

Sermons with slings in them.

"Deacon Plain-speech," writing of the Gloryville church in the *Christian Intelligencer* says: "I don't want to say anything against the ministers, and least of all the men who have been giving Gloryville such a treat this year past; and whom we have treated so shabbily. Preachers, as a class, are the most intelligent, pure minded and self-sacrificing people in the world. And we would be badly enough off without their help in getting through this sad and sinful world. And there's only one thing, so far as I see, which they cannot do, and that is—preach. What do I mean? Why just this: When David went out against Goliath, suppose he had walked meekly up to the big man, and laying one of the smooth stones in his hand had said, 'My dear Goliath, oblige me by killing yourself with this'—what, think you, would have been the result for the Philistines? Instead of that, we all know what the brave little fellow did—how he fixed his eye on the giant, and ran towards him; how he put his smooth stone into a sling, and whirling it around and around his head with all his might, let fly as if he meant it, and meant him. And the stone went straight to the armed monster's vulnerable point, and sinking into his brain, laid him a lifeless heap along the ground. Now tell me whether these 'smooth little essays,' which have been so courteously presented for our consideration, have been anything more than a polite laying the stone in our hands instead of letting it drive straight to our hearts of sin. I am not objecting so much to the essays. God can make even the smooth stones of the brook achieve greater things than the spear of Samson and Jonathan. But what I want to see is the sling. I want to see the young warrior of the Lord come leaping along the plain with a light in his eye and a shout on his lip, his arms aloft, and his entire body and soul giving vim to the weapon he whirled and aims."

HE DID NOT COME ALONE.—A crowd had gathered in a great Welsh "chapel," barn-like in architecture, but spacious and filled with people. The preacher was entertained by a farmer. The time of service arrived, and no preacher! The good farmer became alarmed. He feared Hughes had forgotten or had fallen asleep. He sent a servant-mail to his room to inquire. She returned in a few moments, and reported that she did not knock at his door. "Why, sir, Mr. Hughes has company in his room. I heard him address another person and say, 'If thou goest with me I will not go thither! I will not go except thou go with me!' and added the girl, 'Mr. Hughes spoke as if his friend would not come. I do not think there will be any preacher at the meeting.' " "O yes," said the farmer, "I understand it. He will come, and he will not come alone. We shall have a melting, glorious time over there! Sinners will be converted at that meeting!" And sinners were converted by the score.

Muller's Orphan Houses.

During the year, ending May 26, 1881, George Muller received for his Orphan Houses at Bristol, England, and several missionary objects the extraordinary sum of one hundred and sixty-four thousand and five hundred dollars. Nothing was laid aside to meet emergencies. It was all spent except a balance of \$15,000. During the year there were 2,252 orphans supported and educated at Bristol. There were 91,072 Bibles, Testaments and Scripture portions sold or gratuitously distributed. Seventy-eight day-schools, fifty-six Sunday-schools, and six adult schools, most of which were in England, and the rest in various parts of the world, were supported or aided. One hundred and fifty-one preachers of the gospel at home and in foreign countries were aided. Tracts and books to the amount of 3,018,754 copies were sold or gratuitously distributed. Truly this is one of the most remarkable answers of prayer since apostolic times. Let prayer be offered for the continuance and enlargement of this blessed work. May seasons of refreshing from on high often visit the inmates of these Orphan Houses, and may all these orphan boys and girls become the followers of Jesus! The loved founder of the Orphan Houses at Bristol has entered upon the seventy-seventh year of his age.—*Watchman*.

He who was never tempted let him not be high-minded, but fear, for he may be surprised in that very instant wherein he boasteth that he was never tempted at all.

For the Christian Messenger.
Home Missions.

The Home Mission Board met in regular monthly session in the vestry of the 1st Baptist Church, Yarmouth, on Monday, 14th inst.

Treasurer reported receipts of the month \$307.74.

Reports were read from Brethren Saunders, Jordan, Bars, Curry, Kidson, Edwards, Grant, Richan, Knight, Hatfield, Barry, Normandy and Sterns.

Aid promised.

1. To the Cow Bay field, C. B., \$125.00 for the current year, i. e. year ending July 31st, 1882.

2. To Rawdon, Maitland, &c., Hants Co., N. S., \$100.00 for 9 months or until July 31st, 1882.

3. To the Dartmouth field at the rate of \$125.00 per year, from Nov. 1st, to July 31st, 1882.

4. To Buctouche, St. Mary's, &c., Kent Co., N. B., \$100.00 for the current year.

5. To the Shelburne field, \$150.00 for the current year.

6. To the Margarets Bay field, Halifax Co., \$50.00 from Oct. 20th, 1881, to July 31st, 1882.

Recommendation.

