

# The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Wednesday, November 28, 1883.

NEW SERIES.  
Vol. XXVIII, No. 48

WHOLE SERIES.  
Vol. XLVII, No. 48.

## Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.  
W. M. A. S.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE N. S. CENTRAL BOARD:

Dear Sister Selden.—  
I drove over to Mahone Bay yesterday morning. Spent the afternoon calling on the sisters, and met a very warm welcome. All seemed to feel that it would be a pleasure to do something, more than they had done, for their Saviour. It was the evening of their weekly church prayer meeting, and I requested the sisters to be present, and that after the prayer meeting I would read them a constitution, and talk a while about the needs of the heathen, the work the W. M. A. S. were doing, &c. The meeting was a very good one. The subject presented by the pastor, Rev. A. W. Bars, was Heaven. At the close he introduced me and my mission, and said he hoped a Society would be formed. Fifteen names were soon handed in, and the following officers elected.

President.—Mrs. Joseph Beckwith.  
Vice-President.—Miss E. Durkee.  
Secretary.—Miss Elizabeth Joedry.  
Treasurer.—Mrs. Joseph Millet.  
From my experience so far, I feel assured that in all our churches there are loving hearts ready to engage in this work if some one would lead the way. I think I see several other openings, but it is not well to be in a hurry.  
Yours in sympathy for the perishing,  
F. M. B. KAMROR.  
Chester, Nov. 16th, 1883.

For the Christian Messenger.  
Baptist Book Room Agency.

Dear Bro. Selden,—

It was thought wise to spend two weeks visiting a second time, portions of Digby County. I addressed meetings at the following places at which collections were taken for the Agency Fund, as follows:—

Digby Town.....	\$4 38
Rosway.....	0 41
Centerville.....	1 42
Sandy Cove.....	0 70
Little River.....	0 30
Freeport.....	3 05
Westport.....	1 77
Bear River.....	2 65

The congregations were attentive and we may reasonably hope for a more whole hearted co-operation in the interests of the Book Room. But little argument is needed with intelligent thoughtful Baptists to secure their patronage for their own Book Room. The fact that all the profits are spent in Home Mission work of the best kind; even in giving away tracts and books to the needy through the medium of Colportage is sufficient inducement. Why should the profits on their purchases go into the hands of private parties, when all would rejoice to have them used in Baptist Home Mission work.

At Digby Rev. J. S. Brown is cheered by a relatively large congregations who greatly appreciate his earnest, faithful preaching of the truth; which with the wise and helpful attitude of the former pastor, as his health will permit, makes the outlook quite hopeful for the cause. Rev. J. C. Morse who has the honor of a 40 years pastorate on Digby Neck still wields a great power for good among his people. Rev. R. Bishop is truly bishop of the churches of Long Island, and though but a few months pastor, yet he occupies deservedly a large place in their affections. I took some part in an evening meeting at Freeport where the subject of—

### PROPORTIONATE GIVING

was freely discussed by the church. Will give a few notes. Ask the average Christian how do you know when you give enough to benevolent purposes? The answer given is—"My conscience tells me how much to give." Now since conscience in itself is no guide as to any matter of Christian duty except as it is enlightened from God's Word, therefore it will be expected that the word of God would give complete instructions, not only as to the motives and manner of giving, but also as to the proportion God requires us to give back to him of what He gives us. This want is beautifully met in the arrangements

of infinite wisdom for His creatures to give one tenth of their income. That the early Christian church observed the law of tithes for at least one thousand years until the usages of the church were perverted by the Roman Hierarchy is testified too by Origen, Jerome, Augustine, Chrysostom and others. The pastor publicly accepted God's perfect plan of giving one tenth, believing that nine tenths with the special blessing and favor of God on obedience, will supply his temporal wants better than ten tenths without it. He who did not permit the "handful of meal and the cruise of oil to fail" still takes notice of our debts and home wants.

