

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., January 17, 1885.

DEVELOPMENTS OF TRUTH.

WHAT IS WANTED.

If a converted church membership is a truth that is now being more fully recognized and developed than heretofore, and doubtless it is, by evangelical Christians of every name, is there not a further need of some act by which it may be shown, that believers take upon themselves the name and obligations of followers of the Divine Redeemer. During the Week of Prayer, so called, it could be remarked, in the addresses by ministers and others, that the great object they sought to effect by their effort was, to show the need of separation from the world, and a more entire acceptance of the gospel claims. Passionate appeals were made to church members who were said to be so much like the world, that it was difficult to distinguish them from the world. We could but think at the time that the appeals would have had a vastly greater amount of force if the people could have had their baptism referred to as indicating that they had made scriptural profession of being followers of the meek and lowly Jesus, who himself desired baptism of John that all righteousness might be fulfilled. Concessions are constantly being made by Christian writers, as to the scripturalness of the views and practices of Baptists in reference to this ordinance. The difficulty of Pedobaptists determining what Infant Baptism means, and whether it affects them in any way, spiritually, or gives them any church relationship, is felt by large numbers of the members of those churches. By some it is even regarded as a positive barrier to making appeals to the unconverted. Baptized unbelievers may exist among Baptists, but, if they do, it is in defiance of and not in harmony with their principles; but to those who are said to have been baptized in infancy, the thought of conversion has no connection with their baptism. There is perhaps more of consistency among Episcopalians where the sponsors undertake their upbringing (if they really perform the duties they assume) until the baptized ones take upon themselves the obligations that have been assumed on their behalf—"to renounce the devil and all his works, the pomps and vanities of this wicked world and all the sinful lusts of the flesh," &c., &c.

It is very evident, we think that the Christianity of the present day demands a closer adherence to the commands of Christ. The awakening which has so widely obtained under the evangelical labors of prominent men has brought forth a host of persons, who, when requested, have risen up for the purpose of shewing that they have accepted Christ as their Saviour, yet have not borne any further testimony, by following Christ in the ordinance of baptism, as did the converts at Jerusalem and other places, as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. Whilst all denominations hold baptism as the initiatory ordinance by which to enter the church, yet it is not regarded by all as an act of obedience, as it, evidently, was intended to be, on the part of the person most interested in the rite. This then believers' baptism we regard as one great demand of the present day Christianity. Unprejudiced persons who carefully examine this matter, in all its bearings, will, we think, eventually come to the same conclusion.

AN INCIDENT.—On Sunday last Rev. Alex. MacArthur and Rev. J.W. Manning made an exchange—the former preaching in the North Baptist Church, and the latter in Granville Street—Mr. Manning before commencing his sermon, said he had learned on entering the church—that on the previous day one of the esteemed members of this Church, Mrs. W. L. Evans, had departed this life, and having finished the earthly conflict had gone to swell the number of the Church triumphant, and had entered into the joy of her Lord. This, he said, would form a very appropriate introduction to the subject on which he had purposed speaking—"She hath done what she could"—Mark xiv. 8. On which subject Mr. M. preached with with much power and effect.

TEMPERANCE MATTERS.

It is pleasant to read in a Queen's Speech, a positive unquestionable testimony against the use of intoxicating drinks. The Speech closing the recent session, contained the following:

"After a succession of unfavorable seasons in the greater portion of the United Kingdom, the produce of the land has, during the present year, been for the most part abundant, and trade is moderately active.

The growth of the revenue, however, is sensibly retarded by a cause which must in itself be contemplated with satisfaction; I refer to the diminution in the receipts of the Exchequer from the duties on intoxicating liquors."

