Halifax, N. S., October 11, 1882.

WORSHIP.

Much has been said and written for the purpose of defining man's place in the universe of living-sentient beings, as distinct from other animal life. Definitions have been given more or less satisfactory. One of these that commends itself more than many is that "man is a worshipping animal." This however is far from being sufficient to define the high position given to man by his Creator. The relation He has established in the prayer taught by our Lord to his disciples, "Our Father which art in Heaven, &c., throws a flood of light upon our place in the range of creation as well as shews to us that we are essentially immortal beings. This makes worship not a mere repetition of words, however correctly recited, or the assuming of certain postures, or performing certain genuflections however expressive or significant of humility or self-reproach. But the true approaches of man to his Maker, to be of any real value, most be deeper than words or ritualistic forms however beautiful and

The teachings of the New Testament are that these ceremonials in themselves are of no value, and that worship must be a spiritual exercise or it is not worship at all.

Our combining in congregations for worship must have certain elements to make it of any value to ourselves or in the smallest degree acceptable to Almighty God.

Many regard the mere assembling together with those who meet for worship as in itself an act of worship, whereas it may be an act of impiety, and an abomination in the sight of God. It was said of God's ancient chosen people, "This people draw near me with their mouth and with their lips do honor me, but have removed their heart far from me." Acceptable worship must be an act of heart-homage, confession of sin, and a genuine effort to draw nigh to God and to commune with him. And to such he will draw nigh and with them will he commune. Listening to a minister's prayer is no more praying than looking at a bird's flying is flying. Repeating the same words that the minister utters is not with the feet is walking. Except we join in the prayer with the heart, whether from the printed page or the extemporary utterance we do not pray then only is it a spiritual exercise.

gospel is often regarded as a portion of the act of public worship. If this be attended to in a devotional spirit with a desire to profit by the instruction it affords, and to obtain an enkindling of the desire for consecration to God, it is doubtless an acceptable service to our Heavenly Father. It is however no substitute for personal devotion-adoration, prayer and thanksgiving. Hearing preaching is not worshiping God. The same may be said of reading the Holy Scriptures. If they are read or listened to with a desire to know the will of God, to be corrected in the opinions we have formed, and our views of Divine things, it may be promotive of a devotional spirit, but the act of hearing is not in itself an act of worship. It is quite possible for one to attend church and pass through the various parts of worship for months or years, and not once in all the time worship God in spirit and in truth.

Singing hymns or songs of praise to God when it is entered into heartily, has perhaps more of the elements of worship than either of the foregoing. And yet listening to the notes of the organ or the harmony of the choir, however perfectly rendered, fails to benefit the heart unless it be actually participated in by the worshipper. Even joining in the song of praise if it be but a mere vocal exercise is not worship. But if there be the "making of melody in the heart to the Lord." whether it be from those who possess the most cultivated voices, or is but the rudest attempt at vocalising, it is service acceptable to God and profitable to the worshipper. The most beautifully modelled flower or the most exquisite representation by painting does not make | Provinces.

up the living flower, with the delicate perfume which exhales from its petals. Man may not be able to detect the counterfeit in his fellowman, but the all seeing One whom we worship sees through the veil and accepts the most feeble and imperfect when it comes from the proper source and when the heart is engaged in prayer, adoration and praise.

It is worth an honest effort to know whether in our approaches to the throne ot heavenly grace we are really worshipping God, or are merely going through a routine " as the heathen do."

IT appears by the note from John a member of the Halifax North Bap- Tipperary. tist Church and a Council is called for

Those of our friends who have not already sent on their subscription will what it was in 1876. Of serious crime, do us a great favor by sending the amount due without delay.

WE were pleased to learn from Rev. Dr. Welton that there is great reason the last three years. There was in Kierstead takes New Testament Greek | Last year they were almost double. &c., and Rev. Dr. Sawyer, Evidences of Christianity, giving the latter Department a very respectable degree of

We shall be glad if Dr. Welton will give us a brief article on the present arrangements of the College and Theo logical Classes for the general information of Baptists in these provinces.

THE Christian Messenger in an article on the closing of the Straits of Belle Isle, says :--

"It is thought that, if the Straits were closed, it would add from 2 to 3 weeks to our spring season."

We don't wish any more weeks added to our spring season if you prayer any more than marking time please! We have now more spring months than we know what to do with. The great question is to get rid of the present supply. - Windsor Mail.

