

The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

NEW SERIES.
Vol. XXVII., No. 27.

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WHOLE SERIES.
Vol. XLVI., No. 27.

News from the Churches.

DARTMOUTH.—It was our privilege, again yesterday, (Sabbath July 2d) to welcome another to our fellowship after baptism, which privilege we have enjoyed the first Sabbath in each month for the last five months.

And still there are others coming in among us and inquiring the way of life.

REV. J. GRANT.

P. E. ISLAND.—*Belmont.*—Rev. J. B. Woodland baptized four recently at this place, and others are received.

Rustico.—Rev. J. B. Woodland has baptized three into the fellowship of the church here.

TEMPLE CHURCH, YARMOUTH.—

Rev. J. Clark's pastorate, extending over more than three years, closes with the present month. Owing to the failure of the *Edgar Stuart* to keep her appointments, no delegate was present at the Association, and though the letter was sent on by mail, it is possible that it was not in time to be read. It contained the following:—

"Our pastor having resigned his position with us, we expect he will shortly remove to another field of labor. His faithful work during the time he has been with us, has been richly blessed of God, and our united prayer is, that wherever his lot may be cast in the future, he may be even more abundantly blessed than in the past."

When action was taken on the pastor's resignation, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

"That in accepting Bro. Clark's resignation, the church desires to give expression to its gratitude to God, in that He has been pleased to bestow His rich blessing upon the faithful labours of our dear Brother, whereby many during his pastorate have been brought into the fold of Christ. And further, to place on record its high appreciation of the Christian manliness displayed by him while leading the church through the great difficulties of the past."

A call to the pastorate has been extended to the Rev. J. L. M. Young, late of Illinois, and he is advertised to fill the pulpit the first Sunday in July.

June 24th, 1882.

News of the World.

Queen Victoria is now in her sixty-fourth year, and weighs 200 lbs.

The Repression Bill is dragging its weary way through Parliament. On the 1st inst, the "cloture" was brought into service to remove obstruction attempted by the Irish members and several clauses of the Bill were thus passed.

Crime is still rampant. Lord Clarendon's agent Blake, and his steward Keene were shot on Thursday, within half a mile of Lochrea.

Cardinal McCabe, of Dublin, has issued a pastoral in which he denounces the horrid deeds of vengeance in Ireland.

Three arrests have been made in connection with the murder of Blake and Keene.

Blake was the cousin of Lord Clarendon, and was over 70 years of age. He had refused police protection, although his life had been threatened several times.

A Step of Progress.—Englishmen have been so long accustomed to public procedure and trial by jury that they may be rather surprised to find, that in a country like Spain it is only just being thought advisable to introduce a bill providing for the establishment of oral and public, instead of written and secret, procedure in the law courts. The bill is intended as a preliminary step to the institution of trial by jury.

Married Women's Property.—The Court of Appeal decided lately that the Jewels given to a Mrs. Hwa Williams, upon her marriage, for her separate use, were liable for debts incurred by

her before her marriage. A milliner had seized them to satisfy a judgment and the Court decided that she was entitled to do so.

The Duke of Bedford has returned his tenants 25 per cent. off their rents for the past half-year.

LEGAL NOTES.—*United States Liquor Legislation.*—A Cleveland, (Ohio) saloon-keeper has been convicted of violating the new Sunday Closing Law, and the temperance people feel a growing hope that it can be generally enforced.

A Marseilles Correspondent telegraphs that the bull-fighting season has commenced at Arles and Nimes. In the former town on Sunday last the performance was interrupted by a terrible accident. One of the spectators, an old man, tumbled into the arena and was immediately pursued by a bull, which tossed him into the air and gored him when he fell to the ground. The bull was ultimately secured, and the man carried in a shocking state to the hospital. An attempt was made by the authorities to stop the performance, but the audience protested against the step with so much tumult that this entertainment was allowed to continue to the end.

We note with pleasure that a knighthood has been bestowed on Mr. George Philippo, Chief Justice of Hong Kong. Mr. Philippo did very good service in Jamaica some years ago in defending those charged with insurrection. Lady Philippo is a daughter of Rev. John Clark, formerly of Brown's Town, Jamaica.

Charles J. Guiteau, the assassin of President Garfield, paid the full penalty for his crime, by being hanged on Friday last, at Washington. Two days more would have been the Anniversary of the day on which he committed the foul deed. The world is well rid of such an infamous villain.

