

We give some notes of our trip west, in hope that they may be of interest to the readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. No one should visit

and fail to go through the Parliament buildings. They are a credit to the broad Dominion they, in a way, represent. They are said to cost those of the United States, at Washington, in the shade. Of course the most interesting room is the chamber of the House of Commons. Like that of Great Britain, at Westminster, it is small, and will probably have to be enlarged, before very long. Its acoustic properties are not good. It is very hard for members on the back benches to hear what those on the front benches are saying. The chamber is evidently intended for work and not for ornament, as it is one of the plainest in the building. The government supporters and the opposition face each other on rows of seats on an upward incline from the centre space between, occupied by the speaker and the tables for the officials. The leaders of the opposition and the members of the government are not more than ten or twelve feet apart. We noticed that Mr. Foster, Minister of Finance, and Sir H. Cartwright, Chief Justice, sat close together at very close quarters. We pity the men who have to sit, week after week, and listen to discussions well nigh interminable. How strange it is that so many are so very solicitous to get a seat on these leather chairs.

The library building is a splendid piece of architecture. It is, however, already too small to hold the increasing number of volumes which come pouring in, and there is talk of a larger building, or the enlargement of the present edifice, if that be possible, and not destroy its symmetry and beauty.

The view from the bluff on which the central parliament building stands, is very fine. Glancing past Hull, on the low ground across the Ottawa river, covered over with acres of piles of lumber, and the eye takes in a broad sweep of country and low lying hills. When we had our glance at the prospect, the hill sides were all aflame with a ruddy and golden autumn glory. Of course we took the walk through "Lover's Lane," which skirts the bold face of the bluff beneath. We suspect it is as much frequented now by our worthy politicians—lovers of their country—as, with anxious how they think over the speeches which shall best tell upon the great object of securing votes at the next election, as by young men and maidens who choose it for a trying place.

The various denominations are well represented at Ottawa. There are some very fine church edifices. Our own denomination is not strong, comparatively. There is but one self-sustaining church. It is, however, in many respects a model church. It is well organized and gives very liberally. Mr. Blackadar, the treasurer, is from Yarmouth Co., N. S., and has had much to do in working up its finances. It has just called Rev. G. M. W. Carey to the pastorate made vacant by the resignation of Rev. A. P. McDermid about a year ago, and the brethren have high hopes of enlarged growth. A second church has been formed in Ottawa and a mission station established at Hull. It is hoped that these may soon grow into strong interests.

From Ottawa business took us to

TORONTO.
It is no wonder that visitors are ever lured in by the beauty of this city by the lake. Its growth has been very rapid. It is gaining fact on Montreal, both in population and in its trade. Its population is now over 180,000. The suburbs are extending in all directions. Improvements are in progress on nearly all the streets. Of some of the streets the Torontoians are justly proud. Jarvis and Spadina are being paved with concrete and asphalt, and are as hard as rock and smooth as glass. The expense is great and is levied on the householders on each side. The new government buildings had far to rival those at Ottawa.

The Baptists of Toronto have had a growth even more rapid than that of the other churches and missions are springing up in all directions. There are now fifteen organized churches, and about as many mission stations. We are credibly informed that since three years ago last July, over \$200,000 have been expended in church building. The new interest, led off by Rev. E. Harris, at Walmer Road, dedicated its school room on the 20th. It is a building which would satisfy most churches for a permanent audience room. The location seems very wisely chosen, in a section which is rapidly filling up with fine residences.

The method of operation which has been for each church to establish missions at many available points as possible. The beginning is usually in a Sabbath-school. Then a prayer meeting and a preaching service are established. Other churches assist in the building of a house, and finally a church is organized which grows to be self-sustaining. Without this earnest purpose to start new interest, even at the loss of workers from the home church, no such progress could have been made. Neither could new interests have been sustained and pressed forward, had not the more wealthy in all the churches given liberally to interests other than their own. If our people everywhere should be but wide awake to occupy the growing centres, and self-sacrificing in support of work at hopeful points, our growth would be much more rapid.