Some say we have no spring, and hat as soon we are out of Winter we are into Summer. We presume that Listening to the preaching of the it depends largely on which part of the season the addition might be made, whether our friend of the Mail would be thankful for it. We would not object to a three weeks earlier commencement. But then we do not apprehend that the experiment will be made for a few years yet!

> A. C. ROBBINS, Esq., of Yarmouth, made a hurried visit to Halifax, a week or so ago seeking to get the amount of \$1000 to pay off the debt of the past year incurred by the Home Missionary Board of which he is the President. We doubt not he will succeed in his endeavors.

It is reported that the Leinster Street Baptist Church, St. John, N. B., purpose giving the Rev. W. H. Porter, of St. Catherine's, Ontario, a call to the pastorate. We shall be glad to have our brother back again in these Provinces

OSCAR WILDE has made his appearance in Halifax. By the most persistent advertising, through his agent who preceded him, and by assuming a dress somewhat different from ordinary men, he drew a large audience. The lecture itself, we learn, was not remarkable either for its character or its delivery. The N. Y. Witness, and its Halifax namesake, denounce the lecturer's writings as "lascivious poetry;" his opinions as "anti-Christian ethics;" and the man as " contemptible humbug."

THE Methodist body in Halifax ar anticipating a series of Centenary Services next week, to commemorate the hundredth year of Methodism in this city. In 1782 the first Methodist Society was formed here by Rev. Wm. Black, the pioneer of that church in the British

CRIME IN IRELAND.

The Act for the prevention of Crime in Ireland, which has proved itself such an excellent measure of pacification in the disturbed districts of the country, is being further developed. Its 19th sec- into the Christian Church, and which tion orders compensation to be paid in certain cases of murder or maining arising out of agrarian or other unlawful associations. This compensation is to be granted only after careful examination conducted in open court, and is to be levied on the district where the offence was committed. The compensation is to be paid to the person injured, or in case of his death to his personal representative. A March Esq., in another column that a dreary list of names of poor victims change has taken place in the intention | who have been injured, and whose cases of our brother I. C. Archibald, our are to be examined under the direction accepted new Foreign Missionary, and of the Lord Lieutenant, appears in the that he now purposes to go out to Dublin Gazette. Co. Kerry furnishes India very shortly. - Mr. Archibald is all of them but one case, which is from

The Annual Criminal Statistics for Wednesday, the 18th inst., to consider Ireland, have just been published. It the propriety of his ordinatton. We is not pleasant reading for a rightshall doubtless have some more defi- hearted Irishman, About 12,000 nite information on these matters before offences are recorded—the largest list of any year of the decade. The proportion of crime to the population is about twenty-four per cent., double there are 206,000—the smallest figure in the statistics of ten years, and a decrease of 34,000 in the year Drunkenness has been diminishing for for encouragement at Acadia, in both 1879 a decrease on the preceding year the Arts and Theological Departments. of 8,702, in 1880 of 11,000, in 1881 of There were thirteen present in the 9,400. This the document attributes Class in Homilities on Saturday last. "to some extent" to Sunday closing. Several former students have returned Up to 1879 serious offences were always to go on with their studies. Professor less for Ireland than Great Britain.

> THE MISSION TO CONGO, CENTRAL AFRICA.- We perceive by a letter from the Secretary of the English Baptist Missionary Society that the small steamer is just completed. He says, "the Peace is now on the point of being launched. It is hoped that the trial trip which will be run during the next few days will demonstrate her compliance with the conditions laid down as to speed and draught, and that she will immediately afterwards be "on view" to such as are sufficiently interested to pay her a visit. It is proposed just been lying.' to have the Peace moored opposite St. Thomas's Hospital, Westminister, and also to arrange for friends being taken on board from the Surrey side of the river, so that they may inspect her arrangements before she is returned to the builder's yard to be taken to pieces and packed ready for transport on men's heads on her overland journey to Stan-

over it. It is doubtless a marvellous take charge of it for the college. philosophers are also much puzzled.

around the sun.

"IN A CONDITION TO BE SAVED."-The editor of the Church Guardian in discussing 'Who are Christians' uses this phrase in reference to Baptism. What it means we fail to perceive. He

We see that the Apostle taught here (Acts ii 41) as well as in his Epistle (1 Pet. iii., 21), that Baptism saves us (places us in a condition to be saved), and, consequently, it was by Baptism that additions were made to the Apostolic Church, as it has been in all ages since, according to the Master's instructions.

This is a strange office for Christian Baptism and hardly comperts with the Baptismal Regeneration taught by our contemporary.

