

—Complaints that the License law in St. John County was not being efficiently enforced by Mr. Vincent, the Inspector for the county, have been the subject of examination, during the past week, before the Hon. Mr. Tweedie of the Provincial Government. It is to be hoped that the investigation will have good results. It has been made very plain that in parts of the county, where there are no licenses, St. Martins especially, a good deal of liquor is being drunk, as frequent cases of intoxication among young men make abundantly plain. It has also been shown that the Inspector has been in the habit of allowing liquor sellers to settle with him by paying fines without prosecution,—a proceeding which the law strictly forbids. It is evidently time that steps were taken to secure a better enforcement of the law, and we trust that the efforts of the temperance people may result in making the law a much greater terror to the illegal liquor sellers than it has been heretofore.

—New York City, besides having afforded a refuge for professional pugilism and a theatre for the performances of the world's champion bruisers, seems to have become a paradise for anarchists. A few nights ago, according to a New York despatch, about 200 men and women—most of them Italians and all of them avowedly anarchists—met in Clarendon Hall of that city and listened to speeches denouncing the late King Humbert of Italy and applauding the act of Gaetano Bresci, his assassin. Nearly every person present, it is said, wore a button bearing the likeness of Bresci, who was frequently alluded to by the speakers as "comrade", and every mention of his name was received with cheers. One man, who tried to say a word in praise of the murdered king, was dragged from the platform by one of the other speakers amid the groans and hisses of the audience.

—Dismissing the subject of Ministerial Education, H. Warren Nice writes in the Standard. "After an experience of ten years in various institutions, and nearly three years in the active ministry, I have reached this conclusion: That the great need of the ministry to-day is more of self-reliance and independence of character, especially in regard to money matters. What this world needs to know is that the vocation of a minister is the highest calling on earth, and that he should be looked upon not as a mere hireling to cast old slippers and mottoes upon, but paid decently like any other man. The cringing, beggarly way in which many men of God expect favors from the world, always wanting to be entertained by someone poorer than themselves, wanting things cheaper than anybody else, and carrying favors which are not given willingly, will never in the world exalt the minister of Jesus Christ to the place where he belongs."

—A committee of experts has reported that the foundation walls of Westminster Abbey are being affected very seriously by the fumes from the Daulton potteries at Lambeth and that if present conditions continue the Abbey will in a few years be in ruins. Professor Church says: "We were called in in the nick of time. The noxious fumes have been rotting the stone work beneath the surface for years. We examined the Chapter House crypt particularly, but fear the Abbey proper, especially the east end, is in grave peril, too. Microscopic and analytic examination of the crumbled stone work shows that hydrochloric acid causes the trouble. The potters must be induced to use less chlorine, or regulations framed to prevent the escape of the fumes." It is said that Prof. Church has recommended a mixture with which to wash the acid eaten stone, which has the effect of arresting decay and solidifying the crumbling mass.

—Very large sums of money are being raised this year in England by the principal Non-Conformist bodies in the way of twentieth century funds to be applied to the enlargement of Christian work at home and abroad, and it is gratifying to learn that the zeal of the Free Evangelical churches is to find expression, not only in the increase of missionary funds, but in special efforts to promote a wide-spread revival of religion in the country and to give greater effect to the preaching of the gospel. Many of the leading ministers of the Free churches, including such men as Dr. Clifford, Dr. Mackennal, Dr. Horton, Rev. Thomas Spurgeon, and Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, will be engaged in this work, having already been assigned special districts in which they will conduct evangelistic services. The liberality with which the Non-Conformists of England have promoted the century funds is not to be despised as a testimony to their belief in the value of Christianity, and we may devoutly hope that it will bear fruit in a quickening of the spiritual life of the churches which will lead to great results in the conversion of thousands who are living in indifference and sin.

—Such news as has been received from South Africa during the past week does not indicate much change in the military situation. Lord Roberts reports that Commandant DeWett has eluded the British generals who endeavored to hem him in. This he probably effected by breaking up his force into small bands which were able to make good their escape by night. There has been a contradiction of the report that Col. Hoare's force of 300 men was captured by Commandant Delarey at Elands River. Lord Roberts reports that Col. Hoare's force has been relieved by General Kitchener. Gen. Buller occupied Ermelo in the South-eastern Transvaal, Aug. 11th, but nothing is reported of his movements since that date. President Kruger's peripatetic capital is said to be for the present at Baberton, a considerable town 35 miles south of the Delagoa Bay railway and connected with it by

a branch line. There are said to be several working gold mines in the vicinity, whose output Mr. Kruger may be able to commandeer. It is supposed that General Buller may be pushing towards Baberton. Lord Roberts has issued a proclamation which, after reciting the fact that many of the Boers have broken the oaths which they had taken to maintain neutrality, warns all who may break their oaths in the future that they will be severely dealt with. In districts occupied by the British, all burghers who do not take the oath will be regarded as prisoners of war and transported, and buildings on farms where the enemy or his scouts are harbored will be liable to be razed.

