Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER, VOLUME LVI. | PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE MARITIME BAPTIST PUBLISHING COMPANY. | THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR VOLUME XLV.

Vol. IX., No. 52 — SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1893 — Printed by G. W. DAY, North Side King Sq

— READERS of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR will not, we trust, be too severely critical in reference to any errors or short-comings which may be observed in the present issue. For the past week the editor has been confined to his house by a severe attack of influenza, which for several days quite incapacitated him for work. He is now improving, however, and hopes in a few days to be able to resume his usual duties.

— REV. DR. PARKHURST of New York is quoted as saying: "If we preachers were not so anxious to put our personal stamp upon our congregations the Almighty Spirit of God would have a good deal better chance to put his stamp there. From what I know of modern preachers, both by experience and observation, I judge that there is not a class of people agoing that has more need of fighting against an interior devil of conceit and self consciousness. I believe that we preachers are, some of us, using our Bible in a very indolent and slipshod kind of way; that we are endeavoring to make it do work that God never intended it to do, and that we are presuming to employ the old Divine revelations which it records for revelations just as direct and Divine which we preachers ought to receive each for ourselves."

PASSING EVENTS.

AFFAIRS in Italy at latest reports had not reached a condition of stable equilibrium. Zanardelli, though a man of great ability and long experience, quite failed in the task of forming a cabinet with which he had been entrusted by his sovereign. King Humbert has therefore sought the aid of Signor Crispi, a former prime minister. Crispi is probably the ablest statesman in Italy, but unfortunately he is not wholly free from complicity with the bank scandals and the frauds with which so many of the public men in Italy are besmirched. However, the king's chief hope of getting a ministry organized and preventing a revolution seems to lie in Crispi. He is supposed to favor the policy of withdrawing Italy from the triple alliance and entering into friendly relations with France. But it is noted that German papers express much satisfaction over the return of Crispi to power, which certainly does not harmonize with the idea that he desires to break up the triple alliance. There are reports to the effect that the alliance of Italy with Germany and Austria in the *dreibund* is due to the influence of Queen Marguerite. This may or may not be so, but the despair of every Italian prime minister is the problem how to support the military and naval establishments required of Italy as a member of the triple alliance without rendering the nation bankrupt or causing a revolution.

DURING the past few years the ordinary reading public has been hearing a good deal about Bacteria, and the most of what has been written concerning them would lead to the conclusion that these microscopic forms of being are the inveterate foes of human life. But biologists are able to assure us that there also exist bacteria that are serviceable to mankind. As a practical illustration of this, we are told that Danish dairy experts have discovered two kinds of bacteria which impart so fine a flavor to butter that they are being cultivated for that purpose, and are regularly for sale to the butter factories of Denmark. In this connection an English newspaper suggests that, as the test of a bacterium is in the eating of it, and Danish butter is running all but the best of the English article out of the market, the Minister of Agriculture should investigate the matter. It might, perhaps, be a good idea for the Canadian Minister of Agriculture to join in the investigation for the benefit of Canadian butter makers and butter eaters: for though it seems likely that there are bacteria enough in most of the butter that finds its way into our markets it would appear that the average Canadian butter-maker has as yet failed to hit upon those particular species of bacteria which give to this important product the agreeable flavor which the Danish article is said to possess.

THE Hon. John James Fraser has been appointed to the position of Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of New Brunswick as the successor of the late Hon. John Boyd. The appointment of Judge Fraser to this office meets with some criticism, but appears to be received with pretty general favor by men of both political parties. The *Telegraph* has these good things to say of him:

"John James Fraser is a man who, during a political career of considerable length, has hardly made an enemy, and has attached to himself hosts of friends. Amiable in his disposition and kindly in his nature he enjoyed the most pleasant relations, while in political life, with many of those who were opposed to him, and since he became a judge his demeanor has been such as to win for him the most kindly feelings. In the high office to which he has just been appointed, Mr. Fraser will have the best wishes of all classes, for he is essentially a man of the people, and in his knowledge of the law and of constitutional usage he has the best possible equipment for the exalted position he is now called upon to fill."

It is a matter for profound gratitude to Almighty God that New Brunswick has been favored with a succession of worthy men in the gubernatorial chair. Untainted honor is a choice gem in any of the walks of life. Its influence is most potent for good in the high places of the commonwealth. "Righteousness exalteth a nation." The Christian church should be much in prayer for those in authority, and all those who take office in the name of the Lord should depart from iniquity.

