

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., December 5, 1883.

1884. SPECIAL OFFER.

From this date NEW SUBSCRIBERS who send on the \$2.00 for 1884, will receive The Christian Messenger from the date of our receiving the money till the end of 1884.

THE LATE REV. CHARLES STOVEL.

Our columns have been so much in demand for other matters that we have delayed a notice of this aged Baptist minister who recently died in London. We well remember his neat gentlemanly appearance, more than forty years since, when hearing him preach in his church at Prescott Street, London, where he commenced to labor in the pastorate in 1832, and where for upwards of fifty years he continued to exercise his ministry.

The church is one of the oldest Baptist Churches in London—having been formed nearly two hundred years before Mr. Stovel became its pastor. The celebrated Abraham Booth had been its pastor at the beginning of the century. Rev. Dr. Angus who preached his farewell sermon on the 4th ult., says of Mr. Stovel:

"The very month Mr. Stovel settled in London, letters were received at the Mission House describing the so-called insurrection in Jamaica, and the imprisonment of our missionaries—troubles which sent Knibb to England, and ended, after a great struggle, in the emancipation of 800,000 slaves!"

With purely political questions he seldom meddled. But on all questions that concerned religious freedom, the equality of Christian men before the law; on all movements that sought to put an end to slavery, the sum of all evils, the violation of all human rights, and the denial of the Divine nature was quick and sensitive in the highest degree; and when he was roused it was impetuous, defiant, persuasive, and irresistible. On all questions, moreover, that touched the spirituality of the church, the personalness of religion, the supremacy of Divine law in the house of God, he was faithful and uncompromising; faithful not as to matters of opinion, but as to sacred principles. In his judgment they lay at the foundation of the church; so that to remove them was to endanger or destroy the whole. Sometime, perhaps, he thought there was violation of principle when no principle was at stake. I have heard men say that with him all questions were momentous; every field of conflict was a Thermopylae; every struggle was for life. But generally they were great principles he defended; and his defence was always weighty, and often unanswerable and decisive.

Eight and twenty publications illustrate the conscientiousness and the extent of his labours. For a man so busy and so sought after, the list is remarkable. It represents a larger number of pages than some ministers now read; and nearly every page states or illustrates a great truth.

In 1855 the church removed to Commercial-street. In 1868 the labours of six-and-thirty years were gratefully acknowledged by this church, and by others not now connected with it, and a purse was presented to Mr. Stovel containing nearly £600.

His last public service was to preside at the Lord's Supper on October 6th, when his weakness was most touching to witness. From that time he was confined to his bed, and gradually grew weaker, until he passed away on the morning of the 22nd, in his 84th year.

"On Sunday morning, the 21st of Oct. he asked a friend to pray with him, and said, 'I am going home, and shall soon be at rest.' 'I wish,' replied the friend, 'I could go with you.' 'What for?' he responded, 'you will soon come'—and putting his hands together, he added, 'You will soon all come to me.' These were his last connected words, but he appeared to be sensible to the end, though it was only at intervals he could recognize his friends."

He was a contemporary with the late Dr. Cramp when he was one of the London Baptist pastors, and but two years his senior. We have often heard the latter refer to him and their associate labors in the cause of Civil and Religious freedom and Foreign Missions.

The Methodist body of Canada are endeavouring to consolidate their Educational Institutions, and locate a combined School at Montreal. The Committee appointed for this purpose commenced its operations on Wednesday last.

HALIFAX AND ITS RELIGIOUS ASSOCIATIONS.

Whilst all the children who read the History of Nova Scotia know that the capital of the Province, Halifax, derived its name from the Earl of Halifax, yet it may interest many of them also to know something of the History of the name. An article in the 'Sunday at Home' on Halifax and its religious associations, meaning Halifax in Yorkshire, England, says:

The religious associations of Halifax appear to reach back to the very beginning of its history, of which the name of the town may be put in as evidence. Etymologically the word Halifax may signify Holy Hair, and the name under this signification has been explained as being given to the town from a cruel murder committed by a wicked clerk on a fair maiden whose head with its flowing hair long hung on a tree, and attracted many pilgrims to it as to a martyr's shrine. Or the word may be rendered Holy-Face, and has thus been said to have been given to the place, from an image of St. John, which was preserved in a hermitage which in early times was found on the spot. The latter rendering is supported by the admitted meaning of the name Fairfax, viz. Fair-Face. The fact of this being a northern name, and well known in those parts in early and in later time, gives strength to the rendering. Which ever account of the name be accepted, the associations of it are religious, and the place, for one reason or the other, seems to have been at its earliest existence a place of resort for pilgrims.