Several leading brethren endorsed God's plan heartily. One active brother said "that he had often thought of the plan, but thus far had not had faith enough to believe that his temporal wants would be supplied if he gave one tenth." Response—how strange that we mortals can trust the Lord to redeem our souls and bodies too from sin and its effects, and to take us all the way to that wonderful and to us unknown place called heaven; and yet in the little matters of food and raiment, while on the journey thither, we will not comply with his demands nor take him at his word. Prov. iii. 9, 10; Matt. vi. 31-33.

Westport Church is quite united, and therefore strong, and rejoicing, as well they may in the discreet and earnest pastoral care of Rev. S. McC Black. By the cheerful, helpfulness of pastors, in two weeks \$78.49 in new subscriptions and collections were received, besides old subscriptions gathered in. I take this opportunity to thank the many kind friends who contributed so cheerfully, and by kind acts as well as words made my work pleasant. May the Master reward them. Pray for me still.

DIMOCK ARCHIBALD.  
Halifax, Nov. 21st, 1883.

For the Christian Messenger.  
More Confusion.

In Dr. Saunders' fifth letter of defence of the Governors of Acadia College, he tells us that "logic, mental and moral philosophy are waiting for Dr. Rand," and also "that the essential work to be done by Dr. Rand is work that has hitherto been done at Acadia," and again, "if Dr. Rand is to do work hitherto done in our College, then a part of his professional work is the same as a part of our College course." If the Governors founded the new chair for the sake of the subjects named above, then did they expect the men who now have those subjects to surrender them, or did they intend that two men should have the same subject?

At one time we are told that the new professorship is to introduce something entirely new and very valuable, and then it is said that "the essential work" of the new professor is "work that has hitherto been done at Acadia." Is there not danger that plain people will conclude that nobody knows anything about this business? It begins to look as if the "essential" thing had been in the College all the time, but the right name was not given to it. Would it not be better to stop the discussion till somebody can tell us just what the promoters of this new thing mean by it?

INQUIRE.

For the Christian Messenger.  
Quarterly Meetings and Home Missions.

Many of the Counties in these Maritime Provinces have what are known as quarterly or Ministerial Conferences. We believe these gatherings may be made very useful not only to the ministers themselves but to the Home Mission work and the cause of Christ generally.

My object in writing at present is to call the attention of the brethren composing these meetings to an important work they may greatly forward—I refer to the grouping of the churches. In some counties this grouping has already been arranged, so that nothing further need be done except to see that it is not broken up. There are still several counties however where each church acts for itself and secures whoever it can for a pastor for such a portion of

time as it can pay for, and leaves its weak neighbours to do the same. Now if the quarterly meetings could break up this custom and induce the churches contiguous to each other to unite in supporting a pastor, and in this way divide off the county or counties into convenient groups they would do a work for which they would deserve the thanks of the churches. Now brethren when you come together again will you not take this matter into consideration? If after careful enquiry and deliberation a method of grouping could be agreed upon it would then be well to appoint a committee to seek to bring it into operation. If unable to come to a decision as to the most convenient manner of grouping it would be best to commit the work to a wise committee who should report at the next meeting, at which some brother could present a paper on "the benefits of grouping the weak churches."

I hope my brethren will pardon me for making these suggestions, I do not wish to dictate, but I am daily pondering the question, How can our weak churches be supplied with the regular ministry of the word.

A. CONROU,  
Cor. Sec'y., H. M. B.  
Hebron, N. S., Nov. 22, 1883.

For the Christian Messenger.

FROM REV. J. H. ROBBINS.—Dear Brother,—I have left the pastorate of the Pine Grove Church. We have no "valdictory" and "Reply," as there are no "difficulties" to oil over with smooth words. My family and myself have received from the church and different congregations nothing but kindness during the four and a-half years of my pastorate, and warmer friendships and stronger love between pastor and people cannot be found than that which still binds us together in happy memories. I cannot refrain from embracing this opportunity of once more expressing gratitude on behalf of my family and myself to the Father above and friends below for the memory of those years.

While the results of our labor have not been as large as we have desired, yet it is believed that God has given some success to the united efforts of church and pastor. I earnestly pray and sincerely hope that soon another will be filling the place with much greater success.

