CHRISTIAN VISITOR. 'THE

FOR GOOD OR ILL.

2

Only a word! Yet it bore on its holy breath A message that God had given To kindly warn from the ways of death-And a soul was led to heaven.

Only'a word! Spoken in scorn by lips that smiled, But a haunting doubt's black shade. Was cast in the trusting heart of a child, And a life-long darkness made.

Only a word! Yet there lay in its heart, enshrined Lake the germ in a tiny seed, A thought, that fell in an earnest mind, And grew to a noble deed.

Only a word! No more widely the ocean parts Land from land with its ebb and flow, That one false word severed kindly hearts That loved in the long ago.

Only a word! 'This whispered "amen" of a prayer: But it flew, like a swift-winged dove, From the stormy depths of a soul's despair To the Father's heart of love.

Only a word! Oh, choose it wisely, weigh it well; Send it forth with love and faith. It may be the message one word can tell Will rescue a soul from death.



THIRSTING AFTER LIFE.

SERMON BY REV.G.E.GOOD, A.M., SACKVILLE

"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood[and cried, saying: If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink.—John 7: 37.

It was at the feast of Tabernacles that Jesus uttered these words. The people had become uneasy because he had not made his appearance at the feast as they had expected. The inquiry was passed from one to the other, " where is he ?" They were not agreed, however, as to whom he was. Some said "he is a good man," others "nay; but he deceiveth the people." Talk of this kind was not of a public nature. It was whispered from ear to ear. The Jewish rulers were opposed to Christ from the very first, and hence did all in their power to detract from his teaching and miracles.

When the feast was about half over Jesus enters into the Temple and begins to teach the people. His words were not very welcome to many of his hearers. The truth he uttered cut them too deeply to be at all pleasing. Their ill-will took shape in the snares they set to catch him; and their malice in stones to kill him.

turbed life of contemplation," makes one satisfied with the external rites of this re- we shall receive if we follow Bible doctrine! think of the time when Christians hope to ligion and found that for each draught "In as much as ye have done it unto one behold the glory of God and the Lamb for- there was a greater thirst, that for each of the least of these my brethren, ye have ever. Platinus the chief representative of sup there was only an awakening of a done it unto me." this school, represented the "soul as hav- keener desire for more, or for something ing fallen from its original condition, and that would forever give them that inward in consequence, and as a penalty, having cooling, and the soothing their parched become united with a material body, the souls needed, these messages of life for been regularly observed and well attended. one true aim recognized for human action the thirsty must have been like the cry of

spiritual life."

many years before our Lord and Saviour thirsting desires of their souls should find Jesus Christ. That they were heathen satisfaction so soon must have been to them philosophers without any knowledge of the most blessed of all earthly anticipa-God and Redemption; and that they were tions. That the desires of their longing work. At the public meeting held in July, led into these channels of thought by the hearts should be realized there in the court contemplations of their own natures. Men of the temple, just at the close of the may say what they will, but there is no dis- feast, just when the ceremonies had aroused proving the fact that the nature of man all the former passions of their heart for leads him outside of it for the full realiza- life eternal, must have been startling news tion of all its desires for peace and happi- to those who heard it. "Of a truth, they ness. The life we now live is not sufficient | say, this is a prophet." to fill up the thirst of the soul after life, a But better than all was it, when they life having in it infinity, an infinity of love, came to Christ and drank of the fountain of peace, joy, righteousness in their greatest life. The troubled conscience was eased heathen philosophers who lived long before guilty conscience, purified from its guilt, the beginning of the Christian era. The and the whole man refreshed and replen-The daily routine of their sacrifices was over death. As keen, as strong, as imperonly a symbol of the great depth of their ative as was the promptings of conscience, longings after life. The words of Simeon as soothing, as kind, as comforting was when he blessed the infant Jesus, are un- the draught of gospel grace. mistakable evidence of their ideas of man's To drink at this fountain is to live forrelation to happiness, heaven, and the sal- ever. To come to Christ is to seek for this vation of the soul. The preaching of John cooling draught of gospel grace. It is to the Baptist, and the readiness with which believe upon him who is the centre, the many embraced his teachings, speak clearly marrow and the source of the gospel. It

