HISTORY OF OUR DENOMINATIONAL PRESS.*

BY PROF. A. E. COLDWELL, M. A.

The power of the Press in aiding all lines of mental activity and of moral and spiritual uplifting in every where conceded. But what can be affirmed of any one periodical can be affirmed with far greater emphasis of the denominational organ, set for the defence of certain principles and devoted to the great work of keeping its readers in touch with each other in their efforts to promote the general well-being of their fellows. In the growth and unification of the Baptist denomination of these Maritime Provinces our religious periodicals have filled a place whose importance can scarcely be overestimated. Indeed it is difficult for us now to imagine how our great advance in Education and Home and Foreign Missions could have been made without their aid. Knowledge begets sympathy and excites to action; and thus editors and correspondents are in a position to awaken and direct exertions for the promotion of the great objects dear to us as a denomination.

Can we sufficiently honor the wisdom, courage and faith of our fathers who in the face of so many obstacles, when Baptists were few, mails infrequent and uncertain, printing tedious and expensive, and subscribers remiss did, nevertheless, in advance of all other denominations in these provinces, project and sustain a periodical of their own? As thousands of readers on every succeeding Wednesday with the regularity of the sun partake gratefully of the abundant repast now served up for them in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR by our good brother Black, let them not forget the day of small things when our fathers read their little magazine once in three months or looked anxiously for the paper that was weeks behind time.

I wish now to trace, somewhat in detail, the history of our denominational press allowing the facts to bear as eloquent as they may without the garniture of fancy. After the division of the one association for N. S. and N. B. in 1821, the brethren began to feel the need of some medium to secure unity of action in denominational work. This feeling took shape in a resolution passed in 1825, at the Association in Amherst, requesting the N. B. Association to unite in the publication of a religious periodical magazine. Elders J. Munroe C. Tupper and S. McCully were appointed to communicate with the N. B. Association at Waterbury, July 11th of the same year. It was then voted that the Moderator correspond with the clerk of the N. S. Association in furtherance of this object. In 1826, the delegate from N. S to the N. B. Association was instructed to confer with that body on the subject of the contemplated publication, and this resulted in the following resolution by the latter. Voted "that the Missionary Board be instructed to draw up a prospectus of a Religious Periodical magazine and have it printed and circulated and if sufficient encouragement be obtained to publish the work under such title and regulations as they judge expedient."

Rev. Chas. Tupper, then pastor of the Germain St. Baptist church, St. John, was chosen to edit the magazine, but he removed to Amherst before the end of the year and his subsequent six years editing was done in the latter town. Some of his experience we give in his own words: "Early in Jan., 1827, the first number of the N. S. and N. B. Baptist Missionary Magazine was issued. My sickness and consequent removal from St. John had retarded its publication. An esteemed Christian brother, Edwin M. Garrison, superintented the printing of the first number, but as he removed soon after, almost the whole care devolved on me. As the distance to St. John was 150 miles with mails weekly, my task was not an easy one. The obscurity of my handwriting greatly increased the difficulty. When a friend in the city would obligingly correct the proof sheets, he would in some instances be unable to decipher my MS."

At this date, the N. S. Association numbered 1580 members, and the N. B. 1114, so that the circulation must have been quite limited. The magazine was to be issued quarterly, 32 pages, octavo, at 2s 6d per year. It was issued from the press of Youngbusband, corner of Prince William and Church Streets. The editor received $4.00 a number for editing, which enabled him to buy a few periodicals and books required in his work.

In May, 1833, Elder Tupper went to P. E. I. and the magazine was resigned to J. W. Nutting and John Ferguson, of Halifax. By request of N. S Association, confirmed by that of N. B. in Jan. 1833 the magazine was enlarged to 42 pages and published 6 times a year. It continued with 700 subscribers at $1, its useful career till in 1837 it was merged in the Christian Messenger.

During these ten years it was the property of the Denomination and managed by the Mission Boards of the denomination conjointly. Whether it was financially profitable or not we are left in doubt, for in 1832 it was voted that the profits be equally divided between the Burman and Home Missions, while in 1840, after the business was closed, there was a debt of £86, which was assumed by the Boards of both provinces.

