

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., January 3, 1883.

We have now fairly entered upon the New Year, according to our present reckoning. We trust that our readers—one and all—have had a joyous commencement of the year, and, if not, we hope they may, as they proceed, find it improving every month, so that they may find that, after all, it is A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

DEVELOPMENTS OF TRUTH.

WHAT NEXT?

From the days of the Reformation there seems to have been a very gradual rising from the darkness of the Middle Ages. New developments or unfoldings of the great truths of the Gospel have taken place from time to time, so far as the general proclamation of them to the people is concerned. All through that dark period of the world's history the Crusades had absorbed the religious zeal of Europe, whilst the monks—the recognized teachers and preachers—sought to rule the people by keeping them in a condition of agitation respecting the Holy Places, with a promise of future reward according to what was done in those religious wars. Personal character was then but little regarded, and violence and barbarism generally prevailed.

In Luther's day the great truth that the world, and especially the professing church, needed was justification by faith. He preached it and made Christendom ring with the necessity of union with Christ by a living faith in Him as the only ground for hope of salvation. This cut the bonds asunder which had held sin-burdened souls, and led them to trust in Christ rather than in the doings prescribed by the priesthood. The sale of indulgences, which had then grown to such fearful dimensions, and had so degraded both priest and people, was undermined by the newly discovered doctrines so that the sale had to be stopped, and eventually the new doctrine prevailed.

What are the great truths that are now called for? may very properly be made a matter of very serious enquiry. Every Christian should be desirous of looking at this question, and of giving to it an intelligent answer. If we are called on to 'prepare the way' as was intimated in our last, we should take a calm dispassionate unprejudiced view of the state of things around us, and, with the expectation of a prompt reply, ask, What next? In the prospect of the nearer approach of Christ's reign over his people, What must we do? There are three or four great principles which should be now, more than ever before, firmly held and practically enforced in the Church of Christ.

Perhaps there is no principle that lies at the foundation of all true advancement of evangelical truth more than this,—The Church of Christ must be composed of Christians,—men and women who have experienced the change called by our Lord being born again. This is now being recognized theoretically, more or less, by all the denominations. It were well if it were also practically regarded.

We were purposing to invite our readers to a brief discussion of this subject, but find that we must defer further remark upon it till our next.

The Week of Prayer will commence on Sunday next. We have already had the announcement of subjects suggested by the Evangelical Alliance for the several days, and the places where the meetings are appointed to be held by the Halifax Committee. A little variation is made in the latter. We may, therefore, now give the places correctly: Sunday—1 Timothy ii. 5, 6, in Y. M. C. A. Hall. Morning meetings in the same place Monday and following days.

Monday evening—Praise and Thanksgiving in Granville Street, North Baptist and Kaye Street Churches.

Tuesday—Humiliation and Confession in Fort Massey, Brunswick Street, and Poplar Grove Churches.

Wednesday—for Families, in all the churches.

Thursday—for the Church Universal, in Grafton Street, St. John's, and Kaye Street Churches.

Friday—for the Nations, in St. Andrew's, Charles Street, Tabernacle, and Poplar Grove Churches.

Saturday—for Missions, at 3.30 p. m., in St. Matthew's Church.

We are pleased to learn from the Recorder that the Tabernacle congregation on Friday evening last presented their pastor, Rev. J. F. Avery, a donation of \$114.62, and an admirable congratulatory address.

After the above was in print, and just as we were going to press yesterday, we received a full report of the above meeting. We regret that it was not in time for our present issue. It shall appear in our next.

The following extract of a letter received a few days since will afford pleasure to many of our readers:

"My voice I think is gradually improving, so that I cherish a strong hope that in time I shall be able to resume my work. Wishing you great success in your arduous work.

I am yours,
Very truly,
E. O. READ."