The condition of the church for a pastor is good. Large congregations, Sunday School with winter life, a large library of books in every department of good literature, saints to feed and sinners to point to the cross, and ability to give a good support. I left it with reluctance, but dare not remain on account of health.

When in the conference I told the church that I feared I should be obliged to leave, the response came promptly, "Remain, and take entire rest as long as you need, and your support will go on the same." Not willing to do this, I decided on a change, and left about the first of November, and the church more than paid my salary up to December, with many valuable tokens of remembrance beside.

Very providentially I received a call from the church in North Springfield, Vermont, where there will be no long drives, and only one sermon a Sabbath. Hoping the Lord will bless you and all the churches in my native land, and grant us some favor among strangers,  
I remain,  
Yours very truly,  
J. H. ROBBINS.

MINUTES OF THE MAINE BAPTIST ANNIVERSARIES, 1883.—Dr. Burrage, the Secretary, will accept our thanks for this pamphlet, so full of information concerning the 252 Baptist Churches of Maine. There are 13 Associations, two of which were formed in the last century. They comprise a membership of 20,039. The Report on the State of Religion contains summaries of what has been done in them during the year. It also gives a summary of Coburn's Classical Institute and Colby University.

## News of the World.

Queen Victoria has left Balmoral for Windsor. The railway company took extraordinary precautions for the safety of the train.

The Times concludes that the continued presence of a substantial English garrison in Egypt is essential to the interests of civilization.

The trial of O'Donnell for the murder of James Carey has been fixed for Friday, the 30th inst.

At a meeting of 600 employes of the Metropolitan Underground Railway on Thursday called for the purpose of expressing indignation at the recent outrage at Praed Street Station, a resolution passed declaring that the outrage was an attack upon the hard working people of the Metropolis. Copies of the resolution will be sent to the American Minister and Parnell.

The Cork Board of Trustees have refused the use of Exhibition Hall to Parnell, for the purpose of delivering an address to his constituents.

At Dublin, the jury in the Poole case retired. In about forty minutes returned with a verdict of guilty. The court pronounced the sentence of death upon the prisoner. Poole then rose and addressed the court. He admitted he was a Fenian, cursed England, and called for "Three cheers for the Irish Republic."

Poole will be hanged on December 18th. The Judge, in passing sentence upon the prisoner, was deeply affected. He said the evidence left the jury no alternative, and he quite concurred in the verdict.

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught arrived at Bombay on Sunday. A large assemblage witnessed their landing. They met with a most cordial reception.

Sir John Hawley Glover, lately Governor of Antigua and the Leeward Islands, has been appointed Governor of Newfoundland.

The Queen will order a variety of poplin goods from Dublin, in order to set them in fashion and thus give an impulse to Irish manufactures.

The Government at Peking has sent a circular to 18 Viceroy, pointing out the gravity of the political situation, and expressing a firm resolution to oppose to the utmost the French invaders. Therefore it says the services of 120,000 men are required.

The French Government on Saturday was discussing the advisability of despatching 7,000 more troops to Tonquin, in view of the possibility of war with China.

Spanish papers assert that the visit of the Crown Prince of Germany to Spain is associated with a project for the annexation of Portugal to Spain as the price of permanent Spanish alliance.

Twenty persons were drowned in Lake Geneva on Saturday by the collision of two pleasure boats.

The Crown Prince of Germany arrived at Madrid, Spain, on Friday at noon. The streets were crowded with people. Many houses were gaily decorated. From the depot to the royal palace, a distance of two miles, the streets were lined with troops. King Alfonso, wearing the uniform of Colonel of the Uhlans, met the Prince when he alighted from the train. King Alfonso and the Prince cordially embraced and kissed each other.

At Rome on Monday while the Communal Council was being discussed, a motion in favor of entrusting priests with religious instruction in municipal schools, a crowd burst into the hall and commenced whistling and hooting. The greatest disorder prevailed for a time, but the hall was soon cleared and discussion resumed with closed doors. Several arrests were made.