Probably the origin of the town was the building of a few small huts or primitive houses for the accommodation of these pilgrims. The first mention of the place dates in the twelfth century, when the ecclesiastical chroniclers of the era record that the church was granted to the Priory of Lewes, in Sussex, by William, Earl Warren—a religious association also. It is further recorded that in the fifteenth century there were but fifteen houses in the little town, but that within a hundred years the population had increased to five hundred, which is accounted for by the influx of refugees from the Netherlands, who, being driven from their home-land by the persecution under the Duke of Alva, settled in this locality. Here also is a religious association, for Halifax thus became a refuge of religious liberty to those strangers and foreigners. And this also gave firm and substance to the incipient town, for these refugees, consisting largely of merchants and their dependents, brought trade to the place; and possibly, also, something of handicraft, and thus it may have been that the foundation of the Halifax manufacture was laid, which now supplies carpets and other woolen fabrics to the world; trade and religion, and especially religious liberty, being in this, as in other instances, closely connected.

At the meeting of the Halifax School Commissioners last week there were four applicants for the position in the High School made vacant by the appointment of Mr. McKay to the superintendency. They were: Adoniram Judson Denton, Egbert M. Chesley, E. J. Torry, I. A. Blair.

Of these the committee recommended the appointment of A. J. Denton, which was adopted without discussion.

Mr. Denton is an A. B., of Acadia College, was born in 1853, and is a native of Waterford, Digby Co. He has been identified with schools all his life, and obtained a provincial license to teach at the age of 13. He began teaching when only 15 years, and taught 4½ years, when he entered the Horton Academy, where he studied six months matriculating into Acadia College in 1875 standing at the head of a class of 26, and taking first prize. During his college course he greatly distinguished himself, taking honors in classics every term. He also took honors in history and metaphysics, received the Dufferin gold medal, and did extra work in mathematics, French and German, and graduated *cum laude magna* in 1879. Since graduating he has been principal of the Westmorland Co. grammar school at Shediac, N. B., for two years, and principal of the Kentville Academy for a year and a half.

Mr. Denton being in delicate health last year resigned his place at Kentville to undertake an Agency on behalf of Acadia College, and was eminently successful in that work, having raised between \$14,000 and \$15,000 in subscriptions, besides looking after notes formerly given amounting to about \$5,000.

Mr. Denton is a painstaking, enthusiastic and successful teacher, and will be a valuable addition to the teaching staff of the city. He is a Baptist, and brother-in-law of Rev. G. O. Gates, of Moncton, N. B. Mr. Denton entered upon his work on Monday last, and at present resides at the Carleton House.

The Acadia Athenaeum, November, has quickly followed its predecessor, and says: "The October issue of the Athenaeum was lost in transit from St. John to Wolfville; where the blame lies we are unable to ascertain."

The following paragraphs from its pages are noteworthy:—

SUNDAY LECTURES.—For some years it has been customary for members of the faculty, or neighboring preachers to lecture before the students on the first Lord's Day of every month of the college year. The first Sunday lecture of this term was delivered by Dr. Sawyer on Oct. the 7th. The speaker drew a series of valuable lessons from Analogies between our knowledge of growth in the Vegetable world and of human life. The discussion of the subject was admirably calculated to elicit an interest in students of science, and at the same time to counteract the tendency, on the part of young thinkers, to skepticism.

The importance of such a course of lectures is beyond question. It gives symmetry to education. Where the intellectual training is exclusively secular, the culture is unbalanced; and the spiritual element of our nature will not be developed. Physical, mental and spiritual discipline is essential to a well balanced and symmetrical education.

The Church Guardian speaks of the great dearth of candidates for the Christian ministry in the United States and Canada. Although in England there seems to be no diminution in the number or quality of the candidates offering for the sacred office. The editor says: "If we look at the present condition of things, we find this grievous fact staring us in the face, namely, that the cities are contributing not any or but very few candidates for the Ministry; and another, equally disheartening, namely, that very, very few of the clergy have sons in or preparing for Orders."

This he adds "is derogatory to the priestly calling, and a sad evidence of a lack of faith among those whose every act should be a living, constant protest against worldliness and unfaithfulness."

The doubtful position of clergymen of the Church of England as to Protestantism may be a cause which deters many from entering on this office.

An article in the same paper on "Methodism and the relation of children to the church," endeavors to draw a contrast between the relation formed by the act of Infant Baptism by the church clergyman, and the same thing done by the Methodist minister, indicating that in the former case some change is actually made which really improves his relation to God. We are quite willing that they should settle this matter between themselves.