It is probable that Nova Scotia has not a more active missionary in the Foreign Field than Miss Sophia A. Norwood, in China, whose letter appears in another column. She is laboring under direction of the American Baptist Missionary Union. A private note, dated Nov. 15th, accompanying the same, says: "I have lately returned from a country trip extending 60 miles from Swatow. While away, I wrote a short account of a visit to a heathen temple, which I enclose." Miss N. adds: "In am just on the eve of starting out on another visit into the country. Between now and Christmas I have three ten days trips to make. I have now the entire charge of the Woman's work in this mission, and it gives me a great deal of country work."

Miss Norwood also mentions:—"We have just had a most delightful visit from a party of missionaries on their way to Siam. Among them were Rev. Mr. MacLaren of Prince Edward Island, who with his wife go out in the employ of the American Presbyterian Board. They were in excellent health and spirits, and are looking eagerly forward to their work in Siam. Mr. McL., was delighted to have a glimpse of the Messenger, and spoke most appreciatively of the way in which it is conducted though he could not quite forgive the position it took on the Dalkhouse question. But we Baptists do not expect our Presbyterian friends to look at this matter as we do."

PROFESSOR WIGGINS' prognostications of a great storm on the 8th and 9th of March are not regarded as having much to sustain them. They are looked upon by men of standing as a scare. General Hazen at the head of the U. S. Signal service at Washington writes at some length to shew that there is but little probability of such storm, and that "it is absolutely impossible to predict a storm for more than a few days in advance." Dr. Wiggins nevertheless persists in his statements, and writes Dec. 21st:

"The coming winter will be remarkable for heavy and well defined storms. If I were the owner of ships I would not allow one of them to be on the Atlantic Ocean on the 8th of February or on the 9th 10th, and 11th of March, though the former storm will be inferior to the latter."

Review of Books.

ASSOCIATED ALUMNI OF ACADIA COLLEGE, Report, Memorial Addresses, &c.

We have had some reference in our columns to this pamphlet which has been some time in course of preparation for publication. It comprises 88 pages of closely printed matter, all of which will be interesting reading for the friends of Acadia. The table of contents on the inside of the cover indicates the character of what it contains. The following is the title page: "The twenty-second annual report of the Executive Committee of the Associated Alumni of Acadia College, and Addresses in Memoriam relating to the life and labors of the late Rev. J. M. Cramp, D.D., delivered at the Anniversary Meeting of the Society, 1882, together with lists of Senators, Governors, Graduates, &c." On the second page is an excellent woodcut of the new College building, exhibiting its fair proportions to very good advantage. The "prefatory remarks" call attention to recent changes "affecting the standing and prospects of the Association."

Chief among these is that effected during the present Collegiate year, in calling into "active being that part of the College organism described in the Charter as the 'Body of the College.'" This "Body of the College," now known as the "Senate of the University of Acadia," and whose function it is to regulate the internal management of the College, is composed of the Faculty, Fellows, and Scholars of the University, all of whom are now, or at their option may become, active members of the Alumni Society. The founding of "Scholarships" to take the place of the prize system formerly in vogue is another change recently introduced, and is doubtless a change in the right direction.

The annual report shows the membership of the Society to be 67. A little effort surely would easily increase the roll of members to three times that number, especially in view of the large number of graduates, and the important benefits which the small membership fee of one dollar annually confers. To many of our readers the chief interest attaching to this pamphlet will centre around the addresses in Memoriam. The labors of the late Dr. Cramp during the last thirty years of his eventful life are too intimately associated with the growth and development of Acadia College and the Baptist denomination in the Maritime Provinces to be soon forgotten by those with whom and for whom his efforts were put forth. His labors, from the time of his removal to this Province in 1851, were untiring not only in connexion with Acadia College, but in Home and Foreign Missions, and in every department of Christian activity. There are four of these addresses, the perusal of any one of which will amply repay the reader, although they are not by any means exhaustive. In this connexion we give the following extract from an ably written review, of the Alumni pamphlet, which appeared in the Morning Herald of Saturday last:

