

# The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

NEW SERIES.  
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**The Christian Messenger,**  
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## News from the Churches.

### A visit to the Pine Grove Church.

Many of the readers of the *Messenger* will be glad to know that in the Providence of God I was permitted to spend the month of May at my old home—not Nictaux proper, but on the Wilnot side of the river, which formerly constituted a large part of my circuit, and an important portion of the Nictaux Church. I was on the field twenty-three days, had twenty-three public services, and visited nearly sixty families. In these visits I sought out the older members that I had not seen for more than thirty years, some of them upwards of eighty years of age, and one had seen her four-score and ten. Some of them I had baptized as far back as 1829. They had forgotten many things, and were now too infirm to attend the house of prayer, but they remembered distinctly the days of their conversion and baptism and were greatly rejoiced to see once more on this side of the flood the minister, who, in the spring time of youth, had instrumentally led them to embrace the Cross of the Redeemer. It was delightful to see them still holding fast their baptismal vows, and to hear them rejoice in the prospect of an eternal reunion in the Father's house above. Two valued brethren of more than four-score years, that we had buried with Christ in baptism long years ago, were able to attend the preaching of the Word, and in the presence of the great assembly to give in their testimony for the Gospel which had sustained them amid life's conflicts, and now inspired them with sure and certain hope, in the prospect of a near approach to eternal scenes. How delightful was this reunion with these aged pilgrims on these lower grounds.

Many of the second generation that were the seals of my early ministry were present in the meetings to testify to what they had experienced when Jehovah marched through the land in mighty power to save. Many of them could tell the time, the place, the meeting, the text, the sermon, that had been blessed to the salvation of their souls. In one of our meetings, after a number had spoken of their early experience, one sister, blooming with youth and beauty, arose and said, "I cannot say as my parents have said, that this venerable minister present was the direct means of my conversion, but he led my parents to the Saviour, and through their pious example I have been led to trust in the same Friend of sinners." How true, that what we say or do for God extends in its influence right on from generation to generation, until the heavens shall be no more.

But oh! the sad havoc that death has made with those so dear to me in my early ministry. All my deacons gone; my oldest deacon Father Bishop, deacon Caleb Shafner, deacon Thomas

Bishop, deacon Stephen Taylor, deacon Ambrose Dodge, deacon Samuel Chipman, deacon Samuel Wheelock, deacon Rufus Banks, and last but not least, deacon George Dodge. All good men and true, and faithful unto death. The last mentioned brother was endeared to me by the most precious recollections of his conversion and baptism in the full spring-tide of youth; and by his thorough consecration to the service of his Divine Master. Among his many good deeds was the setting apart of what he called his "missionary tree." I remember one year, when living in Saint John, giving him 15 dollars for the fruit of that mission tree. Oh! how I missed him at his old home, nestling amid the beautiful ornamental trees at the foot of the Northern Hill; what sweet communion I had enjoyed with him in his own dear home, as well as in the house of God. What a loss to his family, what a loss to the church. The whole community mourns his departure. God bless his sorrowing widow and bind up her lacerated heart.

What a host of godly sisters have gone to the upper sanctuary, since my ordination day; only one of the members who constituted the Nictaux Church is now on earth, viz—sister Daniel Morse. I feel that I have a church numbering several hundreds in the house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. What a glorious reunion I have in prospect.

My closing sermon was preached from the passage, "I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God," etc. A deeply solemn time, the congregation immense. People flocked from hill and valley, from east, west north, and south. It was thought at least, one hundred carriages were present in the beautiful grove surrounding the church. I felt that the proceedings of that day were inscribed upon the tablets of eternity.

At the close of the sermon two valuable members were received by letter. Two were received for baptism at the preceding conference, but as my last Sabbath was so crowned with services, I left them for brother Sweet, the pastor elect to baptize. May they be as the first fruits of a rich harvest of souls.

I received unbounded kindness from all the persons I met, those outside as well as inside of the Church.

The great revival at Nictaux under Pastor Clark filled me with unutterable joy. The good work under pastor Robert Porter at Lawrencetown and vicinity, is highly encouraging. The retirement of Pastor Robbins from the Pine Grove field has occasioned deep regret. He was highly esteemed in love for his works' sake.

Pardon brother Selden the length of this letter, I could not well make it shorter.

Fraternally yours,  
I. E. BILL.  
St. Martins, N. B., June 3, 1884.

