

# The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

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NEW SERIES.  
Vol. XXVIII, No. 42

WHOLE SERIES.  
Vol. XLVII, No. 42.

## News from the Churches.

CHESTER, N. S., Oct. 6th, 1883.—*Dear Bro. Selden.*—A word from this old field, on which the loved and sainted Joseph Dimock lived and labored and rejoiced so long, and where his remains lie awaiting the resurrection morning, may not be unacceptable, either to you or your readers.—Six months have passed quickly and pleasantly by since we settled here, and we are beginning to get acquainted with most of the Baptist folk, as well as with many others, in the town and vicinity. They are emphatically an *industrious and kind* people, and many, I believe, are children of God. We expect to be very happy among them, and hope to see the Lord's work prosper in their midst. Even now we think we hear "the sound of a going" not in the "tops of the trees" but among the people. We hope the Lord has already gone forth among the people, and that He is about to lead His hosts to victory. Yet, should we not see the displays of His mighty power and grace as soon as we hope, by that same power and grace we are determined to try and "hold the fort" till He come.

There are several destitute localities in this vicinity, and we long to preach Christ to them as well as to the people on our own field proper. And the Chester church are in the habit of encouraging and aiding its pastors in this kind of work, and in this way, they give up to the pastor, to spend where and as he may please, every *fifth Sabbath in the month*. Taking advantage of this, we spent several days with the people at Sherwood and Waterville last week, had a very interesting and profitable season, enjoyed the privilege of hearing many of the dear brethren and sisters talk of their Christian experience, and also of "burying with Christ by baptism" two happy believers.

Our hearts were cheered also on Saturday last by having a mother of a large family offer herself to the church as a candidate for baptism and church membership. She was heartily received and yesterday followed Christ in His own ordinance. Thus we are encouraged in the good work.—"Brethren, pray for us."  
J. F. KEMPTON.

WESTON, CORNWALLIS.—*Dear Editor.*—We think the readers of your valuable paper will be glad to hear of the prosperity of the Star of Hope Mission Band. We have just forwarded the amount of thirty-eight dollars to further the education of Neneishule, the boy whom we have undertaken to educate. Part of this money was raised by a tea sociable given by the Band. During the two years that the Band have been engaged in the work we have raised, beside expenses, one hundred and fifty dollars. We are deeply interested in the work, and so far our efforts have been blessed. We are thankful that we can in our small way assist in the great work of converting the heathen, and we earnestly desire that the one for whom we are especially laboring may become a noble worker among his own people.  
UNIE R. SANFORD,  
Sec'y, Star of Hope Mission Band,  
Weston, Oct. 5th, 1883.

ONSLow, Oct. 10, 1883.—Rev. C. H. Martell, writes: "I have had the pleasure of baptizing six young persons into the fellowship of East Onslow Baptist Church recently, and two at New Annapolis, as fruit of the faithful ministry of Bro. Sterns."

NEW GLASGOW.—*Dear Editor.*—Special meetings have been held in this town under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A., led by two young men who have been laboring in a number of places in this county during their vacation. Before these young men were invited a committee from the Association waited on all the ministers to ask their consent and sympathy. The committee reported that only one (the Baptist minister) was willing for them to come. The only place they could get to hold the meetings which would in any way accommodate the people who were flocking to hear the gospel was the Methodist church. Of course there were larger churches but they would not

be given without restrictions to which Messrs Meikle and Jerrier would not submit.

Although the young men had to contend with all these difficulties "the hand of the Lord" was with them and many believed and turned to the Lord." Messrs Meikle and Jerrier left about a week since to continue their studies at Princeton but the good work is still going on. About thirty-five young men who have lately been converted told us in one of the meetings a few evenings since of the joy and peace they found through believing in Jesus.

A large number of the converts communed in the Presbyterian churches last Sunday for the first time and a few were added to the Baptist church.

Yours truly,  
CITIZEN.  
New Glasgow, Oct. 8th 1883.

## Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.  
Acadia College.

*Mr. Editor.*—It is not my purpose to "indicate" the action of the Board of Governors of Acadia College in establishing the new Chair of Education. That action will, no doubt, be reported up to Convention at the proper time and place, and be adopted or rejected by that body as the wisdom of Convention shall dictate. As one of the Governors, however, I cannot allow certain statements made by Dr. H. H. Read in your last issue to pass unchallenged.