"The late Dr. Cramp accepted an invitation to the Presidency of Acadia College in 1851, 'henceforth,' to use his own expressive language, 'to devote himself to the cause of education and religion in Nova Scotia, especially in connection with Acadia College.' The task he had thus assumed was not a light one, but his undaunted courage and depth of resource were equal to the emergency. For the next quarter of a century the record of his life is written in the rapid growth and development of the educational institutions at Wolfville, and of the Baptist denomination in the Maritime Provinces. He has been fitly called the 'Second founder of Acadia College.' In connection with the College his labors were prodigious. Instead of six professors in the Arts course, as at present, there were but two in those days. Heavy burdens and responsibilities were laid upon Dr. Cramp's shoulders. 'At one time or another he here taught Latin, Greek, Mental Philosophy, Moral Philosophy, Evidences of Christianity, Rhetoric, Logic, Political Economy, and Geology,' with almost equal success. As a preacher 'he was recognized by all as a master in Israel,' and his labors were abundant; and as a temperance worker 'none excelled him in devotion to the cause, nor yet in the amount or efficient character of the work accomplished.' His was a life abundant in activities and pre-eminently useful. His memory will be long cherished by all who knew him.

The pamphlet next treats of matters pertaining more strictly to the University of Acadia. We again quote from the Morning Herald:

First in order, is the report in respect to granting degrees, etc., adopted by the Board of Governors of the College in May last. This report is, in point of fact, the Constitution of the Senate of the University, defining its functions and explaining its relations to the governing body of the College. It is followed by a list of the members of the Senate and of the Board of Governors; among whom we recognize the names of many of the most prominent gentlemen connected with the Baptist body in the Maritime Provinces. It is noticeable, that both among Senators and Governors, the lay element largely predominates. The list of "Scholarships" given shews that Acadia is not regardless of the financial inducements now so commonly held out to students by our leading institutions of learning. Many of these scholarships have been established in connection with the Endowment Fund of the College, and are available for meeting charges for tuition. Nearly all the students, we understand receive assistance from this source. The other Scholarships, ranging in sums from \$25 to \$50 are bestowed on the three fold principle of scholarship, needs, and general standing of the students.

The "list of graduates" and "degrees conferred, honoris causa," will greatly enhance the interest with which the pamphlet will be read.

The Constitution and Act of Incorporation of the Alumni Society are given somewhat by way of appendices. The principal officers of the Society, elected annually are the "President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer, and are filled this year by Messrs. E. D. King, of this city; H. C. Creed, of Fredericton, N. B., and W. L. Bars, of Halifax, respectively. These with seven Directors, constitute the Executive Committee and control the affairs of the Association subject to the approval of the Annual Meeting. The aim of the Society is a worthy one—"to bind together in friendship all those who have studied at Acadia and to ensure the life-long devotion of its members to the interests of the College, and through her, to the cause of education generally." The pamphlet will aid in no small degree the accomplishment of this end. A limited number of copies will be on sale. Those who desire to procure one should forward 20 cents promptly to the Baptist Book Room, 104 Granville St., or to the President or Secretary-Treasurer.

The following information respecting the subsequent employments of the students who have graduated at Acadia, gleaned from this pamphlet, cannot fail to enlist general interest as showing the manner in which they have labored for the good of society, and also as indicating to same extent the benefits which the general public have received from these educational institutions.

Of the 211 graduates 29 have since died; 87 have engaged in the high calling of preaching the gospel in their own and other lands. Of this number 8 have gone forth as Foreign Missionaries to the heathen. 36 have entered the legal profession, two of whom, Judges Weatherbe and Johnston, have attained honorable positions upon the bench in our courts of law. The medical profession has received the services of 20. The same number have embarked in commercial pursuits. 11 have been engaged in editorial work, 5 have joined the civil service. 4 have turned their attention to agriculture. Five have entered the political arena; and 1 has become a civil engineer.

In educational work the sons of Acadia have occupied high positions and done good service. It is well known that Nova Scotia is indebted to an alumnus of this College for her Free Common School System. Two of her graduates Dr. T. H. Rand and the late Rev. A. S. Hunt were successively Superintendents of Education in this province, and when the Free School System was inaugurated in New Brunswick in 1871, the former was selected as Chief Superintendent, a position which he still continues to fill with marked ability. Three graduates have been Presidents of Colleges, and eighteen have filled professorial chairs in such institutions. Fifty-three have been engaged as school teachers, quite a number of these have chosen this profession as their life work, and seven have filled the position of Inspectors of schools in these provinces.

