

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., February 6, 1884.

PROGRESS OF BAPTISTS IN ENGLAND.

The new Baptist Hand Book, 1884, just published in London gives encouraging indications of advance among the Baptist Churches of the mother country.

The following are some of the figures which will interest our readers: 2,593 churches, 3,738 chapels, 1,939 pastors in charge, 304,802 members, 437,187 Sunday-scholars.

During the past ten years there have been added 566 new houses of worship by the Baptists of the United Kingdom. In speaking of the number of ministers departed during the year it says the death-roll of the year is an important one.

The Handbook itself is edited with great care and considerable skill. It contains a vast mass of useful information, not only respecting Baptists in Great Britain and Ireland, but also about Baptists in the colonies and foreign countries.

Just as we were going to press we received the following telegram: "At Wollville, Feb 4th, the Rev. Stephen W. DeBlois, D. D., aged 56 years. Funeral at 2:30 p.m., on Thursday 7th inst., from the Baptist Church, Wollville."

Dr. DeBlois has been the beloved pastor of the First Horton Church since 1855, a period of near 29 years. But few men have been more blessed in their work.

We have received a Circular from the American Ornithologist's Union, inviting co-operation. The object of this society is to obtain correct data respecting the migration of Birds, and the dates of atmospheric changes, the periods of the opening of the leaves, and the flowering of certain plants in different countries on this continent.

For convenience in collecting and arranging the enormous mass of material which will be accumulated by the joint labors of this army of field workers, it has been deemed advisable to divide the vast expanse of territory embraced in the United States and British North America into thirteen Districts, each of which will be placed under the immediate direction of a competent Superintendent.

Alaska, North-west Territories, Newfoundland, British Columbia, Manitoba, Canada, Atlantic Seaboard, New England, Atlantic District, Middle eastern District, Mississippi Valley, Rocky Mountain District, Pacific District.

MR. SPURGEON AT MENTONE.

One of the party with Mr. Spurgeon writes from Mentone, Jan. 14, 1884:—

For four days Mr. Spurgeon was quite confined to his bed, suffering great pain in his back and side; but, by the good hand of our God upon him, he was able to move into his saloon on Saturday, and yesterday afternoon was well enough to preside at a short Communion service in the same place.

and expounded, five brethren offered prayer, a hymn was sung; and as we separated, we could everyone say, "Surely the Lord was in that place, and we knew it."

Our two companions, Mr. Passmore and Mr. Abraham, leave us this morning to return to England, where also we should all have gone to-day had not Mr. Spurgeon's illness necessitated a longer absence from the work in which he ardently desires again to be engaged.

If the weather continues as it has been during the last week, the last portion of our sojourn here will be truly delightful. The air has been so clear that Corsica has been plainly visible, both a little before sunrise and sunsets; the days have been more like summer than winter, and the nights have been indescribably lovely.

These are Thy glorious works, Parent of good, Almighty! Thine this universal frame, Thus wonderful fair; Thyself how wonderfuler than I! Unspeaking! who'st above these heavens To us invisible, or dimly seen In these Thy lowest works; yet these declare Thy goodness beyond thought, and power divine.

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This is a world of sorrow, of disease, of tears, and of death. One disappointment follows upon the steps of another as we journey on through life, making us long for some secure resting place, where life has something more of permanency, and where joys shall become lasting.

Mrs. H. was, we believe, all that could be desired to make, for both, a long life of unmixed happiness. But it has been otherwise ordered, and she has been taken, we doubt not, to the Land of pure delight,

Where everlasting Spring abides And never withering flowers.

Those she has left have but the recollection of one who was highly esteemed and beloved wherever she was known. Expressions of warm sympathy with him who most feels the loss have come from all who knew them.

The funeral, although during a pouring rain, was attended by a very large number of sincere mourners, and by the Rose-bud Band of Hope of which the departed one was a lady-manager, and whose music she had for several years directed as their organist.

REV. C. B. PITBLADO writes a very sensible letter to the Winnipeg Daily Sun respecting the poverty in that city. He classifies the cases under, first loafers, second men out of work who want work, third those who wish for genteel situations, and fourthly the sick and utterly helpless.

LOOK OUT FOR A TREAT!—We have made arrangements to receive original reports of Joseph Cook's Boston Lectures on "Progress in Theology at Home and Abroad." We expect to commence next week. Reported for the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

Go to Spring Garden Hall on Friday afternoon, and encourage the young people of the Mission Band. You will be repaid by what you will see, and will help a good cause. See Advertisement.

The operations of Baptists in Utah seem to be greatly blessed—equal to what appears in any of the States of the Union. A mission was commenced about a year ago in Salt Lake city; now there is a church with about thirty members.

A beautiful church edifice is about being finished. It is to cost about \$13,500. A day school is opened by the Boston Woman's Baptist Home Mission Society. One of the first applicants for admission to the school was a grand-daughter of Brigham Young.

A great work is being done in the Southern States for the African race. The Baptist Home Missionary Society is sustaining fourteen schools—twelve of these are devoted to the training the colored people in which a large proportion are preparing for usefulness, either in teaching or preaching the gospel.

Nothing is more important than that they shall be educated in Christian schools and become efficient instructors and laborers in Christian morals and religious truth. All honor to our brethren in the Northern States for the good work they are sustaining among those who were so long a downtrodden and injured race.