merely existence, but life, with all its ac- a burden? He can remove it. Are you companying joys, comforts, and pleasures ; sick of the things of time? He can fit you is God, heaven, and the joys of the blessed. He could well say, " If any man thirst, let The writings of such men as Abælard, him come unto Me and drink." Are there Bernard, John of Salisbury, Alexander of thirsting souls here? Then come to Christ Hales, Bonaventura, Albertus Magnus, and that your thirst may be quenched. You Aquinas are full of expressions, showing a need not go the rounds of life any more soul satisfied only with a life which is without this friend. He has signified His eternal in its duration, and happy in all its willingness to go with you. He has proffrelations. But we need not examine the ered the riches of His grace and the comworld of history to find out the state of fort of His spirit to those who come to mankind in reference to their desires after Him for the water of life. Then thirsty life. tions in our hearts than we really suspected. We cannot think, with any degree of pleasure, that this life is all of us. Stern, cold reason, may strive to drive us to such a conclusion. We may try to keep down our inner nature and soothe its admonitions. but this we cannot do altogether. There is in each one of us something that forbids us to settle down quictly and comfortably into the conclusion that this life is all the life we know of, or shall know of. The soul principle in us hungers and thirsts after higher and nobler joys than those of time. We feel, we know, yet know not how,

is, to rise above the debasing connection "water" to the tired, thirsty, worn out with matter, and again to lead the old traveller. They must have caused new hopes and joys to have arisen in the soul. Be it remembered, that these men lived The prospect that the burning, panting,

to us of the leaning of the minds of many is to "admit His doctrine, submit to His

We have only to enter the chamber soul be comforted. The object of thy de-

mankind in general and ourselves in par- near and calls for thee. Thirst no more. averaging more than five or six, but these ticular. The great under-current of our He has the water of life, of which if any have experienced the presence of the Mas natures, which gives color and direction to man drink he shall never thirst. It is soul ter, and held sweet communion with one every thought and action, is what we ought satisfying, soul feeding, soul renewing, and another and with their God. If others who to examine. A careful study of it will dis- soul quickening. Hasten then to this do not attend knew the blessings in store close to us that there are higher aspira- fountain. Let nothing hinder you Away for them and the encouragement their conclusions, but there is something in our heavenly water. Then hasten to partake amount to \$20. nature that is unwilling to rest upon such of it. Stop not to see if thy friends are willing. For while you wait you are risking your eternal salvation. As soon as you hear the words of Christ proceed to quench the thirst of thy soul. Life in its grandeur, life in its beauty, life in peace, life in hope, life in heaven is worth enjoying, is worth struggling for, is worth possessing.

LOUISE ALLWOOD, Secretary.

FREDERICTON.-Monthly meetings have In response to an appeal from Miss Hammond, a Sabbath-school Mission Band was formed, with competent officers, who cheerfully undertook the responsibility of conducting such an organization. The membership of the society has been 24. Contribution \$30. Thirty-four copies of the Link are subscribed for, and doing a good interesting addresses were delivered, letters from Miss Hammond and Mrs. Armstrong, were read, and also a sketch of the origin and progress of our societies. A box was sent to Miss Hammond in October, to which contributions were received from friends in various parts of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The wives of our mis-

sionaries were not forgotten. The box was insured for \$200 from Liverpool. Hopes and grandest conceptions. But this thirst- of its sorrow, was pacified. The aching were entertained that it would reach its ing after life was not confined to the heart was relieved of its burden. The destination not later than the opening of the new year, but unforeseen delays have occured. It went by sailing vessel to Bom-Jew had a soul which led him after God. ished for the struggles of life and victory bay, from whence it will be forwarded by steamer.

> HILLSBORO.-The meeting of Convention at this place in August, and the interest arising out of the woman's meeting, held under the auspices of the Central Board, together with the presence of a returned missionary family, has awakened a fresh zeal in the glorious work of missions. The membership numbers 24, and the con-

to us of the leaning of the minds of many of the Hebrew people. The words of Christ found many a heart to give them a wel-come. They must have been welcome to many a soul wishing for a good hope of eternal life. The spirit of Righteousness in many a heart gave them a desire for the many a heart gave them a desire for in many a heart gave them a desire for in many a heart gave them a desire for the many a heart gave them a desire for in many a heart gave them a desire for the many a heart gave them a desire for in the desire for every need of man. Does the it is believed, been answered, so that she it is believed, been answered, so that she it is believed, been answered, so that she minds and hearts thirsting for life, not science trouble? He can soothe it. Is sin has been most wonderfully helped and sustained. The attendance at the monthly meetings has not greatly increased, but the life, whose very centre and circumference for eternity, With such a fulness in Him subscriptions are somewhat in advance of the previous year, being \$55.20

