

Messenger and Visitor.

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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR
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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1896.

Agents of the Messenger and Visitor and all having business to do with the paper are hereby requested to take notice of the change in the office of Business Manager. All communications relating to subscriptions or other matters of business and all letters containing money or money orders for the paper should be addressed to A. H. Chipman, instead of to Rev. J. H. Saunders as heretofore. Correspondents are also requested to read carefully the notice at the head of our fourth page.

The English Baptist Missionary Society has just sent out ten missionaries, all ordained ministers.

At an short but pleasant vacation spent chiefly in Boston, the editor of the Messenger and Visitor has returned to resume his customary duties, all the better, he trusts, for this brief respite from the labors connected with the editorial chair.

The Acadia University Foot Ball team visited several towns in New Brunswick last week, playing at Sackville, St. John and Fredericton. They were victorious in their contests with the teams of Mount Allison and the N. B. University, but were defeated by the St. John and the Fredericton teams.

This is for the benefit of non-resident church members. There was a wedding service. The bride had a secret which stopped the proceedings. She confessed that she was a somnambulist. That need not hinder, replied the bridegroom. 'I am a Presbyterian and we can each go to our own church.' It is the religious somnambulists that stop our progress and service.

The American Board of Foreign Missions (Congregational) has had its annual meeting. The board had a deficit of \$65,000 on the year's operations. The whole debt is \$115,000. An effort is to be made to pay it all off within a few months. There is no reference made to the controversy on the "larger hope," which for several years tore the body so severely. The noted R. S. Storrs, D.D., is president of the Board.

The efficiency of Newton Theological Institution is increased by the addition of a new library building just completed. It costs \$62,000 and is paid for. At the opening exercises a hymn by the venerable Dr. S. F. Smith was sung and an able address given by Rev. Dr. Hovey, who seems to lose none of his power as a thinker. He intimated that Newton would hold to the orthodox views of religious truth "in face of every wind that blows."

It is very desirable but very difficult to secure full and correct statistics of our churches. With a view to remedy this defect as it has existed in the past, the following resolution was passed at the last meeting of Convention:

Resolved, That all District organizations are urgently requested to use their best endeavors to secure correct statistics for the associations from all the churches in their respective districts, and that this resolution be sent to secretaries of District Committees.

Will not the secretaries note this matter and bring it before the committees? Several months ago Rev. A. H. Strong, D. D., president of Rochester Theological Seminary, published a number of articles in the Examiner on Ethical Monism. The articles awakened thought and aroused considerable opposition. Dr. Strong is now publishing another series of articles in the Examiner, explaining his former utterances and meeting some of the objections to them. He claims to be orthodox in the fullest sense and intimates that he has been misunderstood on some points.

At the late meeting of convention, Rev. C. W. Grenier made an address on the work he is doing in Nova Scotia. The brethren were pleased with Bro. Grenier and on mention of Rev. A. T. Dykeman, who knows the work and the missionary, it was resolved to ask the Grande Ligne Board to appoint Rev. C. W. Grenier and wife as missionaries to the French of Western Nova Scotia for one year. We are glad to know that the request has been complied with and we wish our brother much blessing in his labors.

We are informed that Professor Trotter is preaching excellent sermons and getting a strong hold upon the respect and confidence of the Wolfville congregation. We hear also that the social life of that town is showing more activity than usual. The receptions in the college are held. There was also a

quiet but profitable meeting in the Seminary, on 28th ult., when the teachers and the Senior class of the Seminary met the professors of the college and their wives. The ministers of the town were present. In this way something is being done to promote unity of feeling and concert of action among the various elements in the community.

The annual session of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland was held at Portsmouth, beginning Oct. 7th. At the opening meeting Mrs. Bonnick speaking on "The Evangelization of the Villagers," said: "We Baptists occupy a unique position, and have a special testimony in witnessing to the spirituality and inwardness of religion. We stand for a reasonable faith, ready to face the intellectual problems of the day, the answer to which is found and only found in the Christ. We stand for an answer to the social problems of the day, only to be met, but surely to be met by the teaching of the great Master. We stand for the reverent treatment of science, but our faith also meets the deeper needs of the heart. It means content and joy for the individual; it sanctifies our social life. It is a faith worth carrying to the ends of the earth."

