

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., March 19, 1884.

SOMETHING OLD,—OR NEW, WHICH?

Those who place so much value on the writings of the early Christian Fathers have now a genuine sensation in the alleged discovery of a rare old manuscript of the second century—nothing less than a real writing from the original Greek called "The Teaching of the Apostles." There are several writings of the Fathers—Clement, Eusebius, Athanasius, and others of the third and fourth centuries—which refer to this book so that portions of its contents have long been known as a book that was of earlier date, even than those writings in which it is quoted. The Epistles of Barnabas and Clement, and of the Shepherd of Hermas were among the earliest extant, but this new discovery is even more ancient than them.

The N. Y. Independent of Feb. 28th, gave some account of this piece of antiquity, that has just now made its reappearance. It seems that the Bishop of Nicomedia has just published what purports to be the original Greek text of this Teaching of the Apostles. It appears too that Professor Adolph Harnack of Giessen, is of opinion that the document is genuine, and perhaps it is not for us to suggest any doubts, and yet we cannot help thinking that there was a strong temptation to one who had any inclination to attempt such a piece of imposition. This will, of course, be subjected to a very careful and strict examination by scholars before it is received as the veritable "Teachings." It is curious to see how some of the dawning Pedobaptists catch at this straw, and now ask, "What will the Baptists do?" seeing that amongst other things it gives directions respecting the administration of Christian Baptism and the Lord's Supper. If there is any consolation in these for those who fail to find sufficient in the sacred volume they are welcome to it all. Here is chapter 7, as given in the N. Y. Evangelist and on which it asks the above solemn question!

"But as to baptism, baptize thus: baptize after thou hast imparted all the above doctrines, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, in flowing water. If, however, thou hast no flowing water, then baptize with other water; if there be no cold at hand, with warm. But if thou hast neither, then sprinkle the head three times with water in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost."

The Examiner very justly remarks that the Evangelist "has had its mental balance seriously disturbed by this discovery."

The editor of the Examiner does not accept the translation as correct as given by the Evangelist, but says: "There is one copy of the book of Bishop Bryennios in this country, and by the courtesy of the Editor of The Independent we have been permitted to see a transcript of the Greek of Chapter 7. The last sentence should be rendered, 'But if thou hast neither, then pour out [water] upon the head (ecchei e's ten k-phalen) three times,' etc. This confirms what was already well established, that sprinkling as a substitute for baptism was unknown in the early church, though affusion was sometimes admitted. What, then, do the words of Chapter 7 establish? They prove that nothing was known to the writer of this document but the baptism of believers; how does The Evangelist like that? They prove that the usual and most approved baptism was immersion in flowing water—a custom observed to the letter by large numbers of Baptist churches to this day, though the flowing water is not regarded by them as essential to the validity of the ordinance; how does The Evangelist like that? If flowing water were not to be had, other water might be used, preferably cold. And as a last resort in case enough water for immersion could not be had, affusion was allowable as a substitute. The only case in which such a difficulty could be supposed would be in so-called 'clinic' baptisms, i. e., of persons confined to their beds by sickness. There could never be any difficulty in immersing well persons. We submit that the words prove just this, only this.

If the genuineness of this document be completely established, and criticism assign it a date somewhere between the years 100 and 160 A. D., the sole effect of this passage on the question of the act and subjects of baptism will be to place the date of the perversion of the ordinance a century earlier than it has hitherto been placed.

Our Presbyterian contemporary the Witness notices this new discovery, and seems disposed to take it all in. He pronounces it "good reading" "truly Christian in tone and teaching" and thinks that as "the surviving Christian literature of the second century is so scanty that this addition is doubly precious."

We shall however regard its genuineness as very doubtful until we have far better evidence of its authenticity than at present appears.

DEATH OF DR. EDWIN CLAY.

Many of our readers will be much surprised to hear of the death of Dr. Clay on Friday last, at his residence in Halifax. But few men have been more generally known in the city or the province. Dr. Clay was born in Lincolnshire, England, sixty-three years ago, and came to Prince Edward Island, when quite young with his father, who was surgeon in the 63rd regiment in the Peninsular war. When a lad he received a charge of buckshot in the knee at the hands of an acquaintance—said to have been accidental. The effect of this was to maim him for life. After graduating at Wolfville, he studied medicine, at the same time studying for the Baptist ministry to which he was ordained in 1853. Two years later he graduated M. D. from the university of New York. He was pastor of a church in New York for some time, and afterwards removed to Carleton, New Brunswick, where he became pastor of the Baptist church and also practiced medicine. He married a daughter of the late Hon. H. G. Pineo, for many years a member of the Legislative Council. After remaining seven years in the province of New Brunswick he removed to Pugwash, where he settled down to the practice of his profession. Fourteen years ago Dr. Clay was appointed Dominion Immigration Agent at this port. In the winter of 1872 he went to England as special agent of the department of agriculture, and spent six months there lecturing and advancing the interests of the Dominion. As a result thousands of immigrants came to Canada—many of whom are now in Halifax, and in various other parts of the Dominion.

