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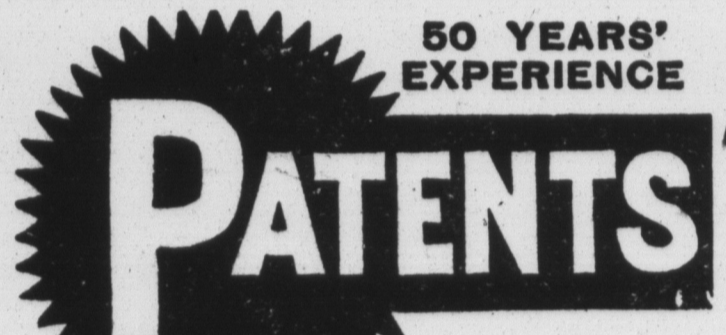
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To Pastors and Churches.

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. The result of the vote in each church should be reported to the undersigned. It is hoped that churches that have not voted will do so as soon as possible.

Jos. McLeod,

For the Com.

Fredericton, N. B.

THE RENEWAL SEASON.

Renewals for 1905 are in order now--and needed. Send a new subscriber with your renewal, if possible. \$2.50 will pay for both one year.

We are expecting that all present subscribers will remain with us this year.

We are hoping, also, for many new subscribers.

Prompt payments are a great help. Let us hear from you all NOW!

EDITORIAL OUTLOOK.

(Continued from page 1).

"No Japanese warships of any kind whatever were at that moment in the North Sea."

"There were not any Japanese upon the fishing boats."

"The Russian fire continued after their searchlights clearly showed the vessels were peaceful fishing boats."

"None of the Russian ships gave any assistance."

"The fire killed two men, wounded six, sank one boat and damaged five others."

"The statement concludes that the attack was without any provocation upon the pacific fishing boats, pursuing their usual and rightful avocation."

The chief points in the Russian reply to the charges are these:

"The flagship saw the outlines of two small boats approaching with great speed and lights extinguished."

"When the boats came within range of the Russian searchlights they were recognized as torpedo boats. Thereupon the battleships opened fire."

"Thereafter a number of small fishing boats, not showing the required lights, were observed. There was a strong feeling of danger upon the battleships, and the duty of protecting themselves against torpedo boats obliged a continuance of fire."

"The two torpedo boats drew off and shortly after disappeared. Fearing that some of the fishing boats were damaged, yet believing that all danger from the torpedo boats, or possibly others, was not completely removed, the Admiral considered it indispensable for the squadron to continue its route without stopping."

Toronto has two Christian science churches, one of them having about 600 members.

In Chicago, in 1904, 1,000 more women were arrested for drunkenness than in 1903.

John Burns, the labor member of the British Parliament, is a total abstainer, and he puts drink down as one of the worst enemies of the laboring class.

There is nothing especially interesting from the seat of war. There was a recent engagement, and both sides claim to have gained the advantage.

THE MAGAZINES.

The February *Lippincott's* is bright as usual. A paper under the title "Miss or Mistress?" discusses the question whether a woman who is old enough to be married (and is not) shall be called "Mrs." The article on "The Use of Growing Plants for Table Decoration" contains valuable information on that subject. There is a delightful little sketch on "An Alpine Morning."

There seems to be even more than the usual generous store of good stories in the February *St. Nicholas*. There is a fine tale of and for boys, "The Founding of the B. A." Then there is a Valentine story, entitled "Pinkey Perkins." "Hetty MacDonald's Birthday Party" appeals to every girl and her mother. "An Alaskan Journey with Reindeer" is a spirited story of travel. And "What Walter Saw in the Fire" will please younger readers of the magazine.

The *Century* for February has four color-insets: two of Vesuvius in action, one reproducing a newly discovered fresco at Pompeii representing the mythical origin of Rome, fourth and one of old-time scenes, called "The Valentine." Two rulers now much in the public eye come in for authoritative description: the Emperor William and the Emperor of Korea. "The Conflict in Finland" is a timely account of the situation in that unhappy country. There are six pieces of fiction. The editorial articles relate to "Awakened Japan," etc.

OF COURSE NOT.

A man in a Boston inquiry meeting said: "I cannot become a Christian, because I sell second-class goods with first-class labels." And he was right. The poor fellow had sold his immortal soul at a paltry price, but he was wise enough not to try and hide the transaction from God. A man once said to Mr. Moody: "If I become a Christian it will bankrupt my business. I am a soap manufacturer, and every good thing I say about my soap is true; but there is one thing I do not say; it rots the clothes. If I should tell all the truth about it nobody would buy it." Let us hope that he did not persist in bartering his soul for soap; but he had the true conception of honesty, which demands that we shall not act a lie by refusing to tell the whole truth.