> PORTLAND.-This branch is reported to be in a prosperous condition, for, although the amount paid into the treasury, \$29.60, is not very large, the interest felt in mission work, awakened years ago, is unabated. Personal blessings have been experienced, whilst working for the good of others and the advancement of Christ's cause in the earth.

SACKVILLE.-The attendance at the of our own nature and there we shall see sires is at hand. The Saviour is drawing monthly meetings has been very small, not FAMILINE PROMPTLY RELIEVING PAIN AND INFLAMATION.

Feb 9, '81

For External and Internal Use.

FOR its quick and sure healing properties it has no equal. For its relieving and allaying inflamma-tion no medicine has ever been compounded equal to it. It is perfectly safe to use at any and all times, and a quick and thorough cure from such complaints as Pains in the Chest, Shoulders, Back and Side, Burns, and Scalds, Sprains, Strains, Bruises, Rheumatic and Neuralgia Pains, Swelling of the Joints, Stiff Joints, Stiff Neck, Contracted Muscles, Spinal Spinal Affections, White Swellings, Chafes, Calluses, Galls, Bunions, Chil-blains, Corns, Frost Bites, Poisoning by Dogwood, Ivy, Bites, Stings of Insects, Chapped Hands, Lips, Ringworms, Salt Rheum, Tetter, Pimples, Itching, Dry Scaly Eruptions of the Skin, Old Sores, Scald Head, Outward Humors, of any kind, Hemorrhoids,

Piles, Numbness, Worms, Ague in the Face, Earache, Hoarseness, Throat, Coughs, Croup. Sore

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It Relieves Pain. Good for Swollen Limbs. Physicians Prescribe and Use it.

Boston, Mass., March 29, 1880. Mr H. R. Stevens--Dear Sir: I have lately witnessed decidedly good and striking effects of your FAMI-LINE in a case of Erysipelas of nearly three years' standing. When I first saw my patient, a lady of some 50 years of age, she was complaining of a se-vere swollen condition of her feet; the skin was tense and angry-looking. painful on the slightest motion, and likely to burst at any moment. She had tried many remedies without relief, and my first treatment failed in its effect. I suggested that the feet be painted with FAMILINE morning and night, and then inclosed in soft cotton dressing. When I saw her last, about three days ago, the pain had wholly vanished, the swelling reduced to al-most the normal condition and the inflamation sub-sided. With proper care as to diet and slight consti-tutional treatment, I think she has nothing to fear from her old disease in the future.



For Croup and Sore Throat. Mr. H. R. Stevens—Dear Sir: I have had your FAMILINE in constant use in my family for more than a year, and find it an invaluable remedy for the many complaints for which it is recommended, the chief of which, in my family of four small children, seems to be Croup. Were it not for your Family Bal-sam. I should hardly dare close my eyes in sleep. It instantly relieves Croup; also is an excellent medi-cine for Coughs and Sore Throat. Too much cannot be said in praise of it. I have recommended it to many others, who have tried it with equally good results.

Very gratefully, Mrs. Wm. Whallen, 41 Newman st., South Boston, Mass.

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PREPARED BY

The feast had about come to a close when Jesus uttered the words we read to you as a basis our of remarks to-day.

The solemn convocation of the people had taken place. The assembled crowd were engaged in the final observances of the feast. Jesus embracing this opportunity of directing the mind of the people to himself and his heavenly teaching, stands up in some fit place and cries, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink." His words are suited to only one class of persons; to those who are thirsting after life. To those who have "a heart-felt longing, yea, a troubled, sad, awakened. stricken conscience, a desparing, trembling heart, that would know how it can be with God."