### Baptist Quarterly Meeting.

The Yarmouth County Baptist Quarterly Meeting convened at Milton, on Thursday 29th of May. Eleven ministers were present and took part in the work of the day. Encouraging reports were received from the churches—Revivals in several sections of the County have been enjoyed, during the Winter and Spring, so that the outlook is quite hopeful.

The following subjects were discussed with a good deal of earnestness, yet with perfect unanimity of feeling:

1. Ministerial Courtesy—opened by Rev. C. Goodspeed, and freely spoken to by the brethren; all seeming to express a desire to preserve the most harmonious ministerial relations, under all circumstances. This was deemed of the utmost importance to success,

and the well-being of the churches, as well as the pastors.

2. The grouping of the weaker churches and their relation to each other—opened by Rev. A. Cohoon. There is danger of some of the stronger of these groups breaking away from the weaker ones, and leaving them to perish. There is also danger of breaking these relations to each other, when pastors are selecting fields. In view of these facts the meeting maintained the opinion that the utmost care should be exercised by both pastors and churches, that none being unable to support themselves, should be thus left in the cold.

3. Hymn and Scripture reading for criticism—by Rev. J. L. M. Young. This, being a new phase of our work, was entered upon carefully by those who criticized. It however was regarded as a highly important exercise, and one that would add new interest to our meetings, and be of much profit in the future.

4. How can the impressions made by preaching be preserved and deepened? Opened by Rev. J. D. Skinner. This was regarded as the work of the church as well as of the pastor. A few points were emphasized in connection with this important subject, viz: by personal conversation, by consistent living, avoiding depreciating remarks either at home or at the sanctuary concerning the labors of the pastor, shunning secular conversation on the Lord's day, giving members of the church an opportunity to put in practice what they have heard from the pulpit. And above all seeking most earnestly the blessing of God upon the gospel preached, and all the means used for deepening the impressions made by the Word of God.

In the evening a general missionary meeting was held. Addresses, most earnest and impressive, imbued with a fervent missionary spirit, were made by Revs. G. H. Goudy, A. E. Ingram, J. L. M. Young, A. Cogswell and Dr. Day. These were interspersed with excellent music by the choir of the Milton Baptist church.

Thus closed an important, interesting and we trust a profitable session to all who were privileged to be present. And it is quite desirable that the members of our churches should more largely avail themselves of the opportunity afforded at such gatherings of becoming interested and stimulated in our Christian work.

J. D. SKINNER,  
Sec. Treas.  
June 5, 1884.

### P. E. Island Notes.

O'LEARY, June 6th.—The Lord is blessing this section of the Island and giving us special tokens of his favor. About the last of March we began to hold special services, trusting in God for success, and the Lord hearkened and heard the cries of his people and poured out blessings upon us in copious showers. Many who had grown cold returned to the standard of the cross, and sinners cried "What must we do to be saved." Some have found the Saviour and many others are inquiring the way.

On the 7th of May, nine happy converts were baptized in the river of Lot 6. Rev. E. N. Archibald administered the ordinance, and his own daughter was one of those who came to be baptized. That day will long be remembered by those blessed with the privilege of being present. On the 18th we again visited the baptismal waters and seven others followed their blessed Lord in his ordinance. The work still went on and others came, desiring to be baptized. On the 1st of June we visited Lot 10, where brother Archibald holds the fort. At 9.30 a. m., hundreds of people gathered at the river to see 10 rejoicing ones buried with

Christ in baptism. One baptized was an old man, whose locks were well ripened for the tomb; though in his 85th year he felt he was a babe in Christ, and desired to follow his dear Lord. It was a solemn occasion, for we felt that the Lord was there. At 11 o'clock a. m., we retired to the new Baptist meeting-house and I had the pleasure of preaching the opening sermon. Brother Archibald deserves credit for his indefatigable efforts in pushing forward the work. About three months ago the timber was standing in the woods, and June the 1st, we worshipped in the building, but it is not yet completed, and we hope our rich churches will not forget the poor. We held an afternoon meeting at 2.30, and then returned to O'Leary. At 6.30 brother A. preached a practical sermon emphasizing the necessity of Christians being active and living out their profession. After the sermon I had the pleasure of extending the hand of fellowship to 16 persons. Still the work goes on. Some are received and others are asking for baptism. I want assistance, who will come over and help us?