We were much interested in a visit to McMaster Hall. It is a splendid structure, and well adapted to its purpose. The time of our visit was missionary day. Dr. Judson, who had been at the opening of the Walmer Road house, and was holding services there the following week, addressed the students in the morning. He urged the students most earnestly to choose the hard places and not the easy ones. In the afternoon Dr. Fulton spoke of his trip to Europe, especially his observations of the doings and condition of Romanism. His address was full of humor, but also revealed a large heart and an earnest spirit. It was our privilege to follow with a few words. The students seem to be an earnest, hearty lot.

It was a sad delight to see Principal McGregor. Although he has been stricken down, and his lower limbs are helpless, his mind is as alert and his heart as large and warm as it ever was. We were so glad to find him sustained by loving trust in the goodness and wisdom of his heavenly Father, and by a willingness to accept what such a Father sees to be best. It seems so mysterious that his brilliant, and useful career should be arrested. At the same time, it is hoped, and God is being besought earnestly by multitudes, that it may please Him to raise him up to his work with an enriched experience to help him do even better work during a long life.

It was our full purpose to visit Mount Ladies College; but circumstances prevented. It was our privilege, however, to have a conversation with Miss Cooley, the Principal. She is enthusiastic in her work and over the prospects. Last year the attendance taxed the capacity of the building donated by Mrs. McMaster. This year a large new building was erected, and now there are more than enough applications to fill it, and it will be necessary to adopt some principle of selection to prevent overcrowding. There seems to be no doubt in the minds of any as to the propriety of having a Baptist Ladies' College in Toronto. It has established its own need by success. There is, however, very much doubt in many quarters whether it ever can supply all the need, and whether it may not be necessary to have another in the west of Ontario, or rather, to re-establish the ladies' department at Woodstock. Time is a great reclaimer, and to those who have the patience to wait, a clear course usually opens.

We are also sorry to have to record the serious illness of Bro. Denovan, pastor of Immanuel Baptist church. He has visited parts of our Province, and has won respect and esteem because of his ability and sturdy loyalty to the truth. He was on the way to recovery, but began to preach too soon and brought on a relapse. He has felt it to be his duty to resign his charge, and the resignation has been accepted. He, also, has a claim upon the sympathy and prayers of all good men and women.

PASTORLESS CHURCHES AND CHURCHLESS PASTORS.

This is an old theme, but yet of so much importance to us in the present condition of our churches of the Maritime Provinces, that further discussion is called for. The number of pastorless churches reported to us from week to week by far outnumbered unemployed pastors. Why these churches are pastorless, and why, under these circumstances any pastors should be churchless, demands careful thought. If a remedy is within our reach it ought most certainly to be sought out and applied. It may not be possible to find any one remedy for a disorder so firmly seated and chronic in our churches that will at once and entirely remove it; but there may be found some remedies suggested by the symptoms which, if known and wisely used, will do much to regulate the phase of our work and improve the spiritual health of our churches.

The Religious Herald of Richmond, Va., in discussing this theme, says some things so important and applicable to our churches that we quote them. The editor says:

We most steadfastly believe that the chief cause of all this church and ministerial idleness is found in the growing disposition to underestimate the sacredness and importance of the ministry. If this view is correct, then the real remedy is to be found in exalting to its proper place the work of the gospel preacher.

We must teach with increasing emphasis that the ministry is not a mere profession, to be chosen as one chooses law or medicine, and to be abandoned whenever discouragements and difficulties begin to multiply or when some more comfortable and lucrative vocation offers itself. If we believe that God calls men to this work, then we ought not to agree that he revokes the call, unless the voice of Providence is perfectly clear and distinct on that point. The minister himself must feel, at the beginning and through his work, that he is under necessity to do this very thing. "I must work," said Christ, and his disciple ought to be under the tremendous power of that little auxiliary.