With the growing strength and importance of the denomination after the founding of Horton Academy in 1828, and the Seminary at Fredericton in 1833, the necessity of frequent appeals to the Body for aid made the want of a weekly newspaper felt. In 1835, the N. B. Association considered the matter and instructed the ministers collecting for the Seminary to obtain the opinion of the brethren with respect to publishing a religious newspaper in lieu of the magazine. This led to the publication in Nova Scotia of a tract entitled "Hints respecting a Religious Newspaper." In this the arguments in favor of a weekly publication are convincingly set forth. The paper needed "should combine Public News, Commercial and Scientific Information, together with Religious and Missionary Intelligence and information respecting the Temperance Cause, etc."

The Baptists in the provinces at that time, were stated to be 6000, with a population in connection with them of 50 000. The magazine does not furnish one quarter of these families. In the following year, 1836, the N. S. Association in session at Halifax, voted that a weekly newspaper was a necessity and appointed Brethren Pryor and McLearn, of N. S., and F. W. Miles, of N. B., to carry this into effect. There was, at this time no religious newspaper issued in the lower provinces (the Presbyterian Witness started in 1848, the Wesleyan in 1849, and the Intelligencer in 1854). These brethren selected as their model in size and cost the Acadian Recorder, $3 00 a year in town and $3 50 in the country. The name of the paper was selected from a large number proposed and was purposely made undenominational that members of other communions might be induced to become subscribers. In the first issue, Jan. 6th, 1837, the editors while distinctly claiming to be the organ of one denomination, ask the co-operation of others and "hope it will become the medium of communication for the religious sentiments and feelings of every sincere and sober-minded christian of whatsoever name or sect he may be." They hope it will become the common property of all interested in the increase of vital religion.

In launching the "Christian Messenger," a vitally important matter was the selection of an editor. The range of choice was limited as we had then few men with the requisite training for so important a position, and as it was a venture with slight prospect of remuneration, the work must of necessity be done by those who had other means of support. It seems providential that we had in Halifax at that time just such men as were required and these, at the earnest solicitation of the Association, agreed to undertake the work.

The elder one, J. W. Nutting, Esq., was a lawyer holding a lucrative office, a thoroughly educated gentleman of refined tastes and of extensive information and withal a polished speaker and a very effective writer. He was also thoroughly indoctrinated in Baptist principles and had gained experience in editing the magazine so that he was eminently fitted to undertake the duties of his new position. Mr. Ferguson, his associate, lacked the literary qualification of his senior but he was a man of great natural ability, quick in discernment and of excellent judgment in selecting matter and in deciding the fate of communications, so as neither, on the one hand, to give offence nor, on the other, to accept unsuitable articles. These two made an excellent combination, working harmoniously together for many years, carrying the paper over many difficulties and at last establishing it on a sound basis. As the editors were supposed to be unknown, their names not appearing on the paper, it became necessary to have an agent or financial manager to receive subscriptions and correspondence and look after the general business of the paper. They were fortunate in securing for this position Mr. J. W. Barss, then doing business in Halifax. I have this statement with regard to the work from Mr. Barss himself, "Little did the editors know what they were proposing nor was the agent aware what labor it required to arrange the lists weekly, see that the printer struck off the requisite number of papers, mailed them in time and have them properly directed; to reply to an increasing number of correspondents and keep the accounts straight between subscribers and numerous county agents."

At that time, there were no printers in Halifax except the publishers of four weekly papers. They used common hand presses and it required all their equipment to get their own papers out regularly. From these men two tenders were received for printing the Christian Messenger, one requiring the editors to furnish paper and pay postage the other including both. The postage was then 2s 6d a copy; per year, with a discount of 20 per cent. to publishers, of which the new editors were ignorant so that to their own disadvantage they accepted the latter tender. The mail then went but once a week and the post offices being few and scattered, often the papers did not reach the subscribers for a fortnight after publication. In many places they were distributed on Sunday and formed an additional inducement to regular church going.

The circulation for the first two years was about 851 and 919. Of these 100 or more went to N. B. and as it was not then the custom to pay for papers in advance, it may easily be imagined that the editors and the agents were often embarassed for means to pay the printer.

Mr. Howe's tender for printing was as follows: "I will undertake to print a newspaper for the Baptist Conference of the size of the Halifax Journal, in Bourgeois type and on good paper, 700 copies for £450 per annum. This sum to cover all expenses of printing and publication, including delivery, directing, mailing and postage for 500. Should a greater number than 700 be required, they will be furnished in the proportion of £18 12s 6d for every 50. One years credit will be given upon each volume and interest allowed upon all sums paid within the year."

(Signed) JOSEPH HOWE.

