

# The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

NEW SERIES.  
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WHOLE SERIES.  
Vol. XLVII., No. 45.

## Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

### The new appointment at Acadia.

Mr. Editor,—

There lies before me a pamphlet consisting of Correspondence, "anonymous and otherwise," bearing upon the appointment of T. H. Rand, D. C. L., to a chair of Didactics in Acadia College.

It is noteworthy, in the outset, that the letters comprising this series are very largely anonymous. One alone from the old pillars of the College, J. W. Bars, Esq., affixes his own proper signature. Whence all this bundle of anonymity? Can we not trust one another? Why stand behind a hedge and fire point blank at those who cannot return the fire? Is this the way in which to treat a matter of such grave importance? If all these writers had come out openly, as Dr. Read has done, they would have commanded more respect.

There is, moreover, a tone of virulence running through these letters which seems to me altogether uncalled for. I am surprised and pained at the motives attributed to the body of men making that appointment. I presume at the proper time and place, the Senate will give satisfactory reasons for its action, and I have no doubt that the denomination will justify what has been done. But in the meantime, while impressions are being made upon the public mind, I think it but right that I should be allowed to state the case from my own standpoint. I do this without consulting anybody, because it seems to me the fair thing to do.

A great deal has been said concerning the manner in which the appointment was made. It has been spoken of as a scheme engineered by designing individuals, as having been done in secret. Much stress has been laid upon the fact that the matter was not brought before the Convention, so that the denomination could pass upon the appointment. Now, perhaps I am unsophisticated, and totally unused to tortuous ways, but I assure my brethren that I never dreamed of being a party to any plot, that I met with the Governors in a private meeting, and discussed Dr. R.'s appointment confidentially, simply because it was impossible to work in any other way. Look at the circumstances. Here is a gentleman holding a high office under the New Brunswick Government, in whom the Governors of Acadia College saw a possible candidate for a chair in a new department. How else could they treat with that man, except with the utmost privacy?

Then, I would respectfully ask, what time in the Convention was there, chockful of different items of business, for the calm and full discussion of the whole subject of such an appointment? I took it that the Governors are the organ of the Convention for this very thing, that the Convention says to them, "Go, and do the best you can for us. We commit to you this great trust." In this spirit I, for one, acted, and am ready to stand at the bar of the denomination and give a reason for every vote I have cast, and for none of them with a better conscience than this. I repudiate all assertions of the Senate having selfish ends to serve, as baseless insinuations, worthy of very juvenile school boys. I need not point out the preposterous idea that J. W. Manning, J. W. Johnston, S. B. Kempton, and D. McN. Parker could be influenced by the paltry motives ascribed to them in this precious pamphlet. Even Dr. Rupert Eaton, who is a brother-in-law of Dr. Rand, is infinitely beyond the imputations contained in these letters. I will not so far lower myself as to use the opprobrious epithets culled from the vocabulary of Yankee politicians, but will take this occasion to disclaim for myself any subordination to any designing individual who might be disposed to assume a mastery in the Board. I know not who he is. I will not admit, even, that I have inadvertently fallen into a snare. I voted for Dr. Rand with my eyes as wide open as ever they were, and left Halifax feeling proud of the work we had done. I knew that the College would be an immense gain by the acquisition, and never was more surprised than when

I saw the criticisms of "Alumnus," and "Pastor," and "Another Alumnus," and all the rest, in the columns of the *Herald*.

With regard to the value of the department, I differ *in toto* with the views of the pamphlet. I wonder why Educationists have come to this late day without seeing the necessity of teaching a man to express himself. If some of the writers of these letters had gone through a little course of didactics it would have done them no harm. Nay, I can point to some of our teachers who start at the very name as an innovation not to be tolerated, who would have made a better record as public instructors if they had attended the profections of a man who could show them how to impress themselves upon their pupils.