We have been insisting so long and so strenuously that the preacher was not a priest, and that he was one of the people, that preachers and people are beginning to look upon the work of the ministry just as they do upon the profession of civil engineering. We must stand where we have always stood in protesting against priestcraft, but we must teach more clearly the Bible doctrine that God calls men into the ministry just as he does not call them elsewhere. We can see how, by pressing this doctrine upon the hearts and consciences of people and preachers, something real and permanent may be accomplished.

Churches in which this view of the preacher's work prevailed would hesitate to break the pastoral bond. They would not change pastors as we do shoemakers—simply because there was an occasional misfit. Regarding the preacher as a messenger of Jehovah, they would look upon their relation to him as something different from that of the client to his lawyer.

There can be no question that we now have a fatal facility in severing this sacred tie. Now and then preachers hold their positions too long, but the rule is otherwise. We are quite certain that if our people held that high view of the preacher's work which they ought to hold, they would not be so capricious and whimsical as to trivial matters and would set proper value upon really important things. There would not, where such views prevailed, be any talk of a "dead line." One of the most noticeable examples of the low view of the ministerial calling, of which we complain, is in the disposition to ignore old preachers. Men well fitted naturally, with powers unimpaired, and with experience in religious work which ought to be invaluable, are severely left alone, while youths without experience are eagerly sought after. Would this be true if the churches thought of the preacher's work in its true light? What high regard they would have for one who held his commission from Christ? Even if his voice should become a trifle shriller and cracked, and his form bowed, and other signs of age and infirmity should show themselves—he would be to them the representative of one whose youth is immortal.

But we must now begin to notice how such exaltation of the work of the ministry would affect the preachers themselves. We do not mean to charge that the ministry in general hold low views of their work and calling. We simply mean that many preachers, who fall out of their regular work, do so because they have very imperfect and inadequate conceptions of the sacredness of their vocation. And we hold that if, by persistent and emphatic teaching, we could fasten in the popular view of the ministerial calling. Let the pulpit be heard from distinctly and frequently on this point. Preachers now forbear to discuss it because they do not see how the private membership can be interested in this topic. But it is highly important that they should be taught correct views as to the gospel ministry. And if they are not taught from the pulpit, they will remain ignorant. Besides, who knows but that some future minister, now unnoticed among the people, may in the years to come enter upon his work with high and inextinguishable resolve, formed under the influence of such preaching?

THE WEEK.

The past week has been remarkable for the number of utterances by the great leaders of the political parties of Great Britain. It is evident that the results of the recent bye elections have alarmed the Unionists. They show most plainly that those who were led away from the Liberal ranks by Hartington and Chamberlain are flocking back again. The latter has done much to justify Morley's taunt that he had swung from the extreme of Radicalism to the extreme of Toryism. The blue blooded gentry of England who control this latter party are sure to adopt him, and he has aimed past forgiveness against his old friends. In an address at a caucus of his friends he spoke very despairingly, and expressed his desire to retire into private life. It may be that he sees the hopelessness of his position, and feels that he has wrecked his political prospects. Hartington continues to be bitter against Gladstone. The Unionists have been pressing the Gladstonians to declare a definite and detailed policy; but Gladstone is too old and astute a politician to leave the vantage ground of criticism of the policy of the government to expose his party to that of his opponents before the time has come when such a declaration becomes imperative.

Churchill has also issued a manifesto, in which he outlines what he regards as the legislation which should be taken up by the next parliament. His programme shows that he has swung to the extreme of Radicalism. In it he makes a strong bid for the support of the laboring and tenant farmer class.

The Parnell Commission seems nearing its close. Michael Davitt has concluded

his address and was thanked by the presiding judge, which fact may be significant. Sir H. James is now speaking for the Times. It seems impossible for the Commission to decide against Parnell. There are rumors of further revelations, but these are probably but rumors. It is also said that Parnell has asked the speaker to devise a way by which he can show the complicity of the government in the action of the Times.

