

Messenger and Visitor.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1887.

THE LIFE OF DR. CRAMP.

The Baptists of the Maritime Provinces will hail this work with great pleasure. We have had no man among us who has won for himself so high a place as a writer as Dr. Cramp; or who has left a deeper and more permanent impression upon the minds of his countrymen...

But we do not intend to write a eulogy of Dr. Cramp; but to intimate that the life of such a man must be of interest to any reader, but it must be especially interesting to those who are living where he spent the most fruitful years of his life, and who trace in the results of his life work.

Dr. Higgins has made a judicious use of Dr. Cramp's journal. The quotations from the records of the first years of his ministry are of special interest. They give us a deep insight into his inner life and show its gradual growth upward through struggle and conflict, to that buoyant consecration and devotion which made his Christian life so attractive and inspiring.

"The compiler of these records thought that to know him (Dr. Cramp) tolerably well, the acquaintance commenced in 1861 and did not end till 1881. He set aside his instructions in classics and in theology. He enjoyed many of his public lectures and addresses. He listened to his sermons and went home weeping and comforted. And yet he is free to say that he never really knew Dr. Cramp till after his decease, when the seal of secrecy was removed from his private papers."

Few would have suspected, from the serene confidence with which he held to the great doctrines of the faith, that he had been so sorely tried by mental struggles. Some complained, almost, that he was never despondent, and might have thought he could have had no doubts of his own, in the past, or he would have given more quarter to those of others. The truth seems to have been that he was troubled, and, and faced the difficulties fairly and manfully.

This part of his life will be very instructive and stimulating, especially to young ministers. It will show how earnestly a man must struggle, how faithful he must be to himself, if he would become faithful in his work for others. It also contains most valuable suggestions for the culture of the inner life.

In connection with his life in our province, there is a very clear sketch of the rise and growth of our Educational work. This will make it valuable as a part of the history of our denomination. The account of the crisis in 1858 when the governors lost heart and notified the Faculty that on Jan. 1st, 1859, Acadia College would close, is given with much force. The denunciation was aroused; the people said it should not be, and, before the time arrived, the contributions came pouring in; and this terrible disaster was averted.

The last 150 pages are devoted to a sketch of Dr. Cramp's literary work; his efforts on behalf of temperance and missions; his preaching, and the last years of quiet rest, and his death; with the music of "All hail the power of Jesus' name" lingering in his ear, and the words "happy, happy!" on his lips.

The life of Dr. Cramp just now is peculiarly timely. We have come to another crisis in the history of Acadia College. She must have the \$50,000 on this her jubilee year. What better help to arouse our people to interest in her memorial than the life of him whose name will ever be associated with her early history and struggles? Buy it. Read it.

COGNITIVE STATISTICS.

We take the statistics which follow from the Christian Index. Probably the proportion given to missions in the Dominion is not larger than that contributed in the United States. While these figures, compared with what Christians ought to give for this great object, from love to Christ and men, make a poor showing—still the non-Christian class cannot take Christians to task or sneer at them, for these give next to nothing. It is also true that Christians are giving more to-day than

ever before. Nevertheless, they have reason for shame that it is not many fold more, and the custom of comparing ourselves with ourselves in the past is not so wholesome as to compare ourselves with the standard of God's word. We should compare ourselves with what we ought to do, rather than with what we have done.

God is gathering the wealth of the world into the hands of Christian nations. A recent publication gives the following as a part of the vast resources of the United States:

