

The Record of 1863.

Time is rushing on, bearing upon its bosom unnumbered millions of deathless souls. As this rapid tide passes by, its years drop, one after another, into the great abyss, and are lost in the eternal ages.

We greatly fear that those searching eyes of omniscience look upon the world still as "lying in wickedness." Everywhere the signals of apostasy and rebellion are hung out.

But it is pleasing to know that amid these dark outlines, gleams of religious light are breaking forth as the dawn of morning, and the hosts of the Almighty are preparing to go up and possess the land.

As 1864 throws its first rays of light upon us, we shall all do well to betake ourselves to searching self-examination, and to earnest penitential prayer.

What a responsible thing is life at all times, but especially in this age of light and progress. Individuals, society, nations, are thinking, moving, acting upon a vast scale.

It seems to us appropriate at this juncture of time that we should briefly review the progress of our Baptist churches in this Province, during the year which must soon be numbered amongst the things of the past.

Our next issue will contain the first of the promised series of able articles, on New Testament Studies, regarding church organization, government, doctrines, ministry, &c.

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inflicting upon themselves or their families the slightest injury. Nay, they would have been all the richer for so doing.

A Word to our Subscribers. The time for which many of you have paid for the Visitor closes with the present issue.

Revival at Upper Salisbury. A note from Deacon Joseph Bleakney, informs us that this good work is progressing; difficulties that threatened seriously the peace of the church have been removed.

To our Ministers and Agents Generally. The permanent success of the Visitor subscription list depends largely upon you.

The Late Rev. W. H. Burnham. At the time of our Brother Burnham's death it was expected that Rev. W. A. Corey, an intimate friend of his, would prepare a memoir of his life.

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Reformatory Question.

This is plainly apparent to all who follow up the disputes upon the subject, between the Freeman and the Church Witness that the position taken in our former article is the correct one.

Various schemes have been proposed—one of them is to remove the patients from the Marine Hospital to the new Public Hospital, and use the old building thus vacated as a Reformatory.

The Witness proposes, as a "cheap" expedient, the use of a part of the Alms House for this purpose. Such a proposition may help to quiet the nerves of those persons who suffer under a chronic fright at the ghosts of long tax-bills.

It is well understood by all skillful teachers that any punishment which breaks down the honest self-respect of the pupil, does more harm than good.

Something radically different from our Penitentiary, or jail, is required; for it is easy to see that a place of confinement and punishment be provided for young offenders, bearing the most remote resemblance to a prison, many of the associations connected with prison life will inevitably attach themselves to it.

Such an Institution might be made out of an old Hospital in a close and dirty part of St. John, or set up among the squalid and sickening scenes of the Alms House.

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Government, this will serve to show us the fact; but our shrewd and gentlemanly Railway member ought to be able to engineer the scheme, and doubtless would do so successfully, if the matter were placed in his hands.

Having thus endeavored to clear away some of the clouds which have enveloped this subject, we will in our next article give a full description of a Reformatory School in successful operation, such an one as on a smaller scale would meet the wants of New Brunswick in every respect.

Woman and her Saviour in Persia, from the house of Gould & Lincoln, Boston, contrasts in a lucid style the fearfully degraded condition of woman in Persia, without the redeeming influences of the Gospel, and the same woman purified, emancipated, and saved through the agency of modern Missions.

The American Tract Society are publishing new works of great value almost continuously. They are peculiarly happy in their Sabbath School books.

The need of fresh showers of the reviving Spirit is beginning to be intensely realized by earnest Christians in London. It is felt that there has been a decline in the spiritual life of believers, and that the church has lost in large measure the fervor and holy impetuosity which were its glory.

The writer has recently visited the chief scenes of that Ulster revival and "year of grace," the tidings brought back from which told so powerfully in the autumn and winter of 1859 in London.

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completed with other duties, yet to the glory of God, and to the encouragement of all kindred efforts.

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NOT SECULAR DEPARTMENT.

COLONIAL AB.

The "Visitor's" City Article. A large and intelligent audience, filling the Mechanics' Institute in every part, swam, galleries and all, greeted the appearance of the Rev. J. C. Fletcher, the lecturer, who had been announced for last Monday evening.

Eight years after the discovery of America by Columbus, Vincent Yaner Pinzon discovered South America, landing on the coast of Brazil near the mouth of the great river Amazon.

This vast country is 2800 miles wide from its eastern to its western extremity, and has a sea coast of more than 3000 miles. The great river Amazon, 3000 miles in length, is navigable for 1000 miles through Brazilian territory.

The commerce of Brazil is somewhat restricted by high duties, and, in consequence, is not a single part of North America. If you wish to visit Rio Janeiro, you must go all the way round by Lisbon and the Cape de Verde Islands, or take passage on a slow sailing ship.

We sincerely hope that this arrangement will have the hearty support of the ministers and churches of the city, and that we shall all have a blessed season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

Sudden Death of Captain Jas. H. Lyons.—It becomes our melancholy duty to record the unexpected death of Captain James H. Lyons, master of the ship Empire, belonging to the Messrs. Wright, of this city.

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