We can sympathize with our correspondent, "J. N. C.," in the wish that the president of Acadia might have been present in person to represent that institution at the Educational Association at Truro. It is well that our college should avail itself as far as possible of such opportunities to come in touch with the general educational interests of the country. It is a matter of reciprocal advantage. The fact that President Sawyer's name was on the programme is presumptive evidence of his intention to be present and it is reasonable to suppose that he was prevented by circumstances from carrying out this purpose, to his own regret as well as to that of the members of the Association.

Dr. A. R. Simpson displays a touchiness, a readiness to take offence, and a willingness to resort to strong language when any of his methods are called in question, which a public man should avoid. He is appealing to the Christian public for the support of his missionary work. The method he adopts, the motives to which he appeals, his statements of alleged facts, and the use he makes of the contributions he receives, are fair topics of criticism. His rejoinder to the criticism upon making a subscription upon faith is based upon a distinction between his personal and his official subscription that is so nebulous that the ordinary mind fails to grasp it. Without in the least impugning the honesty of Dr. Simpson, his supporters add the public at large, should demand that he publish his accounts. No man can afford to collect many thousands of dollars for benevolent work without giving a scrupulously exact statement of what he receives and what he does with it.—Watson.

We had the pleasure of meeting in Boston, Rev. S. F. Smith, D.D., of Newton Centre, Mass., on his eighty-seventh birthday, October 21st. Dr. Smith's reputation as a poet has long been established. To citizens of the United States he is honored as the author of "My Country 'tis of Thee." To Christians everywhere he is dear as the writer of "The Morning Light is Breaking." Our Canadian Baptist hymnal contains eight of Dr. Smith's hymns. While it cannot be said that Dr. Smith's natural force is not abated, it is certain that, for one who has passed so far beyond the limits of four score years, his physical and intellectual vigor is remarkable. On the occasion referred to above, he delivered an excellent address before the Baptist Ministers Association of Boston. Dr. Smith is one of the sweet singers of Israel.

When the spirit of devotion gets low it is a good thing to read aloud the inspiring hymns of the great writers. When he was too feeble to attend public worship, the late Rev. David Crandall found, as he said, great comfort and exaltation of soul in reading aloud the hymns that contained truth and poetry. On the Lord's day while others were singing in the sanctuary, he found it joyful to praise God with his voice as he repeated the christian lyrics he had loved so long. Until one has tried this exercise he knows nothing of its power. And Dr. Smith's hymns will when read, render the author to the reader.

For the past two or three weeks the daily press of St. John has given a good deal of time and space to the discussion of the comparative suitability for this city of Eastern Standard, Atlantic Standard and local time. Eastern Standard is the time by which the railways gener-

ally on this part of the continent are run; Atlantic Standard is one hour faster and that by which the people of Halifax and generally speaking those of Nova Scotia and P. E. I. regulate their time pieces; and local, or sun, time is twelve minutes nearer to Atlantic than Eastern Standard time. Other things being equal, the Atlantic Standard would seem to be preferable for this latitude to Eastern Standard as it would bring twelve o'clock more nearly in the middle of the day and would make our time pieces harmonize with those of our neighbors in the other maritime provinces. But against this consideration is to be put the desirability of being in harmony with the time on which the railroad trains are run, which on the whole seems the more important. It certainly appears evident that a great amount of inconvenience would be escaped if either the Eastern or the Atlantic standard of time were adopted by St. John and the province generally.

Rev. J. Hector, otherwise known as "The Black Knight," a full-blooded negro and a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church spoke three times to large audiences in St. John on Sunday last, and was heard with great interest. Mr. Hector who has achieved distinction as an evangelist and a lecturer on temperance was born in Canada, his parents having escaped from slavery in the Southern States. Most of his life, however, has been spent in the States. He served the cause of liberty as a soldier in the war of the rebellion and carries the marks of the conflict on his person. He never went to school. He learned to read when freeman of a locomotive engine. But he is certainly a man of good native ability. To good judgment and sound common sense he adds a remarkable talent for oratory and an irrefragable fund of humor. Above all he appears to be a man of deep and sincere piety and his words impress one as those of a man who is speaking out of an honest heart and not for mere sensational effect. Sunday morning Mr. Hector spoke to a large congregation in the German Street church. He was heard with deep interest and we believe with much profit. In the afternoon the Mechanics Institute was crowded to hear his lecture on "The Devil in White," and in the evening he preached in the Centenary church to a packed house. Mr. Hector comes here under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. He speaks in the Institute on Monday and Tuesday evenings. These lectures are in the interest of the temperance work. There can be no doubt that he is a very effective speaker on that subject, and the attractive power of his oratory gives him the opportunity of preaching the gospel of temperance to a class of people whom the ordinary lecturer cannot reach. While Mr. Hector frequently excites the ribilities of his audience by his droll manner of putting things, there is apparently no effort to be funny and his hearers carry away the impression that the speaker's aim is wholly serious and excellent. The W. C. T. U. of St. John deserve the thanks of the community for bringing Mr. Hector here and we feel sure that wherever he may speak he will be heard with delight and profit.

