

The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

NEW SERIES.
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Halifax, Nova Scotia, Wednesday, March 21, 1883.

WHOLE SERIES.
Vol. XLVII., No. 12

News from the Churches.

DEAR BRO.—I baptized eight more last Sunday at Hebron, received at our regular Conference on Saturday.

A praise and thanksgiving meeting was held Sunday evening at which it is believed more than a hundred took part, though the larger portion of the time was given to singing.

A. COHOON.

Hebron, March 13, 1883.

FROM TRYON, P. E. I.—Our pastor has been for almost three years earnestly and tenderly presenting the truths of the Gospel, oftentimes almost discouraged, fearing that his labors were in vain, but God has had good things in store for him and he is now reaping the harvest for which he has so faithfully labored in sowing the precious seed. Through his faithful ministrations blessed by the Holy Spirit, God's people are bringing in the tithes, the clouds are being dispelled, wanderers are returning, numbers have been, we trust savingly converted, and others are deeply interested in the salvation of their souls.

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ELLERSLIE, P. E. I.—Rev. E. N. Archibald writes March 15th, 1883: "It may be cheering to our churches to know that a blessed work of grace is now in progress at Ellerslie, about 2½ miles from Poplar Grove of which we last wrote."

FROM LOCKPORT, March 12, 1883.

Dear Bro. Selden.—I have been waiting week after week, hoping to add to the record of the revival news of this "Year of Grace." We have had special services for some time, but can report but few conversions as yet. The church however is edified and invigorated, the number of enquirers is increasing, and the work deepening. We have baptism next Sabbath. Brother Foster, of Osborne, who assisted us for a time is now in the midst of a work of grace on his own field. Bro. Goodspeed of Yarmouth, is with us this week. My health, though it has not prevented regular pulpit ministrations, seriously interferes with needed pastoral work at this juncture. May the Head of the Church speedily send one to take up the work I am compelled to lay down. He will have more of harvest joy than has been permitted to me. Rest and the loving skill of Hon. Dr. Parker, will, under God, fit me in time for service again.

J. A. DURKIE.

JEDDRE.—Bro. H. E. S. Mader, has for some time past labored here and has had to rejoice over a number of converts. One of the brethren came to the city a few days ago, and invited Rev. Dr. Saunders to make a visit to Jeddre for the purpose of baptizing and aiding in the meetings. Dr. S. went on Friday last.

MELVERNY SQUARE ITEM.—Willie, son of Rev. J. E. Goucher delivered an interesting and earnest discourse in this place last evening from the words "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation." Said deacon Leason Baker at the close "Twenty-six years ago I walked along the road near us, with a young man of good parts—and invited him to make his first attempt to preach, which he reluctantly did and succeeded. To night we have listened to an earnest appeal from his son, and ought to feel glad, and doubtless are. The fields are white and laborers few. May many others be called into this ministry."

W. J. G.

MONCTON, March 19th, 1883.—Dear Brother.—You will be pleased to learn that the work of Grace still is signally manifest in our midst. Nine more were baptized yesterday, making 109 baptized since the New Year came in. Our meetings continue full of interest, and there were many inquirers in regard to salvation.

Yours, &c.,
Geo. O. GATES.

BAPTIST PROGRESS IN ITALY.—

Rev. J. Wall, of Rome writes:—We have opened our new chapel beyond the Tiber. Although the rain fell heavily during the day, and at the time of the service, the chapel was crowded, and numbers stood outside in the drencing rain hoping to gain an entrance. Mr. Gibson, of Liverpool, took the chair. The chapel seats about three hundred, is very neatly fitted up, and, to meet the tastes of the *Trasteverani*, is coloured somewhat in the Pompeian style. The roof, which rests on iron columns has a large opening, from which plenty of light falls by day, and where gas burns at night. The authorities sent the police, but there was no shadow of opposition on the part of the people of the neighbourhood. Most of the evangelical ministers and workers in Rome were present. Sig. Dal Canto, Samia, Shaw, Taylor, Gavazzi, and myself took part. Signor Gavazzi, who, notwithstanding his advanced age and the wet evening, had desired to be present, congratulated us on having such a place in *Trastevere*. The last time he spoke in this part of Rome was thirty-four years since, on the great day of the siege of Rome, when the French troops were repulsed. Then he was the volunteer of Italy, now he came as the volunteer of Christ; and, supposing he might never be allowed to speak to them again, he gave the people a species of ultimatum which was listened to in profound silence or interrupted with explosions of applause. The premises which our committee have had secured to them in *Trastevere* are, I consider, among the best situated in Rome for the work of our mission. We are now holding special services in the new room, and anxiously praying that the Holy Spirit may thus lead many souls to the feet of Jesus.