Further our neighbour writes :-

Faith or belief must exist in the adult (perhaps it exists in the infant) before coming to Baptism-the Church has ever taught that; but all the belief in the world does not, cannot, perform the office of Baptism, by which alone we are initiated, we gain an entrance,

alone makes a man a Christian.

The parenthesis '(perhaps it exists in the infant)' will strike many readers as a no less strange hypothesis than the affirmation before mentioned. If the "infant "* were of an age to make his faith and repentance evident, there would be no reason why he should not be baptized on a profession of that faith.

*The term infant was anciently used for all who were under-age.

SOMETHING NEW ON THE BAPTISMAL QUESTION.

This is an age of invention, and why should not a clergyman try and contribute to the comfort of his brethren and the little ones by a new invention.

" Clericus" a correspondent of the Rock, one of the leading Church papers of London, writes to that paper, as

" Sir,-I should be obliged if your correspondents would kindly say what they think of a suggestion that has occurred to me. Every clergyman must have felt the difficulty that often attends the baptism of sick or refractory infants. Standing on a narrow step, the minister has to make the babe as secure and easy as he can with one hand, and with the other perform the ceremony, and perhaps to turn over leaf of his book. All this, when accompanied by loud cries from the child, is often very trying, and tends, too, to disturb the solemnity of the service. I am surprised, then, that the simple expedient has never occurred to anyone of having had at hand a convenient receptacle, something in the nature of a small fixed cradle, to place the child in during the ceremony. It would then feel more at home, while the clergyman's two hands would be at liberty. I should be glad to know of any objections there may be to such a proposal, other than that of its merely being a novelty, which by itself ought not to be any objection to reasonable minds." The editor replies, "The practical and obvious objection is that mothers would not like to have one cradle for all the infants. Mothers are very exclusive in the matter of their 'babies,' and 'a high-born ladye' might not care to place her baby in the same cradle as that in which the poor man's child has

Others might be able to improve on this. Would it not be a good plan to offer a Prize for the best cradle in which infants might be baptized? Here is a new field for enterprize.

AT the Bristol Baptist College Anniversary held on the 11th of September, there was a conference of of former students at which a presenta-THE COMET.—It is probable that tion was made to Rev. Dr. Gotch the more people have got up before president, who had in the capacity of daylight during the last week, than for student, professor, or president been many years past, to look at this great | there upwards of half a century. Dr. sight. It is said that the southern | Gotch begged the chairman on behalf | ber. negroes have become terribly excited of the College to accept the portrait and object over which the wisest of the accepting the present, Dr. Gotch said: ing a change. The presentation of himself to the col-It is now said that the nucleus has lege made it difficult for him to know broken into three distinct parts. The how he was to speak. Nevertheless, largest fragment is estimated at 15,000 he thanked the president of the Bapmiles in length. The comet was tist Union and Mr. Robinson for what previously estimated at 24,000 miles in | they had so kindly said of him. It was length. It will shortly disappear from true he had been tutor for not more our system in the heavens, and pass than thirty-seven years, but he had away into limitless space. How won- known the college and taken the deepderful is this exhibition of Divine est interest in it and endeavoured to power. We can form no proper idea of promote its usefulness for the whole the extent of this heavenly visitor, or of time referred to. No pleasure was the rapidity of its motion in its path greater than the appreciated estimation of old students for their tutor. He trusted those who had received advantages from the institution would know how to make good use of them, and also use them to obtain further advantage, and that the work set on foot there would grow till it blossomed and bore fruit in the world of glory.

> An Immersion is by some supposed to be a very serious matter physically. Many pedobaptists are frightened at the thought of baptism, in all climates, requiring an immersion, To them there are colds and all sorts of lions in the way. Rev. C. H. Spurgeon says that he and his brother James, have baptized over 20,000 persons, and he "never heard of one that caught cold

WE are glad to learn from Rev. E. Whitman at Charlottetown, that he most agreeably surprised to find so united, active, and energetic a church at Charlottetown, P. E. I., where he is now settled.

In connection with this our brother

"I will tell you that one of your most intellgent readers in this city said yesterday that 'he regarded the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER as being the most readable religious paper in the Maritime Provinces, and I did not dispute it."

Nova Scotia Free Baptist General Conference.

