CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

HINTS TO SUBSCRIBERS:

1.—*Letters and Articles* intended for the next number of this paper should be in the hands of the Editor not later than Friday morning.
2.—*Post Office Money Orders* or registered letters at our risk. Money mailed in unregistered letters will be at risk of the sender.
3.—*Orders to discontinue* the paper must be accompanied by the amount due, or the paper will not be stopped. Subscribers are responsible until full payment is made.
4.—*In changing the Address* it is necessary to send the *old* as well as the *new* address. The change cannot be made unless this is done.
5.—*No communication* will receive attention unless the name of the writer accompanies it, or is given in confidence.
6.—*Correspondents will please* write only on one side of the paper.

The Christian Visitor.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 19, 1878.

Editorial Notes.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOKS.—English and American Sunday School Books can now be supplied at the VISITOR Book Room at rates as low as elsewhere.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PAPERS can be furnished through the VISITOR Book Room as cheaply as they can be procured from the United States. See advertisemeut.

We hope due heed will be given the request of the College Executive Committee, and that both agents and subscribers will bestir themselves, that the work of rebuilding may go forward unto a speedy completion.

The Burlington Collegiate Institute, under the principalship of Prof. Wortman, has just held its commencement exercises, and three have taken the degree of B. S. Our congratulations are presented to the worthy professors and the graduates.

Pastors of churches, and all others interested in the welfare of our churches, are earnestly requested to send us all items of news in respect to religious matters, in their neighbourhood. Generally, news can be so condensed as not to fill more than a postal card. We make this request and urge it in the interest of all concerned.

Truth Advancing.

MIDDLETON.—I administered the ordinance of baptism to 17 adults, and received 32 on trial for church membership at Nictaux Falls. Our church is greatly revived. J. GATEZ.
May 25, 1878.

The above extract is from the *Wesleyan*, and shows that in the Methodist Church the truth is winning its way, and that the error of infant baptism is loosing its hold on many of their membership. We are glad to note these signs of approach to scriptural baptism, so far as the subject is concerned, and shall hope for a return to the primitive mode—immersion—to follow the decline of infant baptism.

Scriptural Order.

It is with pleasure that we see the following notice:

"Col. E. E. Shaw, the evangelist, will be ordained at the Conference of churches at Dennysville, June 12. He has made up his mind to leave secular business entirely, and devote his time to the work of the churches in Maine."

We believe in lay preachers, but as soon as a man gives all his time and talent to the work of the Christian ministry, and shows himself approved of God, Gospel order demands that he be ordained. Even with the restraint of ordination too many unworthy ones find a place in Christian pulpits. The ignoring of it, and the admittance of any self-appointed evangelist into the discharge of all the functions of the Christian ministry, cannot but bring a large accession of questionable men, already too many, to be the plague of our churches.

Parting with a Friend.

We feel very reluctant to part with any of our readers; but sometimes it is impossible to do otherwise. The editing, printing and posting of a newspaper costs money, and where subscribers fall in arrears and fail to pay, we have to discontinue sending the paper. A little effort and earnest planning would secure the CHRISTIAN VISITOR weekly to any family, and we are sorry when lack of interest is manifested in supporting the Denominational Organ. We part to-day with a worthy subscriber and friend. Sending a remittance through another person to pay up for the paper before asking for its discontinuance, the cause is assigned, not failure of heart, but of sight. She bids the CHRISTIAN VISITOR farewell as she would a much-loved and tried friend, as owing to the infirmities of age and failure of sight, being now 79 years old, she is unable to read it any longer. Yet her faith is strong in God, and her hope is assured—that when this earthly tabernacle is dissolved she will enter a house "eternal in the heavens."

We sympathize with the afflicted saint, and believe the victory for her is certain.

JOB PRINTING of all kinds executed with neatness and despatch, at the office of this paper, 85 Germain Street, St. John, N. B.

An Outside Deacon's Challenge to Two Church Members.

