, was welcomed by the hand of fellowship. Many are seeking the Lord, and still the prospect brightens.

How much I think of the dear brethren and friends in Rawdon, Mount Uniacke, Walton, Maitland, No-1, and other places in Hants Co. for whose spiritual welfare I laboured last year. May the Lord bless them all!

Fraternally,
ISA. WALLACE.
Parsonage, March 13, 1882.

CENTRAL ONSLOW.—Rev. C. H. Martell informs us that he had the privilege of baptizing six believers into the fellowship of the East Onslow Baptist Church last Sunday. Four of the number were married persons.

AMHERST.—We are glad to learn from Rev. D. A. Steele that he baptized three persons on Sunday the 5th instant.

ST. JOHN.—The Visitor reports as follows:—

Leinster St.—There were received into fellowship yesterday seven persons. Six by letter and one by baptism.

Brussels St.—Four persons were received into fellowship Sabbath evening.

Germain St.—The Rev. Henry Cross, of New York city, is expected to preach for Germain St. next Sunday morning and evening. Mr. Cross is an Englishman, and has served as pastor in America, the First Baptist Church, St. Paul, and the Pilgrim Church, New York City. He is a fine preacher, and we wish he might be induced to prolong his visit in our city.

Carleton.—The pastor reports the holding of special meetings, and one received for baptism.

Centreville, Car. Co.—Rev. J. W. S. Young reports 17 in all baptized at Centreville, and a donation made him of \$61.82 for which he gratefully expressed his thanks.

We are sorry to learn that the Baptist Church Edifice at Fredericton, N. B., was totally destroyed by fire on Thursday last. Only a short time since a considerable sum was expended upon it—raising it up, so as to give a more spacious basement. We are glad to find that \$7000 insurance was upon it.

NOVA SCOTIA LEGISLATURE.

CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

On Friday afternoon the parliamentary session was closed. It was a longer one than usual, having continued over seven weeks. This was the fourth and closing session of the present Parliament. A general election will be held in the coming summer, which will probably effect a considerable change in the personnel of the House. It was evident during the debates that this consideration largely influenced the action of some of the members.

At 4 o'clock, His Honor the Lieut. Governor came to the Council Chamber, and having summoned the People's Representatives read the following

SPEECH.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

1. The business of the Session being now completed, it gives me much pleasure to be able to release you from further attendance on your Legislative duties.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

2. I thank you for the liberal provision you have made for the public service. It will be my duty to see that the sums you have placed at my disposal shall be carefully applied to the purposes for which they are granted.

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

3. The work of the Session now about to close, has been laborious and engrossing. The subjects you have had before you have been varied in character. Some of them have been of more than usual importance. The mode in which you have dealt with them, will make this session probably the last in which the present Assembly will be called to take part, an important era in the history of the Province.

4. The Bills of Incorporation which you have been called upon to consider in larger numbers than usual, indicate a striking revival of business enterprise. The great increase of the past year in the production of our coal mines, and the promise of a still greater increase in the present year are subjects of sincere congratulation, not only as swelling the revenue derived from royalties, but as indicative of the growth throughout the Dominion of manufacturing and industrial enterprise for which the use of coal is essential.

5. I am glad that you have been able with the increased revenues derived from this and other sources to provide liberally for all the usual public services and to appropriate for the important object of Roads and Bridges a larger sum than you have been able to afford in previous years.

6. The arrangements you have made for consolidating and completing the Provincial Railways, will, I have reason to believe, be found to be of paramount importance to the interests of the country. You have been able to provide for the building of parts of the roads which are essential to the completion and perfection of our Railway System, but which you have hitherto been unable to operate. You have arranged for placing the whole system under one ownership and management, so that the antagonisms and expensiveness of disjointed and independent managements may be superseded by the harmony and economy which should distinguish a single authority exercised over the entire line from Louisbourg to Yarmouth. You have been able to effect these arrangements without crippling your resources, and with no reason to fear an undue pressure on the resources of the future. Returning to your homes under circumstances gratifying to your feelings as representatives of the people, it will be your duty to spread in the different communities in which you reside, sentiments of gratitude to the Giver of all good for the bounties of providence of which we have enjoyed a full share, and of loyal attachment to the institutions under which it is our happy lot to live and to prosper.

The leaders of the parties will now be busy in finding out the best and strongest men to become candidates for the suffrages of the people.

Henry Ward Beecher, was lecturing at Chicago, on Monday last week when he fainted on the platform.

OUR APPLE MARKETS.—At an exhibition of Canadian products held at Reuthingen, in Germany, the following apples were selected as the best ten by the pomologist, Dr. E. Lucas: Baldwin, Ben Davis, Blue Pearmain, Clyde Beauty, Fameuse, "Hubbardson Nonsuch," Irish Crofts, Northern Spy, Red Rambo and Spitzenburg.

Mr. John Thornton, of London, England, writes, under date 27th January, "Our season is remarkable mild, and very forward."