If the belief in God be lost to humanity, we shall lose not only the direct, the incalculable effects on individual souls of the belief in a Divine Searcher of Hearts, but also the indirect and universal uplifting influence on society of the presence of men who have experienced such effects and formed their moral standard accordingly. Is it too much to argue that the result will be a depreciation of the common ideal standard, and a consequently still further depression of the practical level of personal virtue?—*Frances Power Cobbe.*

The Rev. R. W. Dale said a wise thing on a recent Sunday, when he suggested, if people thought they could become saints in a moment they made a frightful mistake. There was danger in sudden conversion; there was greater danger in delay.

The churches of Australia intend to celebrate the jubilee of the introduction of Congregationalism into the southern colony. The event will transpire in May next.

Little more than fifty years ago the population of the Sandwich Islands was justly considered heathen, but now it is not only Christian, but readily embraces all the appliances of advanced civilization. As an instance of this we may state that the city of Honolulu has no less than 300 telephones in use, and some of the planters cut their cane at night by the use of the electric light.

HOLD SERVICE EVEN FOR ONE.—Never omit a service on account of the fewness of numbers present. The late Bishop Randall was announced to preach in an Eastern church in behalf of his missionary work in Colorado. Only six persons appeared. For a moment the good Bishop hesitated. Finally he concluded that it was his duty to carry out his appointment. The question of congregation was none of his business. Accordingly the service went on, and he preached his sermon to six people. In the collection which followed was one offering alone of \$200. This amazed him. The next day he received a note from a gentleman asking him to call at such an office. The Bishop responded, "I am the one," said the gentleman, "who gave you the \$200 last night. But after getting home I did not feel quite satisfied with doing that. I propose to make up the sum to \$1,000, and here is my check for the balance."

A Western preacher, whose congregation had begun to fall off somewhat, had it intimated that he would discuss a family scandal the following Sunday. As a consequence the church was crowded. The minister's subject was Adam v. Eve.

A New York correspondent says:—"The American climate agrees with Jumbo. He has been here less than a year, and has grown seven inches in height. Cakes, tarts, candy, and other dainties continue to arrive for him from children in England."

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Women's Foreign Missionary Work.

The aim of this paper is to present before our sisters of the W. M. A. S. the need and advantages of a General Society. This subject has been brought up the past two years at our annual meetings held during Convention, but imperfectly discussed and deferred to another year.

Before our next yearly meeting we would request every society to carefully consider this question, compare our methods of work with similar institutions in the United States and Canada, and be prepared to vote intelligently upon the subject that the matter may be decided.

The religious world is moving forward, old methods of work are being superseded by others better suited to the times. Among the more recent movements are Ladies' Societies for advancing Foreign Mission Work.

These began long ago under the name of Mite Societies, formed to raise money to aid missionary work at home and abroad. They had an honorable mission in bringing in funds which were placed at the disposal of the different mission Boards and were similar to the W. M. A. Societies of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. For the same reason that the Maritime Provinces desired a mission of their own, viz., that having their own work under their own control, they would feel a responsibility and have an incentive to labor, which, other wise they could not have, for the same reason this primitive mode of work has been generally discarded by the ladies of to-day, and independent societies which hold their own funds and appropriate them at their pleasure have been organized in their stead. Their success wherever they have been tried has been their recommendation and those who opposed them have been silenced by the grand practical working of the scheme. By a general Society we mean the union of all the W. M. A. S. (or Circles as we might call them), just as an Association is made up of the different churches. Any lady who pays a dollar yearly and becomes a member of a Mission Circle would be a member of this General Society.