These are words that might well emanate from England's throne, and England's Queen. When it is seen what destruction arises on railways from this very cause, it is strange that passengers should try to induce the employees to drink. At a recent meeting held in London, in connexion with the Railway Mission among Railwaymen, Lady Hope gave an address, and in her opening remarks dwelt upon the alarming temptations to intemperance offered by passengers to railway men. She said a guard told her that in one journey he was asked no fewer than seventeen times to take strong drink, and refused as often. On his refusal some gentlemen abused him, inquiring angrily, whether he set himself up as better than they; while on hearing him say, "No, thank you, I don't drink," some of the ladies burst into fits of laughter. That put the railway servant on his metal, and in five months he won over 250 railway men to total abstinence. If passengers only realised how, under pressure of these temptations, those who had charge of a train might get into a state of intoxication, they would awake, said Lady Hope, to a sense of responsibility.

But few men except they have made an intelligent resolve to abstain can resist a pressing invitation from a friend. Any man who offers a railway man intoxicating drink should be punished as much as one who puts a plank across the rails.

The body of a young man was recently found in the river Mersey, drowned. On a paper found in his pocket was written: "A wasted life. Do not ask anything about me; drink was the cause. Let me die; let me rot." Within a week the coroner of Liverpool received over 200 letters from fathers and mothers, all over England, asking for a description of the young man. How suggestive is this fact! What a story it tells of houses desolated by strong drink!

At a Temperance meeting held recently in the suburbs of London. Rev. George Plaford, M. A., chaplain of the Holloway Prison, said that few knew more, perhaps, of the evils of intemperance than he did. In the silence of the prison he was daily speaking to "his men." During the past year some 6,000 persons had passed through Holloway Prison. Of that number some 5,500, he had no doubt, might attribute to drink the cause of their imprisonment. Young men, do you not see here a strong call to refuse now and forever, to taste the vile destroyer?

There is a law in Denmark, which must do much to stop drunkenness. All intoxicated persons are to be taken comfortably home in carriages at the expense of the publican, who sold them the last glass!

The Blue Ribbon organization has been copied by another movement under the name of the Scarlet Ribbon Army which has been inaugurated in Devonshire. It takes for its motto the words of St. Paul, in his Epistle to the Philippians iv. 5: "Let your moderation be known unto all men; the Lord is at hand." This army differs from the Blue Ribbon Army and kindred bodies in one important particular, inasmuch as total abstinence is not insisted upon; the wearer of the scarlet ribbon promising to abstain from smoking, swearing, and from excessive drink. The organization is non-political and unsectarian, and professes to be "in perfect harmony with all temperance bodies." It would however appear to be a sort of Publican's affair—a society that will lead to drunkenness rather than from it.

It is astonishing what fortunes are made from the drinking habits of English people. It is said, and we believe

with truth, that the great brewers, Messrs. Bass & Co., pay monthly, the enormous sum between £20,000 and £30,000 to the railway companies at Burton-on-Trent for the carriage of their ale and the materials used in its manufacture. On one day in November last, very nearly 1,000 trucks were despatched from the different breweries at Burton, loaded with ale, and other materials connected with the business.

It is reported that between fifteen and twenty of the gentlemen who have been elected this year to the office of Mayor in the towns of England are total abstainers.

BAPTISM IN ITS RESULTS.

At a recent Ministerial Conference meeting held in the Publication Society's rooms, Philadelphia, Rev. I. D. King read an exegesis of Acts i. 38: "Then Peter said unto them, repent and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

The following portion contains the substance, and will interest many of our readers:—

That which has given this text special prominence and importance, is its supposed support of the doctrine known as "baptismal remission." Those who hold this view regard Peter as teaching that repentance and baptism are both equally necessary to the remission of sins. They adduce a law from this text, requiring baptism, binding upon all in every age to whom the gospel is proclaimed, a law to which obedience must be rendered, or pardon of sin cannot be secured. Yet it is certainly true that there are many Scriptural examples of those who rejoice in the forgiveness of sins, before and without baptism. Thousands since that Pentecostal Day have experienced forgiveness before baptism, many of whom are alive and remain unto this day. There can be, therefore, no such unvarying law in the Work of God; both Scripture and facts, are against the theory.

