

# The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

NEW SERIES.  
Vol. XXVIII., No. 5.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Wednesday, January 31, 1883.

WHOLE SERIES.  
Vol. XLVII., No. 5.

## News from the Churches.

**THE HALIFAX NORTH BAPTIST CHURCH** has had several additions to its membership during the past few weeks. The ordinance of Christian Baptism was administered on the two or three past Lord's days. On Sunday week 21st, eleven were welcomed into the church by the hand of fellowship given by the pastor, Rev. J. W. Manning. An earnest feeling seems to pervade old and young in the congregation.

The Financial Report of the North Baptist Church for 1882 was presented on the 12th inst., shewing—

Receipts and Expenditure on General Account.....	\$1738 44
For the Poor of the Church.....	41 00
For Sabbath School.....	137 69
Missions, &c., per Convention.....	119 64
Missions and Benevolences.....	294 75
Total.....	\$2331 52

The church is supported on the Scripture plan of weekly offerings. The average amount of Sabbath collections was \$28.25, and this being insufficient to meet the demands, a supplementary fund was raised by a tea-meeting and entertainment. The net liability is \$60.25 less than half what was owing at the beginning of the year, and \$148 were reported due on the weekly offerings promised and fallen in arrears.—*Com.*

**AMHERST.**—Results are proving that our forecast was correct in regard to Bro. Chubbuck coming to Amherst. The inquiry room is thronged every evening. Men and women, young people and children are rejoicing in the Saviour of sinners. The work is specially marked among the Sunday School scholars. We knew they were ripe for harvest, and that the teachers who had sown in tears would reap in joy.

Yesterday was another added to the many red-letter days of the Amherst church. We buried in the likeness of Christ's death twenty believers, among them a son of Bro. Miles, and our own eldest son. We trust there are great things yet to be seen.

Bro. Chubbuck is in good heart, and filled with enthusiasm in regard to his mission, and the people are upholding him by their labors and their prayers.—*D. A. S.*

The above came to hand on Wednesday, too late for last week's issue. A postal card received yesterday says: "We baptized thirty yesterday. The candidates were received after a searching examination, first in the enquiry meetings, then by the pastor privately, and also in the full meeting of the church in conference. Among the number were several young men, who will be a great help on the side of the Lord. Preaching is being blessed, prayers are being answered. Bro. Chubbuck stays with us another week, and then goes to Moncton."  
—*D. A. S.*

**SOUTH YARMOUTH.**—The South Yarmouth Church has passed through a long season of declension, the love of many has been cold, and yet a number have been praying and weeping over the loss of vitality and spiritual advancement. But our faithful God has not forgotten to be gracious unto His people. We are now enjoying a refreshing from the presence of the Lord. Eight precious believers have been added to the church—six by baptism, one by letter, and one by experience,—and still the good work is progressing. To God be all the praise.

I desire here to express my grateful thanks to the ladies of the congregation who, at the commencement of the New Year, so kindly presented me with a nice fur cap, scarf, and driving gloves. This is only one of many acts of kindness received from this people. May God

bless them in basket and in store, and with the riches of His saving grace, in the prayer of the pastor,  
*J. D. SKINNER.*

*Arcadia, Jan. 22, 1883.*

**GRAFTON, KINGS CO.**—The Lord is reviving His work at Grafton. We are holding special meetings with good results. Christians are revived and sinners are seeking the Saviour. Some we trust have been savingly converted, our vestry is well filled night after night. We hope to report still better news soon.

Yours, &c.,  
*J. E. BLAKENEY.*  
*Waterville, Jan. 26, 1883.*

## Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.  
**Golden Wedding of John Dimock, Esq., Berwick.**

*Mr. Editor.*—Will you allow me through your columns to give a short account of what many found to be a very pleasant gathering:

On the 24th of January, between thirty and forty friends convened at the residence of John Dimock, Esq., at present residing at Berwick, Kings Co., N. S., for the purpose of tendering congratulations on the anniversary of the fiftieth wedding day, of Mr. and Mrs. Dimock. It was very pleasing to find them both although past their three score and ten, in the enjoyment of good health, comfortable and happy, and quite prepared to acknowledge the good hand of the Lord in all their mercies.

Of ten children, eight are living; one son and seven daughters, all members of the Christian church, and all present except one, and each vying with the other, to make the fiftieth wedding day, if possible, more pleasant to the bride and groom than the first one was.

After the tea tables had been cleared which by the way, was no small work, for they were delicately laid and heavily laden. Rev. J. C. Bleakney, the highly esteemed pastor of the Berwick Baptist Church called the friends together to participate in the presentation of the wedding gifts. Mr. Bleakney with appropriate remarks and explanations presented the tokens of affection and esteem which had come in from the members of the family and other friends.