Quite a large number of graduates have taken advanced courses of study in Universities in the United States and in Europe as additional preparation for their life-work, and several of the younger men are now prosecuting such studies. Quite enough is here stated to shew that the sons of Acadia have made their mark, and even attained high eminence in the various pursuits in which they have engaged, that they have contributed largely to the growth and development of the country, and have reflected honor upon their Alma Mater.

The London and New York Christian Herald, an illustrated weekly at \$1.50 a year, is on sale at MacGregor & Knight's, Granville Street. Fifteen weeks papers in a printed cover for 45 cents. Each part contains a sermon by Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, and one by Rev. M. Talmage. Also a complete serial story, "Only a Tramp."

The exhibition at the Technical School at Bradford, opened in June last by the Prince and Princess of Wales, is now closed. It was visited by over 300,000 persons; the receipts have been £16,000, and the net profit is £9,000.

News from the Churches.

Ministerial Conference.

The Yarmouth County Ministerial Conference met on Tuesday, Dec. 19, at Maitland. Meeting opened with singing and prayer, after which the officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

Rev. C. Goodspeed, President.

Rev. J. D. Skinner, Secretary and Treasurer.

Interesting reports were received from the various fields represented, indicating the near approach of revival influences, and healthy spiritual progress of the churches.

The following topics were presented by the brethren named and freely discussed, we trust with profit to all.

1. Does the preaching of the present day foster the highest morality? Rev. A. Cohoon.

2. The benefits and dangers of evangelistic work. Rev. J. L. M. Young.

3. How can general atonement be reconciled with limited salvation? Rev. C. Goodspeed.

At the close of the afternoon session several of the brethren felt it their duty to return to their churches, being engaged in a series of religious services. The evening service was conducted by Brethren A. Cohoon and A. Cogswell who remained with the pastor of the church with which the Conference was held.

Bro. J. I. DeWolfe has just entered upon his labors there, and accordingly was cordially welcomed to the fellowship of the Conference.

I. D. SKINNER, Sec'y.

Dec. 27, 1882.

NEW GLASGOW.—The readers of the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER may be pleased to learn that the Baptist Church in New Glasgow is still living and doing what she can for the Master. Two of our Sunday School scholars have lately told us that they have found peace through believing in Jesus. The teachers are encouraged and are praying that all our little school may be brought to Jesus.

Last Sunday evening our place of worship was filled with people who came to our Sabbath School Concert. The children sang and recited in a very satisfactory manner, especially Miss Marion McDonald who recited a piece entitled, "The Starless Crown."

We have lately bought an organ from Gates Brothers, Truro, which is a great help to us in our meetings, and Sabbath School. The friends who have contributed towards it will please accept our sincere thanks.

P. S. MCGREGOR.

Dec. 30, 1882.

TEMPLE CHURCH, YARMOUTH.—We are enjoying rich tokens of the Divine favor at the present time. The "little cloud," rich with blessings, has been hovering over us during the past summer months, during which time several united with the church by baptism and letters, and, as the days of darkness passed away, we were led to "thank God and take courage."

During the holiday season, when there is usually so much to draw away the mind from the "one thing needful," we have witnessed a special manifestation of the Spirit's power. Large numbers of our young people have become deeply concerned, and are anxiously inquiring the way to Zion.

It was our privilege, on New Year's Eve, to witness fourteen of the number show their attachment to Christ by being baptized upon profession of their faith, and in obedience to His command. The audience-room upon the occasion was filled with those who appeared deeply impressed with the truths pre-figured in this divinely appointed ordinance, a burial with Christ in baptism, and a rising to walk in newness of life.

During the past few weeks special union meetings were held each alternate week in the three Baptist churches in town, and although the Spirit's power was manifested in a larger degree at the Temple, where the first week of prayer was held, there is good evidence that a work of grace is being done in all our churches, the members revived, sinners converted, and God's cause prospered.

