

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

"HOLD FAST THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS"—Paul.

DL. XXXV.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1882.

NO 12.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We learn that Dr. Camp left the city of his large and valuable library Acadia College. No more appropriate disposition of it could be made.

We note that our friend, W. H. Rogers, of Amherst, is proclaiming old doctrine on the Temperance question. He lectured recently at Spring Hill, Can. Co., N. S.

Rev. W. P. Everett, late of this city, is to assist in the dedication services of the Calvary Baptist church, Monday, on the 26th inst. He then goes for Quincy, Ill., to visit his mother, and possibly to remain in the West.

GOING DOWN.—"Yes sah," said an old colored man, "de firs' yeah, dea I gave fifty dollars to de church, dey called me Mistah Richard Johnson, de second yeah times dey were bad, an' I couldn't give more'n twenty-five dollars, an' dey called me Brudder Johnson; de nex' yeah I couldn't give nuffin, an' dey called me Ole Niggah Johnson."

"The past year has been a grand one for all the missions in Japan. In our Baptist mission 76 have been baptized. Every part of the empire can be entered. The whole nation is awake: it is discussing christianity, cannot relapse into old paganism, will drift either into open infidelity or atheism or into a modified heathenism; or it will be converted to christianity."

TOMMY was a little rogue, whom his mother had hard work to manage. Their house in the country stood raised a few feet from the ground, and Tommy, to escape a well-deserved whipping, ran from his mother and crept under the house. Presently his father came home, and hearing where the boy had taken refuge crept under to bring him out. As he approached on his hands and knees, Tommy asked, "Is she after you, pa?"

The law of Spain allows the free preaching of the gospel; but there are restricting and vexatious regulations, which have been used by ill-disposed officials, so as greatly to hinder the work of preaching to the people. Pastor Fliedner had a case in court which went against him. He appealed to the king. The king reversed the decision of the court and paid the costs. The secular papers have discussed the matter, and the respect for more liberty is good.

The Visitor Lessons Quarterly, for the second quarter, beginning with April has appeared, and is in all respects the peer of any Quarterly that comes to our office. Some of our schools are using Union Lessons, and saying just as much for them as would secure their own Lessons. Our pastors owe it to denominational fidelity to look into this matter and see if such a state of things cannot be changed. Last quarter's lessons contained a lesson on baptism and these union lesson papers burked the whole question. How long can Baptist Sunday schools live under that training.

A Rev. Mr. BARNES, an ex-Foreign missionary, and an excluded member of the Presbyterian body, has appeared in Kentucky in the capacity of an evangelist. Physicians think him insane; but crowds flock to hear him at all hours of the day and in all weathers. He had at one place 2,478 converts. He anoints with oil for the cure of bodily disease. His anointings amounted to 2,355. He says churches are "rings" and he makes many hits at "theological preachers." He is a premillennium and high-life christian. He plans to go to Chicago. This is a specimen of a certain kind of popular preacher.

UNION TEA-MEETING.—The ladies of Germain St., Brussel St. and Leinster St. churches, intend holding a Union Tea-Meeting on Thursday evening the 30th inst. The proceeds are for the benefit of the Marsh Bridge Mission church, Rev. J. A. Spencer, pastor.

REV. J. E. CRACKNELL is lecturing on: "The United States and Canada." Recently the Vicar of York-Town presided at one of his lectures, and proposed a vote of thanks for the valuable information given. Mr. Cracknell is devoting considerable time to immigration matters.

WHY it is that church members who protect themselves against inclement weather and go to their several callings on week days, are not able to do the same thing, or do not do it, and attend public worship on Sunday? We will publish a few pointed answers to this question if our brethren favor us with them.

REV. J. E. CRACKNELL addressed a crowded meeting of working-men in London on the subject of Emigration to Canada, on Tuesday the 7th. Sir Alexander Galt, G.C.M.G., the High Commissioner, expressed his hearty sympathy with the object of the meeting, and his willingness to help. He left the meeting to consult the Lord Mayor on the subject. On Tuesday the 21st March, the Rev. J. E. Cracknell is announced to lecture at the Metropolitan Tabernacle on America and Canada. The High Commissioner has expressed his readiness to be present if his engagements permit.

OBSTRUCTIVE LORDS.—A motion was lately made in the House of Lords for a committee to enquire into the working of the "Land Act" in Ireland. The effect of this would be to obstruct the enforcing of the Act, and so defeat its object. Among these Lords are many land owners. The Irish Land Act will have the effect to make rents cheaper, hence their opposition to it. Human nature, the world over, is about the same. It is difficult for men to make laws to take money out of their own pockets. The members of the legislative Council of Nova Scotia get \$400 a year each. They tried a vote recently for the annihilation of their body, but this involved both the loss of honor and money. A majority of three was found for holding on to the cash and glory too. The honor is cheap but the pay comes out of the people.