Others hold to what may be denominated "the declarative view." They regard baptism as the symbol of the new birth, and of cleansing from sin; so the baptized declare or set forth the remission of sins. Those who believe in "baptismal remission" maintain that the connection between baptism and remission is analogous to that sustained by faith and repentance; that is, it is the means or condition of obtaining remission. Those who hold "the declarative view" think it bears rather the relation of a sign to the thing signified, baptism not being a condition of pardon, as are repentance and faith. This latter view may be accepted as generally correct, and yet it is no contradiction to say, it is not the doctrine taught in this text: here, remission is promised only on condition that those addressed "repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ." This passage is intended to have a special application to those to whom it was spoken; and others of like condition and must not be pressed into general service. It may be generally true that forgiveness of sins can be obtained by those who sincerely repent and believe; yet it may be specifically true that a certain class of sinners cannot obtain forgiveness without baptism in the name of Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit has indited the Book of Acts, or a record of what the Apostles said and did, that all who came after them in gospel service may have the benefit of their example. The examples given of apostolic treatment in individual cases, and apostolic action in given circumstances are authoritative and instructive; yet each example has its peculiarities, and must be studied by itself; its treatment is special in its application."

THE south of France and Italy are full of the relics of antiquity. A visit to those places is not only delightful from the genial climate, but also from the associations of places with the past. Next to a visit, is the reading of what is said by a good descriptive writer. One of the friends of Mr. Spurgeon who accompanied him to Mentone a few weeks ago, writing to the London Freeman says:—

After passing Mr. Hanbury's gates, and the olive tree outside, which he has converted into a drinking fountain, we continue along that great monument to the engineering skill of the First Napoleon the Corniche road, for about five miles, and then we alight at the gates of Ventimiglia, so that we may walk through its antiquated streets, and see all that there is that is likely to be of interest to us. There is an old Roman Catholic church, which was formerly a temple of Juno. The pillars of the crypt are formed of Roman milestones, on which the name of An-

toninus can be plainly seen. The transition from Pagan to Papal Rome seems to have been easily managed here. From the wall of the town a very fine view can be obtained, of the snow-clad peaks of the Col di Tenda range of mountains, and also of the valley of the River Roya and its famous rocks, which form another notable rendezvous for picnic parties; in fact, almost every valley throughout the district affords a delightful excursion. At the door, or cathedral, we noticed just inside the door, built into the wall, an old stone bearing an inscription in honor of Juno, queen of heaven. In one of the side chapels a funeral service was being performed for a monk, but we were more anxious to visit the baptistry, which is especially interesting to Mr. Spurgeon, as the scene of the triumphant vindication of our principles as Baptists. At an evening party at Mentone, one of the company took every possible opportunity of ridiculing the ordinance of believers' baptism, and laughing at the immersion taught in the Scriptures. Mr. Spurgeon said nothing in reply, but he made arrangements for a visit on the following day to Ventimiglia. When all the party had gathered around the baptistry, the construction of which left no doubt in their minds as to the use to which it had been put, Mr. Spurgeon said to the gentleman before mentioned, "Mr. So-and-so, you can speak Italian, please translate what the guide is saying." He began, "This is an ancient baptistry. In the early times baptism was always by immersion." He could get no further, for the place rang with laughter, and he acknowledged that he was fully repaid for anything he had said on the previous evening. With this evidence in stone before our eyes, confirmatory of our principles as Baptists, we were amused, but, at the same time, grieved to see, in one corner of the building, a small extinguisher-looking cupboard, in which the priest keeps the basin and other arrangements for the observance of man's perversion of God's ordinance."

WE have much pleasure in copying the following short article from the St. John Christian Visitor of last week:

NOBLE GIFTS.

