## SEPTEMBER 24, 1884.

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#### CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

perature, and at nightfall returned to the city. Oh ! for some Bay of Fundy

fogl It was natural enough that soon after my arrival I turned my steps towards the buildings occupied by the

BAPFIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY,

within whose walls I spent three pleasant and, I believe profitable years. The institution has just commenced another year's work and her prospects were never brighter. Under the wise management of President Strong and his co-laborers, the Seminary possesses those special elements which when combined make success-a good endowment, well, equipped buildings and a learned and enthusiastic faculty. In its sound scholarship and cosmopolitan character. I believe this institution is unequaled by any other in our denomination. The class that was graduated last spring is a good instance of this fact. This class, numbering twenty three, had with one exception, received a college or academical training, and nearly all were college graduates. Of the number who have already settled, Oregon claims two, and Texas, Arizona, Dokota, Japan, and British Columbia, claim one each. have learned that the present Junior class presents the same cosmopolitan cha racteristic. Among those already on the grounds, England, Ireland, Scotland and Holland are represented, besides eleven States of the Union. With such school of the Prophets in the city the BAPTIST PROGRESS

load of bricks is already on the ground." Brother Alethes. I know too well what The people took courage as the story this means. Many churches are as coy was told and went forward: a large as the most modest maiden. The more beautiful and convenient house was they are sought by the best of men, the erected; and there multitudes gather further they retire from any engage from day to day to hear the words of ment; and I am sorry to say there are others who take delight in flirting with

### WALTER BARSS.

## For the Christian Messenger. Incidents of Ministerial Life.

A TALE AND SOMETHING MORE.

## CHAPTER XIII.

Among Mr. Alethes' acquaintances was a minister named Charis. This man was a most interesting person. His mind seemed constituted to enable him, like the Apostle Paul, to become all things to all men. There was no inconsistency in his character, though extremes met there to such an extent that he was sometimes misunderstood. Naturally he was of a strong impetuous temper, but he had learned to hold the reins so steadily that he could deal almost in the meekness of Moses with those who were doing damage to the interests of the cause of Christ, and pass without notice very unkind personal treatment. None could have a more correct conception of the dignity of the Christian pastorate than Mr. Charis, and he had the mind to maintain it ; but he moved among the people, as a most humble individual, and if the condition and interests of the cause required it, he could condescend to collect his own

actually the case. Dr. Duncan's advent among a people, many of whom he great. | longer if he be disengaged elsewhere : in to this city about a year ago was the signal for an advance movement in the Baptist ranks, under his wise pastoral supervision the Second Church is renew ing her strength. He has also been instrumental in organizing a Baptist Union for City mission work, in. w ich he is recognized as the leader par excellence. The whole city is mapped out into missionary districts and their religious needs considered by the Union. Five Mission Chapels are to be erected this year in destitute portions of the city; these will be officered by theological students, and thus prove a training to young ministers, a blessing to their respective neighborhoods, and a feeder to th churches. Lake Avenue church wor ships in a new stone edifice free from debt, and in this as in other respects, Pastor Barrett proves himself "a workman that needeth not to be ashamed." The first Church has a beautiful building of medina stone; and an ugly debt. When will christian churches cease indulging in architectural display while their treasuries are empty? East Avenue church, the youngest in the city, is exultant in having at last pastor, Mr. H. C. Peeples, a fellow class mate, who was graduated here last May. He has already shown himself to be possessed of the rare combination 'ol eloquence, intellect, piety and common sense. In his first sermon as their pastor, he struck the true key-note when he declared that Christ crucified is the power of the Gospel church. Ere long this flock hopes to move from its temporary abode to the fine stone struc ture rapidly approaching completion. AND STILL THEY COME. Judge of my delight on receiving a few days ago a letter with \$16 more for the Victoria church building. Of this \$15 comes from Tusket (forwarded by chief benefactors of our denomination Rev. A. Cohoon), the following ladies having given \$5 each : Mrs. John Hatfield, Mrs. Adolphus Hatfield, and Mrs. E. C. Simonison. From Miss Marr, Moneton, comes \$1. May the Great Giver richly bless the donors. Who will

In my humble opinion any man worth his salt, might find better occupation than running round courting the favour of such churches." " 'Is there any particular reason for this disposition of our churches ?" "I would rather not say, my brother. We will waive that question here and now, if you please."

