

## Messenger and Visitor

The Maritime Baptist Publishing Company Ltd  
Publishers and Proprietors.

TERMS } \$2.00 PER ANNUM.  
\$1.50 IF PAID IN ADVANCE.

S. McC. BLACK, EDITOR.  
A. H. CHIPMAN, BUSINESS MANAGER.  
85 Germain Street, St. John, N. B.

Printed by PATERSON & CO., 92 Germain St.

PLEASE EXAMINE THE LABEL ON YOUR  
PAPER. IT TELLS THE DATE TO WHICH  
YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS PAID

### He is Risen.

Sometimes, after weary days of storm and gloom, a new morning breaks upon the earth all radiant with sunshine, joyous with the singing of birds and sweet with the breath of flowers. The air seems charged with a potent elixir from the very founts of being. Men go forth as into a new world. Life flows into them through all their senses and they find it a joy to be alive. So the spiritual pulse of the Christian is quickened as his soul takes in the truth of Christ's resurrection. A new heaven and a new earth rise before him, and his inmost being throbs in glad harmony with the life of God.

The resurrection of Jesus was necessary to the completion of his gospel. His life and ministry would have been wonderful indeed if he had simply lived, and died a martyr's death, as many a prophet before him had done. His name would have been greatest among them all. But he would not have been the "Light of the World," for the shadows of death would have remained undispersed. The full attestation of his Sonship and his power would have been lacking and he would not have been manifested as the conqueror of man's great enemy. If Jesus had remained dead in Joseph's tomb, then all those highest hopes which he had inspired in the breasts of his followers must have perished like the falling of unripe fruit. The women who had loved him and ministered to him would have gone to the sepulchre and rendered the last sad tribute of affection, and then returned to weep for their lost friend who could not become their Saviour. The disciples would have gone about sadly and aimlessly for a little while, sorrowfully conversing together—as did those two who walked to Emmaus—of the great hopes which had been so cruelly disappointed in the crucifixion of him whom they had called "Lord" and "Christ." Soon they would have gone back again to their old employments, and that wonderful life and ministry of Jesus would have become to them a sad and mysterious memory. It would have been as if the sun which had just touched the horizon had sunk back and all the promise of a glorious day had failed, and the light of a radiant morning had faded out into blackest night.

But such a life as that of Jesus could not be obliterated. Sooner might the sun be blotted from the heavens and all the life of the world be swallowed up of death. The ministry of Jesus had enthroned him in every honest heart as Son of God, and it was impossible that he should be holden of death. He awakes in power. The serpent's head is crushed beneath his heel, his foot is upon the neck of that "grisly terror" which so long had tyrannized over the souls of men. He is glorious in his apparel now. He has put on the garments of victory. He marches in the greatness of his strength. He is mighty to save.

The church must not fail to grasp this revelation of the risen and glorified Christ. It must never be forgotten that Jesus of Nazareth is declared to be the Son of God with power by his resurrection from the dead. Very gracious to us is the thought of Jesus in his humiliation, very near does he come to us as the Man of Sorrows who was tempted like ourselves, who bore our sins and carried our griefs, unspeakably precious to us is he as the Lamb of God; but let us not forget that he could become the Lamb of God to take away the sins of the world, because he was the Son of God with power. Our Saviour is no more the lowly man of Nazareth, the

rejected and crucified Jesus, but the Risen One, exalted at the right hand of God, a Prince and a Saviour to give repentance to Israel and the remission of sin. He is the Great High Priest through whom every child of faith draws near to God. We see not yet all things put under man, but we see Jesus the eternal representative of humanity, clothed with glory and honor, and the hearts of the faithful are strengthened by the assurance that by and by they shall fully share the victory of their Lord.

