

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., September 25, 1883.

MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE.

The following information received by postal card from India by the last mail will greatly interest our readers:

CHICAGO, Aug 10th, 1883.

Dear Brother.—Four young people were baptized on Sunday last, Aug. 5th. These all professed faith in Christ some time ago, but it was deemed best that they should wait for a time. The oldest of the four is a son of Sutherland. Another is Sooviah, the lad supported by the St. Martin's (N. B.) Sabbath School. The third is the son of a Hindu, a barber, and is supporting himself and little sister by this means. The fourth lad is the son of a member of the little church here. They are all promising boys, and it is good to see them giving themselves to Christ so young. Pray that these may be kept, and that this may be a year of grace for your Telugu mission.

Yours sincerely, J. R. HUTCHINSON.

A letter from Rev. G. Churchill, dated June 26th, says:

I am glad to be able to say that we are all well here at Bobbili. The weather is quite cool and comfortable compared with what we have been having. The rainfall so far has been very small near us, and the crops are backward. There is not rain enough to interfere much with our work, and we are trying to do something in the way of reaching the people in town and the nearer villages.

There is one thing to write of that does not please me. The government is trying to get the people to govern themselves as much as possible. To this end all towns having over 10,000 inhabitants are to become municipalities. Hitherto Bobbili has not been thus organized. On Sunday morning the sub-magistrate called to tell me there was to be a preliminary meeting that afternoon, and asked me to attend. I soon gave him to understand that that was not the kind of work I did on Sundays. But it seems a meeting was held and some business done. They appointed me as one of the commissioners. For some reasons I am rather pleased that there will be more attention paid to the town, but there are other reasons which weigh more against the scheme. I expect we shall have to pay a tax on the mission property. I do not know if it will be optional with the commissioners to exempt the property or not, if so I will press the matter upon them. There is so little moral sense among them that I have little hope that they will forgo the chance of getting all out of us they can. The fact that our work is purely one of philanthropy would have little weight, and as most of the men will be Brahmans they will not show us much favor.

I have sent Kamiah to Samulcotta. Bro. Archibald is still at Bimili. The climate seems to be taking a severe grip upon him so far from what we hear. Mrs. C. will probably go there for a while by and bye. I hope to stick to Bobbili. I should like to be out touring among the villages now, though it might not be very safe.

The following postal card came to hand after we had gone to press last week:

SCRIPTURE PORTIONS FOR THE TELUGUS.

A Friend of Missions in New Brunswick, who forwards ten dollars for the Scripture Portions Fund, suggests that twenty persons will readily give a like amount, if the idea of those who are more than able to pay the whole amount bear half the burden, leaving the other half for the mapy who want to help but can only do a little, were placed before them. The suggestion is a good one, and I shall be glad to receive the amounts in this form. Let no one wait, however, but send on their gifts even though they are larger than the amount named above. Smaller sums will also be thankfully received. Only be prompt in sending, for the copies of Scriptures are needed.

J. MARCH, Sec'y. Foreign Mission Board, St. John, N. B., Sept. 17, 1883.

Rev. R. Sanford writes, June 30, with respect to this matter of Telugu Scriptures:

We trust that \$400 will come to hand for the supply of scriptures and portions before the end of December next.

I hope this will be acceptable to the Board and helpful to the cause. It appears to me that some of our friends will be ready to respond to this call.

Our native helpers have just returned from a ten days' tour. They made three companies of two each, with a cooly to carry books, &c. They travelled in three different directions, visited in all eighty-nine villages. The helpers came back quite encouraged by the reception they had.

In regard to the Seminary at Samulcotta, we must do whatever seems best

to the carrying out of this project. We have not been in a hurry. The proposal to have a Union Theological Seminary has been hinted, if not clearly expressed, during the last year. All the missionary brethren, both north and south, are in favor of it. I think I am quite safe in stating this. From Chicago 6 young men go this year; from Bobbili 1 man (and wife): from this station 3 (possibly four). They start within ten days.

A letter from Rev. H. Morrow at Tavoy, Burmah, will appear in our next. A private note accompanying it says:—

I have suffered a good deal from jungle fever the past few months. With a zeal not according to knowledge, I continued touring among the Karen in the hot season when the water was very bad, and the heat quite intense. As a result I have had fever every two or three weeks for the past four months. The attacks are decreasing in severity however and we hope will pass away before long.