Then followed the reading of an address from a number of grandchildren in Colorado, expressing sympathy and love in beautiful and appropriate language. Of these there are 23 in number (not all in Colorado). There is one great grandson; not great as yet in bodily size, but he thought himself of sufficient importance to have his name attached to the address, and also to cheer the old people by a token of his affection. And perhaps, no part of the service was more touching than the presentation of this address.

Then the son Joseph selected the gifts which accompanied the letter from the far West, explaining from whom each had come, and with well chosen words, expressed the tender regard they all alike cherished, and the strong desire they all felt to make the declining days of the aged parents to be days of comfort and happiness.

He called attention to a very important fact, for which, however, he said he could not vouch from personal knowledge, but thought he had received it on good authority, the fact being that the wedding 50 years ago, which they were now celebrating, was the first in his father's family at which wine had not been used, and as a result of this good beginning, there were no tipplers now in the family.

After this all joined heartily in singing a few verses of the 1023rd hymn of the Psalmist, beginning,

"Thus far the Lord has led me on," and feeling that it is good as well as safe to have Divine leading. Then there were a few addresses expressing feelings of regard and sympathy by Edward Parker, Esq., Bro. Charles Norwood, Bro. Charles Skinner, William Meek, Esq., a

son-in-law, and Rev. T. A. Higgins, all acknowledging the kindness received, and the good influence exerted by the worthy couple who were the guests of the evening.

Mr. Dimock was then called upon for an address, which was full of interest. Our attention was called to many changes which had taken place during the 76 years of his pilgrimage. His experience of life was that the "world is a waste howling wilderness" to those who go howling through it, but that upon the whole there is comfort and prosperity for those who are willing to have them. As one crop of grass is removed only to make room for the next, so one generation passes away, and another takes its place, yet there is cause for thankfulness and hope. The country is improving, and the present generation have no occasion to say of the days gone by, "They were better than these." Thanking the friends for their presence and kindly regard, he expressed the hope that they might all live to enjoy a Golden Wedding.

A few verses of the 1035 hymn of the Psalmist, and a prayer that the blessing of God might rest upon the family; and the friends dispersed, well pleased with Golden Weddings.

ONE OF THE GUESTS.

For the Christian Messenger.  
From Wolfville.

## Ministerial Education Fund.

The Board to whom the distribution of this Fund has been assigned met for this purpose in one of the Lecture rooms of the College at the close of the last term. Sixteen students had put in an application, all being properly qualified to do so, that is, all being licentiates. Whatever qualification comes of real need and real worthiness was also theirs. The apportionment of the money was attended with considerable difficulty, principally on account of the exceeding smallness of the sum. I hesitate somewhat to say what the sum was,—to tell the world through your widely read columns what provision the nearly forty thousand Baptists of these Maritime provinces are making to assist their rising ministry to prepare for their life work. But concealment is impossible; the Year Book will publish the fact if I do not, so it might as well be known now. Indeed, if in this matter we are not doing our duty, the sooner the fact is known and a remedy provided the better. Well! the total sum reported as being on hand by the Treasurer was \$220, or less than one cent per member of the churches. An attempt was now made to find how many times 16 would go into 220, and though there were clever mathematicians and accountants present, not one of them could make it go 14 times. In other words, it became painfully apparent that the money on hand was not sufficient to give \$14 to each of the 16 young men.

How to swell the amount to each to at least \$20, was now the question, and two ways were suggested of doing it: either to increase the dividend or diminish the divisor. Both methods were finally adopted, that is, the sum to be divided was increased to \$240, and the number of applicants was reduced to 12, which gave \$20 to each.

Now, as aid to young men preparing for the arduous and responsible work of the Christian ministry, this sum must be admitted to be lamentably small, and from three points of view:—

In the first place, it is small in comparison with the aid that is provided in other Theological schools and by other religious bodies. In these Provinces we are far exceeded in this respect by Presbyterians and Methodists; and if we look to the United States we find ourselves there greatly outstripped by our own denomination. At Newton, Crozer, Rochester and Morgan Park, the assistance granted varies from \$100 to \$150 according to the needs of the student; while there, also the sums received for supplying different pulpits ranges from \$10 to \$20 per Lord's Day. With this amount of aid the Theological student finds it comparatively easy to finish his studies without running in debt, and without the anxiety and distraction which the necessity of running into debt is sure to bring. Is it any

wonder that our ministerial students find their way to the States when such comfortable, if not luxuriant, quarters await them there? If the Theological staff at Acadia were ever so large, and the course of instruction ever so complete, these considerations coupled with only \$20 pecuniary assistance to the several students could hardly be expected to detain them from other schools with their superior monetary attractions.