It will be good news to our readers to learn that Bro. Jacob Bradshaw of Hampton has placed in the hands of our Foreign Missionary Board \$20,000, the interest of which is to be used for the promotion of the Home and Foreign Missionary work. The Foreign Board will hold the whole sum and pass over from year to year the interest of one half the amount to the Home Mission Board, to be used by it according to certain conditions. Bro. Bradshaw made his money in shipping, and now desires to use a portion of it to promote the interests of Christ's Kingdom. He has also built a handsome church edifice at Hampton and presented it to the Baptist Church. He has given a valuable property in St. Martins to the Church in that place, and it is in his heart to do something noble for another denominational interest. We trust our brother, who is now well advanced in years, may live to see all the societies upon which he has set his affection, greatly increased in their power to do good by his gifts, and that the consciousness may be his that it is more blessed to give than to receive. The gifts already made with those contemplated, will make Bro. Bradshaw the greatest financial benefactor our Denomination in these Provinces has ever had.

What the conditions are under which the Home Missionary Board is to have the half of the proceeds of the above sum, we are not informed. We presume they are not such as will interfere with its appropriation in any way, but are in harmony with the beneficent intentions of the donor.

KINGS COUNTY ITEMS.—W. H. Healy of Waterville had his piggy and carpenter shop burned on Thursday morning last, a fine hog, carpenter's tools, and the greater part of his farming utensils were consumed. No insurance. The fire was caused by an ash barrel.

The Chute Bros., Factorydale, had their dwelling house burned the same night. Partially insured.

The debt on the Grafton Baptist meeting-house has just now been paid off, so that now the Cambridge Baptist church have three meeting-houses free of debt.

Potatoes are now worth sixty cents per bushel, and the farmers do not seem anxious to sell at that price. They are expecting, at least, 75 cents before planting time.

Apples are mostly all bought up. \$4 and \$5 per bbl., have been cleared from shipments to England this season.

Annapolis County is doing a great business in the exportation of rabbits to the United States. Foxes are committing depredations among the poultry. One man at Granville is said to have lost fifty-eight geese by those marauders.

News of the World.

On the 14th the Prince of Wales unveiled the statue at the Royal Military Academy, at Woolwich, erected to the memory of the French Prince Imperial by the subscriptions of 25,000 officers and men of the British army at the cost of £4,310.

The Duchess of Connaught was safely delivered of a son at Windsor Castle on Sunday.

Mr. Gladstone is suffering from overwork. It was understood last week that on Monday he would start from London for Cannes in France so as to secure entire rest till the meeting of Parliament.

On Thursday last a decision was given by the Chief Justice against Bradlaugh in the case of assault with which he was charged by Henry D. Erskine, Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons, on the occasion of Bradlaugh attempting to enter the Commons and take his seat as member for Northampton after a resolution has been passed prohibiting him from so doing.

The editors of the London Times are to be prosecuted for contempt of court in publishing the correspondence in connection with the libel case of Chamberlain versus Boyd.

Another man who has been known at Holly, New York, as Patrick O'Reilly, but who says his name is Hugh O'Donnell, confessed last week to being one of the participants in the murder of Lord Frederick Cavendish, and Under Secretary Burke in Dublin last May. He is in jail in Albany.

It is likely that he is by this means seeking some notoriety. It will soon be found out, and if that is the case he ought to be punished.

The steamer "City of Brussels" is giving some trouble to vessels entering Liverpool harbor. The masts are above water. The gash in her side is eight feet wide and three feet deep. If it is found impossible to raise her she will be blown up.

On Thursday last a deputation of Catholic prelates waited on Earl Spencer, and pointed out the privations of the people in the West of Ireland and represented that severe distress was eminent. They deprecated emigration. Earl Spencer promised to give the matter earnest consideration. Captain Garnhill has reached Cape Town, South Africa, from the Congo, where he reports that Henry M. Stanley had arrived with 300 tons of goods. He had worked 150 miles up the river.