Miss Payne sails for America on the 18th. As Mr. Kelly is getting hold of the work her services can be dispensed with in Maulmain, and she wisely takes a rest before entering her new work. There are open doors for her all round but they must wait for her return. Bro. Kelly has won golden opinions as a preacher and Christian man. We are hoping the Lord will make him very useful in that important field.

Mrs. Morrow retains perfect health—not being laid aside from work a day, or an hour in fact.

With our kind regards, Yours ever, H. MORROW.

The little story on our sixth page entitled "Truth" is well worth reading for the excellent moral brought forth at the close. It needs but a small amount of experience of the world to learn how much mischief and injury is often done by raising slanderous reports of people. Many persons have had their lives embittered by something that has been said of them, but of which they knew nothing. We should by this learn to exercise the greatest caution as to the truth of such reports before believing them.

One of the "Eds." of the Visitor offers a suggestion to "the Upper Provinces Foreign Missionary Board" that "at the coming autumnal meetings they should make some proposition to the Maritime Board looking toward union."

With this suggestion our contemporary connects a proposal of combination of the Book concerns in Halifax, St. John and Toronto and a disposal of the Sunday School papers, Lessons &c., published by the proprietor of the St. John Book Room. Whether this is in harmony with the views of our Board or hostile to their wishes we are not informed. Nothing of the kind appears in their Report to the late Convention.

The following article in reference to the new professorship at Acadia College and its occupant, is from the pen of one of our ministering brethren and will aid in developing the sphere which Dr. Rand may be expected to fill. It appeared as an editorial in the Amherst Gazette of last week. We shall, however wait until we ascertain from his own pen, and see the curriculum prepared by the Senate before we shall be able to fully appreciate the value of the acquisition made to the Faculty:

The Teachers Taught.

Our neighbors across the border must have been taken by surprise at Dr. Rand's resignation. He had held the position of Superintendent of Education for many years,—in fact, ever since the inauguration of the Common School system in New Brunswick, and was virtually Minister of Education for that province. It seemed as if he were so securely fixed there that any effort to dislodge him would prove futile. But there are always reasons for things. Dr. Rand, on the invitation of the Senate of Acadia College, saw his way clear to do work in connexion with that institution that could not be done in his present position. The opportunity was presented of not merely training teachers in the one department of public instruction, but of inspiring a whole school of young men and women with the idea of impressing upon their generation the broad views and lofty sentiments engendered by a modern college course. The Superintendent of Education for New Brunswick saw the opportunity to increase tenfold the power of the graduates, and, as we be-

lieve, did wisely in accepting the proffered position.

It has been a subject of criticism, and sometimes the animadversion has been fairly made that the graduate of a college was unable to apply the knowledge he had gained. He was taught everything except to express himself or, to put it in another way, he was unable to impress his convictions upon others. So far his knowledge was a fountain sealed, a well of water within him, but shut up within himself. Now while every man may not have the teaching faculty in any marked degree, it is obvious that the ordinary student can be trained to do a good deal better than otherwise would be possible. Put him under the influence of an enthusiastic educationist; a man whose life-work has been devoted to the art of shewing young people how to cause others to know what they know, and the result is patent. The men and women who listen to the prelections of such a man will naturally absorb the idea of the necessity of doing something with their knowledge. They will not be content with being mere sponges to retain knowledge, but will, so to speak, lay themselves under pressure to give out their wealth to the world. Young men studying for the ministry of the gospel will, even in their arts course, be led to understand the art of communicating knowledge, and of evoking a response from others. The young women at Acadia Seminary expecting to give themselves to the work of teaching, will, at the very outset, gain a view of the principles underlying the work of instruction. Many men with the laudable ambition of becoming educationists, the future principals of academies, college professors, and normal school teachers, will receive from the very first the best so necessary in order to their being efficient instructors. The plan hitherto has been to select a scholar of high attainments to fill the chairs in philosophy, or languages, or mathematics, or indeed any university subject, totally regardless of the one important thing, whether that man had the faculty of instructing others. The consequence has been that many of these able men have been failures. Some of them, it is true, have learned to teach, but by slow and limping methods, and have never done as well as they would have done had they been taught continuously through their college career, the value of the power of expression.