One word as to the matter of the salary. I felt the responsibility we were incurring. I saw the invidious distinction made in giving Dr. Rand more than the other professors. But I said to myself, How can Dr. Rand come down from his position in New Brunswick and accept half the salary at Acadia? Why should we ask any man to sacrifice himself to that extent?—And what would then be said? Why, that there were reasons for such a descent, that Dr. Rand was glad to have an excuse to get himself out of an uncomfortable position. This is the exact transcript of the workings of my mind on that occasion. I also felt that it was time to start anew on the salary question, to show our people that more must be given to good men, that we could not hold them for the meagre pittance we had been paying, and that from this we might go on to increase the stipends of the other professors. Did we not lose a bright, particular star last year simply because his pay was doubled? The time has gone by when we, with our increased wealth, can with any face ask men to work for the love of God. Therefore, I said to myself, there must soon inevitably be a levelling up all round. I regard Dr. Rand as fully worth the salary offered. It is true he has not been to Germany, but he has twenty years' experience in educational work, has fine literary aptitudes, and a power of communicating his thoughts second to no man in the denomination at the present moment. It is my good fortune to know Dr. Rand, and I was only too glad to learn that at length he had concluded to retire from the more public sphere of Superintendent of Education and to put himself, time, talents, and, I may add, money, into the College he has loved from boyhood. I felt that Dr. Rand had been serving governments long enough, and that his gifts ought now to be devoted to the denomination. To this end I gave my voice unasked, and I intend to use what influence I can exert to put the appointment beyond any peradventure. I have had something to do with our denominational work during the last eighteen years, sometimes being opposed to the best of my brethren, among them Dr. Rand himself. I have ever acted independently, and have kept my conscience clear. I am still ready to give my time and means to advance the interests of the Baptist people. But I must respectfully ask my brethren to cease imputing motives to which I am a stranger, and to give me credit for common honesty and common sense.

To sum up, then, what I have been saying. I believe that the Senate have the best of reasons for this new departure, which they will lay before the people in due time; and also that they have done a wise thing in laying hands on Dr. Rand as the first incumbent of this Chair of Education. I helped to put him there. I shall do my best to keep him there.

D. A. STEELE.

Amherst, Nov. 1st, 1883.

For the Christian Messenger.

### Doings at New Germany.

Dear Editor,—

While many of the brethren have been vigorously discussing the new chair at Acadia, the brethren of New Germany have been turning their attention toward their house of worship. The inside has undergone a thorough repairing. A neat platform and desk have taken the place of the old-fashioned pulpit. The pew doors have been taken away, and

the inside has been nicely painted. Last Sabbath morning we took possession of it, and felt to thank God and take courage.

But, Mr. Editor, I am not done yet, I have more to tell. About half-past seven o'clock last Saturday evening I was summoned to the door, and there I was met by quite a large gathering of persons who sought admittance, reasons not explained, but after they had gained admittance it was made known, for it was too large to hide. They presented Mrs. B. and myself with a superior buffalo robe. They intended it for a surprise, and it was all they intended, and a very agreeable one too, but it is only one more act of kindness to be added to the many that we are continually receiving from their hands. May the Lord bless us as a church and a people in the earnest prayer of the writer, M. W. BROWN.

### Baptist Book and Tract Society,

104 GRANVILLE ST., HALIFAX.

### List of Subscriptions to Capital Fund.

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Antigonish, —Collection from Antigonish  
Church, per T M King, \$52.  
Agency fund—Sydney, \$1.42.  
Do. Chester, \$5.90.

Geo. A. McDONALD, Sec'y.

The Bishop of Wurtzburg asked a little shepherd boy: "What are you doing my little lad?" "Tending swine." "How much do you get?" "One florin a week." "I am also a shepherd," continued the Bishop, "but I have a much better salary." "That may all be, but I suppose you have more swine under your care," innocently replied the boy.

The New York *Sun* says: "Five thousand dead bodies are, in the course of a year, sent to the Morgue in this city. Indisputable facts show that the mischief, which sends four thousand of them there, comes of drunkenness. This is one of the most powerful temperance sermons ever preached."

## News of the World.

The steamer *Sardinian* from Quebec with the Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise arrived at Liverpool on Monday morning. They were received by the Duke of Albany and Mayor Radcliffe and escorted to the Town Hall, where they were presented with an address from the Mayor and corporation of Liverpool, and were entertained at luncheon.

London has been visited by two terrible explosions. On Monday evening about 8 o'clock one occurred near Praed Street underground station, on the Metropolitan Railway. The passengers, who were on the train at the scene of the explosion, say that there was suddenly a loud report like that of a cannon and then a sudden darkness. The train was crowded, containing principally country visitors returning from the Fisheries Exhibition. After leaving the station the train travelled steadily ahead. When the train reached the next station, Edgeware Road, the first effort was made to rescue the wounded. Some were dreadfully burned, but more were prostrated by fright. The first impression was that an explosion of gas had caused the disaster, but later inquiries tend to show malice.

The general opinion of railway officials and of experts is that the disaster was caused by some explosive material which had been placed probably in the rear-most carriage. A searching inquiry is proceeding. It is believed that about forty persons were injured, some of them dangerously.