The Rev. A. H. Lavers is recommended to visit Summerside, and Bedeque, P. E. I., with a view to a settlement.

Requests.

All remittances of money and all communications relating thereto, to be addressed to Rev. J. A. Gordon, Milton, Yarmouth.

Fields intending to apply for aid will please send to the Cor. Secretary for forms of application.

A. COHOON, Cor. Sec'y.
Hebron, Nov. 16, 1881.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., November 23, 1881.

THE ENGLISH BAPTIST UNION.

We gave in our last some account of the meetings of the English Baptist Union. A few further incidents will be of interest:

A FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONFERENCE was held the day before the Union assembled, Mr. James Bonham presided well. The part of his opening speech especially appropriate was that which reminded his hearers that it was from Portsmouth that William Carey started in a Danish ship for India, and six years later Marshman and Ward, his most distinguished colleagues, also set sail from that port. After ninety years' missionary work, it was a wholesome thing to come in a body to Portsmouth and review these precious memories.

The Rev Dr. Culross, of Glasgow, was appointed to read the first paper and amply justified the selection of the committee, exhibiting a comprehensive and intimate knowledge of his theme in all its bearings. He has many qualifications for dealing with such a theme, having not only the faculty of distinct and full statement, combined with vivid description relieved by sympathetic touches, but a power in itself very rare and, on an occasion like this, of unspeakable practical importance—the power of condensation. Many of his points, and his speech was full of them, told well. As, for example, I noticed the following met with hearty response:—"On the man who knows the Gospel it is as imperative to make it known as to be diligent in business." "Opportunity is Divine summons." "With the unused talent the unused opportunity goes from us. This is one of God's laws as certain in its operation as the law of gravitation." "Make large and wise employment of native agency. Each one whose seed is in itself." "Luther said in his time the article of a standing and falling Church was justification by faith. That article in our day is the possession of missionary spirit." The closing words of his address, in which he compared the generous flow of the churches' gifts to Christ's cause to the freely flowing oil from the luscious olive, unlike the juice pressed from the lees by hard effort, was a fine stroke of rhetorical art which powerfully moved the assembly.

The Rev. T. Graham Turn had a practical part to play. His theme was "Individual and Church Responsibility." It was a thoughtful and carefully prepared paper. Mr. Turn has an impressive delivery. Following a veteran like Dr. Culross it was a trial. He was well received, and frequently and deservedly applauded.

The Rev. C. Williams then addressed

the assembly. He commenced with a very kindly reference to Mr. A. H. Baynes and his visit to India, in which he had the cordial concurrence of the assembly. He said they had had not only two able papers, but two papers which went straight to the mark. He urged their publication, as he believed the Baptist denomination was larger than that conference. His weighty words on this occasion were fitly spoken and cordially received. The Rev. J. M. Stephens, B. A., continued the discussion, speaking with warmth and energy. An allusion of his to our distinguishing rite calling forth a round of applause.

AN INCIDENT WHICH WILL NOT SOON BE FORGOTTEN.

The Rev. Charles Stovel, one of the fathers of the Baptist Union, of whose presence few were, until that moment, aware, rose to address the meeting. The audience was greatly moved at the sight of one who, in years gone by, had taken so prominent a part in the proceedings of the Union. We only remember one similar scene. That was when Edward Miall stood up for a moment or two at the last Triennial Conference of the Liberation Society. Edward Miall, alas! was too feeble to give utterance to his thoughts, and on this occasion it required a struggle for the honoured veteran, Mr. Stovel, to express his continued interest in the Union. To all it was a real pleasure once more to see his face and hear his voice. It was grand and edifying to hear the octogenarian utter his firm and unshaken confidence in those truths most surely believed amongst us. Not a few shed tears, and it was felt that the climax of the meeting had been attained.

The Portsmouth *Evening News* gives a fair account of the meetings. Having the following as the introduction:

The unanimity which seems to pervade the entire community, with regard to the great fundamental doctrines of religion, augurs well for the growth of Christian sentiment within the borough, and the meetings now being conducted cannot but result in a fresh impetus to the work of spiritual reclamation. The Baptists appear to be a very flourishing sect in this country as well as in America, and there is now a steady forward movement everywhere observable. Unlike the other great Dissenting bodies they refuse to acknowledge any great name as the founder of their sect, but trace their origin to the primitive Church itself, and refer to the Acts of the Apostles and the Epistles as affording clear evidence that their leading tenets have the sanction of inspiration. During the middle ages, they point to the Cathari and Albigenses, who, in the midst of the surrounding darkness, continued to hold fast the Apostolic doctrines. The first sprang into notice in England under Henry VIII., and after considerable persecution which had the customary effect of gaining many fresh adherents, they received freedom to meet and worship from James II., and complete religious liberty under William III. The progress made since that time has been simply marvelous.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

We beg respectfully to suggest to those of our Subscribers from whom we have not as yet heard this year, that we are very anxious to hear from them. Our necessities are great and pressing. It would be esteemed a special favor if they would send on without further delay, as we are desirous of meeting the obligations incurred to furnish them with their weekly supply of Christian literature.