The mails and passengers which arrived in Halifax by the Saratonia on the 19th ult. were taken hence to Montreal in 2½ hours. The excellent arrangements at the Deep Water Terminal here afford every facility for rapid transit. The Montreal Herald says "The Montreal goods were being delivered, and the trains with western goods were passing through Montreal at about the same time that the Saratonia was arriving at Portland. The Intercolonial and Grand Trunk cordially co-operating, this route is without doubt the most expeditious and reliable fast time route between Europe and the upper provinces of the Dominion."

PRaiseworthy.—The Charlotte-town Examiner says: We understand that the sons of the late Daniel Hodgson intend founding a scholarship in memory of their father. It will be of the value of \$125 a year, tenable for three years and open only to natives of P. E. Island. In order that it may be within reach of all classes of the community, it will go in rotation to McGill College, Montreal, Laval University of Kings College, Windsor. The first competition will be in June next—the order of the College, in the first instance will be decided by lot.

KINDNESS RECEIVED WITH THANKSGIVING.

Rev. R. R. Philp wishes to send his warmest thanks to the churches and brethren he has visited in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia this summer. He says:—During my trip through Truro, Onslow, Great Village, Debert, Amherst, in Nova Scotia, Sackville, Moncton, S. Isidore, Harvey, Albert, Hopewell, Demoiselle Creek, Surrey, Hill-borough, Sussex, Norton, Hampton, Smithtown, Titusville, Penobscus, Portland, and St. John churches in New Brunswick, I met the warmest welcome to Christian homes, and from the several pastors the kindest attention. Such was the manifestation of love and Christian sympathy towards me in my affliction, that it will cause many a long hour of pleasant reflection. And I know that my brethren will rejoice to hear that I count it one of my most pleasant and successful trips.

90 Creighton Street, Halifax.

Bro. Philp also speaks warmly of the great kindness shown to his daughter who accompanied him.

SUBSCRIBERS in arrears will much oblige by immediately sending on the amount due us.

We cannot refrain from again expressing regret that we are called upon to fill so much of our space with the discussion of the new chair in Acadia College, and are thereby obliged to leave out and defer so much important matter prepared, on other subjects of interest.

We have not felt quite at liberty to close our columns to any further writing on the subject, as there might be features presenting themselves which ought to be considered by our readers. We must therefore take refuge in using the hackneyed declaration: "We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents." Although editors cannot disavow themselves of the responsibility of publishing them.

Dr. Saunders informs us that another short paper besides those now published will complete his Series of letters.

Observe.—We greatly need all the money due us to meet pressing demands.

Literary.

THE SENIOR QUARTERLY is one of the new Lesson Helps of our Publication Society, prepared for 1884. It is edited by A. J. Rowland D. D., and shows evident marks of the most thoroughly careful preparation. The time is ripe for its appearance. There is nothing finer or better in the market for the adult members of our schools. In mechanical execution it is superb; fine engravings; tasteful and elegant cover; a fine map, in three colors, specially made for it; illustrated dictionary; chronological table; and other desirable features. Single copy of one number, seven cents. In clubs of five or more, twenty-four cents a year.

ST. NICOLAS FOR DECEMBER opens with an Indian legend in verse, entitled "How the Robin came." Louisa M. Alcott contributes the second half of her bright Christmas story, "Sophie's Secret."

"Edouard Frere and his Child Pictures" are the subject and title of a delightful paper by Mrs. Lizzie W. Champney, with reproductions of six of his more famous works and with some added pencil sketches by J. W. Champney.

A Christmas play by E. S. Brooks, and the same artist furnishes the colored Christmas frontispiece; there is also a description of a "Children's Christmas Club," by Ella S. Sargent; and a great deal besides, forming altogether a rousing Christmas number of over a hundred pages of splendid stories, instructive sketches, beautiful pictures and poems, and fun for everybody.

