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#### To Pastors and Churches.

The letter of the Conference Committee on Baptist Union has been sent to pastors for their churches. For churches that are without pastors, the letter has been sent to their clerks. If any pastor or church fails to receive the letter, kindly notify the undersigned. Jos. McLEOD,

For the Com.

Fredericton, N.

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#### CHINA'S SLAVES.

Can this be true? China the greatest slave country in the world today?

We are assured from a reliable source for missionary news that over one-fortieth of China's 400,000,000 people are slaves. Every well-to-do family in this vast empire keeps girl slaves, and a man's position is measured by the number which he keeps. These slaves are sold between the ages of three to fifteen years and usually change han Is at about eight years. The average price paid is between \$10 to \$20 a piece. Much depends upon the personal appearance of the girls for sale, as they are used for household service. It is much cheaper to buy slaves in this country than to hire help.

At the time of the Boxer uprising in China (1900) it looked as though missions would receive a severe set-back, but by the end of 1902 there were 25 new stations started, mostly in the provinces of Ho-nan, Hu-nan, Shan-si, and S-zchuen, and about 373 new missionaries have entered the field since the persecutions ceased. Great Britain, the United States and Continental Europe now have working in China 1,233 mer, 868 wive, and 849 single women, a total of 2,950.

#### SIGNIFICANT FIGURES.

Of two thousand people, questioned as to the time of their conversion-pastors, teachers, students and Sunday school scholars-nineteen hundred and nineteen testified that they were converted in the first twenty-five years of life; nine hundred and ninety-four of them by the age of sixteen. Only eighty-one were converted during the years from twenty-five to fifty. In other words, of these two thousand persons only four per cent. were converted after the age of twenty-five years. About ninety-six per cent. were converted before they were twenty-five years old.

These significant figures were given in a recent issue of The Canadian Bap tist. One thousand of these people were Canadians and Baptists, the other thousand belonged to the United States, and were connected with churches practising infant baptism. The details, as given in our contemporary, are significant of this fact, that under both systems there is overwhelming evidence to prove that "the convenient season" for the commencement of the religious life -the season when, in the vast majority of cases, the religious life must begin, teen years of age, or a year or two before or after that period, is the time of greatest susceptibility to divine impressions, and of most frequent conversion.

.. Germany, Austria, Sweden, Norway and Italy train dogs for use in war,

## Marriages.

KEARNEY-FLANNIGAN.—On the 5th of Nov., at Hartland, by Rev. John Perry, Mr. Harding Kearney, of Waterville, Carleton Co., and Miss Adelia Flannigan, of Connell, Carleton Co.

ROULSTON-McDougall. - At Arthurette, N. B., on the 9th inst., by Rev. T. D. Bell, D. Arthur Roulston, of Plaster Rock, to Beatrice McDougall, of Three Brooks, Vic. Co.

INGALLS-RUSSELL.—At the home of the bride, Woodward's Cove, Grand Manan, on the 5th Dec., by Rev. A. M. McNintch, Mr. Fulton Ingalls and Lucy V. Russell.

LAKEMAN-GUPTILL.—At the home of the bride, Grand Harbor, Grand Manan, on the 7th Dec., by Rev. A. M. Mc-Nintch, Mr. Frank L. Lakeman and Arminto C. Guptill.

PATTERSON-ALLAN.—At the the bride, Lower Hainesville, York Co., on the 14th inst., by the Rev. J. J. Barnes, Mr. James J. Patterson, of Douglas, York Co., and Mrs. Mary E. Allan, of Lower Hainesville.

## Deaths.

SMITH.—At her home, St. Marys, on the 10th inst., of consumption, Edna Smith, 16 years of age. She was a J. CLEMENT WILSON. Christian.

COCHRANE.—At her home, Gibson, on the 14th inst., Mabel Cochrane, 13 months old. J. CLEMENT WILSON.

CARR.—At Geary, S. Co., on the 5th inst., Teressa, the 5 months old daughter of Mrs. Bradford Carr. Only three weeks previously the babe's father died. Mrs. Carr, bereft of husband and child, has the sympathy of the community in her great sorrow. May He who said, "I will not fail thee nor forsake thee," comfort her. H. R. BOYER.

GALLOP.—At his home, in Kingsclear, York Co., on the 13th inst., Mr. Thomas Gallop, aged 86 years. Mr. Gallop was a member of the Free Baptist Church, and maintained through many years a straightforward Christian course, commanding the confidence and esteem of his neighbors. Two sons and two daughters survive him.

McLean.—At Upper Brighton, C. Co., on the 27th Nov., Willie, aged three months, only child of Herbert and Jen-C. T. P. nie McLean.

SHAW.—At Pembroke, C. Co., on ha 3rd Dec., after a long illness, Deacon Howard Shaw, aged 68 years, leaving a widow, daughter of the late Joseph Vanwart, to mourn her loss. Bro. Shaw was for a number of years one of the burden bearers of the church at Pembroke. His last days were made pleasant by the ministrations of his wife. He selected his funeral text months before his death—"My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest." God gave our brother rest many years ago when He forgave him his sins, and now He has given him eternal rest. C. T. P.

BLOODSWORTH.—At the residence of her brother, B. N. Shaw, Windsor, Carleton Co., in October last, Mrs. Bloodsworth, aged 63 years. Mrs. Bloodsworth was the daughter of the late Nathaniel and Phoebe Shaw, of Wakefield. She was baptized by the late Rev. W. E. Pennington, and was one of the original members of Victoria Corner Free Baptist Church. She surif it is to begin at all-is during the vived three husbands-James Churchill. first twenty-five years of life. At six- - Fowler, of Newtown, Kings Co., and Mr. Bloodsworth.

> .. England has more doctors, proportionately, than any other country in Europe. For every 100,000 people England has 150 physicians, Germany 48, Switzerland 42 and Russia 15.