The seventeenth Annual Conference was held with the Centreville Church, Cape Island, commencing Thursday, Sept. 14th Present-Revds. J. I. Porter, W. C. Weston, A. Swim, C. Cann, F. Babcock, S. K. West, Dr Sturgis, S. N. Royal, Wm. Miller, T. H. Siddall, J. W. Freeman, L. W. Gowen, J. F. Smith and Licentiate J. L. Smith. Delegate from F. C. B. Conference, N. B. Rev. J. R. Rend. Delegate from F. W. B. of United States (Maine Central) Rev. Dr. Bowen. Deas. A. M. Durkee, Seth Smith, W. C. Robertson, Colman Atkins, Nelson Corning, Freeman Kenney, Edward Ross Wm Snow. Delegates Jotham Johnson, Foster Crosby, Hervey Trefry, Silas Woodworth, B. F. Covell, Levi Hopkins, Amos Pitman, Asa Pitman, N.D. McGray A. Corning, Byron Sims, and others.

Rev. L. W. Gowen was appointed Moderator; Rev. S. N. Royal Vice Moderator; Rev. J. I. Porter Clerk Rev. T. H. Siddall Assistant Clerk. Committee of Arrangements-N. D.

McGray, F. Kenney, Rev. S. N. Royal. Rev. J. E. Rend of N. B., in reporting the doings of his Conference, said, fifty years ago they formed a Conference consisting of two ordained ministers, and four churches; now they numbered 40 ministers, 9 licentiates, 140 churches, 11,000 members, 35,000 adherents. Last year they raised \$20,000 for Christian work. They have over 100 Sabbath Schools, 500 Teachers, 45000 Scholars; volumes in library 9,000, and collected over \$1000 for school purposes, This year being our semi-centennial, we are making an effort to raise a large amount of money for our various socie ties, and we are having excellent success. Our interests are healthy and strong, and the Lord is blessing our efforts. The clerk of the Harmony Quarterly Meeting then reported, also the clerk of the Yarmouth and Shelburne Quar terly meeting. There have been a few gains in membership, but owing to deaths and removals the membership is the same as it was last year. After some routine business had been completed. Conference adjourned. In the evening, Rev. Dr. Bowen

preached to a good congregation-Text Psa. 18; 25, 26 verses. It was an interesting discourse, abounding in felicitous statement and apt illustration. Friday, conference assembled at 8 a. m. The various committees then reported. The committee on the Sabbath called attention to the running of trains on the Sabbath, and the increased Sabbath driving around these shores, and urged the Christian Church to do all possible to check a growing evil. The committee on missions pointed out the demand for systematic giving for benevolent purposes and called upon all churches to put forth plans for aiding, especially during the coming year, the home mission

Resolved, that whereas we believe that uniformity of practice in terminating pastoral relations throughout this yearly meeting would be an advantage to all concerned

Therefore resolved, that we recommend both pastors and churches, that when a change is made in pastoral relations, it be made on the last Sabbath of Septem-

Further resolved, that we recommend that churches and pastors notify each other at least three months before effect-

On Friday afternoon the customary Woman's Foreign Mission meeting was held, Mrs. L. W. Gowen presiding. The meeting was addressed by Mrs. Rufus Crowell and others. Miss. E Swain and Miss Debbie Crowell gave some interes-

In the evening a large mission meeting was held, Rev. F. Babcock presiding. Rev. Dr. Bowen, T. H. Siddall, J. H. Rend, S. K. West, L. W. Gowen and W. G. Sims, Esq., addressed the meeting. Over \$116 was raised for the benefit of Home Missions. W. G. Sims, Esq. gave

SATURDAY,

Resolved, That T. W. Wilson, N. D. McGray, and J. E. Cushing, Esqrs., with the officers of General Conference, be the Executive Committee for the ensu-

Resolved, That N. D. McGray Esq., be Secretary of the Halifax Mission and that Hervey Trefry, and G. E. Cox be associated with him as a committee.

Resolved, we reaffirm report of last year as regards both the Intelligencer and the Star.

service was held, when a large number took part. In the evening the Educational Society held their annual meeting-Presi-

dent, Rev. J. T. Porter, presiding. The Secretary, Rev. T. H. Siddall, read the Fourteenth Annual Report, and called attention to the object of the society, which is to aid young men who are fitting themselves for the christian ministry, and to advance the interest of ministerial education. The following addressed the meeting—Revs. J. F. Smith, L. W. Gowen, Dr. Bowen and J. E. Rend. The meeting was one of the est of the entire session.