Aggregate deposits in bank, \$3,000,000,000; annual agricultural products, \$2,000,000,000; annual profit in coal, iron and manufactures, \$500,000,000; annual products of gold and silver mines, \$400,000,000; railroad earnings, \$250,000,000; making an aggregate of \$6,150,000,000 for these great leading industries of the nation. Were all the other industries of the nation added, it would vastly swell this amount. Dr. Worcester, who is recognized as an authority in religious statistics, estimates that the evangelical population of the United States embraces one-fifth of the entire population. If so, one-fifth of this vast income, or \$1,230,000,000, is within the control of the evangelical population. Yet the aggregate gifts of all the Protestant churches for Home and Foreign Missions is only \$5,500,000. Scribner's Statistical Atlas for 1887 says the wealth of the United States is increasing at the rate of \$6,800,000 daily. This is \$2,482,000,000 every year. One-fifth of this gives to the Christian population an annual increase in wealth of \$496,400,000; yet out of this enormous increase of wealth, it only consecrates \$5,500,000 to the work to which Christ gave his life. Expenditures keep pace with the increase of wealth. From the census of 1880 and other sources the following figures have been gathered: The people of the United States expend every year for kid gloves, \$25,000,000; for public education, \$85,000,000; for dress goods, \$125,000,000; boots and shoes, \$196,000,000; cotton goods, \$210,000,000; woolen goods, \$227,000,000; meat, \$303,000,000; bread, \$505,000,000; tobacco, \$600,000,000; liquor, \$900,000,000; making an aggregate of \$3,186,000,000; and yet this great nation which expends each year \$900,000,000 for liquor has only \$5,500,000 to give to Christ for the spread of the gospel among the nations. Are we not exposing ourselves to the terrible arraignment Malachi brought against Israel: "Will a man rob God?" How stand the Christians with one-fifth of the wealth of the nation at their command? May not our Master say:

"I gave my life for thee; What hast thou given for me?"

THE WEEK.

Gladstone has an article in the last Nineteenth Century on the "Irish Union," which is receiving a great deal of attention. He speaks in no complimentary way of the means adopted to secure the union. The Times attacks him savagely; but does not disprove his statements. Gladstone also speaks in strong terms of the acquittal of the police implicated in the Mitchellstown fray. He says, "If Englishmen approve such acquittal upon the case before them, they would be unworthy of liberty."

Mr. Chamberlain spoke at length on public affairs on Thursday last at Birmingham. He assured the Gladstonians for not defining the Home Rule they want for Ireland. He spoke of the duty of England to secure to Canada fair play in regard to fisheries. His attitude towards the United States is and has always been most cordial. He did not believe differences could possibly exist between two such nations which could not be honorably and amicably settled. England is almost an impartial observer, not directly or immediately concerned, though the interests and the principles of her demand she support Canada in a fair, reasonable, presentation of her claims. We granted Canada a constitution, making her an independent state. But in one respect we reserved control of her foreign policy. Therefore we are bound to see that the last link that binds Canada to England is not weakened or severed, as it easily might be, by our neglect of Canada's interests, or indifference to her just rights. At the close of his speech a resolution expressing confidence in him was met with a counter resolution of no confidence. An uproar ensued, and resolution of confidence finally carried, 200 voting against it.

The feeling between France and Germany can be judged of by the irritation over a recent occurrence. A French officer and a game keeper went out shooting. They were near the frontier. A German soldier regarded them as having crossed the border and shot the game keeper and severely wounded the officer. The French government demanded satisfaction and the passions of the people are stirred. Some even hint that the shooting was suggested by the German government to create a cause for war. This government, however, seems to be prepared to make all amends required.

There is great rivalry among the nations in the production of implements of destruction. The United States, France and Russia each has its gun which is to secure victory in time of war. They are terrible engines of death, doubtless, and war will have to be re-learned, if there be much further improvement in these terrific machines. The better way would be to

give up war altogether. Probably war will be less rashly begun, now that it must prove so horribly destructive; but it is not to be hoped it will cease. The very thought of war now is enough to make one shudder.

Chas. A. Dana, of the New York Sun, has been in Europe. A letter to the Advertiser says: "He brought an experienced eye to his observation of the two rival armies of Germany and France, and, to my surprise, he gave his decided judgment in favor of the superiority of the French, as it is now organized, disciplined and armed. The French gun is the best in the field, the new French powder, which gives forth no smoke when burned, has advantages. He also found the French spirit very strong, with a reserve, gravity and self-containment that form a solid background for the old French élan."