EARNEST APPEALS are coming for help for the great North West, in securing for it a Baptist ministry. There are now several student ministers in Prairie College, whose services might be utilized for service the coming summer, if a few hundred dollars could be secured to provide for them while engaged in travelling and establishing mission churches and Sunday-schools. It is said there are many farmers in the North West who would now gladly give several acres of land for church purposes, if only missionaries could be found who with wise forethought, would go with the advancing waves of settlement, and urge the necessity of such a course. At our approaching Convention something ought to be done by us to provide for helping the North West. In the meantime, if any of our benevolent brethren wish to help in this good work, any sums they may wish to send to Dr. Crawford, Rapid City, or Rev. Mr. McDonald, Winnipeg, will be profitably used by them, to help establish Baptist churches. A few dollars now are worth more than hundreds in after years. Preoccupation is a great advantage in frontier mission work. Maritime Baptists cannot longer afford to be indifferent to the claims of our new Territories.

Our Boston Letter.

THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT.

DEAR VISITOR.—We have watched with lively interest the contest in your city over the "Canada Temperance Act," which culminated on the 23rd ult. The logic of the rum party that prohibition is a monstrous failure and that license is far more restrictive of the liquor traffic, is not a little amusing. If this is so, then why do liquor dealers and rum politicians compass sea and land to make one proselyte to license? If prohibition is so much worse for the community than license, then why, in the name of all that is consistent, do they not keep still? They are the only opposers the "Scott Act" has had; according to their own logic, they have been working against their own interests. How magnanimous and disinterested! Were you aware that it is not the God-fearing, church-going, and law-abiding citizens in your midst that have the highest interests of your flourishing metropolis at heart; but that class so often stigmatized as "the beer-guzzling," "wise-tipping" and drunkard-making" citizens.

But alas their logic was not as amusing as their spirit was dishonest and their statement was false. The statements of Mr. Dodds, the employee of the liquor party, in reference to prohibition in Maine and license in Boston, were as unfounded in fact as his statements and comparisons concerning Maine and Canada were shown to be, by his able opponent, Prof. Foster.

A year or two ago, Judge Goddard, of Maine, produced statements from constabulary and prison authorities, showing an excess of arrests and sentences in that state immediately following the war of the Rebellion over the few years immediately preceding and during the war. Instead of using these figures to show the vigorous and effective enforcement and value of a well executed law, it was made to appear from the statements that Maine was fast verging on to moral and social anarchy. Immediately following these statements were statistics published by ex-Governor Dingley, showing a constant improvement in the criminal statistics of Maine year by year. Out of a total statement covering eight of the United States, he showed that Maine led the van in the fewness of her criminals in proportion to her population. One of the eight states—California—had 1 state convict to every 600 of her population; Massachusetts had 1 to every 2,200; and Maine, 1 to every 3,200 of her population. In 1880, Maine had 1 prisoner to every 1,572 of her population, while Mass. had one to every 467. The former, under prohibition; the latter, under license. Facts speak for themselves. In the Massachusetts Legislature, a year ago the past winter, the liquor committee reported a prohibitory bill which was subsequently defeated by a vote of 95 to 73. Mr. Bugbee, a member of that committee, in accordance with the sentiments of his rum constituency, brought in a minority report, in which he quoted from the Boston Police Commissioners, showing that during the five years the State had been under license (1875-1881) there had been a decrease of about one-third in the number of dram shops and arrests in the city of Boston, compared with the year (1874) immediately preceding the present license law. But Mr. Bugbee and the Police Commission, from which he quoted, omitted to mention that in 1874 Massachusetts was under prohibition only in name, and that, only for a part of the year. They did not institute comparisons with other years in which the State was under fairly enforced prohibition, and in which there was abundant evidence of the comparative value of the two systems of prohibition and license. They omitted to mention that during each of those five years the city of Boston had a thousand dram shops more than the commission licensed; that in one of those years the commission reported 409 more licenses granted than were called for; because, according to an old report of the License Commissioners, "nothing is more common among the dealers than the saying that they are better off without than with a license," and because the license law, in Massachusetts, is simply a farce, as every intelligent citizen knows, it being nothing less than free rum under another name. They also omitted to mention that during those five years the police made no arrests for drunkenness unless in connection with disorderly conduct.

These were the authorities for Mr. Dodds' quotations concerning Maine and Boston. His statements concerning the Dominion were equally unfounded in fact and were ably disapproved and refuted in the recent campaign, in your city. It is a pity the secular newspapers had not espoused the right a little more ardently and exposed the policy of the rum side, as no other agency is capable of doing, in all matters effecting the public weal. It was refreshing to see that the religious press was true to its principles and that when the Visitor did speak, like a true watchman, it was ready to "cry aloud and spare not."