—The collapse recently of two railway bridges on different lines of railway in this Province indicates a condition of things not pleasant for the travelling public to contemplate. The carelessness which permits the existence of so serious a menace to human life as such a condition of a railway constitutes, is being made the subject of justly severe criticism. In reference to the main lines of railway in this country there is probably no reason to apprehend that the character of the roads, the condition of the rolling stock and the regulations of the train service are not such as should inspire the fullest confidence. But there are a number of branch roads in respect to which the same confidence is not felt. The St. John Globe in this connection very pertinently asks—"Are there other bridges in a dangerous state? Who can tell? Who is charged with the responsibility of knowing? Is it the business of anybody besides the railroad corporations? Does anyone stand for the safety of the public as between the traveller and the railroad organization?" These questions justly demand a satisfactory answer. It would seem to be the plain duty of the Government of the country to require satisfactory evidence that the public railways have not fallen into such a condition as to become imminently dangerous to the lives of the people who patronize them.

—This week the Baptist of the Maritime Province will be going up to their annual Convention in Halifax, and doubtless they will experience only the best of treatment at the hands of their brethren of the capital. There will be, as in other years, much business to transact, many reports to present and to consider, much to inquire into, perhaps some things to criticize. It is much to be desired that a brotherly and Christian spirit shall be carried into all the business and discussions of the Convention. Let us never forget Whom we are and Whom we serve. It is well that we should bring calm and intelligent minds to the discussions of the subjects which are to be presented. We should aim at the best principles and the best methods. Where improvements are practicable we should seek to effect them. But let all things be done in that spirit of gracious charity which becomes Christian men who are seeking to advance the interests of their Master's kingdom. Those to whom the denomination has committed the management of its business should not be too sensitive under honest and kindly criticism, and, on the other hand, it should be remembered that those who serve on the different Boards are often placed in positions of great responsibility and difficulty. Many of them are giving, to promote the work of the denomination, much time and thought for which they receive no financial remuneration. They are therefore certainly entitled to the sympathetic counsel and support of their brethren. It is to be desired that the denomination shall, as fully and generally as possible, recognize the fact that the work to be considered and promoted at the Convention is not merely the work of the Boards or the officers of the Boards, but the work of the denomination itself. And back of that there is a profounder truth—the work is the Lord's, or else neither the denomination nor the Convention has any rightful concern with it. The Convention calling together many delegates from all parts of the these provinces, should result not only in advancing interest which the Baptists of these province have undertaken to promote, but in cultivating Christian friendship and fellowship, promoting spirituality and strengthening the spirit of devotion to our Lord and his work. That this may be the result let those who go and those who remain at home devoutly pray.

An Anniversary and Other Things.

BY H. F. ADAMS.

Our eyes opened wide when we saw for the first time the grand Straits of Canso. Arriving at Port Mulgrave we embarked on the Malcolm Cann, to assist in commemorating the above event. We were delighted to find an old Yarmouth friend in charge of the little steamer. The genial Captain Kelly made our voyage doubly delightful by more than one story of the sea. Be sure you get him talking when you sail in his ship. He loves the sea and its Maker, and is a good Baptist withal. As we skipped along this grand sheet of water (which is 60 miles from Canso Bay through St. George's Bay) we gazed on mountains on either side. These are dotted with cosy cottages, where dwell the fishermen and families. In that old brown cottage lives an old man who was on the "Kearsage" when she sank the "Alabama." Along these waters stole the old American skipper, who made his boat that he could always elude the customs' officers when they were after the "Light-house dues," but who one day nearly lost his life in performing the trick. Through these straits sailed the new fishing smack, which its owners had built for their most successful captain. They put into her a new style of "Log." It was a mysterious thing to all the crew. Speeding along at a fine rate one day, the old captain bethought to put down this "patent log." Before doing

so they forgot to fix the "indicator." When one hour was up, he asked for the record. "When mate drew it up, he said, 'she's made 99 knots in the hour,'" said the delighted old captain. "Hoist the fore-top-sail and make it a hundred."