Mr. Alethes was intensely interested, and continued : "What would be your advice to these churches, Mr. Charis ?" "Let them send round to every mem ber of the church and congregation (saying nothing about Paul, Apollos, or Cephas), and get each one to state what he will give constantly every three months -or what would be better, every week in an envelope-to the support of the ministry. After the amount has been ascertained, they should write to the Moderators of Associations, Presidents of Colleges, or to Secretaries of Home Missions, enquiring for a suitable minister. Churches will have other opportunities to find out where good men are movable. After the church has decided on a particular man, if they are pretty sure he is suitable, they should send him a call forthwith, stating conditions, regarding salary, &c. Otherwise he should be very noticeable, and such is salary. If it helped him to continue may be invited for two Sabbaths, or 1 Chron. xxviii. 9.

Smith, \$1.25; Thos Wood, \$1. Amherst Shore-Chas D Rockwell, \$1. Wallace-Andrew Corbett, \$1; Mrs Phil McKeen, 50c. Pugwash-J A Ash, \$3; Mrs H S Pineo, \$5. Collection at New Canaan, 50; Colleca half dozen ministers at the same time. tion at Linden, \$2.44. Dorchester-W H Masters, \$5. Brookfield-Wm Carter, \$5. Yarmouth-Mrs W Crosby, \$5. North Sydney-Mr Wm Ball, \$1; Henry Franchville, \$1; Peter Moffatt, \$1; Levi Hamer, \$1. Dartmouth-Geo Keillor, \$1. Elgin, N B-B R Blakney, \$250. COLPORTAGE. City-Dr H H Read, \$10; Mrs W Murray, \$1; M N Murray, \$1; Rev J M Keirstead, \$2. GEO. A. MCDONALD, Sec'y.

# Pristian Messenger. boble Lessons for 1884. FOURTH QUARTER.

Three Months with Solomon and the Books of Wisdom. -1 Kings, 1 Chron., Prov., Eccles.

Lesson I.-OCTOBER 5, 1884. SOLOMON SUCCEEDING DAVID.

1 Kings i. 22-35.

GOLDEN TEXT.-" And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve Him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind."-

Linden-W M Hunter, \$1; Geo D a solemn oath confirmed the kingdom to Solomon, and directed the steps to be taken to secure the succession to him.

> NOTES .- Vs. 22. - While she, i. e., Bathsheba, the mother of Solomon, yet talked (1 Kings i. 15-21), reporting to the king what Adonijah was doing, and pleading his promise to her own son Solomon. Nathan came in. Nathan. i. e, came into the palace, not into the chamber, whither he might not enter unannounced. Bathsheba, it appears from verse 28, retired before Nathan entered, in accordance with Oriental ideas of propriety. So when Bathsheba was again sent for (verse 28), Nathan retired (verse 32) .- Cook. Very likely Nathan, as prophet, had communicated to David Jehovah's selection of Solomon. and he was properly anxious that the purpose of God should be fulfilled .-Tuck.

Vs. 23 - They told the king. The highest officers of the courts, even the prophets, did not venture into his presence without previous announce ment; when they did enter, it was with the profoundest obeisance and prostration. The Jewish court seems to have been very ceremonious and stately (1 Sa . xxiv. 8; 2 Sam. xix. 24). The king was the representative of heaven. Vs. 24.-And Nathan said, My Lord, O king, hast thou said. Nathan puts it thus forcibly in order to draw from the king a disclaimer.