The following fact is significant: Since the Tories came into power, there have been 84 bye-elections to the British House of Commons. Of these twelve have been won by the Liberals from the Tories, who have taken but one from the Liberals in return. If there should be a similar gain for the Liberals in all the constituencies, at the next election, it would give them a large majority.

Since the great exposition has ceased to be the great topic of interest in France, the press, as might have been expected, has become more beligerent. It is said that with Russia as an ally, all Europe need not be feared. Such boasting may be very harmless; once, however, it brought upon France the greatest humbling she has ever had since English armies held possession of her fastnesses.

There has been an insurrection in Guatemala, and it has been crushed out in a very sanguinary way, all prisoners being executed as soon as taken.

Spain should be happy; there has been a surplus of receipts over expenditure.

Home Missions.

Have just completed a tour of twenty days among the weak churches of York, Carleton, Victoria and Madavaska Counties.

After spending two days with the brethren assembled in quarterly meeting at Wakefield, Andover and Grand Falls churches were visited, and after preaching the Word, the ways and means of securing a pastor were considered. A brother has been asked to visit the churches with a view of remaining with them at least for a time.

DEDICATION AT ST. FRANCIS.

Sunday, the 20th inst., was spent at St. Francis, assisting Bro. Henderson in dedicating the little Baptist meeting-house. Bro. H. has so changed the old house that it has all the appearance of an entirely new one. To use the words frequently heard from others, he deserves much praise for his energy and perseverance in this matter. This is the only Protestant house of worship above Edmonstone, on either side of the St. John river. There are but few Protestants, and these are much scattered, but a church of fifteen members has been gathered.

Monday evening was spent with the Forest Glen church, on the Tobique river. This church has made considerable progress since I visited them a few years ago. They now have a comfortable church home, an "evergreen" Sunday-school, a prayer-meeting when they have no preaching service, and pay in full the amount they promise for pastor's salary. Bro. Irvine's health failed last spring. Plans for supplying them are being considered. Accurate information was gathered concerning the other interests of the Tobique field.

The remainder of the week was spent in visiting the churches of the Queensbury group, preaching every evening except Saturday. There are five churches in this group, viz., Upper Queensbury, Dumfries, Springfield, Temperance Vale and Birch Ridge, besides two outstations. Most of them have comfortable places of worship, but the working force in each church is small, and there are some peculiar hindrances. Pastor Porter is about leaving them, and we are trying to find a successor. But before much can be accomplished, the brethren must realize that there is work for them to do in building up the churches.

Sunday, the 27th, was spent with the Canterbury and Lower Woodstock churches. These churches, encouraged by the generous offer of Bro. Asa Dow, are moving in the matter of calling a pastor. A good man, who can preach three times a Sabbath, is needed. There is much to be done and it needs to be done soon.

Benton was visited on Monday evening. This church formerly belonged to the Canterbury group, but is now cared for by pastor T. Todd. It appears to be in a healthy condition. The brethren are earnest and liberal.

As we have moved about among the churches two thoughts have been uppermost:

1. Our home missionaries need and deserve sympathy. Their fields are large, requiring long cold drives by day and night, their helpers are few, their congregations small and consequently uninspiring, and hindrances to success numerous. Brethren and sisters of the mission churches, if you cannot give your pastors a large amount of financial support, "esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake." But we would have these brethren feel that they have the sympathy of the whole body. The best way to make them feel your sympathy is by generous giving to the Home Mission treasury, so that the Board shall

be able to give the missionaries adequate support.

2. We are suffering from lack of pastors. We need men willing and able to endure hardships as good soldiers—men of heart and brain—men qualified to instruct and guide the churches, to set forth the truth and defend it. There are fields now weak that could, by the blessing of God, soon be made strong if they could have the treatment they need. Many are running to and fro, and error, as we think, is being increased. I am surprised and delighted to find that, to such a good degree, our churches are standing steadfast, but they are feeling as never before the need of a wise pastor. The harvest truly is plenteous, but oh for more laborers to gather it!