At a recent opening of a Baptist House of Worship in Colchester, in England, Mr. W. Willis one of the members of Parliament and a Baptist made a lengthy speech as to who and what are the Baptists.

What do you think and believe? And there are persons so little read in the New Testament, so little acquainted with the history of the Christian Church, that they do not know what the Baptists do and what they think; and to-night I propose to tell you what they do think and what they do—and the reasons why.

Soon after the notice of Nova Scotians lost in the steamer City of Columbus was in type last week we were pleased to learn that the O. Griffen given in the list of persons lost was not as we supposed Clarence E. Griffen, of Upper Dyke Village. Dr. Rand one of his family connections, informs us, "We are glad to know he is safe."

Rev. David Freeman writes:— I have just been informed of the death of my uncle, James Dean Freeman, of K-mpt, Queens County, aged 78 years. He was the youngest of a family of six brothers, all of whom were members of Baptist churches.

There is no grandeur like that which comes from conformity to the Redeemer's will. You speak of the Church of England, but the Church of England, with all the good in it that I recognize and gratefully acknowledge, has no such history and maintains no such noble and distinct principles as the Baptist brethren.

Our City Council have managed to get a delegation to send to Ottawa on the Winter Port question. The following resolution was adopted on Tuesday last: Resolved, That a delegation be appointed to proceed to Ottawa, in conjunction with delegations from the cities of Quebec and St. John, with a view of pressing upon the Dominion Government the great necessity of having the outlet of the Canada Pacific Railway within the Dominion of Canada.

The delegation chosen was, Aldermen MacCoy, Stephen and Shand, with Hon. A. G. Jones and Mr. T. E. Kenny, if the two latter gentlemen can go, or if not, such other two gentlemen representing the citizens as may be deemed best by the Chamber of Commerce.

The Scott Act is in force in Cape Breton. But nevertheless \$10,948 were collected for duties on liquors at North Sydney last year.

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thankfulness we were to study the New Testament, we should immediately have unity, increased health, great vigour, and the church would cast its united testimony upon a world that needs the truth of that church for its redemption, happiness, and peace.

INFORMATION WANTED.

It was stated publicly by a Presbyterian minister a week or two since in Halifax that among Baptists, household Baptisms were now-a-days never heard of. If the said minister made such statement from his own knowledge we think that his information must have been from a very limited circle.

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Home News

Nova Scotia.

The annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Permanent Benefit Building Society and Savings Fund was held on Wednesday. The directors reported that the institution is in an excellent condition.

We had a great variety of weather last week, varying from 10 below zero to 45 above.

The Central Board of Agriculture advise more attention to sheep-farming and the improvement of the breeds by a larger importation of Shropshires and Leicester, and of pigs during the coming season.

The late Senator Bourinot devotes all his estate and effects to his wife absolutely, appointing her sole executrix.

Rev. A. J. Townend's Lecture, "What I know about the Dutch," was a highly popular one.

The W. & A. Railway have made a great reduction in the rates of freight on potatoes, as they say, with a view to stimulate the business and encourage shipments; large reductions have been made in the tariff rates for car loads from all stations to Halifax and Annapolis.

It is expected that the S. S. Secret will go on the route between St. John and Digby, and Annapolis about the middle of this month.

The Y. M. C. A. held its 30th Annual Meeting in St. Mathews Church on Tuesday last.

J. S. McLean, Esq., occupied the chair. Rev. R. Long offered prayer, after which the reports were read by the several chairmen of committees.

The year commenced with 400 names on the roll, 77 new members had been added, and 35 had left, so that the year closed with a net increase of 42. Of the 35 names erased, 26 left the city, 4 were over three years in arrears, 2 retired by request and 3 died.

The Treasurer's Statement showed that with last year's balance \$2870.00 had been expended during the year, and \$2784.85 received, leaving \$85.15 due Treasurer. A resolution accepting the Report was moved and appropriately spoken to by Rev. J. W. Manning, and seconded by Rev. L. H. Jordan.

Several pieces were sung by a quartette choir, at intervals during the meeting, and prayer was offered by Rev. H. H. MacParson at the close.

The Hotel Factory at Truro was burned down on Tuesday last. The main building was destroyed and the machinery badly damaged. The insurance on building and machinery is \$7,000 and a small sum on the stock, most of which was destroyed. The probable loss over the insurance is \$9,000.

John L. Boutillier, French Village, Halifax Co., writes that Miss M. L. Linnell 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 disease. Feb. 14.

ITCHING PILE—SYMPTOMS AND CURE.—The symptoms are moisture, like perspiration, intense itching, increased by scratching, very distressing, particularly at night, seems as if pin-worms were crawling in and about the rectum; the private part are sometimes affected. If allowed to continue very serious results may follow. SWAYNE'S OINTMENT is a pleasant, sure cure. Also for Tetters, Itch, Salt Rheum, Scald Head, Erysipelas, Barbers' Itch, Blotches, all scaly, crusty Skin Diseases. Sent by mail for 50 cents; 3 boxes, \$1.25, (in stamps). Address, DR SWAYNE & SON, Philadelphia, Pa. Sold by Druggists. June 20, 1879.