Halifax, Sept. 23, 1836.

Under this contract the paper was printed for four years, the managers finding increasing difficulty in meeting the expense of publication, even with gratuitious editing. The associations, both in N. S. and N. B. in their annual meetings, earnestly commended the paper and made it their own. The following was the resolution passed by the N. B. association in 1837: "Voted that the association regard the publishing of the Christian Messenger as being intimately connected with the cause of the Redeemer and adopt it as the organ of the Baptist denomination in this province"; and in 1839, after again commending the paper this association suggested that a printing press should be secured so that the paper might be published at a much less expense. Constant appeals were made to the associations for support and on several occasions the editors threatened to suspend publication unless the arrears could be brought up. To avert this disaster, a number of prominent ministers and laymen pledged themselves to its support in sums ranging from £5 to £10, and these amounts were eventually called for.

Several causes at this time tended to produce unpleasant relations between the editors and the printers of the Messenger. 1st. As the amount collected from subscribers was not sufficient to meet the expense of publishing, the editors were induced against their inclination and expressed determination to give Mr. Howe accommodation notes, thus making themselves personally liable for the debts of the denomination. 2nd. The printers often failed to get the papers to the post office in time for the weekly mail. This caused a delay of a week and serious grumbling on the part of the subscribers with a curtailment of the circulation. 3rd. While Mr. Howe charged 2s 6d postage on each paper he was getting a rebate of 20 per cent. at the post office which it was claimed should have gone to the proprietors. 4th. The political controversy between Howe and Johnstone was now (going on, though Mr. Howe's active opposition to Acadia College was developed later in 1843.

A few years of this wearying and unsatisfactory conditions of affairs convinced the editors that they must either retire from the work or assume the entire charge of the paper, with a printing office of their own. They decided on the latter and appealed to the denomination for financial assistance. This was given, the outfit was purchased, and on Jan. 8th, 1841, appeared Vol. 1, No. 1 of the new series. Henceforth the paper was the property of the Messrs. Nutting and Ferguson, though still the organ of the denomination. At the associations in N. S. and N. B. it was cordially commended and votes of thanks were given to the editors for their invaluable services to the Baptist cause.

The claims for printing the first series of the Christian Messenger were not adjusted without much difficulty and some unpleasant controversy. Some of the items in Mr. Howe's bill of £785, 4s 9d were objected to and the matter was left to arbitrators who made their award Sep. 27th, 1841, reducing the claim to £619, 12s 3d. This was apparently accepted by both parties as an equitable adjustment and the editors were paying the amount as rapidly as possible making strennous exertions to collect the large amount due on the paper, when they were surprised and chagrined at seeing in Mr. Howe's paper, the Nova Scotian of Aug. 10, 1842, the proprietors of the Christian Messenger posted as delinquents. This was but a few months after the award was due, and the editors were naturally indignant that after paying Mr. Howe during the preceding three years, about £3000 and having already made payments on the award, the balance still due should be so conspicuously advertised. During the remaining months of 1842, the debt was reduced to £433, 4s, and this was advanced, Jan. 4th, 1843, by the Rev. John Pryor, and thus a final settlement effected.

In the discussion, that grew out of this affair, the Nova Scotian charged the editors of the Christian Messenger with endeavoring to shift the responsibility of the debt from their own shoulders upon the denomination, a body which was not corporate and therefore not amenable to legal process; the plain inference being that there was an attempt to avoid the payment of the amount due. The Nova Scotian also asserted that these editors "ought to be dismissed from any christian church where the oracles of the living God were prized more highly than the Christian Messenger." In Sept., 1842, the editors reviewed in their paper their four years transaction with Mr. Howe, vindicating their course as honorable business men and concluding with a dignified remonstrance against being compelled to pay for postage $500.00 more than had been exacted at the post office. As a result of this controversy, an intense feeling was aroused throughout the constituency of the Messenger, leading to the calling in Jan., 1843, at Nictaux, of a special meeting of the N. S. Association. At this session, after the points in dispute had been thoroughly gone over, resolutions were adopted of sympathy with the editors and confidence in their integrity. They were publicly thanked for their manly independence as well as the clear and satisfactory evidence with which they have triumphantly refuted those calumnies and established the upright and christian character of themselves and of the denomination. As the Hon. Joseph Howe was then leader of the government, it was deemed advisable to send copies of the resolutions passed to the Lieutenant Governor as well as the editors of the Nova Scotian and Acadian Recorder. Accompanying the resolutions, presented to Lord Falkland, was an address signed by John Pryor and I. L. Chipman, the Moderator and Clerk of the Association. To this the Governor replied: "I have never entertained any other than a most favorable impression with regard to the moral and religious character of the large and respectable class of the community whom you represent on this occasion." But he declined to enter into the merits of any contest "in which a member of the government may happen to be engaged in his private capacity." It was in the year 1843 that a determined effort was made in the Legislature to cancel the recently obtained charter of Acadia college, and the Messenger through its editors and correspondents contributed very materially to defeat this movement.