Once a year—at the time of Convention, delegates from all these Circles may be sent and hold their annual meeting, at which meeting these delegates may elect the officers which shall carry on the general work of the Circles, that is of the General Society. The Circles need a Treasurer to whom all the funds from each Circle may be sent. They need a Secretary with whom all the Circles may correspond and who will correspond for them with those who labor in the foreign field. They require a President who will preside at the annual meetings and have charge of the general work through the year. In addition to these officers they need a number of reliable women as a Board of Management who will assist them to carry on the general work. These may meet every month or quarter to consult with regard to the advancement of the work at home—formation of new Circles &c., also to consider the best disposition to be made of the funds, and to recommend to the Foreign Missionary Board the lady missionaries to be sent abroad. All the general work of the Circles to be in their charge from one annual meeting to another. In this way each Circle would have equal rights, and by their delegates choose and appoint the officers. To this Board the Foreign Missionary Board would send a statement at the beginning of each year of what is required to be done on the foreign field. The Central Board will then select such items as their funds will allow them to support—schools, native preachers or whatever is most needed. They will then have the stimulus of constant and direct communication with these different branches of work, and the whole responsibility of supporting them will be laid directly upon these Circles of ladies, through the officers chosen by themselves. They thus feel that a portion of the mission field is theirs, that its failure

or success would be resting upon them, and that they would be responsible in a great degree for the efficiency of the work done. In carrying out our work thus independently, there would be no conflicting with the Foreign Missionary Board appointed by the churches. The Ladies' Societies send out no missionaries without the approval of the Foreign Missionary Board; they simply recommend their missionaries to the Foreign Missionary Board who have the power of accepting or rejecting them. So also in the matter of Native Teachers or Bible Readers or schools. They do not establish these; but assume the support of them as recommended by the Foreign Missionary Board. In this way the two Societies may carry on their work independently and still work in the most perfect harmony. As we are now constituted we *unwittingly* work as one; but under three Boards.

One Board faithfully carrying out the principles of the Constitution adopted by such a Society as we have mentioned, will naturally call out the sympathies and help of all the members. And such a Board will always keep putting before the Circles the claims of the work laid upon them, and the state of the finances as they stand each quarter. For to the Circles alone we must look for the money to carry forward this work. In short, unity of purpose and unity of action, based upon a carefully prepared Constitution, is what we need and must have, in order to do the work that the Master requires of us more efficiently and without misunderstanding. In this way a grand field of work is open before us—just as much as the Lord will give us strength and grace to do, and we shall be truly helpers to the Foreign Missionary Board.

Signed by the members of the Central Board of Nova Scotia.

MRS. J. PARSONS, President.
" E. M. SAUNDERS.
" J. W. MANNING.
" A. SMITH.
" N. McDONALD.
" R. I. HART.
" A. CLEMENTS.
" W. MOODY.
" S. SELDEN, Sec'y & Treas.
MISS SELDEN, Assistant Sec'y.
Halifax, Feb. 19th, 1883.

For the Christian Messenger.

Home Missions.

At the meeting of the H.M. Board held in the vestry of the 1st Baptist Church, Yarmouth, yesterday. The Treasurer reported receipts of the month \$101.00. Reports received from Brethren Goudy, Coy, P. S. McGregor, Bishop, S. Smith, Henderson, M. B. Shaw, and I. E. Bill, Junr.

GRANTS.

1. To Springfield field, York Co., N.E. \$200.00 for the year beginning February 4th, 1883, Rev J. H. Coy, Pastor.
2. To Greenfield and Queens Co. N. S. \$25.00 for fifteen weeks. Bro. M. B. Shaw, missionary.

THE TREASURER.

needs \$1000 at once to pay the orders now in his hands. The brethren to whom this amount is due are in pressing need of their pay. Will not all who read this try to do something to enable him to meet their demands?