The work is going on at Alberton, we are making an earnest effort to build a house of worship, but we are very weak. We started in the Fall, but we saw we would have to go back before we could go ahead. So we went back and paid \$17.50 back rent on hall, then we rented for another year, but the place was so uncomfortable we saw it was no home for the church, so we concluded to build a house and asked God to help us. We bought the land for the site at \$800, now we have the scantling on the spot and brother Gambol and Mr. McPhail are putting up the frame. The logs for the rough boards are at the mill, and we have some of the pine, and some of the shingle wood. The building is to be 50 feet long by 30 wide with a tower and spire. The work is in the hands of brother Gambol and while we have such a self-sacrificing man and God's favour, the work will not stop.

Will not some of our rich churches help us. We are thankful for \$10.00 from Bro. J. A. Gordon, "with more to follow," and \$16.00 from sisters and brethren at East Point. We cannot go in debt, and the outside must be done before I start for Toronto at the opening of the College.

Yours truly,  
H. G. MELLICK.

WEYMOUTH.—Rev. James A. Stubbert writes June 2, 1884:—It was my privilege to baptize two happy converts into the fellowship of the Second Baptist Church of Weymouth, yesterday.

CANARD, CORNWALLIS.—Wm. Eaton Esq., Clerk of this church informs us that Rev. S. B. Kempton had the privilege of administering the ordinance of Baptism to two more happy converts on Sunday morning, and of extending the hand of fellowship to them and two others previously baptized, and to three received by letter.

SPRING HILL.—God is still blessing us in our work. At our meeting last evening three received the right hand of fellowship. Since April eight have been baptized here and four at West Brook, others are looking Zion ward and we trust that the waters will be troubled again soon. Since I came on the field 25 have been welcomed into the fellowship of the churches. Brethren pray for us.

S. E. MILLER.  
June 9, 1884.

Rev. D. G. Macdonald writes, seven received the hand of fellowship in the Beulah meeting house on the 1st inst.

### For the Christian Messenger. God and Natural Laws.

I was greatly pleased with the evident justice, good nature and temperance of the Rev. Mr. Weeks in his late communication on the above subject. So generous an opponent disarms opposition.

I heartily agree with Mr. W. that a discussion is undesirable, and my reply will be very brief. My reasoning as to natural laws is transferred to the *universe*. But is there not a wide difference? We can predicate of natural laws that they are no reality, no real existence in themselves. They are simply the *methods of the Divine energy* in nature. But we cannot well predicate of the material universe that it has no real being or substance in itself. Neither can we well say that this universe is simply a *method of God's action*.

Again my reasoning as to Chunder Sen, Plato and Marcus Aurelius is transferred to the cases of the Scribes and Pharisees and Simon Magus. But is there not a wide difference? The first named men not only received their allotted measure of illumination from the Logos or omnipresent Word; but they loved that light in them, cultivated that light and manifested it in their daily lives. There is always the Spirit of God ready to work in us; but there is also the *co-operation* of our wills with the Divine Will in all the processes of our salvation from sin and death.

Now in the case of the Scribes and Pharisees whom Christ condemned and of Simon Magus, we must bear in mind that they hindered the Truth in unrighteousness. We must judge of men by their fruits.

There are the words of the Christ: "For this is the condemnation that Light is come into the world and men loved the darkness rather than the Light: for their works were evil." The Light has illuminated all men. But how do they use that illumination?

Very respectfully,  
E. M. CHEBLEY.

### News of the World.

The east London Aquarium at Bishopsgate, London, was burned on Wednesday last. Of the collection of wild animals, some were safely removed from the burning structure, others it was necessary to shoot, and some were burned. Among the latter were lions, bears, jackals, and monkeys. The two Russian bears, however, were saved. The roaring of the burning beasts was something terrible.

The *Matin* has published a letter signed by a group of Irishmen who reside in Paris, justifying the London outrages. They say they have no other means to combat with England. They insist that Ireland is fighting for independence, and they solicit the sympathy of the French people.

The English Government has drawn the attention of the French authorities to the immunity enjoyed by the dynamiters in Paris in laying plans and making preparations for outrages.

George Bolton, prosecutor for the Crown, has served a writ upon William O'Brien, M. P., editor of the *United Ireland*, for libel. He claims £30,000 damages.