The floods in the valley of the Rhine continued, and in addition to the distress occasioned by them, ice has formed over the whole valley, rendering it impossible to repair the dykes, the water is drained off to some extent. On Tuesday last it had subsided five feet at Wiesbaden, while at Frankfurt it had fallen eight feet.

The entire village of Ratahaza has been washed away by the floods. Twenty-three bodies have been found in the garrets of houses in Asvany. In the town of Raab, Hungary, a considerable number of lives have been lost by floods. The inhabitants have abandoned the town.

A despatch on Friday said the water has passed over the dyke at Komori, Hungary, and flooded the country for miles around. The ruins of some of the houses in Raab are beginning to exhale cadaverous odors from the bodies under the debris. The roofs of some of the houses in Raab had to be taken down to enable soldiers to rescue the inmates.

A dozen villages have been ruined in Raab districts.

Throughout the flooded districts of Hungary there will certainly be famine unless assistance be prompt.

The extent of the flooded country in the Middle Rhine districts, exclusive of the tributaries of that river, is nearly half as large again as the Lake of Constance.

The landtag, at Berlin, has voted a grant of 3,000,000 marks for the relief of the sufferers in the inundated districts.

Emperor William at his own instance has increased the contribution from the Imperial fund toward the sufferers by the floods from 500,000 to 600,000 marks.

The Deputies reassembled at Paris on Tuesday, and M. Brisson was re-elected President of the Chamber. Gambetta's body was removed to Nice on Wednesday for burial.

Italy has demanded from the Porte redress for the recent affront to a servant of the Italian Consul at Tripoli.

Persons frozen to death are found in the streets of Moscow daily. There have been four deaths from cold at Kharkoff recently.

was discovered at four a. m. In less than half an hour the whole building, which was long designated as a death-trap, was in flames. Scenes of utmost terror prevailed. The inmates jumped to the stone sidewalks. The hotel accommodated eight hundred guests. A very few were saved by jumping on canvas. The stores and offices on the ground floor, occupied by a dozen or more tenants, were destroyed. The cashier of the Manufacturer's Bank carried the cash box of the institution, containing money and papers amounting to \$600,000 out of the flames. Loss about \$500,000. The hotel register was burned and no exact loss of life can be determined.

Of the sixty girl waiters only eleven were heard from alive on Wednesday evening. It is reported that there were three hundred and fifty guests in the house that night.

Sixteen of the twenty five bodies found have been positively identified. It was impossible for several days to begin the search, but nearly a hundred is generally accepted as the number of lives lost.

An explosion occurred on Monday afternoon the 8th, in Jones and Nesbit's mine, Couleesville, while 12 men were in the mine. Two escaped. Relief parties have been unable to get into the mine owing to overpowering gases.

About nine o'clock miners affected an entrance into the mine and after hours of difficult and dangerous work, the bodies of all of the dead were brought to the surface. Two of the victims were badly burned. The remainder were suffocated and not mutilated in any way.

At New York on Thursday last, Miss Mary A. Livingston, recovered a verdict of \$75,000 damages against Henry Fleming, President of the New York Refining Company, for betrayal and breach of promise of marriage.

At Des Moines, Iowa, on the 13th inst, the upper half of Clapp's block was burned. It was occupied for stores and offices by the Citizens' National Bank, the Western Union Tel. Co., and a Masonic Hall. The total loss is \$200,000.

By a boiler explosion at Bethlehem, Pa., on Monday, five persons were killed and several others injured.

Home News

Nova Scotia.

The County Councils were last week completing their organization for the current year. The following are the officers of the Counties named:—

HALIFAX.—Warden, B. W. Chipman, W. H. Wiswell, Clerk and Treasurer, J. L. Griffin, County Stipendiary Magistrate. KINGS.—Warden, C. F. Eaton, Clerk, L. De V. Chipman; Treasurer, T. L. Dodge; Auditors, D. B. Newcomb and A. C. VanBoskirk.