A. CONNOR,
Hebron, Oct. 31. Cor. Sec'y.

Manitoba and Northwest Missions.

That was a welcome MESSENGER AND VISITOR which told us of the hearty interest in our work, manifested at your last Convention. The renewal of your pledge for this year stirred our hearts with gladness and thankfulness, and gave us strength and hope to press forward. We cannot express to you the joy with which we hail every indication of growing interest and liberality toward our missions. In this new and extensive field our work has been limited only by the means at our command, so that every increase in our resources makes possible the entering into openings that have been long neglected, and the responding to calls that have been often repeated. We are now trying to calculate some of the results of the

SUMMER WORK.

But how far short all our estimates fall of what has really been accomplished! Our young missionaries have labored with untiring faithfulness, counting no labor or sacrifice too great, if only souls could be reached. Over eighty were baptized, while the whole number that professed faith was much larger. Two churches were organized. Special services were held at many points. Twenty-one were baptized in connection with one church. A young brother who was converted on one of the fields during last year's work, was engaged to aid in evangelistic services, and, as the result of work in which he assisted, seventeen were baptized on one field, and not less than twenty-five were led to faith in the Saviour on another. Fifteen fields in all were occupied, and yet many desirable places, which pressed for the services of a missionary, could not be supplied.

ENLARGEMENT.

Our country is making marvellous advances, worldly enterprises are being pressed forward with surprising vigor. Railroads are pushing out in all directions. Hundreds of miles have been built this year, and still the work goes on. Great undertakings are projected for next year. The Province of Manitoba is becoming well furnished with railway facilities, and the vast districts of the Northwest Territories are being entered, and made inviting to settlers. This is surely a trumpet call to us to move forward with all promptness. These new districts, rapidly opening, ought to be entered by us, and yet our work is not adequately provided for in older places.

Fields which have had to depend upon temporary provision for work, are needing, and calling for pastors; and new places must be opened by student labor. We are settling a number of pastors this fall, but we are only beginning to meet the demands of our work. The needs of our work in Manitoba alone are still very great, and the vast Northwest, with its area of over two million and a half square miles, is barely touched. A year ago we were doing nothing in the Northwest. This year we occupied three points, and one of these—Calgary—is to have a permanent pastor. In all that vast stretch of country, which is rapidly opening, its rich resources of soil and minerals, we have only a single pastor. West of Brandon, as far as the Rockies, (on the main line of the C. P. R.) a distance of nearly 1000 miles, Calgary is the only place that has a permanent missionary, while Regina, the capital of the Northwest, and other promising towns, remain unprotected.

OUR APPEAL.

Brethren of the Maritime Baptist churches, is it not a grand privilege to have a part in forming the character of such a country? Is not the Lord holding out to us a great opportunity, and laying upon us the obligation to build into the structure of this new land those truths, for the preservation and dissemination of which we are organized as a denomination? If we are to make an abiding impression upon the religious life of this country, if the full gospel truth is to find a large home here, and penetrate deeply the hearts of the people; then, during these youthful years of the country's life, is the time for energetic effort. We who are on the field stand ready for action, and eager to reach out to the work, at any cost of toil and sacrifice, and will "count it all joy." But we cannot go forward as we ought without your aid. With every increase of liberality on your part will follow enlargement in our undertakings. Our people are longing to see the work advancing,

and becoming established in all directions; our missionaries labor with enthusiasm and hopefulness; but your gifts will decide what the limits of the work shall be. It seems that the Lord's work waits for the offerings of the people.