Russia made a splendid diplomatic coup the other day to get ahead of England by taking upon her to advance China the money the latter so urgently needed to pay to Japan, making at the same time what demands on China she might on the strength of the obligation. Russia had not the money herself, but her faithful admirer, France, rushed forward with an offer of it, and so in her turn got ahead of England and established an obligation in her favor. It is a curious comment on all this that after all the money had to be paid by a transfer in the books of the Bank of England, and it is probable that the loan had to be really placed in London. In financial transactions it is generally the party who has the money who makes the chief part of the profit. Most of the money will be spent in England too. Japan is devoting the greater part of it to the strengthening of her navy, and has ordered men-of-war from the British yards. Russia is compelled to strengthen her fleet, so as to hold her own on the Pacific against this now formidable Asiatic power that has arisen, and she, too, has placed and is placing orders for men-of-war, torpedo boats and torpedo catchers in England. The consequence is that the British shipyards are working night and day in their efforts to keep up with the demand. British workmen are benefitted. The Belfast and Clyde ship-builders who struck for a big advance in wages, have been granted their demands in full. It is probably the fact that the nations see that Great Britain somehow gets the

lion's share of the profits of most international struggles, whether diplomatic or military, that makes most of them enviously hostile to her and some of them furiously opposed on occasions against her, as official Russia seems to be for the moment, if the "Official Messenger" reflects the feelings and opinions of the bureaucracy, which alone has any public feeling in international matters.—Montreal Witness.

The meeting of the Nova Scotia Teachers' Association held at Truro a few days ago, was largely attended. The teachers were addressed by a number of learned Professors and Educationists of the province. Among the topics treated were: "Provincial Reformatory for incorrigible pupils"; "The teaching of French in Nova Scotia"; "District Institutes"; "Concentration"; "Manual training"; "The correlation of the studies of the high school and methods of testing its work." Aesdla was well represented by Professor Haley, who took part in the discussions and read an able paper on "The conditions under which the natural sciences become a better training than the classics." He said in part:—

"Study, may be tried by a two-fold criterion (a) its effect in mental discipline, (b) the student's acquirement of new knowledge. He showed first that from the very subject matter of science there was a necessary mental discipline. There were at the present time great social problems in which a man should endeavor to form his conclusions independently. Any study which trained in the making of observations and the drawing of conclusions is especially valuable. Observations of phenomena, followed by generalization of these observations and the drawing of conclusions were a most valuable discipline. Mathematics was exclusively deductive. Not only the natural sciences, but history, geography, etc., were being studied by the inductive method. Natural science had the advantage, however, in depending on direct observation. Natural phenomena could be duplicated in the laboratory. The processes by which truth have been obtained have been carried to the greatest extent in the natural sciences. This statement is not by no means an authority than John Stuart Mill. Classical literature was the best example of human expression. Greek beauty of sentiment was not to be expected from the mechanical brain of a scientist. But in study of classics memory was trained in the poorest way. There was only an arbitrary connection between the work and the things they represented. The development of the reasoning powers was far more easily obtained in science. In primary grades observation lessons should be given. Such study ought not simply to stop with visual observation, but ought to rouse mental activity and lead to accurate description. Drawing of objects should be continually studied. Physics and chemistry were the best sciences in high schools.

The address was received with favor and discussed at length. Inspector Roscoe's paper on "District Institutes," was, says the Herald, " terse, full of points and intensely followed from the first line to the last. Inspector Roscoe is one of the most popular of the inspectors. His recommendation is considered to settle the matter as to a teacher's fitness for work." He thought these institutes should aim to train their teachers to do their work in the best way; that they should last five days; that attendance should be compulsory; and that the province should be divided into about thirty-six districts for purposes of the Institute. The meeting was of a high order. It is expected that the next convention will be of an interprovincial character.