A CONVENTION was held in Cincinnati not long since to consider the condition of the negroes in the United States. It was shown that 728 lynchings of colored people had taken place in various parts of the country from 1882 to 1892. These cases were duly classified and considered. Resolutions were passed deploring the relations existing between the white and colored races in the Southern States and calling upon the National government to consider the State of affairs and to do something to bring about a better condition of things. A colored Bishop Turner, of Georgia, is of opinion that the solution of the negro problem in America is the removal of his people to Africa, and he thinks there are 2,000,000 of them ready to go if free transportation and the means of subsistence for a time were furnished them. Some $500,000,000 would be required for this, and this, Bishop Turner thinks, the United States could well afford to supply for the purpose, considering the extent to which the negroes have added to the wealth of the country. In this connection the *Congregationalist* remarks: "Possibly there may be an opening for colonies in Africa of settlers from the United States, but it is by no means certain that the negroes in any large numbers really desire to leave a country in which they have been born, for whose liberties many of them have fought and in which the Constitution grants them the rights of citizens, for a continent like Africa. It is a shame that there should be any reason for the consideration of such a movement as that proposed by the bishop, but we have seen no evidence that the movement proposed is wise or has in it any promise of success."

THE following appreciative and at the same time discriminating paragraph in reference to the late Professor Tyndall is copied from the Toronto *Week*:

"The death of Professor Tyndall removes from the field of scientific research one of its most eminent and successful explorers. Among the many who have won undying renown for themselves, while laying the whole race under lasting obligations by their discoveries in this field, few, if any, have achieved greater or more lasting results. His name has so long been familiar in all circles in which any attention is paid to scientific subjects that it would be superfluous to undertake to say what he has done as a student of nature, even were that possible in a paragraph. By many whose thoughts are mainly given to subjects outside the domain of physical or experimental science, Professor Tyndall's name will be best remembered by the leading part he took in the semi-philosophical, semi-religious discussion which took place a score of years ago, in connection with the question of the efficacy of prayer. His writings at this time in connection with his proposal to bring the question within the range of the scientific method by means of the famous prayer-test—will still be regarded by many as illustrating the fact that many men, eminent by reason of their acuteness and success in inquiries in the domain of physical science, prove themselves singularly unfitted for logical and metaphysical disputations. May it not be that the special faculties which qualify their possessor for success in one field of labor, and which are in turn highly developed by exercise in that field, are quite distinct in kind from those which bring both inclination and ability for research in the other? Or may it be simply that a too exclusive use of the experimental methods required in the one, prevents the due cultivation and development of the powers needed for the other? Watever may be the explanation, some of Professor Tyndall's more recent utterances on political questions, marked as they were by a strength of prejudice and a heat of passion far removed from the judicial calmness of the expert scientific explorer, present mental phenomena of a somewhat similar kind. Apart, however, from any views which may be held in regard to his success in other departments of thought, the fact remains that his name will go down to posterity as that of one who had no superior and few peers in the scientific realm which he made peculiarly his own."

Ontario Letter.

December came in sharp and clear in this part of the world. There was not even the usual leisurely approach, but like a thief in the night the Frost King came upon us with his chilly hosts, and we were smitten in every unprotected member. With the cold came the snow and all the land went sleighing. In the second week, however, there came a change. Instead of snow the rain fell. The ice-bonds were loosed. The water flowed in the streets; and all the land went slopping. Then came several days of low temperature and fine sleighing, but a heavy rain set in again, and at this writing the roads are nearly bare.

DECEMBER

is a busy month for pastors in this region. During the first fifteen days of the month this scribe covered 270 miles by rail, 100 by carriage and cutter, and gave 17 sermons and addresses, at the same time attending to the demands of a town pastorate. During the remainder of the month, every night will be filled, and applications constantly declined. Earnest men are always glad to work, but it does sometimes seem that the toil of this world, like the wealth of this world is unequally distributed.

THE PLEBISCITE

is being discussed more and more eagerly as polling day approaches. We are all delighted at the news from Prince Edward Island. The probabilities are that Ontario will speak in no uncertain tones on January 1, 1894. Even if the majority should be against prohibition, the current campaign cannot fail to be a powerful educator.

FOUNDER'S DAY,

the birthday of the late Hon. Wm. McMaster, will be observed at McMaster University, Friday evening, December 22. Rev. D. Hutchinson, of Brantford, will deliver the address, and brief literary and musical exercises will be given by the students. The term now closing has been marked by the largest attendance in the history of the institution.