On Sunday Rev. J. E. Rend preached in the morning-Rev. Dr. Bowen in the afternoon-Rav. Dr. Sturgis in the evening. In the evening, at the Kirk, Rev. Wm. Millar. At Clark's Harbormorning, Rev. S. N. Royal, afternoon, Rev. J. E. Rend. At Barringtonmorning, Rev. S. K. West; evening Rev. Dr. Bowen. At Port-La Tour, afternoon, Rev. S. K West. Monday, Conference assembled for a

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short session. Resolved, we endorse the action of special Conference as to the Convention of Free Baptist bodies on this continent: Resolved, That Rev. J. I. Porter, T. H. Siddall and Mr. W. G. Sims be delegates to F. C. B Conference of N. B., to represent the interest of the Convention.

Resolved. That Rev. Wm. Millar be delegate to F. C. B. Conference of N. B. Resolved, That we tender the steamboat companies our sincere thanks for the concessions made to the delegates in rates of travel.

Resolved. That our best thanks be given to the friends of Centreville for their kind and generous hospitality. Resolved, That Rev. S. N. Royal and

J. I. Porter be a committee to locate next yearly meeting. In the afternoon the Sabbath School Convention was held, Rev. S. N. Royal presiding. Rev. J. I. Porter, L. W. Gowen, T. H. Siddall and Messrs. A. M.

Durkee and B. F. Covell took part in the

proceedings. In the evening the Annual Meeting of the Temperance League was held-N. D. McGray, Esq., President in the chair. Rays. J. I. Porter and S. K. West delivered most excellent speeches. The entire session was one of profit and deep interest.

Owing to the stormy weather on Saturday many were prevented from attend ing the Sabbath meetings.

The difficulty of getting teams on the Island prevented many delegates being in attendance. The people did all possible to make those who visited the Island feel at home and comfortable. Their hospitality was unbounded, and their attentions to strangers and friends all that could have been desired. Rev. W. I. Gowen, pastor of the church, Deacons Kenney, C. Atkins and N. D. McGray with others of the Committee, were most attentive and obliging to those needing their assistance.- Yarmouth Herald.

Review of Books.

THE HEBREW STUDENT for September. Dr. Harper, of Morgan Park, Chicago, is the editor of this monthly magazine at \$1.00 a year (10 numbers).

It has an attractive table of contents for those interested in such studies:-

1. Had the Massorites the Critical Instinct. 2. Robertson Smith's Prophets of Israel; 3. The origin and the formal contents of the Talmud; 4. The book of Ruth considered statistically; 5. General Notes; 6. Editorial Notes; 7. Questions and answers; 8. Book Notices; 9. Recent papers on the Old

Its contents are of course all connected in some way with the Hebrew Scriptures, and are full of interest to Bible Students, more particularly to those who read the books in the original.

The article on the Talmud by Rev. P. A. Nordell, is instructive on the views and practices of the Jews respecting the Sacred Scriptures, for which our Lord reproved them because they made the commandment of God of none effect by their traditions. The following are the first two paragraphs of said article:

"The Talmud (from to teach) is a depository of law, theology, exegesis, philosophy, natural science, medical learning, ethics, political and domestic economy, as these were understood and discussed in the Rabbinical schools for the space of nearly a thousand years after the return from Babylon. The numberless rules of conduct which had become an intolerable burden to the common people in Christ's days are here. Here are the hair-splitting dialectics, the subtile casuistries by which the rabbis, sitting in Moses seat' played hide and seek with truth and righteousness. Beside this, there is a mass of mythological and legendary lore. parables, anecdotes of the rabbis, the whole tossed together in what seems at first sight almost chaotic confusion. There is hardly anything in heaven or on earth not discussed in the Talmud.

It is a mistake to suppose that the Talmud is a species of commentary on the inspired texts of the Old Testament. The Talmud claims co-ordinate rank with the Mosaic law. But the Jews themselves have not been content with such modest claims. That the Talmud in their estimate far outweighs the Scriptures in sanctity and authority, is clear from the oft-quoted saying of the rabbis, " The Bible is water, but the Talmud is wine," and that it is a waste of time On Saturday afternoon the usual social to study the former when one may study the latter. It is useless to argue with a Talmudist even out of the Pentateuch itself, for he answers out of the more venerated Talmud.

> THE CONSULTING ENGINEER OF CANADA is a monthly, lately issued at Toronto, John Galt, C. E. & M. S. General Manager. It is got up in excellent style and is marvellously cheap at \$1.00 a year.

> It is illustrated by well executed diagrams. The contents of No. 2 are 'Serious Boiler Explosions," "Rail-