There is to be a trans-Atlantic Cable laid between Portugal and America. The right to lay the cable obtained some time ago, has been transferred to a joint stock enterprise, entitled the American and British Continental Cable Company. The first section of the cable, to St. Michaels, one of the Azores Islands, will be laid in September.

The whole British garrison paraded the streets of Cairo on Thursday last, for the purpose of impressing the natives and overawing secret societies. The sentries have been doubled because of a rumored attempt to explode the citadel.

Osman Digna's persistent attacks on Suakim are on account of El Mahdi's intention to cross over to Mecca before moving northward. Osman, swears that he will capture Suakim before June 10.

A telegram from Cuba to New York says, "The mercantile and political situation here continues to be desperate. The most liberal estimates place the sugar crops at 450,000 tons, consequently the sum resulting from the sale of the entire sugar crop would be insuffi-

cient to cover the Government taxation upon the population. The sale of the island to the United States or to Mexico is the general topic of conversation.

An edition of the *El Vigia* newspaper of May 29th was confiscated and its editor fined \$100 in gold. The newspaper *El Mercurio*, published at Santiago de Cuba, has been fined \$250 in gold.

The Republican National Convention at Chicago, is at the present time the centre of political interest in the northern States. It assembled on Tuesday of last week and proceeded with its routine of electing its temporary chairman—Hon. John R. Lynch, and the several committees required. This occupied the first day.

The nominating of a candidate for the Presidency is the great work of the Convention. The working body of the Convention is the greatest in point of numbers in National political assemblages. The body of the hall was filled by an audience which occupied every point of vantage and made up a picture as viewed from the press stand of almost an unending sea of faces, and of uncovered heads relieved by the rich colors and the fluttering toilets of the ladies, who were present in great force.

There are several parties in the Convention. The process of securing a nomination is somewhat complicated consisting of several ballots. The first ballot thrown gave the following result: Jas. G. Blaine, 322; Arthur, 278; Edmunds, 93; Logan, 63; Sherman, 30; Hawley, 13; Lincoln, 4; General Sherman, 2.

Speeches were made in favour of the different candidates, as each of the States is called to deposit its vote. Snatches of song are occasionally indulged in and all the demonstrations of the most intense excitement.

It was estimated that on Thursday there were ten thousand people present and dense crowds lined the streets.

The second balloting gives a larger vote to Blaine by 143 and a loss to each of the others. Great excitement is occasioned by these several trials of strength. Men marched through the aisles with banners inscribed with the name of Blaine, shouting themselves hoarse, and acting like men crazed. After a long struggle to secure order the chairman on Friday directed that the fourth ballot be proceeded with. Never before in the Republican Convention were such scenes enacted. Flags were torn from the walls and waved, and the din and noise inside of the Convention hall were great enough to drown the booming of cannons without. After a long continued struggle, semi-order was restored and balloting proceeded with. The final result was as follows: Arthur 207; Blaine, 541; Edmunds, 41; Logan, 7; Sherman, none; Hawley, 15; Lincoln, 2.

At the evening session the only remaining work was the nomination of a Vice-President. Telegrams were sent to John A. Logan, of Illinois, asking if he would accept the Vice-Presidency. Upon receiving a favorable reply he was nominated by acclamation, after which the Convention adjourned *sine die*. Parties in St. Louis are looking a long way ahead. A convention of exposition and fair managers of the United States was held there on Wednesday last. A resolution appointed a committee to report a plan of organization and management of a world's fair, to be held in 1892, to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus.

Telegrams from Florida on Monday the 2nd, state that Gen. O. E. Babcock, engineer of the 5th lighthouse district, Mr. Levi P. Luckey, his chief clerk and formerly Assistant Private Secretary of President Grant, and Mr. Benj. P. Sutter, of Washington, D. C., were drowned on Saturday in Mosquito Inlet, off the coast of Florida, while superintending work on a lighthouse being erected at that port.

A family named Maloney arrived at Boston last week on the barque Lottie, from Sydney, C. B. All had the diphtheria and say everybody else on board had it. They were in destitute circumstances and went to Salem where they had friends. They all have the disease in a malignant form and one child died on Thursday. The house is quarantined and Mr. Jackson, its occupant, has become insane on this account. If the captain has concealed the fact of the sickness, he is subject to a fine of \$500 and six months imprisonment. The case will be investigated and the captain prosecuted to the full extent of the law if the facts are found as reported.