### The Things of Men and the Things of God.

In the passage that precedes the Bible lesson for the current week we find our Lord questioning his disciples regarding their conception of himself,—his personality and his office. Their opportunities for knowing and understanding him had been much greater than those enjoyed by others. The Master had been patient with these disciples. He had not demanded that in coming to him they should at once declare their faith in him as the Messiah. That is his way always. He does not hurry his disciples. He wishes them to receive the truth concerning himself and his kingdom as they are able to bear it, and so long as they keep their faces steadfastly toward the light, he will be patient with their slowness. But now that the seed which he had been sowing had been given time to germinate, it was important that these disciples should understand and declare plainly what their conception of him involved; was he more to them than he was to others? "Who do ye say that I am?" Peter, answering promptly for the rest, had spoken, with the ring of strong conviction in his words, saying, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Gladly the Lord listened to the confession of his disciple, assuring him that in this matter he had been taught of God, and that he was destined to a position of great influence in the kingdom of heaven.

Peter had done well. He had proved himself an apt scholar in the school of Jesus. He had reached the assured conviction that his Master was the Son of God, and thus had shown himself worthy to be called "Peter," having obtained a sure position on that everlasting rock of faith which is fundamental to all true discipleship. But there was a great deal still for the disciple to learn. It was Peter's weakness not to understand this. He seemed to think that he had graduated at the school of Jesus, with honors, whereas he had just matriculated. Peter felt wise enough now to instruct his Master and, as he thought, to restrain Jesus from an indiscretion. It is a remarkable picture, is it not, and none the less so that there are so many counterparts of it in lives which we know much more intimately than we do Peter's. Here is this poor ignorant man, so exalted in his self-sufficiency that he feels quite competent to instruct and to restrain from an unwise course Him whom he himself had lately declared to be "the Christ, the Son of the living God." But are we in a position to sit in judgment upon Peter in this matter? Have we never, in the face of the precept or the example of the Master whom in our formal confessions we call "the Christ" and the "Son of God," said, "Npt so Lord," and "this is not expedient?" Have we not in effect said many times that we know ways much easier and better than that which the Divine Master has indicated? If Jesus is the Son of God, then there can be no question of our duty to follow unquestioningly where he leads. What does it avail to call him Master and Lord, and refuse to accept his commands?

In his rebuke of Peter our Lord sets in strong contrast "the things of God" and "the things of men." Peter's expostulation with his Master had been determined by a regard for "the things of men." It came to the ears of Jesus as the echo of that mighty temptation by which, in the wilderness, Satan had sought to break down his allegiance to God. The matter had been settled there, once for all. He had given himself up fully to do the will of God, to be the Christ of Israel and the Saviour of the world, whatever the cost might be. This was the work which the Father had given him to do, and he who persuaded him to draw back from that work and to refuse the cup which the Father put into his hands, offered the counsel of Satan, and, though the advisor was a beloved disciple, he met with prompt and stern rebuke.

There are two lessons suggested here of great moment. One is the importance of determining clearly, at the beginning of one's religious experience, his relations to God and to Satan. Jesus had definitely decided to reject entirely the overtures of Satan and to renounce all seeming good that must be sought by forsaking the path of duty to God and his fellow men. Those who would walk in fellowship with him must take their stand here with him. He admits no compromises with the god of this world. The disciple who keeps his Spiritual vision clear, his conscience sensitive by constant fellowship with Christ will not be overthrown by the force of a sudden temptation. The other lesson is that the temptation to unfaithfulness, from whatever source it may come is to be met at once and sternly as a suggestion of Satan. One's dearest friend may become his dearest enemy.

In view of the strong temptation always pressing upon us to "mind the things of men," and to give allegiance to the god of this world, our Lord's impassioned admonition to his disciples demands consideration. "If any man will come after me, let him take up his cross," etc. This was almost literally true as a condition of real discipleship in that day, and it is still true that self-denial is a condition of following Jesus. But self-denial does not mean self-destruction. If the gospel involves the surrender of the world, it saves the man, and what is all the world to a man who loses his life in obtaining it? What are "the things of men" in comparison with "the things of God?" "For the Son of Man shall come in the glory of his Father, with his angels; and then shall he render to every man according to his deeds."

### Editorial Notes.

—The well written article by Miss Bishop, to which we give up our first page this week, deals with an interesting subject and will no doubt, as it deserves to do, attract many readers.