While at Londonderry six months ago Dr. Clay dislocated his ankle, almost ever since he has been compelled to use crutches, and has been steadily failing in health. Four weeks ago he was confined to his bed from blood poisoning. During the past week or ten days he sank rapidly. He was attended by Drs. Campbell, Parker and Farrel. Thursday night he seemed much better and was quite bright and cheerful. But on Friday morning the rupture of a blood vessel of the brain took place and he became unconscious, from which he never recovered, and passed away on Friday evening, surrounded by his sorrowing family and Rev. Messrs. Manning and Avery. Death has been very busy in this family during the past six months—no less than six members having passed away in that time. Dr. Clay's death is a loss to the province and will be deeply deplored by a very large circle of his acquaintances and friends.

Dr. C.'s labors in preaching, lecturing and other services were almost entirely gratuitous. But few have done as much public service for a small amount of remuneration. The gratitude of hundreds was shown by their calls to take a last farewell on Saturday and Sunday last.

Dr. Burns is said to have killed the myth Papal Infallibility in his lecture on Friday last, by bringing proofs of error in doctrine and practice—all from Roman Catholic sources. But it will not die so long as "the Pillar of Popery"—Infant Baptism, is allowed to live. His audience was large and "he was frequently applauded." He also proved that the books of the Apocrypha are apocryphal!

NOVA SCOTIA LEGISLATURE.

The House has been busily engaged over the Revised Statutes, doubtless a very important work, although having but little of interest to the public, or, as a whole to many of the members themselves. It is nevertheless a work which must have sufficient time given to ensure careful consideration of the hundred and fifty chapters into which it is divided. There are still a number of measures to be brought forward which will call forth more animated discussion, and will doubtless obtain more public recognition.

On Monday, March 10th, a number of petitions were presented and bills introduced, mostly of a local and private character.

A report from a committee of the House on Private and Local Bills called forth some discussion, especially with regard to the bill to incorporate the Cape Breton Railway Extension Company and granting lands for the purposes the company have in view.

Hon. Mr. Pipes laid on the table of the House the correspondence between the Dominion and Local Governments respecting railway arrangements.

Hon. Prov. Secretary by command laid on the table of the House the Report of the Superintendent of Education.

Hon. Mr. Pipes introduced a bill relating to the rights of married women to their property.

Hon. Mr. Gayton moved the second reading of the bill in relation to the education of deaf mutes, after which it was read a second time.

A number of questions submitted by several members were replied to at some length.

On Tuesday after some time expended on the Revision of the Statutes, several petitions were presented.

A number of bills were introduced, one of which was by Mr. Whidden, to incorporate the Baptist Book and Tract Society.

The claim of Messrs. Baring Bros. & Co., was then brought under debate by a question put by Mr. Corning, respecting the correspondence between the government and Baring Bros. After which the House proceeded to Miscellaneous Business.

The bill relating to the education of Deaf Mutes was discussed at some length, especially the clause requiring parents to pay the sum of \$60 a year for each child.

On Wednesday Mr. Corning introduced a Bill to incorporate the Mutual Relief Society of Nova Scotia at Yarmouth.

The Married Women's Bill passed its second reading.

The incorporated towns Bill was discussed at some length and read a second time.

Mr. Fraser spoke on the reply given to his question on a former day respecting the frequent changes in the school books used in the Public Schools. He said it was a great hardship to many poor people to have so frequently to buy new books.

Cape Breton Railway Extension was the subject of enquiry.

The chapter of the Revised Statutes, "Of the University of Halifax" was read and passed with a number of others.

On Thursday petitions were presented on various subjects, one of which was from Revs. H. H. Johnson and M. C. Brooks and a number of other colored citizens of the city of Halifax, in reference to the public schools of the city. It was stated that the petition was signed by the clergymen of the two colored congregations of the city and a large number of other citizens, in reference to the education of colored children in the public schools.

On the Married Women's Property Bill being read in its several clauses—the clause requiring married women having separate property to support their husbands was read.

Mr. Longley took exception to it. Mr. Campbell thought it was not in accordance with the general objects of the bill, which was designed for the protection of married women and their property.

Mr. Longley said that in this country the husband was generally looked to as the bread-winner of the family, not the wife. Suppose the wife had a small amount of property, say ten or fifteen hundred dollars worth, in her own

right, and had a worthless husband too, she should not be compelled to devote the whole of this small property, for it would take the whole of it to support her husband. He moved that the clause be struck out.

Mr. McDonald seconded the motion. Hon. Mr. Pipes said the clause was taken from the English Act of 1870, but he was willing for it to be struck out. The motion was put and carried and the clause was struck out.