OBITER.

Rev. Joshua Denovan has returned from Immanuel church, Toronto, to Nova Scotia. Before his departure a gathering, representative of the Baptist churches of the city, met to bid him farewell. Mr. Denovan, whose age and ill health will probably prevent his continuance in the pastorate, was presented with a purse and a finely illustrated copy of a rare work descriptive of Glasgow University, his alma mater.

Rev. J. B. Kennedy, B. A., has resigned at Norwich. He goes to the Tecumseh street church, Toronto. Rev. L. Newton, of Vittoria, succeeds him.

Rev. W. B. Hinson is back in Montreal and in the Olivet church. His health is quite restored.

The Baptist, Presbyterian and Methodist churches in Strathroy are now engaged in union meetings. They are aided by the well known evangelists Crossley and Hunter. So far as the Baptists are concerned, the work to date has been among the members of the Boys' Brigade. The services will probably last until the new year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all. P. D. K.

Strathroy, Dec. 16.

Wolfville Notes.

The Propylæum is a society composed of the lady students of the college. On the 8th inst. the society held an open session. The leading subject was Mrs. Browning's Poetry. Miss Brown gave a concise sketch of Mrs. Browning's life; Miss Blackadar presented an appreciative and discriminating essay on the style of the poetess; Miss Archibald read a thoughtful paper on Aurora Leigh, and Miss Morton recited with fine effect a selection from the Rhyme of the Duchess May. Miss Coldwell gave a synopsis of current events. The president, Miss Parker, and the secretary, Miss Strong, conducted the business with dignity and tact. Music was furnished by Misses Seely and Crandall. The Critique on the evening's exercises, prepared by Miss Coldwell, was clever and witty to a high degree. The entertainment was very enjoyable and pronounced by the guests creditable to the lady students of the college.

The Kings Co. Agricultural Society held its annual dinner here on the 14th inst. This society has reached its 104th year, is the oldest society of the kind in Canada, and, with one exception, the oldest on the Continent. Addresses were made by a number of gentlemen, including Dr. Chipman, J. W. Bigelow, C. R. H. Starr, Dr. DeWitt, and Prof. Eaton. Prof. Eaton publishes the *Orchardist*, the only agricultural paper, I believe, printed in Nova Scotia. Hereafter it is to be published from Wolfville. A Horticultural School is about to be opened in Wolfville under the direction of the Fruit Growers Association, and aided by a grant wisely given by the Nova Scotia government. X.

Acadia University.

A SUGGESTION.

Of course I want to say college, but that would be considered old-fogyish, and I would not be heeded, so I must use the new-fangled name. But our interest in her welfare is all the same whatever the name may be, and no doubt many have been grieved to know that her finances are in so unsatisfactory a state, and this, notwithstanding the small expenditure for the amount and the quality of work done. Probably no school in the world is furnished with more competent teachers or is producing better results at the same cost, and yet we allow a large deficiency to accumulate, causing most depressing effects on those who have to carry on the work. That the amount received from the churches is diminishing year by year is what we might expect. The day has passed for such an institution to be dependent, to any great extent at least, on so precarious a source of support. May the day never come when the churches shall cease to give and pray for Acadia, but what is needed, and what must be had, is a more adequate endowment. And so I make bold to approach her friends, particularly her graduates, with my suggestion. When pleading for Acadia it is not difficult to find "somethin' to holler," as the newsboys say. For several years a matter has frequently come to my mind, and now I wish to "holler" it, hoping that my suggestion may be taken up, put into practical shape by some of the wise brethren interested, and carried on to successful completion. Whenever we, whose locks are becoming silvered, think of Acadia, the names of two men come to our minds, without whom, so far as we can see, she would not be what she is to-day, if indeed there would be such a school at all. Of course I mean E. A. Crawley and J. M. Cramp, and mention them in the order of time in which they were raised up for the great work they accomplished. So far as I know there are yet among the living about one hundred graduates who studied under these honored teachers. There are many others who spent some time in the school, but did not graduate, and hosts of friends who would feel honored to have a share in founding two professorships to be named the E. A. Crawley and J. M. Cramp professorships. No monuments we can erect would be so suitable.