1. As to the manner, it is more than insinuated that the new movement was inaugurated in secret conclave, in a dishonorable, and unparliamentary manner. Dr. Read tells us that "it is felt that in accomplishing the new movement a method was used, which savors of the caucus,"—that "the hand of the 'Boss' is to be felt in the new departure." This, I confess, is to me altogether new and somewhat startling. Perhaps the learned Dr. will be good enough to inform your readers who the persons are that cherish such kind and Christian "feelings" towards their brethren, and which of the Governors is understood to be the "Boss." At the same time he might explain why he has felt at liberty to make such slanderous and "despicable" insinuations on a mere "suspicion" which, as he himself admits, "may have no foundation" in fact, and which, as I shall show presently, has no foundation whatever.

There is certainly no mystery about the matter. On the last day of the Convention recently held at Halifax, it appears there was a meeting of the Board of Governors to readjust College work in view of the action of Convention of the previous evening in respect to Theology. At that meeting the President of the College, Dr. Sawyer, I am told suggested several changes which he deemed desirable, and among the rest he mentioned the establishment of a Chair of Education. A Committee was then appointed to consider the whole question of readjustment including the feasibility of establishing the new Chair. That same evening, just prior to final adjournment of Convention, it was announced in open Convention that there would be a private meeting of the Board, at the Granville Street Church Vestry, on the following morning. I attended this meeting and there received from the lips of the President of the College in connexion with the report from that Committee my first hint of the "new departure." I soon learned too why a private meeting had been called. Dr. Rand had been approached in connexion with the matter and he had requested that, until it was known what recommendation the Senate, in whom is vested the right to initiate such matters, would make, the fact that he had been approached by the Governors should be held in strict confidence. Surely there was nothing so very heinous in all this. Dr. Rand was then Chief Superintendent of Education in New Brunswick, and we all felt that his request was most reasonable. This is the only "caucus" of which I have any knowledge, and if Dr. Read is better informed he should be more particular in his statement, and give us the facts.

2. Dr. Read's criticism in respect to the Chair itself arises clearly from misapprehension. No special effort will be made to do Normal School work or to "make good any deficiency in that traicing." The new Chair has been founded for the benefit of all undergraduates, and is intended to supply a want which has been long felt by College men. Many graduates of our Colleges utterly fail in their life work, not for want of knowledge, both in extent and accuracy, but from lack of ability to apply that knowledge to the practical duties of life. Those even who have been fairly successful, would, no doubt, have been much more successful had they been well grounded in "the principles and practice of education." This subject has, of late, been receiving unwonted attention from leading educationists in the United States. In a recent address delivered before the Corporation of Brown University, President Robinson said: "The number of men annually graduating from our Colleges with very creditable attainments as to both extent and accuracy of knowledge, but showing a lamentable incapacity for systematic thinking and for clear, forcible and correct, not to say elegant expression of their thoughts, is one of the standing reproaches to our American Education." If I know anything of what is really meant by the good old phrase, "A liberal education," the new Chair "of the principles and practice of education" is not the one to be regarded as of least importance to the students of Acadia.

3. Of the question of salaries little need be said. Dr. Read admits what all must feel that the salary of the new Professor "is not too large." The trouble is that the other salaries are too small. I was not present when this part of the business was discussed and decided, and accordingly do not feel called upon to justify what was done, but it seems to me that the explanation of the matter given by Mr. B. H. Eaton in his letter published in the *Morning Herald* of the 9th instant should satisfy any reasonable person. He says: "The governors felt that it might be looked upon by our own people as an unjust discrimination against the other professors to give Dr. Rand \$1600. Accordingly this matter was frankly and in a Christian way put before the President and Professors, and they were required to state if this would be regarded as objectionable by them, it being stated on behalf of Dr. Rand at the same time, that he would not accept the chair unless it was entirely agreeable to all the members of the faculty. With a magnanimity and generosity worthy of all praise, and of perpetual remembrance, the President and Professors concurred in the appointment being made, though at a salary higher than their own. So I voted for that feature of the business which I certainly would not have done but for the noble stand taken by the faculty."

With these facts before them. Your readers, I think, will beslow to conclude that the governors acted hastily, or without fairly and justly considering all the important interests involved.

Yours &c.,  
EDWIN D. KING.  
Halifax, Oct. 15, 1883.

For the Christian Messenger.  
Kings County Baptist Ministerial Conference.

*Dear Bro. Selden.*—According to the notice in the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER, the writer attended the Conference with Bro. Beatty, of North Kingston on the first Monday evening in this month. In the absence of the appointed preacher and his alternate he spoke to the people. It was decided, with but two ministers in attendance not to hold the Ministerial Conference to-morrow; but to postpone the meeting till the first Monday evening and Tuesday in November. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance at that time, and that brethren from Annapolis County will meet with us. Those appointed to preach, and to read papers will be hope be present. Also, as usual, sketches of sermons will be in order. Several topics will need to come up for mutual discussion. One of the chief among these is the subject of the Baptist Ministerial Conference of Kings County. If it is to live let it have such vigor as to make it fruitful for good. At any rate let us have one good meeting.