The association in N. B., in 1843, voted that they express their confidence in the integrity and christian character of the editors and tender these respected brothers their christian sympathy under the recent trial which they have been called to pass through in connection with their duty as conductors of the Christian Messenger.

The management of the paper during the following years met with the continued approval of the denomination in both provinces, as shown by commendatory resolutions passed at the associations; but in 1847, on the division of the N. B. Association, a committee was appointed by that body "to meet the committee on the Christian Messenger to consider the expediency of commencing a cheap religious periodical in the province." The joint committee reported acknowledging the donations of the denomination to the Christian Messenger but affirming the necessity for a cheap periodical to meet the wants of the province. Bros. Robinson, Very and McDonald were appointed a committee to confer with the editors of the Messenger so that the desired end might be secured without injury to that paper. In the same year the N. S. Association "affectionately requested the brethren in N. B. to use their best exertions in calling forth the energies of the denomination in that province in the support of a journal (the Christian Messenger), which has so efficiently advanced the cause of truth and the best interests of society."

The committee appointed by the N. B. Association, having received very liberal proposals from Messrs. Bailey and Day, called a meeting in St. John of those interested in the new enterprise on Oct. 7th, 1847. These publishers had agreed, on the guarantee of 500 subscribers at 10s in advance, (The Christian Messenger was still 15s and 17s 6d) to issue a paper larger than the Messenger and assume all financial risks. This favorable proposal was accepted and on Oct. 20, the first number of the Christian Visitor appeared with Rev. E. D. Very, editor. It was agreed that no canvass for the paper should be made in N. S. and that the present subscribers to the Christian Messenger in N. B. be advised to retain that paper. The Convention of the Maritime Provinces had been recently organized and one of the professed objects of the Visitor was to give greater efficacy to this union which, the editor says, is not one of outward organisation merely but of sentiment and affection.

Notwithstanding all these disclaimers, the new paper was felt to be in some sense a rival to the old and Messrs. Nutting and Ferguson issued a dignified remonstance; after which there was at least outward harmony and the two publications strove with generous emulation each in its own province, to further the great interests of temperance, education and missions.

The Visitor was published by Bailey and Day till Sept. 27th, 1848, then by G. W. Day till the end of the year. After a suspension of two months consumed in getting a printing outfit, the Visitor reappeared March 9th, 1849 under the editorship of Rev. E. D. Very, and printed by D. A. Cameron. Mr. Very conducted the paper till his sad death by drowning in Minas Basin, June 7th, 1850, when the committee in charge placed the paper under the supervision of Bros. Robinson and Bill. In 1853, the committee on the Visitor reported a debt of £443 8s 1d, of which £216 was due the estate of the late Mr. Very. This amount was apportioned among the churches, and the latter sum was paid the next year. The committee, finding it impossible to conduct the paper without involving the denomination still further, transferred it to the Rev. I. E. Bill and R. Thompson, M. A., in Dec., 1852, under whose management the periodical prospered wonderfully, the circulation increasing in 1853 to 3000, and in 1856 to nearly 4000. Mr. Thompson had in the meantime left, carrying off the account books, and it was only through the indefatigable labors of Mr. Bill March that a new set of books was constructed from old letters. Mr. Bill was commended for the noble stand he had taken in advocating the prohibition law and for the judicious manner in which he had presented the claims of civil and religious liberty. In 1858 it was reported at the Western Association of N. B. "that the present editor and proprietor, Rev. I. E. Bill, that he might be able to devote himself entirely to pastoral work, would transfer to anyone having the confidence of the denomination, his interest in the Visitor for £1000, being half the amount due on the paper. In 1859 it was reported that "Rev. H. P. Guilford had become joint proprietor and editor of the Christian Visiter, and Mr. McHenry had taken charge of the financial affairs and the secular department, but more recently still Mr. Guilford had relinquished his connection with the paper."