Vs. 25.-For. Proof that the king must have decreed that Adonijah should succeed him. He is gone down, etc. The conspiracy had come to such a head

Bouths' Denartment. Original and Selected: Bible Enigma. No. 295. Find the names here described, and their initials will give a delightful injunction which the Apostle Paul gave to the people of Thessalonics : A noted station of the Israelites. One of the cities in the south of Judah A priest of Midian. A town of Benjamin. A city of Lycaopia. A precious stone mentioned in Reveation A word that occurs but once in Scripture. A king of the Moabites. A red pigment mentioned in Scripture. A city of the Amorites, east of Jordan. A celebrated woman of Jericho. A station near the Red Sea. The name of an unclean bird. An island in the Mediterranean. A celebrated city of Asia Minor. CURIOUS QUESTIONS. No. 305. Phonetic Charade. My first is a glass Ot liquor, alas; It causes many a fall.

3

My second, a room Where we stow the old loom,-Not parlor, chamber, nor hall. My whole is a word You often have heard, Containing eight letters in all.

No. 306. Who kept sheep fourteen years for a wife ? No. 307. Where in the Bible does it say, Hold thy tongue? No. 308. Who built herself a stronghold, and heaped up silver as the dust, and fine gold as the mire of the street? No. 309. Behead and curtail an organ of the body, and leave another organ of the No. 310. Behead and curtail a road, and leave a large vegetable. No. 311. Behead and curtail a luscious fruit, and leave a noisy touch. No. 312. Behead a delicious fruit, and leave a sound made. No. 313. Behead and curtail scarcity, and leave tin vessel. No. 314. Form square of words of 1. Passed away. 2. The name of an ancient preacher. 3. One of Shem's sons. 4. An old lady. Find answers to the above-write them down-and see how they agree with the answers to be given next week. Answer to Bible Enigma. No. 294. "He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord " (Prov. xix. 17). ANSWERS TO OURIOUS QUESTIONS. No. 298. 1. David. 2. Solomon. 3. Omri. No. 299. The serpent, Genesis ii. 1-5; and Balaam's ass, Num. xxii. 28. No. 300.

man. Nothing of interest in the churches passed his notice; and he seemed to be able to read sermons even in stones : but, strange to say, he often a deaf ear. On the fly-leaf of a book kept in memory of his mother, were the following lines written by his own hand :

"O, that my eyes may closed be, From all becomes me not to see; That deafness may command my ear, From all becomes me not to hear."

The sentiments here expressed actu ated Mr. Charis through life. Regard ing much of the murmurings, complaints and accusations of his people, he would say, "I as a deaf man, heard not, and was as a dumb man that openeth not his mouth."

Now Mr. Charis had a long experience in different parts among the churches. His knowledge of human nature here was so broad that he seemed able to describe the character of religious professors from the meanest individual that ever wriggled into a place in the church, to the most exemplary Christians that adorned the heights of Zion. His mind was full of thoughts of church difficulties and how to meet them; queer people, and the way he treated them; kind Christians and the pleasure of their society. It is a solemn thought, ministers may talk of ignoring things, but is seems that the words and acts of their people are, necessarily, eternally photographed upon their minds.

Whenever these two brethren met, their conversation was entertaining and profitable.

"Brother Alethes," said Mr. Chavis, in a discussion on church matters, "I rejoice as much as any in the good that has been done by outside help; but the are those who teach our churches how to stand alone, by their inherent strength."

" But in the progress of our interests infant churches will come into existence. Surely these will need assis-

ly loved, he would dig, but to beg he this case, all should as far as possible was ashamed. He was a very observing make up their minds that this is the man for the place, and no one for a moment should be allowed to intermeddle with his claim to regard. Vote on his call as scon as convenient. For acted as though he had a blind eye and six, seven, or eight hundred dollars a year permanently any country churches may obtain a good pastor."

> a people have enjoyed the services of an honored and useful minister, of sucing in judgment to consider whether te shall be 'hired' another year.'