During anniversary week at Wolfville, a generous man, who, if in the church, would probably have developed into a sturdy, first class deacon, ready by word and example to stimulate people to benevolence, met two young gentlemen, members of the Baptist church in that place, each flashing out a gold watch chain, and immediately charging them with extravagance and inconsistency for wearing them, suggested that they ought to devote these ornaments to some benevolent object. The young men thus chided, flung out a counter challenge to the effect that each would donate his chain to a worthy object, whom this censor would select, provided he gave to it a sum equal in value to the price of a chain. Nothing daunted, the gentlemen named an infirm minister, and a third party conveyed chains and money to the Rev. Mr. Philps, afflicted with blindness, and then at Wolfville. No doubt all felt better for this friendly raid upon chains and purse. How much good can be accomplished, and help given to worthy objects, by parting with mere superfluities or hard cash!

The Anniversaries of American Baptist Societies, North.

(Continued.)

THE MISSIONARY UNION

held its anniversary under the presidency of Rev. Dr. Robinson, of Brown University. The Rev. Dr. Murdock, Secretary, read the annual report, which shows that the Union has 31 principal mission stations, and that 5,945 have been added to the churches under its care. In the absence of Rev. Dr. Peddie, Dr. Wayland Hoyt preached the annual sermon. It was the same sermon he preached before the students of Crozier Theological Seminary, but it was good enough to bear repetition.

The Treasurer's report showed receipts $265,679.10, and a debt of $26,489.53.

Dr. Murdock read a paper, showing that the Board had made every effort to keep down expenditures, but the necessities of the work seemed to demand the outlay. The reasons why the debt was incurred, is as follows:

1. Because only $132,000 has been donated; 2. Because much that comes to us is appointed for specified objects. There are three ways in which the case can be relieved, viz.:—1. By giving to *the Society* what is given; 2. By throwing all the educational work on the native laborers; 3. By cutting down the number of missionaries.

President Anderson, of Rochester, presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Executive Committee be requested to inquire into the expediency of sending to the East intelligent Christian laymen, practically trained in commercial farming and the mechanic arts, who shall be charged with the duty of instructing native Christians in various branches of industry, with a view of making them better able to support their pastors and schools, and generally in becoming more efficient agents in economic production.

Dr. Tupper, the Secretary of the Southern Missionary Board, was introduced, and made a strong appeal for help to enable them to pay the debt on their Roman Chapel. Some $10,000 are still needed; and by resolution of the Union, offered by Dr. Lorimer, this interest was commended to the benevolence of Northern Baptists.

Dr. Boardman, of Philadelphia, presented the report on Asiatic Missions, which dealt in approving terms of the Home Management, and the fidelity of the missionaries. It suggested the propriety of recognizing stations as self-supporting as soon as "admissibly possible."

Dr. Hotchkiss, of Buffalo, presented the report on European Missions. It contained the following items of encouragement:

In Spain, 31 have been baptized on the profession of faith in Christ. In France, at least 61 have been baptized, 19 of them into the fellowship of the church in Paris, "the largest number of baptisms ever known in that city during any one year." In Germany, more than 1800 have been added to our churches during the year, making the aggregate number of members in that country not less than 25,000. In Sweden, 2,360 have been added to our churches, giving an aggregate of nearly 14,000 Baptist communicants. The number of baptisms in all these countries during the year, so far as reported, amounts to 4,252,—a result for which we may surely bless God, and take courage for the continued prosecution of the work of evangelizing continental Europe.

The Rev. Dr. Moss presented the report of the Finance Committee. It deprecated any retrenchment in the work of the Union. The report was adopted.

After prayer by Dr. Crane, and benediction by the President, the Union adjourned to meet again at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall determine.

Recognition of Services.

Sometimes important and influential actors in the furtherance of a good cause are either ignored, or allowed to pass without recognition. We are afraid that somehow, unintentionally of course, such omission occurred recently at Wolfville. As we heard references to the eminent services done for the Denomination in connection with the commencement and early history of our educational institutions, we wondered how it came to pass that the names of brethren still among us, and very prominent and influential in counsel, work and sacrifice for Horton Academy and Acadia College forty, thirty or twenty years ago, were not even mentioned.