Signed,  
D. FREEMAN, Chairman.  
Canning, Oct. 10, 1883.

For the Christian Messenger.  
Acadia Seminary.

*Dear Sir.*—Permit me through your columns to make the following acknowledgement of gifts to the Seminary Library and Museum:

History of the Great Rebellion; Laurie A. Harris.  
Bible Altas: Mrs. P. P. Coburn.  
Sea Moss: Impressions of Raindrops and of Ripples on shale; Colorado Butte, Dory phora duemilimate: Hornblende; A. J. Pineo.  
Silbrite: Miss Fannie Roscoe.  
Sea-weed: Miss Blanche Bishop.  
Sea-fan and Bay of Fundy Sponge: Miss Agnes Brown.

Pyrite: Miss Lily Payzant, and Branch of Thorns from Palestine and Egyptian Corn: Mrs. Gilliat.  
Thirty-eight carefully selected vols., consisting of poems, travels, essays, biography, and fiction have been added to the Library since the opening of the present term. These have been purchased by the funds of the Perian Society accruing from the last public entertainment. Contributions of money to be expended in the purchase of books will be thankfully received. No more worthy object can commend itself to the friends of the Institution.

Respectfully yours,  
MARY E. GRAVES.

For the Christian Messenger.  
Uniformity in Convention Funds.

*Mr. Editor.*—As there appears to be some misunderstanding in reference to what contributions should appear in the accounts under the Convention Scheme, and as the statement was made several times at the late Convention, and more recently by Bro. March, in the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER, that the New Brunswick account was made up strictly in accordance with instructions given at the Convention of 1880, and that those instructions required that all sums whether contributed by individuals or churches for any of the Convention interests, including the special effort made to extinguish the College debt, should be included, and were included in the New Brunswick account. While the sums contributed towards the College debt were not included in the Nova Scotia and P. E. Island accounts, but were entered separately, thus avoiding that *uniformity* necessary to a satisfactory exhibit to the churches. And as this matter should be distinctly understood, I beg to suggest, that the instructions, or resolution, or whatever it was that passed the Convention at Hillsborough, be furnished through your columns for the information of the churches, by some one who remembers what passed, as on careful examination of the Minutes of that Convention, I fail to find anything in reference to the contributions of individuals, or that would in any way meet the matter in dispute.

Yours, &c.,  
INQUIRER.

For the Christian Messenger.  
Acadia College.

*Mr. Editor.*—In your editorial of last week you say that the reason of Dr. Welton leaving Acadia College for Toronto was not because his salary could not be paid, "As the funds (of the College) were never in a better position." I think this association cannot be sustained by facts. The debts when paid off, would not leave income sufficient to meet the requirements of annual expenses by at least \$1,000 and for several years past the annual accounts could only be met by borrowing from the bank or from the Endowment Fund.

If any one will take the pains to look back a few years previous to the retirement of the late Dr. Cramp to the published accounts in the Year Book, they will find that the Treasurer was enabled to meet the Convention with a clean sheet, owing no man anything. It occurs to me that this was a more favourable state of finance than can be exhibited at present. At the time referred to it was a principle with the Governors not to go in debt. The receipts were much smaller then at present, but matters were so arranged as to keep the expenditure within the income.

When the teaching staff needed to be increased the matter was brought before the Convention, the Governors stated the necessity of the case and asked assistance, the confidence reposed in this body met usually a willing response and the money required was cheerfully provided.

In the case of a tutor with a salary of \$600 being required the selection of Rev. Alfred Chipman was named to the Convention, which was told that if he were employed it must be done by individual subscription: as might be supposed twenty persons stepped forward and pledged \$30 each and by this method his salary was paid. Again when a tutor was required to be advanced to a Professorship and his salary raised, the late Dr. Cramp pledged \$400 annually so as not to trench on the funds otherwise needed, this he paid out of his limited income for several years.

The "Alumni" subsequently wanted to bring Dr. Pryor from Boston to fill a chair in the College, but the Governors only consented to do so on the pledge of that Society being given to pay his salary or the main portion of it; which they did, whilst he remained there.

When Professor Elder was elected to a chair of Natural Science his salary was paid *entirely* by pledges made by friends of the College, no other funds were required; when these subscriptions were withdrawn the chair was vacated.

I refer to these matters to show that in former years when a Professor was wanted the first consideration was the Governors was, the state of the Treasury. Were the same course pursued now there would be less complaint than is caused, by appointing a Professor and then having to meet his salary by borrowing from a bank or using trust funds, which ought to be considered too sacred a deposit to be diverted from the object intended by the donors.