Advisors from Constantinople say that twenty-three Mussulmans have been arrested and several houses searched in which arms were found and seized. It is stated that a plot against the Sultan's Palace has been discovered. The guards at the Yikosa refused to do their duty on Monday and it is supposed that they had been won over by the Mussulmans. The guards were alarmed and eight of them were sent to Antolia. The advice says that discontent with the present regime has become so marked that events of startling importance may be expected. A fusion of the Mussulmans and Armenians against the Sultan is believed to be imminent and it is expected that a joint manifesto will shortly be issued declaring that the united efforts will henceforth be directed against the existing system of government of the city. This financial situation is causing general uneasiness. An important fall in Turkish securities contributes greatly to this state of affairs. There have already been several cases of enforced closing of accounts and a few failures.

It is announced that Sir Herbert Murray, the newly appointed governor of Newfoundland, will be empowered to appoint three commissioners on his arrival to investigate the fiscal affairs of the colony. If the report should be unsatisfactory the governor will be authorized to make such further arrangements as he may deem necessary to protect the colony from further financial difficulties.

Why Not?
(Springfield Republican.)
It seems peculiarly appropriate at this period of dulness in the realm of sports to suggest an international contest that would surely excite the most profound and intense interest throughout the world. Our idea is simple, and it can be briefly stated. We propose that the United States war ship New York meet the English war ship Blake in single combat in such neutral waters as the two governments may determine, and that the two vessels be manned and fought by the most warlike of the respective populations.

For reasons of state pride we should insist that the command of the American ship be given to Senator Lodge, but, aside from that, his supreme qualifications for such a post cannot be doubted by the most captious naval expert. For subordinate positions on the quarter-deck Senator Chandler of New Hampshire, Senator Frye of Maine and Theodore Roosevelt would pass muster. If any of these men should decline the honor of representing their country, let them be compelled to face the foe. But who can doubt that such positions would be sought by them with the eagerness that impels our college boys to "make the team"? Our journalistic warriors should be packed in the conning tower. According to Comdr McGiffin, the conning tower proved rather unsafe for journalistic purposes at the battle of the Yalu, but as it offers immeasurably the best opportunities for accurate and picturesque write-ups, the merits of the place are easily seen to out-weigh the objections.

The arguments for an international contest of this sort are so obvious that it seems unnecessary to review them. We waive entirely the fact that for real excitement yacht races and track athletics are, compared with this project, of no more account than a game of tiddly-winks. We will no more than mention the immense sales the newspapers would have—sales never before realized even in the palmiest days of wall paper circulation. Let us consider simply the practical side. In the first place, a battle between the New York and the Blake would not be hindered or obstructed in the least by excursion boats. We would guarantee that the excursion steamers would keep at least 10 miles distant from the focal point of the action. Secondly, such a contest would decide the quality of our new navy without actually going to war with some nation and making us all fight. Thirdly, it would determine the much mooted question as to which country can build the better war ships, and that might help us in the markets of the world. Again, it would give our most bellicose patriots a chance to fight, to get a taste of war, and thereafter, in the Senate, on the forum and in the press they could speak and write as those having authority. Then would they know whereof they talked.

The good, accruing to both nations from this battle might be incalculable, in comparison with which the possible loss of two war ships would be infinitesimal. In old times armies often settled the question of supremacy by this mode of single combat between chosen champions. Has it not still some merit by which we may profit? Let this idea be seriously considered. We even hope it may call forth favorable comment from the metropolitan press, and from the distinguished men we have honored by proposing their names for the chief command. Let it not be dismissed as the vagary of a disordered mind when so much can be said in its favor. Here is a great chance for glory, fame—an unequalled opportunity to advance civilization in the English speaking world. And how much cheaper in the end!

W. B. M. U.
NOTO FOR THE YEAR.
We are laborers together with God.
Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. Manning, St. John West, N. B.
PRAYER TOPIC FOR NOVEMBER.
For the laborer in the North West, that this year there may be a large gathering of men, praise for Mr. Morse's letter in MESSENGER AND VISITOR of October.
SPECIAL REQUEST FOR PRAYER.
That the Holy Spirit will lay upon the hearts of the Pastors and membership of our churches the awful need of the L'AMOR BOUTIQUE who have been committed to our charge.