LITTLE'S LIVING AGE FOR 1884. For forty years *The Living Age* has been published with uninterrupted success, and has enabled its readers, at small expense of time and money, to keep pace with the literary progress of the age. Frequent in issue, and unequalled among periodicals in amount of matter, it furnishes an unrivalled compilation of a great and growing literature which embraces the productions of the most eminent living writers in all departments of literary and scientific work. And as this literature grows year by year in extent and importance, *The Living Age* becomes more and more valuable. Filling the place of many periodicals, it can hardly be dispensed with by any American reader who desires a thorough compendium of the best literature and thought of the time. Its prospectus for 1884 is commended to the attention of all who are selecting their reading-matter for the new year. Reduced clubbing rates with other periodicals are given, and to new subscribers remitting now for the year 1884 the intervening weekly numbers are sent gratis. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

Mr. Kwong Ki Chin, who is reported to have just lost his valuable Stereotype outfit by shipwreck on the way to China is the author of the distinguished "Dictionary of English Phrases," very highly commended for scholarship and research by Sir Charles Reed; Dr. Joseph Angus, of Regent Park College, London; Rev. Mr. Pattison, Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford; President Noah Porter, of Yale College, Editor of Webster's Dictionaries, Prof. Whitney of Yale College; President Chas. W. Eliot, of Harvard University, and other Philologists. It was a Chinese edition of this work that he intended to bring out in China.

The work is so extensive as to include and illustrate nearly every possible English idiom, colloquialism and slang. It is a companion to the dictionary and encyclopedia.

It is an octavo of 935 pages, containing more than 6,000 phrases, published by Messrs. A. S. Barnes & Co., 111 and 113 William Street, New York, price, postage or express prepaid, \$5.00. In addition to its intrinsic merit, it is the no less interesting fact that it was compiled by Mr. Kwong, in the heart of New England.

THE CENTURY MAGAZINE, December, has a portrait of Peter Cooper, and an anecdotal paper which throws much light on Mr. Cooper's ideas and his generous aims in promoting the education of young women for skilled occupations.

Dr. Charles Waldstein contributes an instructive illustrated paper on "The Frigate of the Parthenon," with special reference to a recent discovery by himself in connection with the Athens.

Devonshire, entitled "The Fairest County in England," by Francis George Heath is the opening illustrated article, and contains nine charming sketches by Harry Fenn. "Echoes from the City of the Angels," a series of picturesque articles on Southern California.

The Dec. CENTURY offers parts of three serial stories, namely, the much-discussed "Bread-Winners," George W. Cable's new romance, "Dr. Sevier," which was begun in the November number; and the first part of R. Bert Grant's story of New York life, "An Average Man," which will run through six numbers.

"Topics of the Time" contains editorials entitled "Central Park in Danger" and "The Spiritual Effects of Drunkenness," and among the contributions to "Open Letters" are a review of "Recent American Novels," a reply to a recent CENTURY editorial.

PELOUBET'S SELECT NOTES ON THE INTERNATIONAL SERIES OF LESSONS 1884. Volume 10, published by W. A. Wilde & Co., 25 Broomfield Street, Boston, Mass. Price \$1.25. Interleaved Edition \$2.00.

This is one of the most popular of the Commentaries and Helps for the Sabbath School Teacher's use. The volume for 1884, includes studies for the first six months on Acts, James, Thess., 1 Cor., Gal., Romans, (both versions side by side) and on the last six months 2 Samuel, Psalms, 1 Kings, 1 Chronicles, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes. he volume contains four full-page illustrations, Colored Map of St. Paul's 2d and 3d Journeys, Map of Palestine in time of David and Solomon, Chronology, class record, etc.

It is compiled by the two brothers at a vast cost of labor, so as to give the quotations from an immense number of authors—about 250 who have written on the several passages of Scripture, to which their names are appended. It is great treasury of good things, making the study of the Lesson a real pleasure at the smallest possible expenditure of time and effort on the part of the student. In connection with the select notes are a series of International Question Books by Rev. F. N. Peloubet.

There are three grades, to reach all classes of scholars.

PART I.—Older Scholars.

PART II.—Children and Youth.

PART III.—Little Learners. Edited by Miss Capron. There is also a TEACHER'S EDITION of Part I, bound in cloth, interleaved for notes and hints in preparing the lesson. In Parts I and II are given Maps of St. Paul's first and second journey, Palestine in time of David and Solomon, &c. Part III.—Little Learners' Question-Book has maps, &c., &c., and is fully illustrated.

Also the SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHER'S CLASS-BOOK. Price, 60 cents per dozen; Single Copies, 6 cents, strong and durable, convenient to carry in the pocket. Well kept, this book may be made a great help in securing the essentials of regular and prompt attendance, &c. All published by W. A. Wilde & Co., Boston, Mass.

THE PULPIT TREASURY for December has a rich variety of articles on subjects of vast importance to the pastor, Sunday-school superintendent and Christian worker. The leading sermon is by Dr. W. M. Taylor, the celebrated pastor of the Broadway Tabernacle, N.Y. There is also a finely executed portrait of the same divine, a view of his church and a well written sketch of his life. There

is a Christmas Sermon by Dr. Heworth, a New Year's Sermon by Rev. D. Moore, the London "Golden Lecturer."