When a man has mastered any problem in science, any great crisis in history, any truth whatever, his first thought should be, what can I do with this? Can I illuminate the darkness around me? I am responsible to my fellow-men for the extra knowledge I have, and, like Socrates in the marketplace, I am bound to communicate it to others. This will apply to all those pursuing the higher education, the aspirants for the bar, the medical profession, in short, there is no student who will not be materially benefited by this new professorship. Education thus assumes a new office. She is to be philanthropic from the very beginning, and every votary of science, or of learning of any sort, is to regard himself as a home missionary, to inculcate upon all around him the principles to which he has himself attained. It is one of the best signs of the age, that this view is taking such deep hold upon our great educationists. Already in some of the German universities the professor of Didactics is regularly at work. Edinburgh, St. Andrews, and we believe Oxford, have followed suit, and now in Canada, one of our Nova Scotian Colleges, is the first to fall in with this new requirement.

The appointment will add great strength to the College. Dr. Rand is the best man for the position to be found in the provinces, and we congratulate the Senate of Acadia on having secured his services.

THE FOREIGN MISSION BOARD OF THE UPPER PROVINCES are calling for \$5,000 before Oct. 10th, to pay off the debts of the past year. Rev. A. P. McDairmid writes in the Can. Baptist: "Are our missionaries to suffer famine all the year for the sake of having a feast at the end? But you say the Executive Committee advance money so the missionaries do not suffer. One of the members of that long-suffering Executive tells me that its chief business has come to be the discounting of notes in the bank."

Not a very pleasant exhibit.

The Baltimore Baptist, a new paper just started, succeeds the Baptist Nation and Our Church Paper. It is a lively four-page sheet, published at One Dollar a year. Its contents well substantiate its claim to the name.

MR. LANDRY was elected to represent the County of Kent, N. B., in the House of Commons by upwards of 500 majority. Mr. Landry is a French Acadian.

A MISSION BAND AT WORK.

The following sketch of a Mission Band at work was sent to the Secretary of the N. S. Central Board, who requests its publication as offering suggestions for other Bands:

To the Secretary of the N. S. Central Board, W. M. A. Societies.

DEAR MRS. SELDEN,—

Having recently had the pleasure of visiting one of the largest Mission Bands connected with our W. M. A. Societies, it seemed to me that a simple account of their way of working might be of assistance to others in forming such Bands, and prompt to larger efforts than those already established.

When I entered the vestry where the children were assembled, I found the opening exercises already past, and the work was being distributed by the Committee in charge. I was informed that their meetings were always begun by the reading of a portion of God's Word and prayer; then followed the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting by the Secretary, and the collection of the fees by the Treasurer. Then a number of young ladies, forming the Working Committee, brought to the children paste-board boxes of various sizes, each with the name of the owner written plainly on the cover. These contained the work on which each child was engaged, whether crocheted or knitted edging, wool work of every description, sewing of various kinds, including patch-work done by the wees ones, which is designed to form a quilt to be presented to one of our lady missionaries.

When the hour for closing arrived the children all put up their work and took their boxes to the Working Committee in the adjoining room, who placed them in a trunk set apart for the purpose, until they were required again. Then some pretty hymns were sung by the children before dispersing. It was delightful to notice the systematic orderliness of every arrangement.

I understand that an Entertainment, consisting of recitations and singing by the children, is in contemplation. Judging by the correct and enthusiastic manner in which this singing was rendered, we predict a pleasant and enjoyable evening on that occasion.

This Mission Band rejoices in the alliterative but euphonious title of "Willing Workers of Windsor." M.

SUBSCRIBERS who have delayed payment for the MESSENGER, will much oblige by an early remittance.

THE Sabbath School Convention of the Central Baptist Association at Woodville on Thursday last was a deeply interesting gathering of Sabbath School teachers and friends. The official report came to hand just as we were going to press. It will appear in our next.

THE friends of religion free from State control in England are preparing for vigorous action in the approaching session of Parliament. The forms of the three motions to be submitted to the House of Commons have been agreed upon, and the notices have been formally given. The motions are as follows:

1. England.—Mr. Richard will move:—"That the establishment of the Church of England by law imposes upon Parliament duties which it cannot effectually discharge; deprives the Church of the power of managing her own affairs; inflicts injustice on a large section of the community; and is injurious to the political and religious interests of the nation, and that therefore it ought to be no longer maintained."