ANNAPOLIS.—Warden, J. H. Thorne; J. G. H. Parker, Clerk, and W. Y. Foster, Treasurer.

YARMOUTH.—George G. Sanderson, Warden; Thomas B. Crosby, Clerk.

COLCHESTER.—E. Tupper, Warden; Hugh McKenzie, Clerk; John E. Crowe, Treasurer.

CUMBERLAND.—Alex. Wilson, Warden; D. J. McLeod, Clerk; B. W. Baker, Treasurer; W. J. Moffat and John W. Smith, Auditors.

HANTS.—Warden, Elias T. Dimock; Clerk, William O'Brien; Treasurer, C. W. Dimock.

ANTIGONISH.—Warden, Geo. H. Irish; Clerk, D. McDonald.

GUYSBORO.—E. J. Cunningham, Warden.

INVERNESS.—Donald McDonald, Warden; J. H. Jamieson, Clerk; Donald McDonald, County Treasurer, and D. F. McLean, and Donald Gillies, Auditors. D. F. McLean, of Port Hood, Stipendiary Magistrate.

RICHMOND.—C. J. Fuller, Jr., Warden; and Thomas T. Jean, Clerk.

The Halifax City Council have contracted with Mr. John Naylor, to level the snow in the streets from Bauld's house at the South to Ross Street, Richmond, on the North, Water Street on the East, and Robie Street on the West; also to keep the gutter gratings within the above area open for the free exit of water from the 8th inst, until the snow ceases to fall, or until April 1st next. All the work to be done to the satisfaction of the City Engineer, for the sum of \$1500.

The Halifax County Council have resolved that the Stipendiary Magistrate have \$600 a year, and that all the fees go into the treasury of the County.

They also resolved that the bounty for killing a bear be \$5, and a wild cat \$1; the snout of the animal to be produced to the Treasurer, with a sworn statement of the facts.

The Inverness Election resulted in the election of Dr. McLennan by a majority of about 120 votes.

A wonderful discovery—Kendall's Spavin Cure. Read advertisement.

A REMARKABLE FACT.—It is a remarkable fact W. A. Edgers, of Frankville, who was so far gone with liver and kidney complaint that his life was despaired of, was cured with four bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters. On one day he lay a fortnight without an operation of the bowels.

"ROUGH ON RATS."—Clears out rats, mice, roaches, flies, ants, bed-bugs, skunks, chipmunks, gophers. 15 cts. Druggists.

The Year list of the following: No Vm 3 steam 55 ships 54 brig 12 brig 104 schoo 228 vessel The dec year, exhibit Lost during Sold Now build Mr. O finest in T on Wedne of the fur attached was on the bu thousand insurance sand dollar Hants C exported l at \$119,99 SKINNEY newer " re Dyspepsia, \$1. This is merchant, severe atte by Hagya, great thro weak lung chitis, and At Stella man name crushed in motive on A son of Glasgow, 9 an engine day and in The first Act in Fre sentence of of James V Whitma in Hogg I burned do fire origi loss will insurance. A BAD about two Unlucke consisted baggage at first class locomotive overturned had spread postal clerk being thro this excep jury to Father Dri sister and Some com in the par fire, but I train was with the o'clock on POPULAR The reason universally certain in in their o bowls coated, an Ha Dr. B. J have a v bone spav everything but all in up when came to m Spavin cu results, r clean. Th one of you I think th on the ho taken gre since sold neighbors, good I can "A RIE Next Thu day of th and it is Temperan who have give out in this purp on hand renew the of supply sign the p ance emb Nearly and many it since th Tabernacl A PRE name it be that un Yellow O mation, wh or frost, neuralgia, and is for "Buck cure, all a Urinary D How to Buy, a bot See advt. A SMOO secret of tions and face, my Blood Bi land, cer this recz years.