It is to be regretted that the "Act" should fall in your city for want of one vote, if the newspaper reports be true, that there was a tie vote. Yet 1074 votes on the side of God and the truth count for something and may mean a grand victory next time. No blow struck in defence of the right and in opposition to the wrong can be wholly lost sight of by that Eye which measures every defeat and gauges the sparrow's fall. 1074 men have done their duty, and have no reproaches of conscience on this question. Men will traffic in intoxicants as long as men will drink, and men and women will drink intoxicants as long as they can obtain them and, by drinking, many will be transformed into paupers and criminals. All this we understand perfectly. But it makes all the difference in the world whether crime is committed with our knowledge and consent or under our protest and opposition. In God's sight, cities and provinces may be *particeps criminis* as well as individuals. Against the sale of indulgences to ruin families and produce criminals in the city of St. John for the next three years, 1074 solemn protests have been recorded, with manly dignity. They will not be lost.

It is quite possible that a scrutiny of the vote would make these protests effective even now. Sections 83, 84, 85 and 86, are very strict on the charge of "threatening or unduly influencing him" or "paying for conveyances of any kind" or for "any expenses of any voter in going to or returning from any meeting of voters under this Act." The framers of the "Act" were very clear and distinct on all these points and a reading of the Act shows that the penalties for its infraction are no less so.

The friends of law would have nothing to fear from a recount of the vote, as such scrutinies "are not a terror to good works but to the evil." It is those who are so regardless of the public welfare as to sell it, that stand most in fear of legal scrutiny.

It is true the "Act" is not strictly prohibitory, but a kind of ten-gallon, local-option law, yet it is a great stride in advance of the license system, which authorizes a man, by the payment of a stipulated sum, to manufacture paupers and criminals, and thus legalizes, endorses and protects him in his nefarious business. To sanction and endorse the cause is to sanction and endorse the inevitable consequences. From this incontrovertible logic there is no escape. We should regard with detestation that government which would license a man to put his pistol to his neighbor's head and demand his money or his life. What shall we say then of a government that licenses a man to put his glass to his neighbor's lips and take his money and his life?

A liquor license revenue is blood money, and to levy it for the support of governments in the 19th century is as much worse than the sale of indulgences by the infamous Tetsel, under Leo X, for the benefit of the Papacy, in the 16th century, as this generation is in advance of that. "Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood and establisheth a city by iniquity." "Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth thy bottle to him and maketh him drunken also."

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VACANT PASTORATES.

Quite a number of prominent pulpits in this vicinity are now vacant or are soon to be vacated, according to recent reports. Among these is that of The First Baptist Church of Springfield, where Rev. C. W. Anable, D. D., has done successful work for five years. Dr. Anable was previously at North Adams, this state, and at Old Cambridge.

Rev. George E. Horr has recently left his Main St. Church of Worcester where he has very ably ministered for five years.

Rev. D. E. Samson of the Dewry St. Church in the same city has also resigned and accepted a call to a new

field in Hartford, Ct. Mr. Samson was the first pastor at Dewry St., where he has labored faithfully for nine years.

Rumor also reports another of the Baptist churches of Worcester as likely to be soon pastorless, which would leave three of the five Baptist churches in that flourishing city without an under-shepherd.

Rev. B. A. Green, a rising young man and pastor of the Westboro Baptist Church, has just received a call to the Washington St. Church, Lynn. Should he accept, there will be another good field vacant in the Worcester Association.

Rev. E. Mills after seven years of earnest work at Woburn, ten miles from Boston, recently left that attractive field and accepted a call to Eastport, Maine.

Washington St. Church, Lynn, with one of the finest edifices in the state, and a grand field of labor for the incoming man, has been pastorless since the resignation of Rev. Dr. Faunce more than a year ago.

At Manchester, N. H., Rev. W. H. Leavelle has resigned the pastorate of the First Church and leaves an elegant house of worship and a large field after some five or six years service. These are all good, strong fields of labor, with attractive church edifices and well-to-do congregations.

PULPIT CANDIDATING.

With so many attractive vacant pulpits it may be naturally inferred that there will be no little amount of pulpit candidating. Not long ago it was reported that a little country church in Massachusetts, with a six-hundred dollar salary and a vacant pulpit had thirty-seven applicants, if we may not say aspirants, for this magnificent position. How many of these competitors for pulpit honors this indulgent people listened to; who was the successful candidate at last; or how fastidious the congregation grew in the cultivation of its aesthetic tastes in listening to such an array of pulpit talent as must have necessarily fallen to its lot, dependent saith not.

In marked contrast to this experience is that of the Dudley St. Church, Boston, a grand and noble people, with whom Rev. Dr. Henry M. King labored very harmoniously and successfully for nearly twenty years. Dr. King recently accepted a call to labor in Albany, N. Y., and, immediately following his departure, his old people extended a unanimous call to the Rev. J. M. English, of Gloucester, this state, which was soon accepted. The peculiarity of this call lies in the fact that it was extended before Mr. English had preached to his new people and without any candidating on part of the church.