Among the younger class of ministers then were Revd's I. E. Bill, N. Videto, and John Chase. As agents, earnest workers, and advocates for the promotion of our educational enterprises, these worthy brethren were the faithful allies and valliant supporters of the fathers of the Denomination in these provinces in their effort to found and sustain the institutions of learning for the higher culture of the ministry and the people as far as possible.

The Vaughan and other Prizes.

LIST OF PRIZES PRESENTED BY AND THROUGH THE ASSOCIATED ALUMNI OF ACADIA COLLEGE, JUNE 6, 1878.

A Halifax correspondent sends the following more ample information on the matter than we gave in our issue of last week, which we cheerfully insert, particularly as it reflects honors on our sons of N. B.

MATRICULATION PRIZES AWARDED SEP. 1877.

1st prize, $20, to F. Howard Schofill, of Black River.
2nd prize, $15, to Frank Andrews, of Wilmot.
3d prize, $15 to Albert J. Pineo, of Berwick.

MONTHLY ESSAY PRIZE—$20.

To Charles K. Harrington.
This prize is given for the best series of monthy essays during the college year, and is open to all undergraduates.

PRESIDENT'S PRIZE—$20.

This prize is given by the President for the time being (this year E. D. King, Esq.,) "to the member of the senior class who shall have maintained the best standing during the entire course." Mr. Matthew R. Tuttle, of Stellarton, was the winner.

THE VAUGHAN PRIZE—£20 STG.

This prize was offered by Simon Vaughan, Esq., of Liverpool, Eng., a graduate of 1858, for the best essay on the history and progress and influence of Acadia College—competition to be open to all undergraduates of Acadia, and members of Alumni Society. Only one essay was sent in response to this offer. Why were there not more? Probably our Alumni are too engrossed with active work to permit them to give the necessary time to the preparation of such a history. There being but one essay, it was clear there was no "competition;" but the one was considered abundantly worthy of the prize, and the same was therefore accordingly presented to the successful essayist, Albert Coldwell, Esq., M.A. teacher in Horton Academy.

At a late meeting of the Philadelphia Baptist Ministers Conference, the Rev. Mr. Estwood read a paper on "the doctrines and tendencies of Plymouth Brethrenism." The following is a synopsis:

"The body originated in Dublin, in 1828, and was composed at first chiefly of persons from the Anglican Church. It soon spread to other lands. The Brethren believe that all disciples have a right to teach, and that even recognized teachers should receive no stated pecuniary support. They believe in eternal justification and imputed santification; in the indentification of the believer with the perfection of Christ; that Christianity is in ruins, as appears from the separate sects; that believers should withdraw from the churches; that there is a complete abrogation of the law, and entire deliverance from sin, so far as the believer is concerned; that sin is not essentially evil; that repentance is not a requirement of Scripture; that regeneration and progress in holiness are not to be insisted on, and that ere the end of all things shall have come, there shall be a secret meeting of the Lord with his disciples previous to his manifestation to the world.

They deny the proper humanity of Christ, the vicarious character of his righteousness. They deny that the Law is to be regarded as the rule of life, so far as the risen child of God is concerned. They deny that they are under obligation to keep the Sabbath. They believe that the confession of sin is all that God requires.

The essayist closed with the words of Dr. Judson in reference to the tendency of Brethrenism."

The criticism of the paper was hearty in its approval. Bro. Willmarth said he was more afraid of Plymouth Brethrenism outside of the Brethren, than within. Their doctrines are more or less received outside of themselves."

With a great appearance of piety they in the end, seek the destruction of all church order, those in our churches who embrace their tenets, become very troublesome members as a rule.

THE CHICAGO STANDARD thus hits the sentimental vagaries of one who steps out of his sphere to express himself concerning questions, where his ignorance is luminous:

"SETTLED.—The *Star of the West* (Universalist) makes a point that Mr. Murphy, the temperance lecturer and speculator, "distinctly rejects the idea of any punishment that will be everlasting." As Mr. Murphy graduated two or three years ago in great general ignorance from a low saloon, he must be taken, we suppose, as conclusive authority on theological questions, and his opinion regarded as a regular settler of the future punishment controversy."