The latest official accounts of the fighting at Toka state that the Egyptians lost seven officers and 142 men, besides six Turks and several Greeks. They also lost one gun and 300 rifles. About 340 of them regained their ship.

The Egyptians during the fight formed a hollow square, when a small number of the enemy locked their shields together and rushed through the Egyptian line, and an immediate panic among the Egyptians resulted.

A despatch dated Cairo, Nov. 22, says the army of Hicks Pasha has been destroyed by forces of El Mahdi, the false Prophet. The intelligence was brought to Khartoum by a Coptic official. The fighting is said to have continued from the 3rd to the 5th inst., and to have resulted in the complete annihilation of the Egyptian troops. It

is stated that a European artist is the only person who escaped.

The forces of El Mahdi are estimated at 300,000 men, and included Derwishes, Bedouins, mulattoes and regulars. The battle was fought near El Obeid. The force under Hicks Pasha comprised 25,000 men. He had with him ten British officers.

A special de-patch to the Times from Khartoum, dated Nov. 20, says the most trust worthy sheiks in the service of the Government who arrived at Douem yesterday, reports, 100 men, including Hicks Pasha, Governor-General and his entire staff were annihilated in a defile at Kashgate, whither they were led by a treacherous guide. On the morning of Nov. 1st Hicks Pasha and his entire army marched from Milbas. The guide led them through rocky wooded defile which was without water, and where an ambuscade had been prepared by the rebels, who were armed with rifles and artillery. Hicks Pasha was unable to raise his guns. For three days the army, worn by thirst, defended itself, but on the fourth day it was annihilated to a man.

The rebels captured 36 Krupp-Nordenfeldt and mountain guns. All the flags, the munitions of war and the camels with Hicks Pasha were captured.

The Times Khartoum special says Khordifan is virtually lost. Col. Gostoman and your correspondent are the sole surviving Englishmen in the Soudan. The entire Soudan is in a blaze. The army will retreat to Berga if possible. It cannot muster 4,000 regulars all told. The population of Khartoum is disaffected and a crisis there is expected.

The London Daily News, discussing Egyptian affairs, insists that the Khedive must surrender the idea of attempting to reach El Obeid, or of pursuing an aggressive conflict with El Mahdi, and says the game of conquest in Central Africa is not worth the great pecuniary cost or terrible risk. We are struck with amazement at the singular short-sightedness and want of presence exhibited by Her Majesty's Government in wishing to withdraw the British troops from Egypt at such a juncture.

A telegram from Mr. Power, at Khartoum, the artist who was with Hicks Pasha, reports that the first attack by the Egyptian army was successful, and that it was not until the enemy was believed to be routed that Hicks Pasha accepted the guidance of an emissary of Mahdi, who led the army into a waterless defile, where it was annihilated.

The London correspondent of News at Cairo sends the following:—The Governor of Khartoum telegraphs that two Chiefs state that the report of the defeat of Hicks Pasha is false, that Hicks Pasha is at El Obeid, and that El Mahdi has been killed.

A cyclone struck Melbourne, Ark., on Thursday morning. Ex-Sheriff John Hinkle and wife also two children were killed, and Mrs. Henry A. Hinkle crippled. The Court House, two churches, and several stores and houses were blown down.

On Wednesday a cyclone nearly destroyed the village of LaCrosse. Only six houses are left standing. Three persons were killed and several injured.

There have been heavy rains in the vicinity of Indianapolis, Ind. All the streams have risen rapidly, and most of the North-Eastern part of the city is under water, covering the first floors of hundreds of small dwelling houses. The lumber yards suffer heavily. The loss will probably aggregate a quarter million of dollars.

Some unknown parties inserted dynamite cartridges under a saloon at Danville, Ind., and blew the place to pieces. The explosion shook the entire town.

Sergeant Mason, who was sentenced to eight years imprisonment for attempting to shoot Guiteau, has been pardoned.

John L. Boutiller, French Village, Halifax, Co., writes that Minard's Liniment cured his daughter of a very severe attack of Diphtheria, after she was pronounced incurable and recommended all to use it should they be afflicted with the same diseases. Feb. 14.