On the reading of the next clause, requiring a married woman having separate property to maintain her children, provided the husband was not relieved from his liability to do so.

Mr. MacCoy opposed the clause. Mr. Mack said it was in accordance with the provisions of sections 11 and 12, chap. 83 of the R. S., relating to the support of the poor.

Mr. McDonald thought the clause should remain. The object of the bill was to protect the property of married women from their husbands and husbands' creditors, but this was a different matter.

Mr. Corning was in favor of the clause being retained. He said he would have much preferred if the hon. Premier and the Government had seen fit to introduce the English Act of 1882 in its entirety.

Mr. MacCoy thought the section was opposed to the general purpose of the Act. He did not see why the Legislature should shift upon the wife the liability now resting on the husband.

Mr. McNeil said he believed in the general principles of the Act, that all the property of a married woman should be secured to herself; but in the case of a wife having sufficient property and yet refusing to support her children, he thought she should be compelled to, providing the husband was not relieved from the same duty.

Mr. Power was in favor of the scheme. The clause passed.

On Friday whilst the Revision of the Statutes was proceeding, that "Of the preservation of useful animals and birds," called forth some debate. Dr. Halsey moved and Mr. Longley seconded a motion to make a diminution of the charge for licenses: that for permission to shoot moose and other game to be \$30, and of birds alone \$10. This was vigorously opposed by several members. Action was deferred till the third reading.

Subsequently Mr. Fraser moved his resolution respecting the frequent changes of school books prescribed by the Council of Public Instruction. The resolution asking that the Committee on Education be instructed to call for books and papers and summon teachers, &c., and report to the Legislature.

Questions were asked by several members respecting appointments to the Legislative Council.

The Reports of the Departments of Mines and of the Central Board of Agriculture were laid on the table of the House. As the members of the House would be expected to accompany the Committee on Humane Institutions to visit the Asylum for the Insane on Saturday, the House adjourned to Monday afternoon.

THE MINES REPORT laid on the Table of the House on Friday shows some progress in this department of our industries. The following will give interesting particulars:

Table with 3 columns: Commodity, 1882, 1883. Gold, Iron Ore, Manganese Ore, Copper Ore, Coal Raised, Gypsum, Building Stone, Coak Made, Grindstones, &c., Limestone.

The sales of coal for the year amount to 1,297,523 tons, an increase of nearly four per cent. over those of the preceding year. The sales of coal for Home and other countries as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Country, 1883, 1878. Nova Scotia, Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, P. E. Island, United States, West Indies, South America, Europe.

The above comparison between the product of the years 1878 and 1883, is somewhat striking.

HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

From the Report of the Medical Superintendent of Mount Hope Asylum at Dartmouth, lately submitted to our Local Parliament, we learn some interesting facts respecting their management of that charitable institution during the year 1883:

Table with 2 columns: Description, Number. The number of patients on Register on January 1st, 399. The number admitted during the year, 96.

Whole number under treatment in 1883, 495. The number discharged—recovered, 52. Improved, 27. Died, 16.

Remaining Dec. 31, 1883, 490.

Eighty-one of those admitted had never previously been inmates of any Asylum. Of the deaths 11 were men and 5 women. The mortality rate was under 4 per cent. on the daily average, or a little over 3 per cent. on the whole number under treatment. This is considerably lower than the average rate for this Hospital.

The recovery rate has been 54 per cent. on admissions, which is considerably above the average rate which has usually been 44.

This institution receives an annual grant of \$12,000 from the Provincial Treasury. Many of the patients are supported by their friends and from charitable funds, and the remainder by the counties in Nova Scotia, from which they are sent. These counties all appear to be very much in arrears, and have continued to be largely indebted to the institution for many years which has entailed a large floating debt upon which the province has to pay interest. This is not satisfactory, and should be remedied.

The expenditure has been larger this past year than usual, in keeping with the general enhanced cost of living, but the cost per week for maintenance was only \$2.66 per patient which compares very favourably with other similar institutions in the Dominion, and is much lower than the rate in the United States.

From the tables of the various occupations of patients we observe that the farming population contributed 32 patients last year, the fishing industry only contributed 5, and considering the relative number who engage in these occupations in Nova Scotia, we are led to infer that our fishermen must lead the most quiet and contented lives.

Among the acknowledgements we see that Rev. P. M. Morrison, Presbyterian, and Dr. Gilpin, Episcopalian, have each held religious services in the institution on one Sunday in each month. Rev. E. J. Grant, Baptist, and Dr. Saunders, Baptist, are with others credited with having officiated occasionally. Last year the Christian Messenger was the only one of our religious journals which was received regularly. This year the Church Guardian has been added to the list. There is still room for additions to this list.