Thanks for extracts of letters from Rev. J. R. Hutchinson, they will appear in our next.—Ed. C. M.

News of the World.

A proclamation published in the London Gazette summons Parliament to meet on February 15th. Sir Charles Dilke will enter the Cabinet as President of the Local Government Board.

There is great mortality among sheep in Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire.

Her Majesty's ship Undine has captured eight slave dhows off the Comers islands, on the East coast of Africa.

Mr. Biggar, M. P., was served with a summons on Tuesday. Owing to the absence of an official reporter at the meeting in Waterford, addressed by Mr. Biggar, the Government possesses no legal proof of his statements and will have difficulty in conducting the prosecution against him.

A summons was served upon O'Brien, editor of United Ireland, requiring him to appear on Wednesday in the police court to answer to a charge of seditious libel. The United Ireland was issued again on Thursday.

A party of moon-biners was surprised near Castle Island, Cork, on Saturday night by a police patrol. The officers captured all after an exchange of shots, in which one of the marauders was wounded.

Mr. Gladstone had a slight attack of lumbago, owing to a chill from exposure while felling a tree on Tuesday.

On Thursday morning a tall chimney at Bradford fell upon a building full of operatives. Thirty-six persons are known to have been killed and fifty others injured, mostly women and children. The total damage is estimated at over £60,000. About three thousand persons are thrown out of employment.

The acting Governor of Ireland, the Bishop and others, say that, notwithstanding large donations received, there must be great distress from want of food in the island during the present winter. The News correspondent telegraphs that the greatest distress prevails in Donegal.

The Government has ordered the prosecution of Harrington, secretary of the organizing committee of the Irish National League, for a speech delivered at a meeting held in Mullingar on Monday night. Prosecutions are pending against the proprietors of various provincial journals for articles inciting to crime.

Francis Carvill and Sons, merchants of London, have failed, liabilities £300,000.

Gambetta died at midnight of the 31st ult.

In the Spanish Chamber of Deputies at Madrid the ministerial motion declaring against any change in the constitution of 1876 was adopted. The Cortes adjourned to January.

In Germany there seemed last week to be a ceaseless downpour of rain. The Rhine rose 90 centimetres in one night, flooding the lower town and part of the quay, at Cologne. Many bridges and banks of dams have been destroyed. A bridge near Larrach, in Baden, gave way and twenty persons were drowned.

Rains have flooded Stursuline. Several towns in the Valley of Doubs are inundated. The Jura and Bernese Railway was seriously damaged.

Information has been received at Constantinople, that a Russian force concentrated along the Kars frontier consists of 70,000 men with 80 guns.

It has been definitely settled, that German railways to the Russian frontier will be soon completed.

The boiler of the factory at Dison, Belgium, exploded on Thursday, while the building was full of work people. A number of persons were killed.

The people of Austria, on Wednesday last, celebrated the six hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the House of Hapsburg. The Emperor, Empress and Crown Prince were at Vienna. The festival concluded on Thursday night with a grand banquet at the Hofburg at which the Emperor entertained various deputations who presented their congratulations.

The Khedive's decree regarding Arabi and other rebels was published at Cairo on Tuesday. The public degradation was carried out in the afternoon in the presence of two battalions of the new Egyptian army. Only a few Europeans and about a hundred natives were present.

On the following day Arabi, Toulba, Abdallah, Mahmoud Fehmy, Ali Fehmy, Yakoub Sami and Mahmoud Sami, who have been condemned to exile in Ceylon, were accompanied to Suez by Mark Napier, one of the counsels who defended them.

Arabi and his fellow exiles embarked at Suez on Wednesday afternoon for Ceylon.

The Montieur Egyptian published on Wednesday decrees concerning the other rebel prisoners. Emir Bey, El Shemy and eleven others will be placed under surveillance for various terms of years, during which they are forbidden to quit their estates. They are to be placed under heavy bail for the faithful observance of this injunction. Hassan Moussef, El Akid and Ali Roubi are