The details, as I have said, must be left to other hands, but my suggestion might be carried out by the appointing of a large committee, perhaps one from each class, who might suggest an assessment for each graduate. Of course the circumstances of each would be considered, and ministers, professors and other laboring men (the writer belongs to the last class mentioned) would be asked to contribute a smaller sum than those more favorably situated so far as finances are concerned. Or it might be ascertained how many would undertake one of two or three different sums named, and if the first canvas did not realize the amount required we should all be glad to do a little more till our object should be gained. Or it might be ascertained how many would join with us in this grand enterprise, each doing a part as a graduate. But all this, with the time allowed for paying, would have to be settled by a wise committee.

Of course the youngsters who have graduated the last score of years or so, may set about A. W. Sawyer, D. F. Higgins and R. V. Jones professorships as soon as they wish. They need not wait till these good men die. If they do I hope they shall have to wait another half century. We ought not to wish to keep these hard-worked men down here longer than that. And of course future classes can erect memorials to the young fellows of the faculty. Only let us older, and presumably wiser, ones show them how to do it. Now, some of us—I mean some of you—are getting on in years and there does not appear to be any time for vacillation and hesitancy. The present is just as favorable a time as we shall probably ever see. For one I feel that if even a few of those older among us, and whom we regard as leaders, were taken away, it would be difficult to put through such an undertaking, and something like this must be done. We should feel pretty cheap to meet up yonder the good men of fifty years ago, who, "from weakness were made strong, waxed mighty in war, turned to flight armies of aliens," and to know that without a tithe of our advantages they had wrought so much better than we. Let us agitate this matter, and at next commencement at the furthest launch a carefully prepared plan to accomplish this work. ALUMNUS.

Burdock Blood Bitters is a purely vegetable cure for dyspepsia, constipation and all diseases of the stomach, liver, bowels and Blood.

Minard's Liniment cures Sarget in cows.

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:

"Lord what wilt Thou have me to do."

Contributions to this column will please address Mrs. Baker, 351 Princess Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR JANUARY:

This a special blessing day just upon the services during the week of prayer, and that a rich outpouring of God's spirit may be experienced by our missionaries at their conference.

Looking Back.

It is not always well to look back. There is little gain in reviewing our wounds, our sorrows, our failures and our sins; a retrospect of these may not confirm our faith or brighten our hope for the future. But it is well to look back and call to remembrance God's loving kindness "which has been ever of old." Look back to His forgiveness; His patience with our weakness; His over-shadowing care and His kindness in permitting us to serve through the closing year. "Remember all the way in which the Lord thy God hath led thee." A review of the multitude of His tender mercies cannot fail to better prepare us for service during the incoming year. Lord, if I may, I'll serve another year.

Ministering Women.

By Mrs. James Gillies, St. John. Read at a meeting of the Leinster St. Aid Society.

In recalling the history of the nations we are sometimes surprised to see how prominently woman has figured during all ages. Perhaps not always doing what might be styled the "great things," but invariably stepping in to do what only woman could do, and with God's blessing the result has been great. Let us for a time look at the direct service rendered to our Saviour during his sojourn here on earth, not forgetting the "Inasmuch" uttered by His own lips. It seems to me the Lord was especially tender and thoughtful of women. It was not to them the thrilling words were uttered, "Depart, my house shall be called an house of prayer, but ye have made it a den of thieves." "Woe unto you, ye make clean the outside of the cup and platter, when within you are full of extortion and excess." But listen to His words when one is brought to Him who is neither clean within nor without. "He that is without sin among you, let him cast the first stone." And again, when he sits over against the treasury and watches them putting in their offerings, and among the others comes a widow and trembingly casts in her offering; such a little bit that we, her sisters of to-day, would think it was hardly worth the sacrifice, but perhaps might encourage her with the remark, "Every little helps." But how little we know the manner in which God measures these gifts, for He said, "That woman had cast in more than they all." Oh what depths of love in the heart of our Saviour, that in all His greatness His eye watches the little as well as the large gifts, and will even magnify them, when it is the best we can do. For unto whom little is given, from them only little is required.

We read that at one time, Christ wearied with His journey, sat down to rest, and a woman in the simple performance of a daily duty comes to the well for water, and thus has the privilege of ministering unto our Lord. Though directly we cannot do as she did, still we remember that He promised even the cup of cold water shall not go unrewarded; and He will count the kindness the same as if done unto Himself. We remember how Christ rebuked some that at one time complained that the poor were being forgotten, when a woman took a box of precious ointment and poured it upon His head. Christ, who saw the heart and understood her motive, did not condemn her, but answered the fault-finders with the reminder, that the poor were always with them. They could do them good whenever they chose. What a very great comfort it is that Jesus knows us all so well; that He sees the life within, knows the sincerity of the love and service rendered Him. What seemingly small things are recorded about women and still sufficiently great for our Master's approval.