2. Wales.—Mr. Dillwyn will move:—"That as the Church of England in Wales has failed to fulfil its professed object, as a means of promoting the religious interests of the Welsh people, and ministers to only a small minority of the population, its continuance as an established Church in the Principality is an anomaly and injustice which ought no longer to exist."

3. Scotland.—Mr. Peddie will move:—"That this House is of opinion that the maintenance of the Church Establishment in Scotland is indefensible on public grounds; that in the ecclesiastical circumstances of the country it is eminently unjust; and that a measure for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church of Scotland should be passed at an early period."

The N.Y. Examiner informs us that, "Two Mormon elders who were engaged in making converts in Indiana, and had persuaded a young woman to join them, were called upon at midnight by a large party of men, given a coat of tar and feathers, and instructed to leave the State at once or expect lynching. They left."

REV. DR. DAVIDSON who has been one of the most active and devoted Baptist ministers of Ontario died at Tiverton, Ont., on Lord's Day, the 16th inst., in his 59th year.

The following very brief summary of his life and labors is given in the Canadian Baptist:

Dr. Davidson received his Master's degree from Chester University in 1855, and the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the same University in 1858. During his ministry he was instrumental in building six churches, he baptized considerably over 1000 persons, he preached the dedication sermons at more than fifty church openings, he took part in the ordination of about fore score ministers. For nineteen years he was the secretary of the Home Missionary Convention. With voice and pen and counsel he constantly advocated every cause that was dear to the hearts of Canadian Baptists. His published work upon Baptism and Communion is familiar to most of our readers.

Please do not forget. We have large demands to meet every week, and need prompt payments.

At the Methodist Conference at Belleville, a resolution was adopted to make the matter of circulating Methodist literature an obligation by ministers. A question has been asked: Does not the obligation rest as much upon Baptist Ministers to circulate Baptist literature for their people, and for the cause of Christ, as it would if they had a Conference to pronounce it obligatory upon them? An answer is desired.

Literary.

SPICY BREEZES: A Book of Praise. By C. W. Ray, D. D., and Charles Edw. Prior. Published by John J. Hood, 1018 Arch St., Phila., Pa., 192 pp., 35 cents; \$30 per 100.

"Spicy Breezes" has several new features which in many cases will doubtless commend it to public favor: 1. It contains a great variety of new choice hymns set to music by the most popular authors. 2. It contains many new hymns with music specially adapted to children and primary classes in the Sunday-school; thus supplying the great demand of the hour. 3. Only a few old hymns are found in the book, and these are universal favorites. 4. Its concert Exercises have great value, especially for the use of primary classes. 5. It has a new style of notation intended to aid the young in learning to read music correctly and with facility. Those accustomed to the old form of round notes however will not find this any hindrance.

We commend the book to favorable consideration.

New Books published by Funk & Wagnalls, 10 and 12 Dey St., New York:

BUTLER'S BIBLE WORK. VOL. I. is a noble book, comprising the four Gospels, given in the order of the events narrated; so that the entire life of Christ may be read, in running order, with no repetitions and no omissions. Comments, illustrations, explanations, descriptions, historical facts, etc., in the greatest profusion, accompany the Gospel account. They are gleaned from all sources: exegetical and devotional writings; the researches of scientists, and descriptions by travellers; from pulpit and from commentary; from ancient and from modern literature. All are selected, trimmed and arranged with the utmost care and with rare judgment, so as not to form a hodge-podge of undigested material, but to present a concise, orderly, full, and remarkably suggestive commentary. It has the choicest thoughts of the centuries bearing on the life of Christ. It has the results of the latest research and study. It gives illustrations and views from a myriad of the finest minds the world has ever known. It is accompanied by fifty accurate and well-executed maps and illustrations. It presents the fruits of scholarship in language which the unlearned may easily understand. Its importance to clergymen, Bible students and teachers can hardly be over-estimated.

The following are some commendations of able and impartial critics: R. D. Hitchcock, D. D., New York: "It is altogether unique. First of all the exact sense of Scripture is carefully sought for, and then the innermost practical meaning of every passage is elucidated and enforced by selections from a great and rich variety of sources."