A fire at Larrimore, D. T., on the 29th, destroyed one fourth of the town, several persons were burned to death; property destroyed is valued at \$50,000.

The "heated term" has set in with unusual vigour, the thermometer registered 98° in shade in New York last Sunday week, and as high as 102° in some other places. Many deaths from sun-stroke are reported.

The National Division S. of T. will meet in Annual Session in Concord, N. H., on July 12th.

A young spend-thrift is said to have lost \$450,000, at a quiet game of cards at Newbury, N. Y., a short time ago. He now has taken legal proceedings to recover about \$150,000 of it which he had paid over.

A Kansas farmer took home a seventy-five cent dog to please his wife, and in one night the animal killed \$90 worth of sheep to please himself.

Terrific tornadoes have been experienced throughout the West from Mississippi to Minnesota and Dakota. One hundred and thirty lives have been lost and a great number have been injured, while property worth nearly \$4,000,000 has been destroyed.

Congress has lately passed an important Immigration Act which provides, that a duty of fifty cents per capita shall be paid by the Steamship Companies for every passenger, not a U. S. Citizen, coming to any port. The money thus collected shall be paid into the U. S. Treasury and shall be used to defray the expenses of regulating immigration, for the care of those arriving in distress, &c. The duty is to be a lien upon the vessel. Provision is made for the Examination of immigrants on Shipboard, and for the return in the same vessel that brought them and at the owner's expense of any convict, lunatic, idiot, or any person liable to become a public charge.

A telegram from Montevideo, dated June 23, states that the revolution in Uruguay has ended.

The King of Abyssinia is persecuting the Christians. All missionaries have been banished, and all persons found with Bibles in their possession have been imprisoned.

The Duke of Edinburgh had a narrow escape from drowning, while fishing at Bayona, Spain. He hooked a large fish which dragged him into the water. He was carried under four times before he succeeded in regaining the land.

A movement for the severance of Norway from Sweden and the establishment of a Republic, is assuming increasing proportions, and unpleasant complications are expected.

Harvest prospects in France are so good that, the *Débats* says, for the first time for four years France will have no occasion to import food from abroad.

Since the first of January, 3,480 miles of new railways have been constructed in the United States.

Review of Books.

The NATIONAL FARMER, No. 1, Vol. 1 is just started at Washington, D. C., about the size of the *Christian Messenger*, at \$2.00 a year, 5 cents a copy. It is well filled with agricultural matter. It will doubtless soon secure a wide circulation.

THE VERDICT MARCH is the title of a new piece of music just published by F. W. Helmick, 180 Elm Street, Cincinnati, O. A strange idea to make the Verdict in the case of the murderer of President Garfield a subject of a March. It would not probably be noticed under another title. We shall not offer to pronounce on its merits.

The July number of the HOME CIRCLE, the monthly magazine of the Publication Society has come to hand. It opens with an illustrated article by Dr. Broadus on the Sea of Galilee. Glennardale is continued, and there is a short story of great interest. There is a very fine portrait of the missionary Carey, accompanied by a brief sketch. The editorial notes are as good as in former numbers. And a series of short jottings called "Current Events" begins. A Book Table is promised in the next number. This magazine grows. Its appearance is light, its contents interesting, and its price a marvel of cheapness. Let all try it seven months for seventy-five cents.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.
Letter from France.

PARIS, June 12th, 1882.

The supreme *bon ton* at Paris, as elsewhere, and at Paris more than elsewhere, consists in a small number of privileged persons doing what the vulgar cannot do—amusing themselves when the masses are working, waking when they are sleeping, sleeping when they are waking, and going out for a ride when they are in the workshop or at the counter. This is why the cream of fashion do not go to the theatre on Sunday, and rarely shows itself at the Bois oftener than six days out of seven. Vanity is one of the most deeply rooted qualities of human nature, and nothing can conquer this desire to be distinguished from the base crowd.