At the home of Lazarus where our Saviour delighted to stay we find the two sisters, Martha and Mary. At one time Martha, who thought much service, perhaps, is becoming impatient, complains of her sister Mary, who seems to have forgotten the burdens which should be shared. Christ understanding them both gently chides Martha with the, "Let her alone; she has chosen the good part"—sitting at the feet of Jesus—surely not because she preferred idleness. And dear sisters can we not take a helpful lesson right here. Are there not times, and probably just the present time, when individuality and as a church it seems as if so much of the burden is dropped by those who ought to be shoulder to shoulder with you. And like Martha you may feel a sense of growing impatience at the idle ones. But we cannot tell what lessons God's Spirit may be teaching, even the most seemingly indifferent one. I was struck with a verse in Ezra the other night when he and his company were preparing to go to Jerusalem, they knew there were probable dangers in the way. But he says, "I was ashamed to ask help of the King of Babylon (even though there seemed to be need of it) for we had told Him that the hand of our God was for good on all that seek Him." Do we not believe the same? And if we are seeking to serve Him, can we not be encouraged with the same assurance Ezra had, that our God will help us?

It seems to me if I had never read any thing but the New Testament, and was a stranger entirely to what women are doing to-day for the spread of the gospel, I would expect that to the women would be entrusted the furthering of the precious message of salvation. How plainly we can see that apparently sorrowful morning when the little group of women, as soon as possible, start for the sepulchre of their beloved Lord, the one in whom they had placed such hopes. But now He was dead, and there was only this little act left that they could perform, and they take the first opportunity for doing it. The manner in which they succeeded we all know very well. But look at the change, their anxiety as to who will roll away the stone from the sepulchre is removed, only to give place to a seemingly greater trouble, for their Lord is gone. The beloved John comes and the impulsive Peter, but finding not their Saviour, go away, but Mary stands at the sepulchre weeping. I have often thought through the rest of Mary's life she must have been thankful that she tarried. Of course the Lord knew how much she loved Him, but she proved to Him that she could not be happy without Him, and He gives her, what he has given every one of her sisters since that time, some service to perform for him. She did what you are striving to do. Carried the good news, "our Lord is risen, and become the first great fruits of them that slept." All hearts would have been full of sympathy for Mary if she had been prevented in any way from delivering the message to the disciples that would change not only that day for them, but all the rest of their lives. And we can hear Peter saying, "Blessed be God, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." We do not read very much of Mary, but a great deal of those who heard her message and believed it. And right here I hear our Saviour's voice saying, "Because thou hast seen thou hast believed, but blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed.

Speaking of those who heard Mary's message, and what we know of them afterwards reminds me of what I was reading not long ago. A lady had become deeply interested in missions and felt worried and annoyed sometimes that she could not do more toward sending the message to the heathen lands. But this thought forced itself upon her and influenced every act of her life. That the mission to the heathen was right at her hand, and when she saw the hungry waif she fed him, and did the very best she could for him, for only the Lord of the vineyard knew what he was raising him for, and, perhaps, some day he might tell the story she longed to have told.

May the time speedily come when each one of us may be willing to carry the message to whomsoever we are sent, and wherever we are sent, remembering that we need not go alone, for the same One who says, "Go," also says, "Lo! I am with you alway even unto the end of the world."

ALBERT, Albert Co.—The Aid Society held a public meeting in the church on Saturday evening, December 9. The county secretary, Miss Fillmore, gave an interesting account of the work on the Telugu field. Addresses were given by Rev. B. N. Hughes (chairman) and Rev. Mr. Johnston (Methodist). The recitations were well received, and the choir rendered suitable selections. A collection of eleven dollars was taken up. It is hoped that the entertainment will be the means of creating more interest in the cause.

LENA P. WILLARD, Sec.

Notice.

Will the sisters who sent for one of Mrs. Manning's games and wished it directed, Barton's P. O. Range, Queens Co., please let me know whether it is Queens Co., N. S., or Queens Co., N. B.? And will all the friends when writing please put name of county and province.

A. E. JOHNSTON,
Dartmouth, N. S.