The W. B. M. U. Reports are printed and being sent to all our societies. If any fail to receive them, please send a post card to Mrs. Mary Smith, Amherst. These Reports contain a great deal of valuable information, and we hope our sisters will prize them sufficiently to pay five cents a copy for them; read them carefully and either preserve them for future reference or send them to their friends. A very interesting and profitable programme for a public meeting

could be easily arranged with extracts from these Reports, interspersed with appropriate music and recitations. We would suggest that our societies take this plan of bringing the information contained in these Reports before our churches.

Why I am Interested in Missions.
First, because our Saviour directly taught and embodied them in his life. He sent out the seventy. In his last command we bear him say, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," adding, by way of encouragement, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

Secondly, I am interested in missions because the church in all ages, so far as it has the real Christ spirit, has been a missionary church. Perhaps none of our living heroes have excelled John G. Paton, "the apostle to the New Hebrides," those once cannibal islands, which are becoming Christianized, and are now sending out missionaries to other islands, that they too may hear the new and wonderful story. Every age has furnished heroes and martyrs to carry on this work. The apostle Paul was the first foreign Christianized, and he has ever equaled his fiery zeal, his tireless devotion, his triumphant departure. Read his life if you would be imbued with the true spirit of missions. Truly he counted not his life dear: if he might preach Christ to the Gentile world.

Thirdly, I am interested in missions because humanity as well as Christianity demands them. "The dark places of the earth are full of cruelty." Heathenism persecutes widows, casts adrift the deformed and blind, neglects or destroys the aged and helpless—the very classes for which Christianity builds its asylums and endows its homes. Edgerton P. Young, in one of his fascinating books on the North American Indians, tells us how, on his first visit one man boasted that he had tied a rope about his mother's neck, led her away, and killed her with the old thing! Later, he saw two states Indians making a chair of their hands, bring their old mother to church, spread a blanket over the rude bench and support her during the service. No wonder there was a lump in his throat and tears in his eyes as he recalled his first visit and noted the contrast.

Fourthly, I am interested in mission because they are a success. Read the story of the "dark continent," where face setiless fictions. Think of the progress; where over two thousand were baptized in a single day. The Fiji Islands, once cannibal, are more Christian than Puritan New England. In Berns it has been said that a church has been organized for every three weeks of time since Judson began his labors there. What of our own mission field in India? Are not missions a success there? Ah yes, and they will continue to be a success if we do our part and hold hard on the ropes. The graves of our beloved dead have consecrated the soil. "India is sure for Christ!" Let us not lose our part in the labor or in the reward.

Finally, I am interested in missions because I am a woman. I wish I could place before you a map of the earth's surface, with Christian lands in white and Christian ones in black. A very large proportion would be black, reminding you that only where Christianity holds sway can woman be the equal companion of man. Elsewhere she is simply a soulless being, a doll, a slave, or a beast of burden. When I allow myself to think of woman, who can suffer as man never can, bought, trafficked, sold, my interest grows to a perfect fury, and I wonder that the women of Christendom do not rise in a mass and rush to the rescue! But, if one does show commendable zeal, she is at once pronounced "insane on missions." For an army of clothed lunatics to claim this world for Christ! Woman cannot be a cipher in the life of any race. She has, she must have, a mighty formative influence upon her descendants. Her grade elevates or you degrade a people. Elevate womanhood and you uplift a nation. "The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world." If you call me inferior because I am a woman, all my womanhood rises up in strong protest. I do not wish to usurp any of the prerogatives of the other sex. I prefer my daughter should excel as a woman. But I do claim for my sister over me the right to the knowledge and conditions which will enable her to be the companion and counselor of her husband and the honored mother of her children. If we really knew the conditions of women in our own field as the missionaries find it, we should be amazed, abashed. We pray "Thy Kingdom come! What are we doing to hasten its coming? Let us not mock God, neither let us rob him by withholding our gifts and offerings. Cheerful giving or paying the Lord his proportionate part becomes in time a real delight. "There is that which giveth and yet increaseth, and that which withholdeth more than is meet and it tendeth to poverty."

MARY B. WINGATE.
Representatives in London of the British self governing colonies held a meeting on Tuesday in the office of the Canadian High Commissioner, Sir Charles Tupper, who presided. The meeting was for the purpose of discussing the question of a Pacific cable in accordance with instructions received by the representatives from their governments. Colonial representatives will have an interview with Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, within a few days.