When the Governors act with due prudence and imitate the action of past years by not going in debt then may it be said "the funds of the College were never in a better position"—but not till then.

J. W. BARRS.  
October 15th, 1883.

For the Christian Messenger.  
Leadership in the Churches.

*Mr. Editor.*—The description of Calvary Church of New York in your last issue affords an admirable illustration of the inestimable value of a true leader in a Christian church, and calls to mind some pregnant remarks made by Dr. Castle at one of the meetings held during the Convention. So high was his estimate of the value of wise and efficient leadership in the churches that he declared it to be his opinion that if R. S. MacArthur and John Peddie had received their education in Canada and been settled in Montreal, our cause in that city instead of being in its present weak and depressed condition would be represented by at least six strong churches. These were wise words and will bear to be carefully pondered. They touch upon our greatest need to-day.

We are frequently exhorted to union and faithfulness in our efforts to advance the cause of Christ, and stress is laid upon these qualities as if they afforded all the conditions of success. They who speak thus strangely ignore the lessons of history. True, the loyalty, fidelity, and zeal of an army are indispensable, but the capacity of the general in command is of at least equal importance. For instance, had Von Moltke belonged to France instead of to Germany, who doubts that France would have been the victor in place of the conquered; and again, what is the size of the army which can be regarded as equal in value to Lord Wolseley?

We cannot expect all our pastors to be Lord Wolseleys, or even R. S. MacArthurs or John Peddies, but we are bound to expect of those who take upon themselves the responsible duties of the pastoral office some, at least, of the qualities of leaders. The man who is satisfied with the perfunctory performance of his duties at the regular services of the church utterly fails in his conception of the office. One who holds to the true ideal will never cease his efforts till he has come into personal contact

with every member of his congregation, and gained an intimate knowledge of his spiritual condition. Not till then will he be able to apply the truths of the gospel in the way best fitted to those under his charge, and be in the position enabling him to evoke and direct their energies in the great work of converting the world to Christ. Himself glowing with enthusiasm for the enterprises of the church, he will inspire his people to loftier zeal, and lead them to deeper sacrifices on their behalf. In their daily and weekly conflicts with the enemy he will fight not as if beating the air, and in his exhortations mere flights of rhetoric will seem wasteful impertinencies.

To use the apposite words of Prof. Seely: "A flourishing church requires a vast and complicated organization, which should afford a place for every one who is ready to work in the service of humanity. The enthusiasm should not be suffered to die out in any one for want of the occupation best calculated to keep it alive. Those who meet within the church walls on Sunday should not meet as strangers who find themselves together in the same lecture hall, but as co-operators in a public work, the object of which all understand, and to his own department of which each man habitually applies his mind and contriving power. Thus meeting, with the *esprit du corps* strong among them, and with a clear perception of the purpose of their union and their meeting, they would not desire that the exhortations of the preacher should be, what in the nature of things it seldom can be, eloquent. It might cease then to be either a despairing and overwrought appeal to feelings which grow more callous the oftener they are thus excited to no definite purpose, or a childish discussion of some deep point in morality or divinity better left to philosophers. It might then become weighty with business, and impressive as an officer's address to his troops before a battle. For it would be addressed by a soldier to soldiers in the presence of an enemy whose character they understood, and in the war with whom they had given and received telling blows. It would be addressed to an ardent and hopeful association, who had united for the purpose of contending within a given district against disease and distress, of diminishing by every contrivance of kindly sympathy the rudeness, coarseness, ignorance and impudence of the poor, and the heartlessness and hardness of the rich, for the purpose of securing to all the moderate happiness which gives leisure for virtue, and that moderate occupation which removes the temptations of vice, for the purpose of providing a large and wise education for the young; lastly, for the purpose of handing in the tradition of Christ's life, death, and resurrection, maintaining the enthusiasm of Humanity in all the baptized, and preserving, in opposition to all temptations to superstition or fanaticism, the filial freedom of the worship of God."

PETER.

The Office of Supervisor of the Halifax City Schools having become vacant, there is a strong feeling prevailing in the City that the office should be abolished and some arrangements made by the Board to save the sum expended for his salary.

REV. DR. HOPPER has disposed of the Printing business of the *Visitor* Office at St. John, N. B. to Messrs. Weeks and Powers, and former the *Visitor* bookkeeper, and the latter the foreman of the printing office.

PERSONAL.—From the Omaha *Daily Bee* of Oct. 8th we learn that "Rev. J. A. MacLean, of Parrsborough, Nova Scotia, very acceptably filled the pulpit of the First Baptist church on the evening of the 7th. He is on his return from Cheyenne, and is guest of Mr. M. G. MacLean, of the Grand Union Tea Company."

A new dock, covering an area of ten acres, was recently opened at Hull, in England for the fish trade.