"Oh, here you touch one of the sores of the pastorate, and a great reason why churches will in future have to wait still longer far a gool man to visit them. It s a hard case after a man has gone to the inconvenience of gaining the regard of a people, the expence of moving his family, and speot a year in giving them his love and labor, to hear of a few men of the church (perhaps not the most gracious among them) meeting to consider whether they will keep him another year. This may have to be done in two or three different places, and any crotchety individual at either of these meetings has the power to dismiss the pastor."

(To be continued.)

Baptist Book and Tract Society, 104 GRANVILLE ST., HALIFX. CAPITAL FUND ACCOUNT.

Aylesford-Rev R S Morton, \$1. Indian Harbor, (West)-Peter Manual, ouc: Ada Mosher, 50

Port Hawkesbury-Peter Paint, Jr, \$1.70 Tryon, P E I-W B Mowatt, \$1; Hugh Walker, 503; William Leard, \$2; Theo dore Foy, \$1; Richard Gambul, 50c; John Symonds, \$1; Henry Wood, 40c Arn ld Lefugy, 50c; Mrs A Robbele, 25c; William Mowait, 25c; Henry Mc-

Pnee, 40c; Miss McPhee, \$1; John Francis, 25e; Collection at Church, \$2. North River-Jacob Bain, \$1; Francis

Bain; 50c; Charles Warren, \$1. Charlottetown-A W Sterns, \$2.

Bedeque-Collin Schureman, \$1; Solo

David was perhaps now in his 71st year. Solomon, 18 to 20 years old.

THE BOOKS OF KINGS. - The books now known to us as the First and Second Books of the Kings, 1 and 2 Samuel, were originally and are really but one work by oue writer or compiler. In all Hebrew manuscripts down to the time of Jerome certainly, and probably

"That is a miserable system, sir, ther down to A. D. 1518, when the Hebrew text was first printed by D. Bomberg at Ven'ce, the division into two books was unknown. It was first made in the Greek version by the Septuagint translators, who followed a prevailing custom of the Alexandrine Greeks of dividing ancient works for facility of reference. - Pulpit Commentary.

> The Books of Kings were completed. as we have them, within the space marked out by the dates B. c. 561-538, or in other words between the death of Nebuchadnezzar and the accession of Cyrus in Babylon. Linguistic and other considerations favor the belief that the actual completion was early in this period-about B. c 560.-Cook.

It is very uncertain who is the author, The Jewish tradition names Jeremiah, and, upon the whole, it seems that the arguments in favor of Jeremiah's authorship preponderate. - Cook. But this is strongly refuted by others, and we must give up the attempt to designate any particular person as the author .-- Lange. This lesson follows very closely on after Lesson VIII., 3rd Quarter,-" The Plague Stayed."

After that sad event, the evening of David's life seems to have passed in the quiet development of the kingdom and empire, the way being thus prepared for the magnificent reign of Solomon. More than ever living close to God, the great thought of the now aged king's heart appears to have been to accumulate treasures of all kinds for a great temple to be built by his son. His mind still retained its clearness and strength.

It was evident, however, that death was near, and this was the signal for a Vs 33.—The servants of your Lord. new palace conspiracy. Adonijah, the son of Haggith, who had been born to David at Hebron, and was thus a man of between thirty and forty, had become by the death of Absalom the heir to the throne, if the succession were determind by strict descent. Like his elder half-brother, he was famous at once for his manly beauty, and by showing no fitness for the throne, intellectually or otherwise. Following his example, he had for some time affected regal state in chariots, horses, and running footmen; but his father, always weakly blind to the faults of his children, shut his eyes \$1; J G McLeod, 50c; Oliver Stewart, to these dangerous assumptions, as he had before to the faults of Amnon and Absalom .-- Geikie. Taking advantage of David's increasing feebleness (1 Kings . 1-4), he resolved to make himself king. When Adonijah thought his project ripe, he invited his adherents, with all the king's sons (except Solomon), who seem to have shared his jealousy, to a great banquet at the rock of Zoheleth, near Enrogel, where, amid the mirth of the festival, the cry was raised, "Long live King Adonijah." The prophet Nathan informed Bathsheba of these proceedings, and arranged with her a plan to secure the interests of her son -Smith. Bathsheba brought

the case before the aged king. He

roused himself to one last effort, under

that Adonijah had invited the chiefs of his party to a sacrificial feast intended as that of his inauguration. The place chosen for it was the rock Zoheleth, a spring outside the city walls but not far from Jerusalem.