And yet quite a number of young men are found in the Theological Classes at Wolfville, and others are preparing to join them. Whatever else this is significant of, it speaks well for their loyalty to their own Institutions and to their own country.

In the second place, it is small in view of the needs of the persons it is intended to assist, and of the value of this class of persons to the churches. That many of these young men are poor in this world's goods, my own knowledge of their circumstances prepares me to affirm. To know what they shall eat and drink, and wherewithal they shall be clothed, is a question that presses not unfrequently with bitter weight upon their spirit. And as to the importance of having young men, well endowed by nature and grace, in course of training for our churches and mission fields, that the work begun by our fathers may be carried forward, and on a much broader and more effective scale,—this is too obvious to need demonstration.

But the question has often been asked: Why assist our Theological students at all? Why not leave them to work their own way, and so acquire strength and elasticity of spirit, as students for the secular professions are wont to do? This question is worthy of answer, which I assay to give. Let this, however, first be premised. Theological students as a class are not inferior to other students in the qualities of self-reliance and manly independence; no class of persons has shown more pluck and indomitable energy in grappling with adverse circumstances. And as to students for the secular professions, in numberless instances they have been assisted, and very properly assisted in their endeavors to obtain an education. But there is one point of distinction between students of Theology and other students which should not be lost sight of. It is this: the former have chosen a profession in which they may expect to be poor in a worldly sense all the days of their life. In entering upon the Christian ministry they know that they will be expected to do a great deal of work for very little pay; they know that if at any time they venture to put forth their claims to a larger financial support, it will probably be ascribed to a mercenary spirit on their part, and so they choose possibly to suffer want, rather than prejudice their holy calling in the eyes of narrow worldlings; and they know too, that, having worn out their strength in the Master's service, their days of age and infirmity may be of the bleakest kind, for few churches seem willing to provide for the minister in his old age who has served them in youth and middle life. But what of students who are studying with a view of becoming lawyers, doctors, or merchants? These students can well afford to dispense with beneficiary aid, so called, they can well afford to borrow money with which to finish their education, for they expect soon to be in a position in which their energies will be chiefly applied in the work of making money. To them lie open avenues for the acquisition of wealth and worldly aggrandizement which are ever closed to the Christian minister. It is then one of the wisest and most reasonable expenditures which the church can make, when it provides for the education of those who are to devote their lives to the promotion of its interests.

Students who receive financial aid while pursuing their Theological studies are sometimes called beneficiaries but if the view above given be the correct one, the word is a misnomer as thus applied. Manifestly the churches that assist the young men who are to serve them are the beneficiaries, and not the young men themselves.

In the third place it is small as measured by the ability of the denomination. At the present time the Baptists of these Provinces seem to be giving only

little more than half a cent per member for ministerial education. If this aspect of the case were the only basis at hand for forming a judgment as to the future aims of the denomination, the conclusion would be, that a denomination doing so little for ministerial education does not expect long to exist, or to exist with any vitality and growth. The total sum raised at present for this object by the nearly forty thousand Baptists of these Provinces is really less than many single families are spending yearly on themselves for education alone. I cannot believe however that this state of things is the result of deliberate purpose on the part of the body. I feel persuaded that when the body becomes really cognizant of it, immediate steps will be taken to provide the remedy.

In my opinion the remedy should come in two ways; first, the scale of appropriation adopted by the Convention for the apportionment of the Convention Funds should be so modified as to give, not two and one half per cent, but at least five, if not ten per cent of the funds, to this object. And second, a sum of at least \$10,000 should be raised and invested on its behalf. The interest of this sum—\$600 would go a good way toward meeting present requirements, and giving a new impetus to Theological learning among us. Are there not many wealthy Baptists in the Provinces who will deem it a privilege to consecrate some of their money to this object? If so, they will please put themselves in communication with J. W. Bars, Esq., Treasurer of the Ministerial Education Fund.

CHAZAYA.

## News of the World.

A gunboat has gone to Sligo, Ireland, with provisions for the inhabitants who are reported starving.

The *Freeman's Journal* announces that neither Davitt, Healey or Quinn will consent to give bail. They will consequently go to prison.

The authorities have information of the existence at Limerick of a conspiracy connected with the "Inner Circle" in Dublin.

The Press Association states that important evidence has recently been obtained in regard to perpetrators of outrages during the last two years in the West of Ireland.