Dr. John Hall has a second article on Side Lines of Ministerial Labor, Professor Kellogg gives a capital article on Bible Reading, Prof. Palmer on How to Improve Church Music, and Dr. Schaaf on Tertullian. It excels all similar publications. Yearly, \$2.50; Clergy, \$2; Single copies, 25 cents. E. B. Trear, Publisher, 757 Broadway, New York.

THE ADVANCED QUARTERLY of our Publication Society has gained the enormous circulation of 270,000 copies each issue. A new cover, with elegant and tasteful design, appears with the opening of 1884, and Rev. Edward G. Taylor, D.D., stands as editor. This gives unity to the system of the admirable Lesson Helps for Baptist Sunday-schools, as Dr. Taylor also prepares the excellent and suggestive notes on the Lessons for the TEACHER. The new year will doubtless add, as it ought, another 50,000 to its circulation. In clubs of five or more, this Quarterly is furnished at 12 cents a year. Address the American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia, Boston, New York, Chicago, or St. Louis.

Notices.

A meeting of the Board of Governors of Acadia College, will be held in the College Library, on Wednesday, Dec. 19th, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

T. A. Higgins, Sec'y.

Wolfville, Nov. 26, 1883.

The Hants County Baptist Auxiliary Home Mission Board (D. V.), hold its next Session at Walton, on Monday, December 10th, at 7 o'clock, p. m., and continue through the following day. There will be a sermon at the commencement followed by devotional services. The members of the Board are specially requested to be present.

J. MURRAY, Sec'y.

Falmouth, Dec. 1st, 1883.

COLCHESTER CO. BAPTIST SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION.

The annual meeting of this Convention will be held with the Baptist Church, Great Village, Londonderry, Tuesday, Dec. 11th, 1883, at half-past 2 o'clock. First session will be taken up with election of officers; reports from Sabbath Schools, etc., etc. The subject of mission bands among the Sabbath Schools with *Modus Operandi* will occupy the principal time during the sessions. The evening session will commence at 7 o'clock. Circulars will be sent to all the schools in the County and hope for full returns. Schools that have closed for the winter will please report without fail. There will be a good programme. We hope to have a paper from a lady on "Mission bands among our Sabbath School."

A. J. WALKER, Sec'y.

Truro, N. S., Nov. 24, 1883.

THE YEAR BOOK.

The Baptist Year Book for the Maritime Provinces is now ready for distribution. Orders will be received at the Baptist Book Room, 104 Granville Street, Halifax, and at the Visitor Book Room, St. John, N. B. Price 10 cts.

J. FARRONS, Chairman of Committee.

Nov. 10th, 1883.

BAPTIST BOOK AND TRACT SOCIETY.

Mr. J. B. Leard has been appointed agent for the above Society on P. E. Island, and is empowered to collect for the Capital Fund and Colportage Fund, and to work in the general interests of the Book Room. Pastors of churches and Superintendents of Sunday Schools, and all lovers of our Baptist Zion, are earnestly requested to lend a helping hand to Bro. L. in his arduous work.

On behalf of Committee,

Geo. A. McDONALD, Sec'y.

Halifax, Nov. 5th, 1883.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We have letters from "Another Enquirer," "Frank H. Eaton," "Sec of W. M. A. S.," "Rev. I. J. Skinner," "Uncle Ned," "Rev. E. H. Sweet," &c., all too late for this week, which will appear in our next.

Acknowledgments.

Allow me, through the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER, to acknowledge the kindly expression of friendship, and good cheer, given me by the church and congregation at Smith's Cove. Wife and I accepting an invitation—went on Tuesday evening the 20th inst., to the house of Capt. Jacob Winchester, where we met a goodly number of our friends who with pleasant looks and kind words cheered our hearts. After spending a few hours in social converse enlivened by music, brother Charles Pinkney was called upon who after making a few appropriate remarks, presented us with a donation of \$21.25 in cash and useful articles, others had given before. May the Lord bless them all.

L. B. GATES.

Digby, Nov. 23, 1883.

Monies Received.

Rev. C. H. Martell, \$2; A. Thompson, \$2; A. G. Musgrave, \$15; Rev. W. H. Porter, \$1; B. H. McGregor, \$2; C. K. King, \$2; Edw. Caldwell, \$2; Joseph Shunkell, \$2; W. H. Goudey, \$7; N. Kinney, \$5. M. Atkinson, \$2; J. S. Witter, \$2.

We shall be glad to hear from all subscribers indebted to us without delay.