Vs. 25. - But me, even me (Nathan) thy servant. To Nathan this omission was most significant, especially if what was done by A lonijah was with David's consent. Zadok the priest. There is some difficulty in understanding how Zadok and Abiathar came to be both priests at this time. The best explanation seems to be that Abiathar was the real high priest, and officiated at the sanctuary containing the ark of the covenant in Zion, while Zadok performed the offices of chief priest at the tabernacle of witness at Gibeon (1 Chron xvi. 39.)

Vs. 27.-And thou hast not showed it unto thy servant. As being both a prophet of the Lord, and one whom thou hast always found faithful.

Vs. 29.-And the king sware. He raises himself from his sick bed, swears to observe his word, issues his orders, and puts them into immediate execution.

Vs. 30.- Even as I swear unto thee. We know nothing more of the circumstances of this oath than is recorded in the present chapter. Compare verses 13, 17.-Cook. Solomon (the peaceful), thus named by a command of God (1 Chron. xxii. 9) in contrast to the warlike David.

Vs. 31.-Bathsheba bowed with her face to the earth. A lower and humbler obeisance than even her previous one (verse 16.) Live forever. This form of compliment has always prevailed in the East (see Dan. ii. 4; iii. 9; v. 10; vi. 16; Neh. ii 3).-Cook.

Vs. 32.-Call me Zadok the priest, and Nathan the prophet, and Benaiah the son of Jehoiada. The combination of the high priest, the prophet, and the captain of the body-guard, would show the people that the proceedings had the king's sanction .- Cook.

The Israelites, Amos ii. 6.

No. 301. Judges iii. 24 No. 302. Athaliab, 2 Kings xi. 14, 15. No. 303.

WED LEVEL

be the next to put a brick into the new church and help swell the amount to \$700.00?

#### SPEAKING OF BRICKS,

reminds me of a true incident connected with the large Presbyterian house of worship in this city whose pastor is the as the Brick Church. When it was first proposed to erect this church, meeting after meeting was held, but the prospeets were not bright, and various circumstances led the hopeful to grow discouraged, until they were almost ready to abandon the enterprise.

One night a meeting was held, which broke up without decisive action, but the next morning the pastor's door-bell rang very early. On opening the door the servant found a small boy, who asked for Dr. Shaw. The servant told him he had not come down, and asked what he wanted.

the new church with.

another as he met them :

tance."

"True; and I say it gives me joy to know they have help; but what I object is that of seeing big boys carried in

arms after they are old enough to walk and take care of themselves. Such cases are indicative of laziness or constivenerable Dr. Shaw, generally known tutional infirmity. We should endeayour to find the real cause and deal accordingly. Only a few of our churches can be assisted by all the means at hand, and a large number are apparently lying in a helpless condition. Nearly all of these would rise into honor and prosperity if they only adopted pro per means."

> "I learn," said Mr. Alethes, "that there are a large number of extensive fields without ministers. What is the cause of this ?"

"Partly the scarcity of suitable pas tors. Latterly the Christian ministry has not been sufficiently attractive to

" I want to see Dr Shaw," replied the men of first-class ability ; and yet the boy. Presently Dr. Shaw came to the time is fast passing by when any but door, and found there a little fellow efficient men will obtain standing at all with a wheel-barrow three times as large in our churches. In truth, however, \$1. as the boy, and containing two bricks the difficulty lies principally in the which he said he had brought to build churches themselves. Every one you mention, alone or in union with sister

The doctor put on his hat and walked churches, could obtain a good minister." out in the street, saying to one and "Are not these churches waiting for a good man to visit them ?"