Twenty-one prisoners, who were arraigned in the police court in Dublin on Saturday, were on a charge of conspiracy to murder government officers, and who were remanded for a week, were arraigned on Jan. 27th. The examination will be held in the court house, as the government fears the prisoners might be attacked if the accused were brought before the police court here. It is reported astounding disclosures will be made in regard to the Phoenix Park murders.

The Fenians are fleeing from Dublin for the United States fearing arrest.

France is in a somewhat critical condition. The Ministry are fully aware of their inability to command a majority in the Chamber of Deputies. A resignation is expected.

It is reported M. Benoit, the magistrate entrusted with the investigation in Prince Jerome's case, has notified the Government that in his opinion there exists no basis for the charge against the Prince. Meanwhile it is affirmed that President Grevy refused to sign a decree of expulsion on the ground that a special law on the subject must first be voted.

What with the Imperialists on one side and the extreme radicals on the other, the ministry has a hard time, and many are despairing of the permanency of the Republic.

It is said the ex-Empress Eugene has expressed to Prince Napoleon her general approbation of the terms of the Prince's manifesto, but added thereto a recommendation that he should formally renounce his claims as heir of the Bonapartes, and confirm the testament of the Prince Imperial.

The silver wedding of the Crown Prince William of Germany is a prominent item of news from Berlin.

Over three hundred congratulatory letters and telegrams were received by the Crown Prince and Princess on the occasion, also a hundred packages which had not been opened. The Emperor presented a massive silver tea service; the Queen of

England sent a marble statue of herself; the ten chief towns Prussia have given a suite of dining room furniture valued at 76,000 marks; the city of Berlin donated 118,000 marks for the foundation of a sanitary school; 800,000 marks collected throughout Germany have been received for benevolent purposes and the British Consul sent \$30,000 marks for the building of an English Church.

On Saturday last the Ministry tendered their resignations which were accepted by President Grevy. The President summoned M. M. Fallieres and Jules Ferry for the purpose of conferring with them in regard to the formation of a new Ministry.

The *Times'* Paris correspondent says the result of the situation is tolerably clear—namely, an early dissolution of the Chamber. In a conversation for which the correspondent vouches President Grevy remarked: "I am firmly resolved on a dissolution. Nobody can govern the country with the present Chamber of Deputies."

Crown Prince gave 10,000 marks for distribution among the poor on the day.

The Dido with the Princess Louise sailed from Charleston for Bermuda on Thursday last. The Marquis of Lorne returned and went to Washington the same day, and on Friday called on the President.

The British Minister invited him to dine with him on Friday. He is said to have made a good impression.

The Marquis was invited to dine with Sir Edward Archibald on Monday, the late Consul-General for Great Britain.

Cholera is prevailing badly in the State of Chiapas, Mexico. The number of its victims is immense. It began last July.

In a contest between two bicyclists at the American Institute, New York, of a 24 mile race, Prince made it in one hour 30 minutes and 20 seconds, while Woodside made the same distance in one hour 30 minutes and 22 seconds.

A lady writing from San Francisco to a friend in Boston under date of January 7 says: "I presume you saw by the papers that Californians had their first snow storm on Sunday last. It was the first in this city, and you can form no idea how strange and yet how beautiful it looked. Many had never seen a snow storm before, and to every one from the East it was like the return of a dear old friend. Every one was excited over it, and all who could get out of the house participated in snow-balling. Old and young took part in the sport. It snowed hard three or four hours, but it turned to rain, and in a few hours there was no trace of it left."

On Tuesday of last week three freight trains coupled together on George's Creek and Cumberland Railroad became unmanageable while going down a heavy grade and were thrown over a trestle. Fifteen men were employed on the trains, not one of whom could be found alive.

On Saturday last the Marquis of Lorne occupied a seat in the Members' Gallery in the House of Representative at Washington while Mr. McKinlay was speaking on the "Degradation of Labor in England." Speaker Keifer sat by the Marquis.

A French novel is usually a story with an immoral.

Nothing can be more pernicious in its effects on an immature brain than the flash novels, and burlesque nastiness of the lower class of theatres. But there is an active agent promoting crime which no newspaper has yet named, and that is the newspapers themselves; not the vile sheets which never penetrate into a pure household, but many prominent journals which men find on their breakfast-tables, and hand over to their wives and innocent children. As long as the daily paper is filled with every minute detail of the trials for divorce and murder, our sons and daughters will not long remain innocent.

Every one who is trying to lead a good life should also try to lead a wholesome and courteous one. By abandoning gentleness of disposition and graciousness of word and deed, he throws away a means of growth and an effective weapon.