The brethren who have kindly consented to act as local agents for the Building Fund, are requested to collect and remit to the Treasurer, as soon as possible, the first instalment of all subscriptions. The work of rebuilding is being vigorously pushed forward. Let the money flow in freely, so that the Board may be in a position to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

By order of the Executive Committee.

D. F. HIGGINS Secretary.

Wolfville, June 15, 1878.

[For the Christian Visitor.]

Letter from Rev J. C. Hurd.

DEAR BRO. HOPPER,—The VISITOR is received and read by many of your old friends in Burlington with peculiar interest. Brains and enterprise are elements essential to the production of a good paper, and the VISITOR gives evidence of both. I like its general make up. The selections supply what is so much in demand in these fast times—brevity, variety, and general adaptation. The editorial page is a model of the *multum in parvo* style. Paragraphs short, newsy and sparkling; articles on current topics boiled down with the brain furnace at read heat, giving out the true ring of the old orthodox metal, demolishing with a single sweep of an incisive logic the boastful sophistries of that "last created devil," (?) modern thought, and furnishing needful stimulus to girded thinking for those who still "contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints,"—these are the things that tell on the average mind, and for a family newspaper are the sure passports to general acceptability and success.

The motto of the VISITOR, "Hold fast the form of sound words," has been admirably sustained by the timely articles on *Preaching*, and kindred topics, which have recently appeared in its columns. Our churches in the West have suffered more than those in the provinces from causes to which you have more than incidentally alluded. Modern evangelism, in the hands of incompetent and sometimes unscrupulous leaders, has wrought untold mischief in many directions. I do not wish to be understood as dealing in wholesale denunciation of the entire system as such. In the hands of Moody and Sankey it has undoubtedly been the means of much good, though it is broadly asserted by those whose opinions carry weight, that the actual results of the great meetings held in Chicago and elsewhere by these distinguished veterans, have been prodigiously overrated. But if this were all, we should have less cause for fear. There is no real coin without its counterfeit, and so the fame of Mr. Moody has called out a host of imitations. A few of them are good men and true, and in their way are accomplishing a measure of good. The majority are ridiculously *little* men. They have tried the regular ministry and failed. They have no ability to preach, and no sympathy with pastoral work. No church wants them, or will retain their services for six months together. They ache for notoriety, with no real talent to command it. And so they go from place to place, each with a miniture "Sankey" to preside at the organ, and help to "get up a revival!" The arrival of the "Evangelists" is the signal for a general rally. "Union" is the magic watchword of the hour, and to its call the various denominations mysteriously blend into one. At the crack of the evangelistic whip, pastors, deacons, elders, class leaders and members meekly fall into line. They are ready for any amount or kind of work that may be assigned them. The great assembly crowds to overflowing the largest available edifice. Doctrinal preaching is held under special interdict. Indeed there is very little *preaching* of any kind to speak of. There are "talks," loud, hortatory and sensational. The singing is lively, spirited, stirring. Meetings are held three times a day. The enthusiasm increases as the crowd becomes more dense. The whole community is "stirred." Everybody is sensible of a "great awakening" Converts are counted by scores and hundreds. A glowing account of the "great meeting," accompanied with the stereotyped eulogy on the evangelist and his plans, is published over the initials of an obliging pastor. The usual hand-shaking takes place amid the gush of falling tears and the clinking of tribute coin dropping into the hand of the "self-sacrificing servant of the Lord," who, as a general thing, does not receive more than from $800 to $1000 for an eight days's meeting! This is no exaggerated representation of the case. The picture is true to the life. Many of our churches are built up by means of this high-pressure system. Their religion sprang up amid the enthusiasm of great assemblies, and depends for its growth upon the occasional stirrings of spasmodic excitement. They do not dream of such a a thing as conversions or advancement in spiritual life under the ordinary means of grace. They were born in excitement, and can no more live without it than a rush can grow without mire. And for this cause "many are weakly and sick among us, and many sleep." But this "tidal wave" of evangelistic excitement has reached its height, and a hopeful reaction is already manifest in the changing current of public sentiment. This is our hope; but more of this anon.