"The church will be built. The first "Yes, and they are likely to wait

mon Schureman, \$1. Summerside-Aaron Steeves, 53c.

Belmont-Saml Simpson. \$2; Francis Simmonds, \$1; James Simpson, \$1 Mrs Campell, 25c; Mrs Frazer, 50; Jessie Frazer, 25c; Simeon Frazer, 25c. Cavendish-Rev J B Woodland, \$4; Geo Woodside, 50e; Mrs John Clark, \$2 20; Mrs John Dickson, \$1; Arthur Simpson, \$1; Mary McNeil, \$1; Geo McNeil, \$1.

Montague-J M McDonald, \$2; Donald Forbes, \$1; Amos Robertson, \$1.

East Point-Alex Fraser, \$1; Alex Robertson, \$1; Alex Scott, Jr, \$2; Alex McLean, 50c; Jno Robertson, 50c; Thos Robertson, \$1; Robert Fraser, \$1 Mrs Donald Fraser, 25c; Miss Donald,

Dundas-Donald Nickerson, \$1; Rio'd Burdett, 75c.

Falmouth-Mrs William Lockhart, \$1. Berwick-Johnson Hays, \$5. Sackville, N B-Walter Fowler, \$5; Dr P R Moore, \$5.

West Dover-Mrs Wm Baker, \$1. Hantsport-R Comstock, \$5; D A Corkum, \$2.

New Canaan, NB-WC Gallaghan,

Amherst-Jas F Crandal, \$1; George Embre, \$1.

Centreville-Silas Goodwin, 50c. Mount Pleasant-John Biglow, \$1 Alex Walker, \$1; Jas W Eaton, \$2.50 Judson McCormach, \$1; Wm Walker, \$1; A McK Smith, \$1; Judson Eaton, \$1; John Walker, \$1.

The Cherethites and Pelethites, who formed the royal body guard (see verse 38). Perhaps also the Gibborim, or "mighty men." Compare 2 Sam. xx. 6. 7. Oause Solomon . . . to ride upon mine own mule. The Rabbins tell us that it was death to ride on the king's mule without his permission; and thus it would be the more evident to all that the proceedings with respect to Solomon had David's sanction.

Vs. 34.-Anoint him their king. The king, being a sacred personage, was set apart to the office like the priest and prophet by anointing.-Spence. Zadok solemnly anointed the young prince with a horn of sacred oil from the tabernacle at Gibeon, of which he was guardian, amidst the blasts of trumpets and the shoutings of the multitude, Nathan assisting in the ceremonies as prophet. Blow ye with the trumpet The blowing of the trumpet and the cry "long live the king" (cf. 1 Sam. x. 24) were to serve as a solemn proclamation after the anointing had taken mon, too." "Oh, no," said the good place.

Vs. 35.-Sit upon my throne. The public recognition of the successor to the throne during the old king's lifetime, is accordant with the customs of the East. King in my stead. David, i. e., virtually abdicates in Solomon's favor. Solomon ascended the throne before he was eighteen, and six months before the death of his father .- Pelou. that ?" "Why one who catches gnats bet's Notes.

DEW No. 304.

Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt see it after many days .--Eccl. xi. 1.

"Don't you think you have a good mamma, to spread such nice large slices of bread and jam for you ?" said an old lady to a little boy, who was enjoying his tea. "Yes," was the reply, "but she would be still better if she'd let me spread on the jam myself."

A young minister and his wife visited the congregation where his father was previously the pastor. He preached on the Sabbath ; and after service, one of the venerable elders, speaking with the young minister's wile, said "Your husband preached from the same text that his father had the last time he was in the pulpit." "Indeed ?" replied the lady : "I hope it was not the same serelder, "his father was a dreadful smart man."

A person overheard two countrymen, who were observing a naturalist in the field collecting insects, says one to another, "What's that fellow doing John?' Why,he's a naturalist." "What to be sure !"