A letter has been received from Emin Bey. It would seem that he has conquered the situation, and has determined to give up the rest of his life to the good of Africa. Stanley will only open up communications him and leave him to carry on his work. He writes: "I have passed twelve years of my life here, and have retaken and occupied every station of the country with which General Gordon entrusted me. I have won the trust and confidence of the people, and am engaged in sowing the seed for a splendid future civilization. It is out of the question to leave. All I desire England to do is to make a free passage from here to the coast that trading may be carried on with safety."

The President has invited William L. Putnam, of Maine, and President James B. Angell, of Michigan University, to act with the Secretary of State in negotiating with Great Britain for the settlement of the Canadian fishery disputes. Both have accepted. Putnam has been United States Consul the last two years in cases arising under the law and treaty in connection with the fisheries dispute. Angell is one of the commissioners by whom the latest treaty with China was negotiated.

It appears that the last fray with the Indians under Colowar was altogether unprovoked, without reason, treacherous and a mere butchery. Indian Commissioner Atkins denounces it as the greatest outrage in the history of the United States relations of the present generation with Indians.

The fires in Ontario and Quebec are causing great destruction of property. The smoke is so dense at Montreal that the steamers cannot navigate the river. Mr. Sullivan, mayor of Dublin, has been summoned to appear before the police court for publishing in his papers reports of suppressed branches of the National League. The freedom of the press is very dear to the British people. The government is on dangerous ground.

Prohibition has been defeated in Tennessee. This was rather expected by the temperance party. The majority against was but small, however. The liquor men have a national organization and mass their efforts on each point where prohibition is attempted. The Votes think little more progress in the prohibition movement need be expected until the temperance people checkmate them with a national organization, also. The traffic will die hard.

A subsidy of \$225,000 per annum has been granted by the British government to the C. P. Railway for a monthly mail service between Vancouver and China and Japan. Canada is to add \$75,000. The conditions are the carriage of the mails from an Atlantic port, the building of new steamers to meet the Admiralty requirements, the use of armed cruisers when required to carry men and materials, and low rates. The alternative proposal has not been accepted of £100,000 yearly for a fortnightly service of which £80,000 would come from the British treasury. The English papers approve of the subsidy.

Our Convention Scheme.

Although many newspaper articles have been written and many platform addresses delivered on the subject named above, it may not be inappropriate or unnecessary to refer to the matter again.

Its history, perhaps, first claims attention. During the session of Convention held at Truro, in 1879, a committee consisting of J. March, Esq., Rev. D. G. McDonald, and the writer, was appointed to devise a plan for the more successful gathering of funds for denominational purposes. That committee recommended to Convention that the denomination should attempt to raise, yearly, the average of one dollar per head throughout the entire membership of our churches. It was not intended by the committee that persons who were able to give more than a dollar each to denominational objects should consider that their duty in this respect was discharged when they had contributed that amount. Many poor churches and needy individuals there are who cannot make up the average. Others were expected to give for them and thus the strong were to bear the infirmities of the weak. While this plan, known as the "Convention Scheme," was not intended to interfere with the preference of donors to any branch of denominational work, it provided for the division of undesignated funds according to the following scale: 40 per cent. was to be given to Home Missions; 25 per cent. to Foreign Missions; 25 per cent. to Educational Institutions; 24 per cent. each to Ministerial Aid and Relief Fund, and Ministerial Education Fund; and 5 per cent. to Expense and Emergency Fund.

This plan was heartily adopted by the Convention, and a committee composed of

the three persons before named, was appointed to conduct the financial operations of the body. That the labors of these persons were appreciated may be seen from the votes of thanks given them by the denomination.

When this plan was first adopted by the body it was expected by the Finance Committee and the denomination that there should be no special appeals and no agents except those made and employed by the Committee. Subsequently some special appeals were made by several of the Boards and some agents employed by them for a limited time.

During the meetings of Convention at Amherst, two years ago, the Finance Committee was abolished, and a financial agent appointed to conduct the finances of the body in connection with the Convention Scheme, according to his own judgment, and report to Convention. A change was made at the same time in the scale of division. The expense and emergency fund was abolished and 5 per cent. of the receipts was ordered to be given each to Ministerial Aid and Relief Fund and Ministerial Education Fund.