It is in vain that you hear people talk about equality; the way that most people, and amongst those the French, understand equality is that they are equals of those that are above them. You, a modest shop keeper, a retired business man, or a well to do banker, you are of course the equal of Lord Kikemstiff or of the Comte de Baccarat, but you of course could not condescend to take off your hat to the man who blacks your boots, or the groom who drives your horses. With all their democratic instincts, the French are essentially a proud people, and in modern France the *bourgeoisie* has taken the place of the old nobility, the defects of which it has inherited, and the good qualities of which it has neglected. I do not say that civilized man is in the wrong, and I am no believer in absolute equality. I take Parisian society as it is, brilliant and thoughtless, jealous of its titles and blasons, proud of its fortune, but still charitable at bottom and full of humanity. Here we are then in the Bois. It is, let us suppose, any time between four and six; it is a brilliantly fine day, and the artificial and natural landscape is the finest that could be found. We have taken up our station

in the promenade on one side of the lake, the famous "Tour du lac" as it is called, because no one ever makes the four. There is an interminable double line of carriages, and all Paris is desfilant before us. Here is a rich equipage. On the box is a coachman, fat as a canon, powdered and curled; the horses are two thoroughbred high-steppers; the door-panels are adorned with a ducal coronet, on the footboard at the back, are two valets in gorgeous livery. In the carriage itself is a young and beautiful woman, the bearer of one of the noblest names of France, and on the seat in front of her sits her little daughter playing with a white grey-hound, slender and delicate. But all that glitters is not gold, and behind the carriage of the duchess, whose name may be seen amongst the lady patronesses of half the charitable institutions of Paris, follows the smart couple of the "agent de change," or dishonest notary, who sends his wife to the opera covered with false diamonds, and on the very day when he intends to take the night express for Belgium, does not fail to show himself in the Bois a few hours before his departure. There he salutes his clients with that motion of the hand so familiar to Parisians, and which has replaced the now old-fashioned raising of the hat. The poor victims do not apprehend the blow that they are about to receive. How can they not have confidence in a man who has just bought a new pair of handsome boots? To be, or seem to be, are the two poles, the alpha and the omega of the society that passes slowly before us in those brilliant equipages and on those prancing hacks.

Who is that woman reclining so languidly on the downy cushions of her Victoria? What with studied grace the waves of her dress fall around her! What harmony and artistic simplicity of toilette! Next to her carriage is the dog-cart of a successful book-maker, then a banker, a journalist, and then the brilliant line is broken by a humble cab laden with a family of long-faced Anglo-Saxons wearing impossible dresses and miraculous hats. Let them pass! They are happy, and, happily for themselves, they are proudly unconscious of their incongruous costume. Wait still a few minutes and you will see the princes of finance; two or three political notabilities, and a few artistic and literary celebrities. Such is a pale sketch of the Bois in a Spring afternoon before the departure of all Paris for the seaside or the country.

The financial world is now suffering from an acute attack of mania of the genus "Electric Light." New companies with electric *raison d'être* follow each other in a continuous stream, and concessional companies from parent bodies contribute to the plethora of new concerns. Every one seems more or less infatuated with the fascinating craze, every one is talking electricity, and thousands are a *Union Generale* staking their money for shares either in the fever heat of almost insane speculation, or in blind belief in the statements and opinions of pseudo-experts or in the roseate assurances given in flattering prospectuses. The extraordinary speculation in electric light shares at the present moment, and the advent of shoals of new concerns calling for vast sums as purchase money, portend an impending crash, which, if the existing state of matters continues with unabated imprudence, will come as surely and as unmistakably as it did to the French Bank of which we heard so much a few months ago. History in matters financial very frequently repeats itself. Some of the new companies, may have the elements of genuineness about them, but such is very doubtful in other cases.

Public gaming is being put down in France, the national lottery has been

suppressed; yet gambling in clubs goes on worse than ever, and the circulation is allowed of an enormous number of lottery tickets for so-called benevolent institutions.

The Third International Electric Exhibition is to come off at Vienna in September and October next. The objects sent are exempt from import as well as export duty, and the respective patents to be duly protected during the term of exhibition.

AUGUST.

For the Christian Messenger.

Thoughts on Associations.

Mr. Editor.

Judge Johnston and Brother Grant writing in the *New Brunswick Christian Visitor* have come to the conclusion that "Associations" have lost their usefulness and therefore had better be given up. As a basis on which to build their structure, they assumed that there is *nothing* for these bodies to do; starting with false premises naturally leads to erroneous conclusions. Bro. Grant contradicts himself when he attempts to shew that so many reports have to be crowded into a short space that there is not an opportunity to do full justice to any of them; now if the Associations had *nothing* to do, there would be no complaint of want of time. I should rather argue from these premises that there is so much to do and so much valuable work left undone that it would be much better to *add* to the time, used by the Associations than to destroy the assembly, itself. Let us enquire whether it be correct that all our denominational enterprises have been handed over to the Convention?