A COHOON, Cor. Sec'y.

Hebron, March, 13th, 1883.

In Memoriam.

SAMUEL SPINNEY,

of Meadow Vale, Wilmot, departed this life, Feb. 28th, aged 79 years, leaving a widow—his second wife, nine children, five daughters and four sons, to mourn their loss. The eldest son preceded him many years ago to the better land. One son is the Rev. E. C. Spinney, pastor of the First Baptist Church at Burlington, Iowa, also President of Burlington College in that city, an honorable position for a young man of Nova Scotia. He is a graduate of Acadia. The youngest son, W. A. Spinney, is principal of Adam's School, West Newton, Mass. Brother Spinney professed religion when about 21 years of age, was baptized in company with a young lady convert, by Rev. Handley Chipman, in Upper Aylesford, being the first persons ever baptized in Aylesford. Many came to witness the novel scene, some to see if and

and others to profit by the solemn ordinance, consequently his first and last membership was with the Nictaux Church. Bro. Spinney was a man of deep experience, sound in the faith, clear in Bible doctrine, eloquent in exhortation, sometimes in his happy flights rising almost to the sublime. He was one of the sweet singers of Israel, and was called by an old pastor "the kindling wood of the church." In the early days of his conversion he caught the mission spirit, and visited Newport and Rawdon, to tell the sweet story of the Cross. Two days before his death his son, the Rev. E. C. Spinney, arrived home, and on their meeting in the sick room the good man was overjoyed and exclaimed with good old Simeon, "now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace." Before his death he requested the Rev. W. A. Bleakney to preach his funeral sermon from Psalm xci. 9, which was done to the edification of his family and a large concourse of people. Bros. N. Vidotto, E. O. Reed, Pastor Beattie, O. Parker, and Clark, pastor of the Nictaux Church, took part in the services. Com. by Rev. O. Parker.

News of the World.

A despatch to the *Daily News* from Windsor says the Queen slipped upon the stairs of the palace on Saturday and sustained injuries, but was able to hold a council with the Ministry on Monday.

A despatch from London on Monday says General Sir Charles Hasting Doyle is dead.

In the House of Commons, on Monday of last week Mr. Gladstone stated that Earl Spencer had retired from the office of Lord President of the Council, but would not leave the Cabinet. On Monday night Mr. Coleridge Kennard, gave notice that he would question the Government as to what steps they had taken to recover from the United States the surplus of the Alabama award.

A terrific explosion occurred in the Local Government Board Office, Westminster, at 9 o'clock on Thursday night destroying much property. The report was heard in the House of Commons and caused great alarm. The concussion was so great that it shook the side galleries and reporters' gallery. It is believed to have been the work of Fenians. The adjacent streets are filled with myriads of fragments of glass, and heavy plate glass is lying in heaps on the ground. A stone weighing 200 pounds was projected against the King St. police station, making a hole the size of a man's head. There was a deep trench ten feet by three in dimensions in one room, the floor of which had been literally ploughed up. Every pane of glass in the vicinity was shattered. A man was arrested at midnight on suspicion of having been concerned in the explosion.

The walls of the building are of great thickness and of solid masonry, and the windows were protected by massive stone balustrades. Opposite fifty yards away, is King Street Police Station; fifty feet away are the sentry guards of Parliament.

It is supposed that dynamite was placed on the window-sill inside the balustrade where the fuse, when burning, would be concealed from the view of any one passing. The force of the explosion was terrific. The great stone balustrade was obliterated, the massive masonry rent in fragments and the pavement shattered and ground to powder. The wood structure opposite was blown into splinters and a mass of stone driven through the wall of a house beyond it. People crossing at Parliament Street were knocked down. A hansom and horse were flung across the sidewalk against the front of Whitehall Club, in which great plate glass windows were driven into the rooms.

In the Commons the alarm was general. Many members left immediately, the lobby was emptied and people rushed out at Westminster Hall.