I am not saying too much, I think, when I state that you can easily raise the amount pledged, if all will take hold and help. "Let something from every one,"—every church, be the motto. Let it be said everywhere, we ought, we can, we must do something for the great, growing work in the needy Northwest, and we shall have the thousand dollars and more. The amount contributed by each church may seem small, but how much the "many littles" will mean to us! Just think of it—about \$1,000—the sum that you have pledged, made possible the employment of the sixteen laborers upon our summer fields. Who can calculate the streams of blessing that will flow down through the years of this country's history as the result of that work? To the various churches who contribute, the offering made may seem a trifle; to us it means a thousand dollars or more; to the missions and churches in Manitoba and the Northwest it will mean blessings incalculable.

We need your help, brethren, we must have it, in order to be faithful to the people, and to the trust committed to us. We ask not large gifts, but "something from every one." This rule followed, will give the Baptist churches of the Maritime Provinces no small part in the work of establishing, in this land churches which shall be faithful witnesses to the truth entrusted to us for the blessing of every people.

J. H. DOOLITTLE.

A Nova Scotia Pastor on Vacation in New York.

No. 2.

Among the many objects for sight-seeing in and about New York, "God's acre," the cemetery, are not the least important. "God's acre," says Dr. Trench, "is the German name for a burial-ground, and once was our own, though we unfortunately have newly, if not quite, let it go. What a hope full of immortality does this little word proclaim, how rich it is in all the highest elements of poetry, and of poetry in its noblest alliance, that is, in its alliance with faith, also as it is to cause all loathsome images of decay and dissolution to disappear, not denying them, but suspending, losing, absorbing them in the sublimer thought of the victory over death, of that harvest of life which God shall one day so gloriously reap even there where now seems the very triumphant place of death." We spent a day in Greenwood Cemetery, as it is the largest and most important, and also on account of tender association through buried kindred. We could best say—"Fond memories bring us here, but faith points upwards to the sky." Greenwood is situated in the city of Brooklyn, in the town of Flatbush, about two and one half miles from Brooklyn bridge. It is nearly a mile square and contains 474 acres. There are four public entrances—north, south, east and west. The cemetery has over 22 miles of substantial stone-bedded avenues, and 20 miles of concrete paths. It is supplied with water from the Brooklyn City water works, by 26 large hydrants and 36 small ones, for drinking and irrigation.

It has eight lakes of various sizes, in seven of them are fountains supplied from two large reservoirs. The cemetery is drained by subterranean sewer pipes, making in all about 21 miles in length. There are 1,183 basins connected with the sewer pipes to carry off the surface water. The cemetery was chartered in 1838, but was not formally opened until 1840, since which time up to the first of April, 1887, there have been 25,680 burials, lots sold of various sizes, and 239,487 interments made. The surface of the ground retains its natural contour, of mountain terrace and deep basins, in which sparkle the little lakes of water, while the hillsides are studded with vaults, built of the most beautiful and costly marble and adorned with the finest and richest form of sculpture. Time and space forbids a description of the beautiful and costly monuments; but one for its beauty and cost must be mentioned, namely, that of John Matthews. Upon a richly sculptured sarcophagus lies the full length recumbent statue of deceased. Above this rises a canopy and spire of richly decorated stone to the height of 36 feet, resting upon a tablet of sculptured marble, the lower side of which is covered, representing Mr. Matthews at the age of 21 years leaving England for America. On the tablet under the canopy is a veiled female figure seated in a richly carved chair, typifying grief; surrounding the angles of the tablet are four grotesque gargoyles, or monsters, with open mouths, through which the rain water falling upon the roof is discharged. The monument was designed and executed by Prof. Carl Muller at a cost of \$30,000. The Greenwood cemetery is held and managed by trustees as a public trust. The funds for the improvement and permanent care of the cemetery now amount to about \$800,000. Lots are sold at prices varying according to size and location, from \$125 to \$1,000. These facts have been gathered from observations during a day spent on the grounds, and from Appleton's Dictionary of New York, and its vicinity.