At the Convention recently held at Charlottetown, the principle of the Convention Scheme was reaffirmed, and a financial agent was appointed with but one dissenting vote. To assist the financial agent in his work and relieve him, to some extent, of the necessity of travelling as much as he did last year, and to supplement the work of the Home Mission Board, the Convention adopted a plan for the division into districts of the fields covered by the Associations. This is not a new thing. We tried it in Yarmouth County about 14 years ago, and it worked admirably, for all the pastors entered heartily upon the work. It was tried more generally four years ago. It is to be hoped that all who are intimately connected with this plan will do their best to make it a success.

It will be seen from the foregoing remarks that the Convention Scheme adopted eight years ago, and redrafted last month, is the plan of the denomination. It should, therefore, be closely adhered to, and nothing allowed to interfere with its operations. Its success hitherto has been encouraging. Notwithstanding numerous appeals were made to the public last year for different objects, and many agents employed, the Convention Fund was larger than it was the previous year by \$3,077. This ought to inspire all with courage and cheerfulness, and with gratitude as well.

As the Home Mission Board will need \$12,000 this year; the Foreign Mission Board, \$10,000, and the other boards at least \$80,000, the churches will kindly organize at once and come to the help of the Lord to the best of their ability.

"The Plan," recently adopted by Convention, makes it binding on the financial agent to classify all moneys received, and to keep a memorandum of the amounts contributed by each church for charitable objects, not including sums for local purposes, and to present an summary to Convention. The desirableness, not to say the necessity, then, of sending to me direct all moneys intended for the Convention Scheme or for any object comprised in that scheme, will, I think, appear to all. This course will save me much trouble and insure full and correct reports. All the churches that wish to have reported their contributions to charitable objects will send me a full account of the same once a quarter.

Now, brethren, the work is before us. Let us undertake it for the Lord's sake and aim at his glory. G. E. DAY. Sept. 20.

Halifax Jettings.

The churches of Halifax county have adopted the plan of denominational work laid down by the Central Association; have organized and are at work. The pastors and laymen are taking hold of this work right well. Pastor Collins and Dr. DeWitt have visited Hammond Plains and expect to go again. Others are on the move. Halifax county will be thoroughly organized before the year closes for aggressive denominational and Sabbath school work. Good! Let there be union, faith, prayer and works, and the blessing of the Lord will assuredly rest upon the churches. Now is the time for all the counties to organize before cold and stormy weather sets in. Organize! Organize!

The temperance men and women of this county are organizing to put down the liquor traffic. The Women's Christian Temperance Union and the Temperance League will endeavor to persuade the voters, especially Christian voters, not to sign petitions for granting licenses. God grant that they may prosper. Any member of a Christian church who will sign a liquor license petition deserves to be summarily excluded from the church. The N. S. liquor license act is most shamefully violated in Halifax. What can you expect when mayor, inspector, and police officers to a large extent, are not thorough going temperance men. And the aldermen, too. The remedy is simple enough.

The old Provincial Building (Parliament House) is undergoing extensive repairs. It is to be hoped that some means of ventilation will be provided, especially for those who assemble to talk and listen in the assembly room. What horrible bad air there used to be in that room! A day in the gallery would cause a fit of sickness. No wonder we often have indifferent legislation.

Rev. David Savage and his Ontario band of workers have visited Dartmouth, and

are holding meetings in Grafton St. church (Methodist). I quote from the Wesleyan: The thought of earnest men and women, burning with an intense zeal for the salvation of souls and genuine spiritual revivals, has turned to the work of Rev. David Savage and his band of workers. A record of success heralds their mission to this territory by the sea. Think of such a work as that in Queen Street, Toronto, when no less than 500 people sought and found the Lord!

Our Baptist Zion shows signs of progress. Rev. Thos McDonald comes to Halifax this week, to look after our mission work in the city. May the blessing of the Lord accompany his labors. The Sunday School is steadily growing at Quinpool Road. Pastor Miller, in the Tabernacle, is rejoicing in the accession of new and the return of old members. He has crowded houses on Sunday evenings. We bespeak for the Tabernacle, through hearty united effort and love, a bright future. About 450 were present last Sunday evening. The North Church is suffering, through the absence of its pastor and a permanent supply.