Dr. Reid says that the work of the institution for the past year has been very satisfactory, especially in the percentage of recoveries. He especially urges that those who are afflicted with insanity, should be placed under treatment as soon as possible, the results of experience having established the fact that "of very recent cases more than 66 per cent. can be restored, but of those of a duration extending over a year, the cure rate falls as low as 2 or 3 per cent."

Literary.

PULPIT AND GRAVE. A volume of Funeral Addresses, etc. Edited by E. J. Wheeler, A. M. New York: Funk & Wagnall, Publishers, Price, \$1.50.

This is a book of no ordinary character. The design of the writer is to aid pastors in the performance of funeral services which, confessedly, are among the most onerous and difficult which pertain to the sacred office in consequence largely often of the shortness of time given for the preparation for such services. The material has been gathered from a very wide field, at home and abroad—very much of it being prepared expressly for this work, consisting of sermons, outlines, obituary addresses, prayers, classified texts, Scripture readings, death-bed testimonies, funeral etiquette, etc. The editor seems to have spared no pains on the work, and has shown rare taste and judgment in the selection and arrangement of his rich and varied matter. We are confident its merits have but to be known to secure for it a wide mission of usefulness. The list of over 400 texts, classified accord-

ing to subjects, is a unique feature which will be found interesting and valuable.

MANUAL OF REVIVALS. By Rev. G. W. Hervery, M. A. New York: Funk & Wagnall. Price \$1.25.

Works on revivals have much increased of late. The author of this one proposes to himself a large task in treating the subject in all its many phases, meeting objections sometimes raised to certain courses of action of persons in directing meetings on such occasions. The writer has sought to submit suggestions which have occurred to him from a long study of revivals and revival literature, and to furnish an extensive variety of themes, texts, and outlines, illustrating the methods of sermonizing pursued by the most successful revivalists. What will be liked especially in the many and valuable suggestions, is the sterling common sense displayed. They are obviously the result of wide observation, and an observation not limited to immediate results. The importance of revival work is keenly appreciated, and its relation to other branches of church work is set forth with clearness and force. The collection of outlines is remarkably copious, and has evidently required much laborious research. It must prove of immense value. The work is got up on splendid paper and in good style.

THIRTY THOUSAND THOUGHTS, on religious and other topics—1. Christian Evidences. 2. The Holy Spirit. 3. The Beatitudes. 4. The Lord's Prayer. 5. Man and his traits of Character. Edited by Rev. Cannon Spence, Rev. Joseph S. Exell and Rev. Charles Neil, with an introduction by the Rev. J. S. Howson, D. D., pp. 539. Price \$3.50.

Funk & Wagnall are extending their publications so as to embrace large and valuable religious works, and giving to the public a high class of Christian literature. This large volume is the selected and combined result of researches made by scores of contributors who have passed in review thousands of books. The entire field of literature—Patristic, Medieval, Puritanic, Modern, Classical, Foreign—has been made to yield up its choicest thoughts, bearing on Theological, Philosophical, Biographical, Biblical, Ecclesiastical, Ethical, and Practical Subjects, and the whole arranged upon a scientific basis for homiletic use. It is scarcely possible to convey a full idea of the character and value of this unique and immense work. It is a grand illustration of a "compendium" book, a homiletical "encyclopaedia" or "dictionary" of illustrations, and a "compendium" of theological literature, the whole arranged for practical use by those who are too busy to search through libraries for what they need. It supplies a want that has been long and deeply felt, and it cannot fail to be of very great service to ministers and students and intelligent readers in general. The work will be completed in six volumes, although each volume is complete in itself. This one has paragraphs numbered up to 3129. The one now issued deals with Christian Evidences, the Titles of the Holy Spirit, the Beatitudes, the Lord's Prayer, and Man and his Traits and Character. The publishers deserve much credit for producing this work in excellent style, and selling it at so moderate a price.

THE FIRST of a unique series of humorous stories by "Ivory Black" will appear in the May CENTURY. These stories are about artists, and the names of the characters are adapted from the pigments with which painters are familiar. The name of the first story in the series is "Rose Madder."

THE PRIZES recently offered by St. Nicholas, for the best original illustrations by young artists under seven years of age, brought more than nine hundred pictures under the notice of the judges. The names of winners and reproductions of the successful drawings will appear in the April St. NICHOLAS.

THE APRIL CENTURY will contain two thoughtful papers on matters of current discussion, in which Mr. Walter B. Hill gives the Southern view of "Uncle Tom Without a Cabin," and as a citizen; while Professor Samuel Willard reviews the tendencies of the latest scientific theories under the title, "The Destiny of the Universe."

ITCHING PILLS—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 parts are sometimes affected. If allowed to continue very serious results may follow. "SWAYNE'S OINTMENT" is a pleasant, sure cure. Also for Tetter, Itch, Salt Rheum, Scald Head, Erysipelas, Barbers' Itch, Blisters, 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. 1 y.