It is true Mr. English is a strong man with a well established record in Gloucester, where he has labored for nearly seven years, having gone there from the Theological Seminary at Newton. But with such abundant facilities for pulpit coquetting as the Dudley Street people possessed, it is surprising that they should not indulge in a single church flirtation.

Such cases are refreshing in these days when the whole matter of pulpit candidating has degenerated into a kind of ministerial trotting course, in which each unfortunate candidate is trotted out to make his best time and show his best gait. It would really seem that such a church calls its pastor more for the primitive purpose of building up christian character and saving souls, than for the modern idea of filling the house and renting the pews, "a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of God."

Yours in the gospel bonds,
Boston, March 10. VERITAS.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND.

YORK TOWN, SURREY,
March 1st, 1882.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The hope we expressed that the precious time of the House was not to be wasted over Bradlaugh has scarcely been realized. A majority refused to allow him to take the oath, but without providing any remedy for the representative of Northampton; and on Tuesday last, Mr. Bradlaugh came to the table and swore himself in, subscribed the declaration, and claimed his seat. He has since been expelled from the House as the representative of Northampton, and a new writ has been issued. If the people of Northampton should return him again, the House of Commons will only have revived a difficulty: if they do not, the same question is very

sure to come up elsewhere. We are weary of this business. If in "the first instance, he had been allowed to make affirmation all the mischief that has come of advertizing this" man would have been avoided. Party feeling and hostility to the Government have become so mixed up with the matter, that it has been unduly magnified; and we greatly fear unless some circumstance arise out of the recent decision in the law courts respecting Bradlaugh, the difficulty is by no means ended; and the evil resulting from the prominence it has given the man will exist for a long time to come.

THE LAND ACT.

The action of the House of Lords in appointing a Committee for enquiry into the working of the Land Act in Ireland, against the solemn and reiterated protests of the Government, was most ill-judged. The objections to such an enquiry at the present time have been shown to be of the fairest character. The measure has only been a few months in operation. The Committee appointed by the Lords, professedly for enquiry, is really for the condemnation of the Act, which occupied so much time and thought in the last session of Parliament; and which Mr. Gladstone stated in the House of Commons, is gradually gaining ground in Ireland. The enquiry of the Peers would only weaken the hands of the Commissioners. Mr. Gladstone's resolution to be presented in the House of Commons, declares "that Parliamentary enquiry at the present time into the working of the Irish Land Act tends to defeat the operation of that Act, and must be injurious to the interests of good government in Ireland."

On Monday the motion to postpone the orders of the day until the above had been moved, was carried by a large majority. Mr. Gladstone's speech made a deep impression, and his arguments were felt to be absolutely convincing. He is a marvellous man and the country may well be proud of him. The Lord spare and sustain him.

A ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC.

Great public interest has been created by the proposal to found a Royal College of Music. It has enlisted the sympathy and support of the most influential. It is the intention of the committee to establish the institution on a truly national basis. Candidates for the foundation scholarships of which it is proposed there shall be not less than one hundred, will be selected by open competition, and a system of examination will be instituted, which will afford every town and village an opportunity for sending up the most promising pupils to complete their musical training under the most proficient teachers. Mr. Gladstone remarked at a meeting held yesterday at St. James' Palace; "Music is now recognized as an essential part of the institutions of the country. In every village school music is an important and profitable instrument in the hands of the teacher. It has done much to bring about that remarkable change which may now be observed in our villages. A child no longer trudges sulkily to school, as was the old conception of its work, but trips to it merrily, and with the expectation of deriving some pleasure as well as much benefit from the school." Where is the subject on which Mr. Gladstone does not speak words of truth and common sense.

JOHN EDMOND CRACKNELL.
FOREIGN MISSION REINFORCEMENT.

At the last meeting of the Foreign Mission Board, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That in view of the early return to this country of the two missionary families still remaining in India of those first sent out under the auspices of the Foreign Mission Board over eight years ago, it becomes our imperative duty forthwith to reinforce the mission by sending out at least one additional missionary, so that the valuable properties acquired at Bimlipatam and Bobilly as centres of operation among the Northern Telugus, the schools established, and the Christians gathered into churches there, may be properly cared for during the necessary absence of those who have given their best physical strength and mental and moral energies to the Lord's work on our behalf in those places, and who must return to their native land to regenerate their wasted powers, or die at their posts.

And further Resolved, That the pressing emergency which has now arisen in the Foreign Mission interests demands prompt and liberal contributions from the churches to enable the Board to fulfil its pledges to the missionaries, and to perform the duties and obligations placed upon it by the Baptist denomination in the Maritime Provinces.