Almost simultaneously with the Praed Street affair another violent explosion occurred on the underground railway between Charing Cross and Westminster stations. The effects were similar to those of the Praed Street explosion. Both explosions are thought to have been of Fenian origin.

A later account says there was great excitement over the explosions. Large numbers of policemen under special inspectors were on duty all night at the various railway stations and guarding the line. A heavy force is also employed watching the Houses of Parliament and other public buildings. The explosion at Charing Cross occurred two hundred yards west of the station. There was no train there at the time. The walls of the tunnel are battered, but the rails not misplaced. The windows in the station are blown out. The roof is not damaged and no person was hurt there. At the Praed street station the force of the explosion was terrible, and although workmen were busily engaged all night removing the debris, they have not yet finished the task nor has the damage there been repaired. The tunnel there is not destroyed, but a deep hole has been excavated on a road bed. The brick work was blown up, and gas pipes and telegraph lines broken. The refreshment saloon was wrecked and the windows in the other rooms of the station smashed. The explosion occurred immediately under the passing train, forty yards west of the station. All persons wounded were taken to St. Mary's Hospital. Four were seriously hurt but are expected to recover.

The despatch on Friday said the Government had offered £500 reward for information leading to the conviction of the author of the explosions on the underground railways on Tuesday night. The Metropolitan and District Railway Co.'s offer an additional reward of £500. The persons injured at the Praed Street Station sustained ruptures of the tympanic membrane, which can only be the effects of the detonation of dynamite.

It is evident that the explosive used was similar to that employed in the attempt to blow up the Local Government Board offices.

The steamer *Holyhead* collided with the German ship *Alhambra*, bound from Liverpool to New York, when 25 miles off Holyhead. Both vessels sank. Thirteen of the *Alhambra's* crew and two of the *Holyhead's* were drowned. The remainder were picked up and landed at Holyhead.

The drowned from the *Alhambra* included the captain, the mate and the captain's daughter. Twelve were saved. Sixty passengers were on board the *Holyhead*, including a number of cattle dealers and drovers.

On Friday last an express train from Liverpool to London while running at the rate of fifty miles an hour, collided with an empty train. Two persons were killed and many injured.

At the International Labor Conference at Paris last week, a great diversity of opinion prevailed. The French delegates again urged state intervention.

The difficulty between France and China is not yet overcome. Admiral Courbet left Haiphong on the 25th October with 600 marines for Hanoi, where he will await the arrival of reinforcements from France before making an attack on Sontag. The French forces are expected to occupy Kouang Yen, a town forty miles North-east of Haiphong, in a short time.

It is stated that the Prussian Diet will meet on the 20th of November, and the German Parliament on the 15th of January. The foundation stone of the new Parliament building will be laid January 18th.

The Spanish Government have decided to suppress the practice in Cuba of administering corporal punishment to slaves, and that orders to that effect will be issued at once.

The sufferings of the people at and in the neighborhood of Cheame increase daily. Fever has appeared and threatens to complete the deadly work of the recent earthquake. The Turkish physicians in attendance are unskilled and careless, they despise Christian sufferers and offer them little or no assistance. Urgent appeals for aid has been made by the Greek authorities. There has been some severe fighting in Egypt, between the Government troops and those of the false prophet. 25,000 or 30,000 Arabs attacked Hicks Pasha's army. Ten thousand Arabs divided into two columns and attacked the Egyptian square on two sides, thus enabling Hicks Pasha to use 6,000 Remington rifles, Krupp guns and Nordenflet rocket batteries. The Arabs only armed with lances, failing after sometime to reach the square, they fled, leaving 8,000 dead and all the women, food, baggage and animals behind. Hicks Pasha pursued the main body of the fugitives and overtook them at Nillbos, where he found El Madhi posted with the fugitives and a body guard of 2,000 cavalry. The Arabs again attacked and were repulsed with great loss. El Madhi had his horse killed under him and is reported to have been cut down by the Light Cavalry sent in pursuit of him. Hicks Pasha has taken possession of El Obeid and the Government treasury. The Egyptians loss was nothing.

On Thursday evening at Londonderry, Ireland, while a procession was escorting the Lord Mayor of Dublin to a hotel, passing the City Hall, Orangemen are said to have congregated there and fired upon it, and threw slates from windows and roofs of buildings.

Several hundred factory women paraded the streets of Londonderry Ireland on Friday last, shouting "God save Ireland." They were stoned by a mob and fought desperately. The police dispersed the mob.

The Queen's granddaughter Princess Victoria, whose betrothal to the hereditary Crown Prince of Anhalt is announced, is 17 years old.