No one pretends to explain the motive or purpose of the act. It is ascribed to the Irish 'Invincibles' as a matter of course, and described as a part of a Fenian plot, a threat and warning to the Government.

The Government Inspector places the loss at £4,000.

The Government offer a reward of £1,000 for the discovery of the authors of the explosion.

The *Fall Mall Gazette* says in many maps of London the Local Government Board office is marked as the Home Office. It is thought the attempt to

blow up the former building was made with the idea that it was the latter. Sir William Harcourt, Home Secretary being very odious to the Fenians.

On Wednesday in the House of Commons Mr. Parnell moved the second reading of his bill amending the Land Act. He said the agitation in Ireland must continue to increase until the act was amended.

Mr. Gladstone strongly denounced Parnell's statements that the courts imposed the rack rents. And insisted that tenants were willing to pay the rents fixed by the Courts. It would be in violation of the duty of the Government to demand further sacrifices from landlords. Mr. Gladstone's remarks were repeatedly cheered. The second reading of Parnell's bill was then rejected by a vote of 63 ayes to 250 nays.

Three thousand weavers in Huddersfield district have struck owing to a disagreement regarding wages.

It is stated that Joe Brady, one of the conspiracy prisoners, has confessed that he murdered Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke.

On Saturday last Lady Florence Dixie, who has made herself obnoxious to the Land Leaguers, was attacked at Windsor by two men disguised in women's clothes. Her dress was cut with daggers in several places. She was walking in a secluded spot near the woods, and starting to walk away was followed by the men, one of whom seized her. She struggled to escape, but seeing the daggers fell in a swoon. The saving of her life is attributed to her St. Bernard dog, which it is supposed protected her while she lay in the swoon. The last thing she remembers is one of the men pushing a quantity of mud into her mouth. On her recovery she found that both palms were cut across and her gloves severed. Two dagger holes two inches apart are in the right breast of her dress. A broad steel corset rib had been broken by the weapon, which had penetrated to the inner lining of her dress at the first stroke and to her corset at the second stroke. Lady Florence supposed she unconsciously struggled with the men, assisted by her dog, until the soundrels were disturbed by a cart passing the wood. It is believed the men were bitten in the struggle.

Trouble was feared in Paris from the proposed Socialists meeting on Sunday in the Champ de Mar. It was decided that if they refuse to disperse the rioters would be arrested. The Chambers were to remain in session until the 20th so as to deal with any disturbance that might arise.

An explosive machine was discovered secreted on the square on which the Hotel De Ville fronts, and others since have been found in various parts of the city. The socialists of France are active in trying to seduce soldiers, by throwing over the wall of their barracks placards giving directions for the blowing up of public buildings. Nine persons engaged therein were arrested at Rheims.

In Paris four Anarchists, including two members of the press, have been sentenced to two years' imprisonment and to pay a fine of 3,000 francs for delivering seditious speeches.

M. Savory, member of the Chamber of Deputies and director of the Rhone et Loire Bank being charged with malversation in connection with the affairs of the bank, has resigned his seat.

The budget for 1883 has been presented in the Chamber of Deputies. The estimated revenue is 3,203,640,825 francs, and the expenditure 3,103,441,165 francs.

It is said that M. Grevy wishes to resign the Presidency on account of the political situation and threats at anarchist meetings.

A most dangerous counterfeit of the standard silver dollar has made its appearance in the States. Unless the outer coating of silver is penetrated, it would readily be accepted as genuine.

The Brooklyn-bridge is expected to be opened to the public in sixty days.

Patrick Egan, former treasurer of the Irish Land League, arrived in New York on Monday of last week. He says that of the Land League Fund there is now on hand between £25,000 and £26,000, all of which is invested in American securities in the names of five trustees.

He is expected to be present at the Convention to be held in Philadelphia, March 25.

Two Chinamen who were some time ago driven from Waynesboro, Ga., and their stores sacked by a mob, have brought suit for \$115,000 damages against several prominent citizens, in the U. S. District Court. Considerable excitement is occasioned thereby.