Well, we called at Arichat, the principal town of the "Isle Madame." In the distance we spied the triumphal arches, through which Premier Laurier was to drive a week later. While our steamer was discharging a lot of mattresses, bedding imported for some of the 600 visitors to the "Acadian Convention," we chatted with an old French sea captain of origins. He had travelled around the world and was full of points. There are some 600 Acadian families on the island. These are descendants of the old French families, as the British dispersion of the Acadians in 1755, did not touch Isle Madame. So here they have lived, generation after generation, for two hundred years. Now the Episcopalians and Presbyterians have each a church, but the Baptists have only one representative. Yet if she is as true to her colors as her brother, Rev. F. O. Weeks, she will be like a city set on a hill. She resides at Descoett.

Crossing the straits we find our waters merged in the "Chedabucto Bay," and she's a beauty. At eventide we approach the beautiful Canso Bay. With his accustomed skill our captain avoids the great ledges that just peep up to remind us of their power and perfidy. Through a rock-bound channel the "Cann" glides and up to her wharf she comes. And this is Canso, of which we have read! The first face we recognized was that of our genial host, E. C. Whitman, Esq. To the old homestead, sacred to the memory of that progressive commercial genius, Abraham N. Whitman, we wended our way. There we found Christian graces and smiling faces. For four days we were in clover. We quickly passed from the abstract to the concrete.

Who would have imagined that a town 60 miles from a railway overland, and 36 from Port Mulgrave, would have grown to the size of Canso, having a population of about fourteen hundred souls. Yet here are great wharves and warehouses; a fleet of ships that bring to town thousands of tons of fish; this is frozen or packed in ice and shipped on the S. S. "Cann" to Mulgrave, thence west as far as Montreal. Last year Canso firms paid the I. C. R. over twenty thousand dollars for freight on fish, of which eleven thousands were paid by A. N. Whitman & Sons. We have not seen so much fish since we were last in "Billingsgate market," London.

Canso has 4 churches, Episcopal, Catholic, Methodist and Baptist. The last is a gem. In it we gathered Sunday morning, Aug. 12th, to preach a sermon in connection with its 54th anniversary. In the afternoon the church-roll was called, the prefix to which was a tender and touching address on the reminiscent past by Rev. F. O. Weeks, who had been the pastor twice. But before either of his pastorates he had visited Canso in connection with the marriage of the late beloved daughter of the late Rev. W. Bars, both of whom we laid away in the Truro cemetery. In the evening Pastor Weeks gave a beautiful address on an invitation, "Come thou with us and we will do thee good"; followed by an address by Pastor Adams on "Reasons for the growth of Baptists during the present century." Over all these exercises the pastor, Rev. F. H. Beals presided with consummate wisdom. This minister has just completed the fifth year of his ministry in Canso, and all testified to the strength and fruitfulness of his work. During these five years 60 have been added to the church roll; a new chapel built, finished, furnished and paid for, two miles from town, in which a Sabbath school and prayer meetings are held. And the home church has just finished and paid for, a most admirably planned vestry. And now they are about to beautify the exterior of their church and grounds, with paint and pickets. And for these ornaments they have the money in hand.

On the day following Anniversary services, our host planned a pleasure trip for the visitors. With many friends we embarked on the S. S. "Vulcan" and sailed for the "Kyack." It was a glorious voyage. Sea just right. Air balmy with August sunshine. Scenery unique; abounding in giant ledges, great bold rock islands; seals popping their heads up in water or sunning themselves on rocks. Now a crane floating through the air, then a flock of curlews migrating to undisturbed quarters. At last we reach Dunham's shooting box, one of the stations established for summer repairs to one of the great cables that crosses "Dover's Run." Here Mr. and Mrs. Dunham entertained us all in superb style. With sharpened appetites we sat down to a very toothsome dinner. No squat-on-the-grass picnic this. On a table spread under a verandah, it fairly groaned with the viands tempting a score of hungry folk. Meats hot and cold, fish and tongue, pickles and pies, cakes and cookies, tea and coffee, and the finale of ice cream. Another sail and the beautiful "Kyack" is reached. And what is the "Kyack." Ah, Mr. Editor, if you want to rest your weary brain, inhale ozone, elude callers, be beyond telegrams and telephones, elude to vegetate and forget everything, go to the "Kyack." But enough, for I would need as much more space to describe it.

[We are sure that the readers of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR would unanimously vote that Mr. Adams have the space required to tell us all about the "Kyack."—EDITOR.]