In my opinion they have not; certain duties to be performed, certain organizations to be directed are placed in the power and under the control of the larger body, as by it the operations pertaining to each can be better managed and directed. But the PRINCIPLES which underlie our denominational enterprises do not emanate from the Convention, but from our churches as represented in our smaller gatherings in Associations. The Associations are the legislative body, the Convention more nearly that of an executive one. Let the Associations be done away, and soon the views of the churches would be sought for in vain in the Convention. The two bodies are essential and necessary; each has its peculiar work, the smaller bodies were especially religious, the larger one secular and business like in its operations. Ministers are taken away from their flocks for a Sabbath, this is made an objection! should it not be looked upon as a benefit? Churches that cannot maintain worship one Sabbath without a pastor; must be weak in members and badly instructed in Christian work. Ministers need a change, many of them are not permitted to take an extended vacation, how beneficial therefore must be even one Sunday to mingle with other brethren in the ministry and compare notes on their peculiar labours, in which often much discouragement overshadows them. Instead of the church suffering loss by the absence of its minister one Sunday, they usually feel that they have made a gain by the invigorating of the pastor both physically and spiritually, as he again enters upon his work; the feelings of *isolation* he indulged in are laid aside, as he mingles with other co-workers, and finds that the Lord has many true Israelites still left who have not bent the knee to Baal, he returns to his work with faith strengthened, hopes brightened and courage emboldened, to grapple with his pastoral duties for the year before him.

The "Associations" according to Bro. Grant's theory have nothing to do? I fear that this brother has not been

present at any of those Annual gatherings of late years, or he would have found that this was far from being true; the business to be transacted is only limited on such occasions by the want of time fully to attend to it. Is the discussion on the duty of churches in raising benevolent funds, of promoting temperance, of forwarding Education, of sustaining sabbath schools, of the work of missions, and several other items that could be mentioned, of no importance? The same ground is not gone over in the Convention. The Convention receives the *views* of the churches through the Associations, and discusses the best mode and methods for carrying out their wishes. The Convention is largely Executive, whilst the Associations are essentially Legislative. Did the Associations resolve by their action to discontinue Foreign Missions, what would be the value of a vote appointing missionaries, and a board to direct them, if the funds would not be forthcoming from the churches? they certainly would not, unless first fully approved of by the Associations.

The Associations discuss principles, instruct the Churches in relation thereto, the Convention only carries out their expressed wishes, when the smaller bodies cease to act the work of the Central and larger one must necessarily close.

The Kernel, Bro. Grant, is still in the Associations, not likely to be given away, nor is there a probability of its perishing through want of nourishment. Take it for granted—though we don't grant it—that we have handed over to the Convention all the benevolent schemes of the Churches, still there would be plenty to engage the delegates of the Churches in their Associations, which would be abundantly profitable and highly beneficial to our denomination generally.

Let us enquire when and why the first Association was formed. In the year 1800 was the first regularly constituted meeting: Its Constitution as follows:—

"That such a combination of Churches is not only prudent but useful * * * some of its obvious benefits are union and communion among the several Churches * * * and in general being better able to promote the cause of God"—what could such a gathering find to do? where were the various objects which are now discussed by the Associations? they were not in existence. The association went on fourteen years before a collection was taken for *Foreign Missions* (1814) two years after Judson entered on his work; at the same time was instituted a plan to carry on *Home Missions*; was nothing being done during these fourteen years? Fourteen years more, and at the Association in 1828, the *Education Society* was born; some two years after *Temperance Societies* were inaugurated, and some time after Sabbath School work was introduced; now if our Associations are so depleted as to be void of life and need no further existence, what may be said of the years that passed when the body was in active life with none of these objects before it?

The fact is, all our great and benevolent works were the offspring of these gatherings; we are yet to live and advance, and other important measures must come forth as the result of the annual meetings of our seven Associations.

Bro. Grant thinks no one can give a good reason for continuing our annual sectional gatherings; it may be that my views may not be convincing, still I think he will have to write more articles than one, to lead very many of the churches to aid him in consigning to oblivion our long cherished, most useful and dearly loved Associations.

J. W. BARRETT.
Wolfville, 30 June, 1882.