There were twenty deaths from yellow fever at Havana during the past week.

There have been 240 deaths from cholera at Mecca in one week.

General Sherman in his annual report on the U. States army says: "I am convinced, after having seen many of the most celebrated military schools of the world, that ours are the best. I now regard the Indians as substantially eliminated from the problem of the army. Such Indian wars as have hitherto disturbed public peace and tranquillity are not probable."

The *Graphic's* Cleveland, Ohio special says three nuns connected with the Charity Hospital there, have decamped with \$60,000 belonging to the order.

At Savannah, Ga., Stubb's warehouse was burned on Wednesday last with three thousand bales of cotton. It is reported that several persons were burned to death, but this is not positively known yet. Several dwellings in the vicinity were also destroyed.

At New Edinburgh, Ark., during a circus performance on Tuesday night unknown parties fired a volley of shots from the outside through the canes into the audience. Wounding several persons and killing a performer.

Boston's four richest men are Frederick L. Ames, \$15,000,000; John M. Forbes, \$12,000,000, and Oliver Ames and William G. Weld, \$6,000,000 each.

The Old Dominion Creosote Works, with six thousand barrels oil, were de-

stroyed by fire on Wednesday. Loss \$100,000.

A large fire at Savannah, Georgia, destroyed the Electric Light Works and losses on other buildings amount to one million of dollars.

The commissioners appointed by President Arthur, under the Anti-polygamy Act of last year, have submitted their annual report. At the general election held in Utah Aug. 6, 1883 they were as successful in excluding polygamists as at the previous year's election, when some 12,000 persons were denied the privilege of voting.

Two cyclones, proving very destructive, occurred at Paris, Kentucky, during Tuesday of last week. The first demolished a house, killing four negro inmates. In Paris a great number of buildings were damaged, and also throughout the path of the cyclone in the country.

A one-story building on First Avenue N. Y. fell on Thursday, burying a number of children in the ruins; three were killed.

Fully fifteen hundred people, mostly colored, were rendered homeless by the fire in Savannah, Ga. The remains of three have been found in the ruins. It is probable seven or eight others perished during the fire. A cordon of one thousand military was formed around the burning buildings.

A reign of terror exists in the North-east part of New York city, owing to depredations of ruffians called "Frog Hollow Gang." Robbery and outrage there are frequent lately.

## Literary.

A NEW MISSIONARY BOOK.—To the literature of foreign missions many and valuable books are being contributed, replete with the most instructive and stimulating missionary matter. These books are having a wide circulation and eager readers. They are doing a large and most important work in the way of spreading the best kind of missionary intelligence, and fostering a deep-toned and healthy missionary zeal in the churches. And now another missionary volume, of unusual excellence, is passing through the press, and in a short time will be ready for the market.

Dr. S. F. Smith, the author of some of the most familiar and stirring missionary hymns sung in our missionary meetings, has recently returned from a two years' tour around the world. In his journals it was his distinct purpose to devote the most of his time and attention to a survey of the various mission fields in Asia and in Europe. On his return home, many who knew his eminent fitness and abundant resources for the task, urged him to report in some compact and permanent form for circulation the knowledge he had gained and the impressions he had received as an eye-witness of the movements and the successes of mission in foreign lands. The title of the book is "RAMBLES IN MISSION FIELDS." It is published by W. G. Corthell, at the Mission Rooms, Tremont Temple, Boston.

THE PULPIT TREASURY, for November has a portrait of Rev. Joseph Cook, and a comprehensive and appreciative sketch of his life and work. D. L. Moody's opening sermon at the late Convention in Chicago, a Thanksgiving sermon by Dr. J. T. Duryea and another by Dr. T. DeWitt Talmage are the sermons given in full. Prof. H. R. Palmer gives the first article on *How to improve our Church Music*. Other articles in the various departments are by Drs. Flagg, Allon Tucker, MacArthur and others. Indispensable to the Preacher, Sunday School teacher and Christian worker. \$2.50 per year. 25 cents single copy. Clergymen \$2.00. E. B. Treat, 757 Broadway, New York.

In the concluding paper on Southern California which will appear in the *December Century* is a description of the founding of the "City of the Angels," Los Angeles, a story so picturesque and romantic that the author declares it "a tale for verse rather than for prose."

The *Canada Christian Advocate* Methodist paper, says:—"Eight or nine ministers of our Church have joined the Detroit Conference, or taken work therein within a few weeks past. There seems to be a general exodus to Michigan, and the Canadian element in the Michigan Conference must be very strong, we should judge, by this time."