Matters in the church here are progressing favorably. Prayer meetings large, and interest well sustained. I expect to baptize next sabbath evening. May it prove but the first fruits of a golden harvest.

Very truly yours,
J. C. HURD.

Burlington, Iowa, June 12, 1878.

How to Come.

The E. N. B. Baptist Association is expected to meet with the First Baptist Church, St. Martins, Tuesday, July 9, at 2 o'clock P. M. Delegates coming *via*. St. John will have to come by carriage. This they can do by the payment of one dollar each way, (or two dollars in all) providing they will let us know in time. Those intending to come by this or any other route had better notify us by postal card immediately, and we will make arrangements accordingly. We take it for granted that railways and steamboats will give the usual accommodation. Will brethren Todd, of Moncton, and Dickinson, of Carleton, please see that this done?

The invitation when given was cordial; the greetings will be equally so.

I. E. BILL, Pastor.

The Visitor and our Western Association.

At the last meeting of the Western Association the Committee on Religious Literature, among other kind references to the VISITOR, gave expression to the following wish and recommendation:

We desire to see the circulation of the VISITOR largely increased, and extended into every Baptist family, and recommend that the ministers and leading brethren in our churches use proper effort to enlarge its list of subscribers.

The present proprietors join very heartily in this desire, and we would be under obligations to our ministers and brethren if, in the short time before the meeting of the Association, they would endeavor to enlarge our subscription list. One dollar will supply the VISITOR to the beginning of another year. To be sure we recommend all to practice advance payment, for material and labor have to be paid for each week. But if our ministers, agents or brethren send us what they consider good names, we will send the VISITOR and wait a reasonable time for payment. We hold that the VISITOR is an important auxiliary to the pastor in his work, and an educator in the family. These are, doubtless, hard times, but it is a questionable economy that begins with no religious newspaper, or the stopping of one previously taken. We are glad to say very few of our subscribers are resorting to the stopping policy; but we need, and are willing to make the effort to gain, a large list of new subscribers. Our brethren have now an opportunity, never before so fair, to make their denominational headquarters somewhat correspondent to their wishes. We can now not only supply the VISITOR in better dress, but do all our denominational printing, and furnish our churches and Sunday schools with all they require. This is certainly an advantage, and we look to our brethren to help us realize in full our purpose. One of the editors will be in attendance at the Association to receive subscriptions, orders for Sunday School Libraries, Sunday School Papers, and give any information desired in reference to our plans and work.

Jubilee Services.

The Jubilee services yesterday in the Baptist Church were very interesting. The morning service was conducted by the Rev. I. E. Bill, of St. Martins, who preached an excellent discourse from Isa. 61st chap. and part of the second verse. In the afternoon the Jubilee exercises of the Sabbath school attracted a large audience and afforded much pleasure to all the friends of the young folks. There was choice music, under the direction of Mr. Bamford Beaumont, recitations, dialogues, etc., speeches, by Rev. Messrs. Bill, Hughes and the Pastor, and the presentation of a remembrancer, in the shape of a picture gift, to every pupil of the school and also to each scholar of the branch schools at Lewisville, High street and Salisbury Road. Three hundred and fifty gifts were thus disposed of. The recitations, dialogues, and addresses by the children were exceedingly creditable and were given in the following order:—

Recitation.—Alice McKenzie, Edith Jonah, Master Albert Boyd.
Singing.
Recitations.—Laura Brown, Thomas Witt.
Singing.
Recitations.—Hattie Jones, Albert J. Lutes.
Original Dialogue.—Miss Bertie McKenzie and Bessie Graves.
Singing.
Recitations.—Miss Shaw, Miss Lewis (Lewisville).
Simultaneous recitation by two little brothers, Masters Gallaway.
Recitation—Bible—Ida Hicks.
Singing.
DISTRIBUTION OF GIFTS.
Speeches by Ministers.
Original Address by Bertie McKenzie.