A "Methuselah" Family.

LONGEVITY, TEMPERANCE AND PIETY.

A correspondent sends us the following interesting particulars respecting the family of Deacon Benjamin Cleaveland of Horton, N. S.

Anne—Mrs. Pitts, of Horton, born March 2, 1756; age at death 81 years.
Roxalena—Mrs. Pudsey, of Greenwich, born Jan. 23, 1757; age at death 77 years and 9 months.

Martin Luther—of Greenwich, born Jan. 23, 1759; age at death 80 years and 6 months.
Mary—Mrs. Johnson, of Wolfville, born May 18, 1761; age at death 78 years and 6 months.

Olivia—Mrs. Fox, of Bridgetown, born Feb. 23, 1768; age at death 94 years.
Enoch—of Cornwallis, born Sept. 14, 1765; age at death 87 years.

Cynthia—Mrs. Moss, of Horton, born Nov. 29, 1767; age at death 53 years.
Eunice—Mrs. Sangster, of Falmouth Village, born Feb. 25, 1770; age at death 86 years and 6 months.

Jerusha—Mrs. Neary, of Greenwich, born March 29, 1778; age at death 65 years.
Sarah—Mrs. Coldwell, of New Minas, born Nov. 16, 1775; age at death 101 years and 7 months.

Rev. Nathan—of Alma, Albert Co., N. B., born Nov. 10, 1777; age at death 90 years and 8 months.

Aaron—of Bridgetown, born May 1, 1780; age at death 88 years and 7 months.

Total ages, 984 years and 1 month.

Average age, 82 years.

This family were all strictly temperate and pious. The first seven were converted through the instrumentality of the Rev. Henry Alline, (the apostle of Nova Scotia). Mr. Cleaveland, (the father), was the author of a hymn book. He came from New England, and settled in Nova Scotia soon after the expulsion of the Acadians, and married Miss Mary Elderkin, of Horton.

NEWS OF THE WORLD.

The Governor General is bearing high testimony, at home, to the loyalty of the people of Canada. One day last week, on receipt of an address from the corporation of Chester, he said there was hardly a person in ten thousand in Canada who did not attach the utmost value to its Imperial connection. The *Post* says: The Princess Louise will accompany the Marquis of Lorne on his return to Canada, five weeks hence. The Marquis will resign the Governor-Generalship early in 1882.

There have been rumors of an early session of the Ottawa Parliament, but it is now supposed among those who are well informed that there will not be a call for the despatch of business before early in February.

Sir Charles Tupper arrived in Halifax on Saturday evening, and has since been busily engaged in inspecting the extensive new wharf and buildings at the deep water railway terminus, and in receiving delegates in relation to various public works.

Sir John A. Macdonald arrived at Toronto on Saturday morning and was welcomed by a committee and the general public at the station. The following members of the Cabinet are expected to attend the Toronto banquet: Sir Alexander Campbell, Sir Hector Langevin, Hon. Messrs. MacLellan, Caron, Bowell, Mosseau and Aikins. Sir Leonard Tilley is also expected to return from Washington in time to attend.

An Order-in-Council has been passed providing for the gradual reduction of the number of weights and measures officials from sixty-eight to fifty. When vacancies occur no new appointments will be made until the minimum number shall have been reached. Some of the officers have been transferred to the Inland Revenue Department.

A strange spectacle is being presented in the United States courts. The head of the nation holds his office by the act of a man who is being tried for his life. While the assassin of President Garfield, has by his act given to President Arthur the reins of power and position among the heads of nations, he has placed his own life in the hands of a jury who will feel disposed to administer the laws made and provided without much of mercy. Had he been in any of the nations under monarchical institutions, his regicidal act would have placed him in a somewhat different position, as special laws are generally provided to meet such outrages, on the chief magistrate. The affectation of insanity, or at least, the course of conduct Guiteau is pursuing, would lead to the conclusion that he seeks to induce the jury and court to suppose him insane. This will render the case a more difficult one, and yet there appears quite sufficient of method in his madness to display the craftiness of design in it all. The trial commenced on Thursday last, and during the opening of the case the prisoner sought to take up his own cause, and set aside his counsel; probably liking the notoriety he has already achieved, thought he might win more laurels of the same kind. There was no difficulty in identifying Guiteau as the criminal, and proving the shooting. Witnesses testified to seeing Guiteau before the shooting, and that nothing was noticed which would indicate his insanity. Chief Clerk Brown, of the State Department, and private Secretary Brown, testified as to Guiteau's persistent demands for appointment.