Would it not be a good idea for the Baptist churches in the city and Dartmouth to unite in a series of special meetings. It is not necessary to wait till the week of prayer. Now is the time to strike before the winter entertainments get possession of our young people. We are to be wise as—

Bro. Fosbury is expected home in Windsor, before the 15th. Bro. E. E. Locke leaves Hammond Plains and Sackville, for Acadia next week. There ought to be a man on those fields immediately. A good pastor is needed at Wittenberg and Lower Steiwacks. A glorious revival is in progress there. The old and young are coming to Jesus. Bro. A. F. Brown, Lin, has gone to Jeddore to visit the people there. Bro. Manning's health has improved greatly since he landed in England. Bro. W. C. Goucher, from Camden, Me., occupied the pulpit of North Church, last Sunday, with much acceptance. His father was pastor for several years. Cannot some of our enterprising churches entice this good brother home again? More anon. C. R. T. W.

New Brunswick Sunday School Association. ANNUAL CONVENTION.

Will you kindly permit me to call the attention of your subscribers, who are interested in Sunday School work, to the coming convention of the Provincial Association, at St. Stephen, on Oct. 10th—12th. The Executive Committee have been very successful in making their arrangements, and a very large attendance is expected. We have secured the presence of two of the foremost Sunday-school workers in the world—Mr. Wm. Reynolds, of Illinois, the president of the International Sunday School Convention, which met at Chicago last June; and Mrs. W. H. Crafts, whose name is familiar to primary class teachers everywhere. The sessions will be of a practical character, and will be largely under the leadership of Mr. Reynolds and Mrs. Crafts.

All pastors of evangelical churches and superintendents of Sunday School are ex officio members of the Convention, and in addition one delegate may be elected from every Sunday School. But while this is strictly the membership, and the local committee cannot promise homes to any others, yet all the Railways and Steamboat Companies will carry any one attending the convention at the same reduced rates; and arrangements have been made with hotels and boarding houses in St. Stephen and Calais, to give accommodations, at from \$1.00 to \$1.50 a day. All who come will be accorded every privilege in the convention; no one who wishes to attend need stay at home.

Mr. Reynolds will spend the Sunday preceding the convention in St. John, and the executive of the County Association are arranging for his reception. He will probably speak in one or more of the city churches; and with Mrs. Craft will address a mass meeting of Teachers in the afternoon. Delegates who come from the east and north would find themselves amply repaid for their trouble if they would come to St. John on Saturday, and attend these meetings on Sunday. Not only Mr. Reynolds' official position, but his ability as a speaker makes his visit a welcome one. All the Railways and Steamboat lines will carry visitors and delegates at half-fare. In every case but that of the N. B. R. R. full fare must be paid to going to the convention, and a certificate of having attended, will entitle to a free return ticket. In the case of the N. B. R. R., this certificate is not required and will be of no value, but excursion tickets, at half price, will be issued at the office where the delegate takes the train. These are the only tickets that the Co. will recognize for the return journey. Those who come by the I. C. B. and N. & W. R. must purchase these excursion tickets at St. John and Fredericton respectively.

The International S. S. Co. will carry passengers from St. John to St. Stephen, via Eastport, for \$1.50 and return them free on the certificate of attendance.

With such a rich treat at the convention, such liberal rates of entertainment, such low fares by R. R. and S. S. lines, and such glorious fall weather, we expect to see a gathering of Sunday School workers such as never before came together in New Brunswick.

T. F. FORTNER, President N. B. S. S. C.

Quarterly Meeting.

A quarterly meeting, under the auspices of the Southern Association, was held at Pennfield, Charlotte county, Sept. 27-29th. The first session opened on Tuesday evening, when Rev. W. J. Stewart, moderator of the Southern Association, took the chair and after prayer appointed Rev. A. E. Ingram, Rev. C. Goodspeed and G. J. Coulter White a committee of arrangements. Rev. Thos. Todd preached a sermon, Solomon's Song 8: 6, after which an interesting social service was conducted by Rev. Isaiah Wallace. The report of the committee of arrangements was then presented and mapped out the work as carried out during the remaining sessions.