—It is much to be regretted that the American Missionary Union at the close of its financial year, March 31st, has to confront a serious deficit. Last year by a special effort on the part of the people and the large gift of Mr. Rockefeller, the accumulated debt of the Union was wiped out, and it was hoped that this year receipts would equal expenditure. This hope has been disappointed. Just what the deficit is we do not know, but it is probably not less than \$100,000. The excitement and suspense in commercial circles occasioned by the menace of war is said to have seriously affected the receipts of the Union during the month of March.

—We have received number one of a series of pamphlets which the Educational Review has undertaken to publish, and which will aim to present the leading events and personages of Canadian history in such a way as to interest and instruct. The first number contains papers as follows: Physical Growth of Canada, by G. F. Matthew, D. Sc.; The Legend of Glooscap, by James Vroom; Cartier's First Voyage, by W. F. Ganong, Ph.D.; Winter at St. Croix Island, by G. U. Hay, Ph. B.; The Story of Lady La Tour, by James Hannay; The Story of the Loyalists, by J. G. Bourinot, C. M. G., I. L. D. This is an attractive table of contents and he who purchases and reads will surely find himself well repaid for his time and money. Price 15 cents.

—The MESSENGER AND VISITOR was pleased to receive a call the other day from Mrs. A. D. Hartley, of Florenceville, Carleton Co., N. B. Mrs. Hartley is one of the paper's valued friends. She has been obtaining for us some new subscribers and hopes to obtain others. And Mrs. H. does good in other ways. Her interest in good enterprises finds expression in a private museum, to which she has devoted a room in her house, and in which she has gathered many curious and interesting articles from home and foreign lands. Visitors to this room are charged an entrance fee of ten cents, and the proceeds go to benevolent objects. Already during the past year the museum has yielded ten dollars to the Foreign Mission treasury. Mrs. Hartley is certainly one of those women who should be helped. It may be that there are readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR who have in their homes curios which they would be glad to add to Mrs. Hartley's collection, seeing that she has discovered a way of using them to so good a purpose.

—In the death of John on Tuesday morning John has lost a Main Street Baptist highly valued member many excellent qualities was extensively engaged in connection with Roberts, of Liverpool, was marked by his kindness and benevolent judgment and a valuable church of which he interested in all the welfare of his interest in the affairs of the F. M. Board of attention. He had to the denomination before being seized this office, and in press his high earlier life Mr. Roberts the late Sir Leonard the cause of temperance.

—At present written between the United balance and it is in will be. It seems qu be averted or at lea the other hand it shall be in the hand clared. It is under Government has se which demands the ities in Cuba and the Note is said to which Spain may ch and the independence tive. It is also un asking a brief time this indicates a disp presented, or merely for the conflict, is un the United States ha business. A number mined on war at any if they do not have t ment with Spain is co more than the jingo likely to be somewh hands of the great r in no condition for se

—The bill introduced Commons by Postmas postage on newspapers more than ten miles from presume, intend to newspapers, though in paper, with 75 or 90 p town or city where it is the tax. And in a les also, while the religio with the weekly issues which are produced m Paper can be, must fee result of competition and paper has been to reduc paper in Canada to a po most moderate returns and to impose a yearly the publishers of these p Mulock's bill—will prov conditions under which compete are sufficiently more so by Act of Parliam

### At Eve

It is away down here in of a beautiful spring d slanting shadows long a different from any other How resplendent the g restful the darker green of is touching the adobe ho of peach-bloom pink, mal in which they nestle. follow an avenue of radiat tender thoughts—what l country road? The banks of the acqu (just dead reeds in the d Over at the East, the halo asterly of the rough, ru something see mountains o as never otherwise, can yo them). The serrated rang mild sky, has lost all il longer the mission of th invite. They are hills the you can dream, amid w groves and glens, and pe your fancy. And at this and linger and fill the air of song—strains of confes full—notes that hint of per And so I see Life's even light—the light of divine birds are singing their parti of sacred memories and of dreams, with the seed of di