Guiteau offered to read a speech he had prepared in his defence, but as he was not allowed to do so, it was handed to the reporters and so secured publicity. On Monday Mr. Robinson, one of Guiteau's counsel, complained of discourtesy from Mr. Scoville, the other lawyer on the side of the prisoner, and

was permitted to withdraw from the case. Guiteau, in the most disorderly manner, persisted in speaking and in the course of the trial said: "By the Physicians' own statement on the 25th of July the President was not fatally shot." He aims to show that the death of the President was from malpractice on the part of the physicians. Mr. Scoville addressed the court on Monday and Tuesday on behalf of Guiteau. On Saturday, as he was being taken from the prison to the court in the covered van, a person on horseback rode up to the side of the vehicle and fired two shots and then immediately rode off at a furious pace. One of the shots inflicted a slight wound on Guiteau's hand. A man was arrested on suspicion of being the person who fired the shot but no one could identify him.

Sad tales of suffering come from the sea. From New York the barque Lowwood, of St. John, N. B., from Belfast, reports October 20th, lat. 44 10, lon. 37 30, sighted barque Bender (of London), from Liverpool; for St. John's Nfld., with coal. In the effort to rescue the crew, the Lowwood lost the second mate and four men, and almost lost another crew of the mate and two men. After rescuing one half of the crew they had to leave the rest in the wreck as it came on to blow, making a very heavy sea.

Another case, the British Barque H. A. Parr, with a crew of fourteen was dismasted, and foundered. The captain died and five of the crew were sent to hospital.

Again another, Brig. Servian, of Charlottetown, was lost, and her crew of six men taken off by the *Ativo*, and taken into Lewis Del.

Again, the German ship *Rudolph*, from Antwerp, brought the crew, eleven in number, of the barque *Hattie M.*, from Dublin, for St. John, N. B., abandoned in a sinking condition. The Captain of the *Hattie M.*, reports terrible weather. He lost three seamen overboard and a fourth was crippled.

And further, the steamship *Victoria*, from London to New York, reports passing through an awful hurricane on the 9th. A heavy sea broke on board the ship carrying overboard the boat-swain and two seamen and injuring four men. The same sea stove No. 1 life-boat, broke the main boom in three places, carried away three ventilators and damaged the funnel and rails.

At Youngstown, O., on Tuesday of last week, a burglar entered a house and blew open a safe belonging to Jesse Baldwin, a wealthy and eccentric citizen, and stole between \$30,000, and \$40,000, gold, then escaped.

The Superintendent of the Census Commission shows the population of the United States, by the last census, to be 50,155,783.

The Pacific National Bank of Boston temporarily suspended on Friday last, owing, as stated, to the failure of Thomas C. Weeks, a large operator, who is a creditor to a large amount. A large immigration of about 5000 Jews is expected from Russia, to the United States during the winter. 160 arrived at New York in the steamer *Bohemia*, on the 15th.

Director Swift, of the Warner observatory, at Rochester, at 11 o'clock on the 16th, discovered the faint comet in the constellation of Cassiopeia, having a right ascension about one hour and fifty minutes, declination north, 71 degrees, motion slowly westward; has a slight central condensation; but no tail is visible.

England has been again visited with violent gales and heavy rains. The weather was specially severe on the west coast of Scotland.

The operatives of the North Staffordshire potteries appeal to the public for aid in their strike. They expect substantial aid from America.

The *Daily News* learns that John Dunn has notified the British authorities that he is a candidate for the throne of Zululand. Cetawayo is to be brought to England.

The Sub-Commission of the Land Court at Limerick has made the following reductions:—Rent of £62 reduced £42; of £40 to £25; of £49 to £28 10s.

An explosion, supposed at first to have been of dynamite, occurred on board the Glasgow steamer *Severn*, on Wednesday last, from Bristol to Glasgow. The *Severn* was towed to Kingston Harbor. A portion of her decks were blown away. Nine persons were killed and several severely wounded. Four were taken to hospital. It was subsequently ascertained that it was caused by the bursting of a barrel of naphtha.

Somebody turned off the gas at the Hatton Garden Post Office, London,