This transfer of the Visitor caused considerable dissatisfaction in N. B., resulting in the publication of a third Baptist newspaper the Christian Watchman, owned and printed by G. W. Day and edited by the Rev. E. B. Demille. The first number appeared Jan. 2nd, 1861, the annual subscription was only $1.50, and it achieved at once a somewhat wide circulation, owing to its cheapness, its sprightly editorials, the large amount of original matter it contained and the general sympathy with its aims and purposes. The new paper was confessedly a rival to the old one, which had now enlarged its name to the N. B. Baptist and Christian Visitor, and proposed to avail itself of the patronage formerly given to that periodical.

The Rev. I. E. Bill presented the claims of the Visitor in four successive "appeals" to the Baptists of New Brunswick and these were replied to in the Watchman. At the end of a year, Mr. DeMille having regained his health and prefering to re-engage in pastoral work, the new paper was discontinued as no other suitable editor could be obtained. In many respects this was a model religious newspaper, bright and attractive in its general make-up, advocating in a natural and reasonable way the great objects of the denomination and especially devoted to the cause of higher education as represented by Acadia College.

Dr. Bill shortly after resumed the proprietorship of the Visitor and continued to direct its policy till he sold out to Dr. Armstrong. During all these years he was the untiring advocate of our denominational interests and well deserved the encomiums he received in 1872, in the association, "Nobly stands the venerable editor and his brave and faithful staff of contributors within the towers of gospel truth, against which the gates of Hell shall not prevail. Welcome the Visitor! Pray and pay that our paper may live and fight the battles of the Lord."

In Jan., 1876, the Rev. George Armstrong became editor and proprietor of the Visitor. In April, 1878, Dr. Hopper bought a share in the paper, in the following year he purchased the remaining portion and in 1882 he took Dr. Saunders into partnership. Dr. Hopper afterward became sole proprietor and as such sold the paper, Jan. 1st, 1885, to the Maritime Publishing Company.

During these nine years, the paper carried the impress of these prominent leaders of the Bap ist body, Drs. Armstrong, Hopper and Saunders, and became more and more a power making for righteousness. We may imagine the regret with which our N. B. brethren bade a final adieu to a periodical which during the 38 years of its existence, through all the vicissitudes of ownership and editorship had so largely enjoyed the confidence and contributed to the progress of a body which in the mean time had increased from 4800 to over 14000. It had indeed been a welcome visitor to thousands of families, furnishing them with stimulating intelligence and exciting to continued denominational activity. It can be said of this, as of its older contemporary, that their sun did not go down in darkness but melted into the glories of their still more illustrious successor.

The Christian Messenger pursued the even tenor of its way, under the judicious editorship of Messrs. Nutting and Ferguson till the death of the latter in 1855, which necessitated a change in the management. The surviving editor disposed of the paper to Stephen Selden, Esq., who took possession on Jan. 1st, 1856, and thus began his long and honorable career in connection with our denominational press.

In taking leave of Messrs. Nutting and Ferguson, it may truly be said that they were honorable men of business, earnest and devoted christians and as regards these Maritime Baptists, what the surviving editor wrote of Mr. Ferguson may be affirmed of the other: "He stood upon the watch-tower and there was no man like-minded who naturally cared for their state." Days and nights of unceasing toil were given to their interests in the firm and unwavering conviction that the cause of Truth and of God was deeply involved in their progress and success.

Mr. Selden conducted the Christian Messenger for nearly thirty years. This covers a large portion of our denominational history; years of struggle and of discouragement but nevertheless of steady growth. The membership of our churches in N. S. and P. E. I. had increased from 12,500 to over 26,000 and there was increasing activity in education and the great work of carrying the gospel to the spiritually destitute both at home and abroad. In the denunciation of all forms of wrong and the advocacy of everything tending to a noble and spiritual manhood, the Messenger gave no uncertain sound. Its utterances were received with a regard second only to those of the sacred oracles themselves, for in it was the wisdom of the Tuppers, the Cramps, the Rands, and a host of lesser lights whose contributions informed and strengthened an increasingly appreciative circle of readers. Can we wonder that old men wept when their revered paper, which for nearly fifty years had never failed in its weekly ministrations, which had so strongly championed every interest dear to their hearts, carrying life-giving energy to the remotest corners of the province, finally succumbed to the inexorable demand of the times for a single organ in the Maritime Convention. With the close of 1884 it ceased its separate existence.