### New Brunswick.

A tragic affair occurred at the festival connected with a marriage at Mount Whately, on Tuesday evening about half-past seven, a charivari party appeared and fired a salute. A young farmer named Benjamin Smith, belonging to Fort Lawrence, fell dead. A shot hole, about an inch in diameter, was discovered, blown at short range into his right side. It was supposed to have

been accidental. Mr. Smith was a farmer of 30, and the chief support of his widowed mother.

### Dominion of Canada.

The Marine Department is considering a proposition or introducing buoys, lighted by gas, on the Atlantic coasts and harbors.

Victoria B.C. has had a Dynamite scare. On Saturday the steamer North Pacific arrived. Among her passengers was an insignificant Chinaman carrying an unpretentious carpet bag. He alighted at the gangway he attempted to push through the crowd, but the custom's man hailed him and demanded the contents of his bag. The Chinaman at once replied "wolly good; me no savee." "You savee" responded the custom's officer, at the same time grasping the bag with the other; "What's in the bag?" The same reply was given, when the officer snatched the bag from him, tore it open, and shook out the contents, "dynamite cartridges and capped." By Jupiter, shouted the official, when those around moved away quickly, careless to know the result of the seizure. Had there been any great struggle over the possession of the bag, or had the contents been dumped on the hard planks of the wharf, the chances are that the results would have been destructive. The Chinaman and the cartridges were at once conveyed to a place of safety. It is rumored that the owner of the bag was a Fenian in disguise.

### Literary.

THE CORRESPONDENCE UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCEMENT, November, 1883, is a neat pamphlet giving a list of thirty-two professors of different branches of University subjects on which instruction will be given by correspondence on payment of the required fees. The Secretary of the Cornell University, Lucien A. Wait, Ithaca, New York, will give all needed information. It is intended to benefit persons who are unable to leave their homes to receive a course of Higher Education at institutions established for the purpose.

THE PANSY, November, has the four weekly parts done up in a monthly cover, forming an illustrated magazine, a large part of which is religious matter suitable for Sunday reading in a popular form, as attractive and instructive as the larger monthlies, for young people.

In the current number, "Pansy" (Mrs. G. R. Alden) the editor, begins a new serial, "Christie at Home;" Margaret Sidney continues her delightful articles, "How they went to Europe;" Fay Huntington has a bright short story, "Gracie's Mission;" "Pansy" another—a very sweet one—"With All Your Heart," and Margaret Sidney tells the story of "How the Geese Saved Rome;" and there are a dozen interesting articles besides. The Pansy is only 75 cents a year. The volume begins with the November number. D. Lothrop & Co., Publishers, Boston Mass.

THE PANSY is only one of four periodicals issued by this house. BABYLAND, 50 cents a year, OUR LITTLE MEN AND WOMEN, \$1.00 a year, and WIDE AWAKE, \$2.50 a year.

We have received a copy of the beautiful lithographic portrait of Pansy (Mrs. G. R. Alden), whose books have a larger sale than those of any other living American writer.

Her adoption of the title by which she is known, is an interesting bit of history. In her young girl days, the old clock in her father's house stopped—a thing so unusual that it made an impression on the whole household, and especially on her. She wrote an "essay" in regard to that faithful household monitor, which pleased her father very much. He said it must be published in the paper conducted by her brother. "But," said he, "we don't wish any one to know that you wrote it, and so we will sign it 'Pansy,' for pansy means tender and pleasant thoughts, and you have given me some thoughts that are tender and pleasant."

Any one desiring this beautiful portrait can obtain it free by sending \$1.50 for two new subscriptions to THE PANSY, to D. Lothrop & Co., Boston, Mass.

There are in great Britain from six to eight thousand families of gypsies or other nomads, most of whom are as heathenish as the peoples to whom churches send missionaries.

Trade increases the wealth and glory of a country; but its real strength and stamina are to be looked for among the cultivators of the land.—Lord Chatham.