Howard Crosby, D. D., New York: "The oldest and the latest writers are equally brought into requisition and always with the discriminating taste of a scholar."

John Hall, D. D., New York: "It will be a substantial contribution to the ever-growing library of illustrations of the New Testament."

Herrick Johnson, D. D., Chicago: "It is that kind of a comment which is adapted to the humblest mind, and yet fitted to hold and feed and stimulate the most scholarly. It is safe to say that no one book holds so much suggestive, illustrative and stimulative exposition of God's Word."

"HOPPIN'S HOMILETICS."—A royal work of 809 pages, by Dr. Hoppin, for twenty years Professor of Homiletics in Yale College, seems to say all that is necessary to be said on the subject. For equipping and instructing a young minister in the practical matters of his calling it is almost equal to a seminary course. Dr. Hoppin was a student of Neander, the great historian of the Church, and does no discredit to his learned master. An unique and valuable feature of his work consists in his history of preaching, to which two hundred and forty pages are devoted. Sketches of the most celebrated preachers of the past are given, with keen analysis of their elements of power, and the methods by which their successes were achieved. The reader will find himself stimulated greatly by the examples given, and profited not only by the facts, but by the generalizations drawn from them with consummate skill. It is a practical, exhaustive work, and no preacher, young or old, can make a poor investment in purchasing it.

JOSEPH PARKER'S "SERVANT OF ALL."—The second volume in Dr. Parker's series on "The Inner Life of Christ," as revealed in the Gospel of Matthew. The renowned author, is known throughout the religious world as one of the freshest of writers and safest of thinkers as well as a powerful pulpit orator. The book is brimming over with practical truths, expressed in an original, ever-varying manner, and illustrated by facts and fancies, and incidents, drawn from copious knowledge and a teeming mind. Dr. Parker's pen has power to charm all classes of readers. Read what is said by Rev. C. H. Spurgeon: "I place these volumes by Dr. Parker among my commentaries to be constantly referred to when I am studying Matthew's Gospel."

VAN DYKE'S "FROM GLOOM TO GLADNESS."—This volume by Rev. Joseph S. Van Dyke, illustrative of life from the biography of Esther, possesses many rich attractions for the general reader, and is full of suggestions for the preacher. Besides being an interesting and instructive biography of one of the most engaging characters in Scripture, it is an admirable exposition of a rather neglected portion of the Sacred Word. The theological questions that naturally arise are treated in a manner that floods them with light. Wm. P. Breed, D. D., of Philadelphia, furnishes a fascinating introduction.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE for September 15th and 22d contains France and England in Egypt, and France and Syria, The Lobust War in Cyprus, Across the Plains, King Mtesa, and The Belka Arabs, Two Turkish Islands To-day, Moruca; or a Few Days among the Indians, Earth Palustrations, and Winter Life at Fort Rae, Unclaimed Money, and The Southampton Artesian Well, The Pathetic Element in Literature, The Closing of Scottish Highlands, and A Summer Day's Journey, with Master Tommy's Experiment, Town Mouse and Country Mouse, and instalments of 'Along the Silver Streak,' and poetry.

Fifty-two numbers for \$5. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

Education in India (says a writer in Little Folks) commences for boys at about five or six years of age. They are sent to school, or in some instances have a master at home, who teaches them with two or three neighbours' children, thus making up a class of eight or ten scholars. They sit generally in the large porch, or entrance of the house, on a raised platform; and as you enter you see the master sitting, stick in hand, at one end, and the boys at the other, in a row, bending over their books, and swaying their bodies backwards and forwards as they read. The characters of the alphabet are not learned, as in Europe, by being pointed out in a book, and having their names pronounced aloud; but the scholars first write them with their fingers or sticks on the ground in the dust or sand; when more advanced, they write on wooden slates called takhtis, and with reeds and Indian ink, or, if Hindus, with chalk. Hindoo schools are of two kinds, called tols and patha-salas. The latter are vernacular schools for elementary education, and for reading, writing and arithmetic, and are conducted by the village schoolmaster, as already described; the former are of a higher class, in which the course of grammar occupies from seven to twelve years, law about ten, and logic from thirteen to twenty-two years.

Subscribers in arrears will do us a great favor by sending on the amount due without delay.