The new paper, the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, began its career at St. John, Jan. 1885, Rev. Calvin Goodspeed, editor. It was the result of the earnest wish on the part of many, to have only one paper for the lower provinces, bearing news from all our churches to all; promoting a single general policy and helping to make our efforts more united and hence more effective. The goodwill of the old papers was bought out by a joint-stock company, called the Maritime Baptist Publishing Company, consisting of about fifty of our ministers and more than one hundred of our leading laymen. They organized at Wolfville, Nov. 12th, 1884, appointed the editor and arranged to take possession of the field with the beginning of the new year.

All this was happily and harmoniously effected; through the sacrifice of some of the wise forbearance of others the tact of the managers of the new enterprise.

The editor had high ideals, a tremendous capacity for work, grace and patience almost inexhaustible and withal a mental equipment that placed him in the fore as a writer and speaker and moulder of religious thought. His paper was a unifying force and an untiring advocate of the objects dear to the heart of the Baptist body. After serving the denomination in this capacity till Aug., 1890, Dr. Goodspeed resigned to engage in more congenial work and the Rev. S. McCully Black was appointed his successor. Of the work of the latter, it may be sufficient to say, that there has been no falling off from the high standard of his predecessor and that the present editor deservedly enjoys the esteem and confidence of his constituency.

In addition to the periodicals, already described, the following papers have been published for young readers: The Family Casket, by Dr. Bill; the Canadian Record, Youth's Visitor and the Gem by Dr. Hopper; Buds and Blossoms by Mr. Avery; Lunenburg Baptist by J. W. Brown and possibly other papers of local repute.

The students of Acadia college, since 1874, have published a monthly, called the Acadia Athenaeum; St. Martins Seminary also published the Bems and more recently Acadia Seminary has issued the Thistle. All of these represent different phases of our denominational activity and all have contributed, each in its own measure, to the wonderful growth of our body in intelligence and spiritual activity which blessings we do this year commemorate and for which we return thanks to the Giver of all good.

APPENDIX.

Date of founding and circulation of Maritime religious newspapers:

NAME.	DATE.	CIR.
Christian Messenger	1837	
Presbyterian Witness	1848	2250
Wesleyan	1849	2250
Religious Intelligencer	1854	1000
Christian Visitor	1848	
Messenger and Visitor	1885	6300

TERMS.

MESSENGER.—1837, 15s in town, 17s 6d in country, half yearly in advance, to the end of 1849 1849, 12s 6d in advance, in town, 15s in the country. 1851, 10s in town, 12s 6d in the country, in advance. 1856, 10s to all in advance, over three months, 11s 3d, over 6 months. 12s 6d.

CHRISTIAN VISITOR.—1847, 10s in advance.

LIST OF EDITORS	BORN	DIED	AGE
Rev. C. Tupper, D. D.	1794	1881	87
J. W. Nutting, LL. D.	1787	1870	83
John Ferguson	1791	1855	64
Rev. D. Very. M. A.	1814	1852	38
Rev. I. E Bill, D. D.	1804	1891	86
Stephen Selden, M. A.	1871	1892	75
Rev. G. Armstrong D. D.	1815	1886	71
Rev. E. B. DeMille, M. A.	1829	1863	34
Rev. J. E. Hopper, D. D	1841	1895	54
Rev E M Saunders, D D			
Rev. C. Goodspeed, D D			
Rev. S. M'C. Black, M A			

Look upon the success and sweetness of thy duties as very much depending upon the keeping of thy heart closely with all diligence.—Flavel.

The out-and-out Christian is a joyful Christian. The half-and-half Christian is the kind of Christian that a great many of you are—little acquainted with the joy of the Lord. Why should we live half way up the hill and swathed in mists when we might have an unclouded sky and a visible sun over our heads if we would only climb higher, and walk in the light of his face?—Dr. Maclaren.

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my invariable answer is, Ayer's Pills. Taken in season they will break up a cold, prevent la grippe, check fever, and regulate the digestive organs. They are easy to take, and

Are the best

all-round family medicine I have ever known."—Mrs. MAY JOHNSON, 308 Rider Ave., New York City.

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Mention this paper.

*This article was prepared as a paper to be read before the Baptist Institute, St. John, in connection with the Jubilee session of the Maritime Convention but owing to an accident to the steamer by which Prof. Coldwell was to come, he did not arrive in time to present his paper at the Institute.