Wednesday morning at ten o'clock Rev. R. M. Hunt preached very acceptably, text Acts 20: 28; and another social service was held. The afternoon was occupied by a private session, devoted to business, Rev. W. J. Stewart in the chair. A discussion ensued as to the standing of the present meetings, the relation to the Southern Association, appointment of delegates, etc. A feeling seemed to prevail that a more thorough organization ought to be effected. It was resolved that all present who were appointed delegates to the Southern Association, and all who were appointed delegates to this meeting, be members of this quarterly meeting.

The following delegates were then enrolled: Carleton: Rev. C. Goodspeed, J. H. King (lic). Hampton: Rev. T. Todd, G. J. Coulter White. Leinster St., St. John: Mr. and Mrs. John March, James E. Marsters and Rev. J. A. Gordon. Portland: Rev. W. G. Stewart. St. George: Rev. G. E. Good, John Dewar and Fred Seely. St. George 2nd: Rev. J. Trimble. Roanoke: Walter Flynn.

Pennfield: Rev. A. E. Ingram, Dea. W. H. Justason, A. E. Poole, Simon Nealy. Second Falls: T. Goss, D. Milliken, Edward Stewart.

The following were invited to seats: Rev. Isaiah Wallace, J. C. Hanson, W. S. Poole, Ecos Poole, Gideon Justason, Wm. Justason, Rev. Dr. Day. Rev. W. J. Stewart was confirmed in the chair by vote, and the following additional officers elected: G. J. Coulter White, secretary; W. S. Poole, assistant secretary; A. C. Poole, treasurer.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent discussing the case of W. B. Vickery, referred to the meeting by the association; and after the general meeting in the evening the following report of the committee appointed by the association, and resolutions founded thereon, were read and unanimously adopted.

REPORT. Your committee beg to submit the following report: That on inquiry your committee do not find any satisfactory evidence that Mr. W. B. Vickery has membership in any regular Baptist church. Therefore, in accordance with the resolution of the association, the matter in reference to Mr. Vickery is committed into the hands of the quarterly meeting of the Southern Baptist Association.

(Signed) R. M. Hunt, Chairman, Thos. Todd, C. Goodspeed.

Resolved.—That this quarterly meeting of the Southern Baptist Association, having considered the case of Mr. W. B. Vickery, do not find any reason why the above Association should rescind its action of 1886 in reference to him, as published in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR.

Resolved.—That the minutes of this meeting be published in this MESSENGER AND VISITOR.

A vote of thanks was then passed to the friends in Pennfield for their hospitality, and the pastor was requested, to publicly convey them.

In the evening a large congregation assembled, and for over half an hour a social service was led by Bro. J. H. King (lic). This was followed by a meeting, devoted to the objects of the Convention. Rev. W. J. Stewart, secretary of the Foreign Missionary Board, first spoke earnestly on Foreign Missions.

Rev. J. A. Gordon followed, speaking forcibly on Home Missions. Rev. Isaiah Wallace gave some of his experience as a general missionary, in helping up weak churches, ready to die, and establishing new interests. Rev. Dr. Day, financial agent, spoke earnestly of the different departments that are embraced in the Convention Scheme. Rev. C. Goodspeed briefly touched on Christian education.

Good music, led by the choir, enlivened the meetings, and generous collections were taken for the Convention Fund.

A work of grace already begun at Pennfield received an impetus by these meetings, a large number manifesting a desire for the prayer of God's people, and Christians pledging themselves to renewed consecration. The social meetings are continued. Some of the delegates remained to be the pastor on Thursday, the rest leaving for their homes that morning.

G. J. COULTER WHITE, Secretary.

—A pious African went to a missionary to present a contribution to send the gospel to others. The missionary thought the negro offered a larger sum than he was able to give, but he insisted on giving it, saying, "The work of the Lord must be done, and I shall soon be dead."