To those then, whose hearts long for life, and whose souls thirst for God, for the living God, these words must sound blessed. As upon that great day of the feast Christ that,-cried, so now these words waft the welcome news to us of one that can satisfy the longing of the soul. How many now say in their hearts, as the Greeks did to Phillip, such aspirations after life in its higher and hearts a desire to be near one that can sound fit and proper. They would answer soothe and comfort them. There is a feel- the voice in his own nature. . . What ing in their nature which leads them out of water is to the thirsty soul, the words of self to be satisfied. Their is a class of per- Jesus would be to those seeking after life. ness. Life! Eternal Life! is the only thing answering the desires of their own nature, which will satisfy their souls. For this so Christ's words would be the outward they would see Jesus;

ly as he clings to life here, does he hope to life." " I am the resurrection and the life. advanced by man about the future.

"It is not all of life to live, Nor all of death to die."

II. Then, to man, having in his nature "Sir we would see Jesus." There is in their grander form, the words of Jesus would sons who hunger and thirst after righteous- The water would be the external element, ing. they thirst; For this they seek; For this signal answering the internal wishes of our hearts. The deeper and more intense these Have we read, and interested ourselves life. Wherever we find man, we find him blessed will the words of Jesus be. The storehouse the talents that God has endow-. Man shudders at the thought of a unto you, they are spirit and they are life." cessation of action, at nonentity. As strong- "He that believeth on me hath everlasting live again. These silent, quiet currents of In Christ are all things necessary to satisfy

When it comes so easily, so quietly, so freely, we all ought to possess it, all to enjoy it. May the God that sent his son to cry " come unto Me and drink," enable us to come, drink, and be saved.

PTY I'V PATER 13

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRA. BOARD, W. M. A .S.

The following is a synopsis of the reports of local societies read at the annual meet-

BRUSSEL STREET .- As the years roll around what have we gained in wisdom and home mission work has been accomplished, and some have been gathered in to work many institute take shape in the many ideas. That's search after truth, was the original product of the truth was the truth was the truth was the original product of the truth was the original product of the truth was the original product of the truth was the truth was the truth was the original product of the truth was the truth was the original product of the truth was t

to the source of all that is holy, pure, and presence would give, they would not reheavenly, that you may drink and see frain from aiding by their sympathies their eternal life; drink and enjoy Heaven for- prayers, and their contributions, to send ever. There is life in one draught of the the gospel to the heathen. Subscriptions

> CUMBERLAND BAY .- Death has not made any inroads upon the membership of this branch during the year. The meetings have been few and the membership is small, although there are many sisters who ought to have a hearty interest in missionary work who now do nothing. Their prayerful consideration of this matter and their co-operation in the future is desired. Membership 22, contribution \$33.03.

LOWER WICKHAM.—The monthly meet-ings have been held with very few exceptions. The attendance has not been large, but the feeling of interest in the cause of missions has not slackened. The help re-ceived and given by prayers and contributions encourages the hope that this interest will become stronger, and that the coming year will witness the gospel much more widely spread. The contributions amount \$17.50.

HILLSDALE .- The monthly meetings have been sustained except when prevented by knowledge, concerning the heathen world ? unfavorable weather. The annual meeting held on the 13th of January awakened a new 1. There is in man then, a thirsting after wishes of the heart, the more timely and in this work. Have we brought into the interest in the hearts of many, for those in heathen lands who know not God, as well possessed of strong vital attachments. He stronger our own consciousness of the need ed us with, and used them for the advance- as in those who have left their homes to loves to live; He loves to enjoy life; He of divine help, the more opportune and fit- ment of his cause? It has seemed to me this carry to them the blessed gospel. Their loves to be happy. This life seeking princi- ting will the help seem to be. If there is year as if home duties had taken up so success depends largely upon the prayers pal cannot find its full realization in this a thirst in your hearts come and satisfy it much of my thoughts, that I could not de- of Christians at home that the divine blessworld. It goes beyond the bounds of time; looks beyond the circle of three score years and ten; says, "this cannot be all of me." in me, says Christ, In me you will find thirst for life. "The words that I speak hitherto done, although in reality more hearts for life means of carrying on their work. The contributions amounted to \$20.30.

GERMAIN STREET .- The membership of for Christ. I trust that this year we shall this Society has increased during the past reap a rich harvest in the ingathering of year and the finances so improved as to man's nature take shape in the many ideas the desires of the heart for life. Do you precious souls to the Shiloh of our God. With permit of the transmission to the treasury want peace? This can be obtained through such a manifestation of God's presence in of \$41.00. The monthly meetings, with



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