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J. E. HOPPER, Publisher.

The Christian Visitor

Wednesday, May 18, 1881.

THE BAPTIST UNION.

The Bible Translation Society held its annual meeting at Bloomsbury Chapel under the presidency of E. S. Robinson Esq., of Bristol. The attendance was unusually good. This contrasts favorably with the interest taken by Americans in the American and Foreign Bible Society. Baptists in England foster their Bible Society; Baptists in America, or nearly all of them, are endeavoring to kill theirs. The chairman referring to the need of a Bible Translation Society apart from a Missionary Society remarked; "It may be said that this should be the work of the missionary. True this is a department of missionary work, but the establishment and maintenance of this society aims to keep the missionary proper free to preach, to visit, to expound, to labor, in the Chapel, in the street, in the bazaar, in the dwelling, in the hut, or the school. The work of this society has to be done in the closet or the study, requiring facilities and training different from those required by the preacher, teacher or cottage visitor. It is important that those who go forth to preach and to take the oversight of churches, should not be tied down to the work of translating, but should be left comparatively free to labor at evangelistic teaching."

The report of the Society makes mention of the death of Dr. Wenger the learned translator of the Bible into Sanscrit, the language of the learned East Indians, and the reviser of the Bengali Bible, the book for the million.

Reference is made to the work of Rev. Charles Carter who is bringing through the press a revision of the Singalese New Testament.

Appeals for help come from Japan to print Dr. Brown's translation in Japanese, from Assam to print the Garo Scriptures, from Dr. Bickel in Germany, for Bible distribution. All these appeals had to be denied, and yet we are told by many of the brethren in the United States there is no need for a Baptist Bible Society, and there is now no pressing demand. How is it? It seems the English Bible Society, has all and more than it can do. Somebody is mistaken.

The total receipts of the Society for the past year amount to about \$12,000. The Treasurer, Dr. Underhill, however announced that the demands on the Society for the coming year would be considerably increased inasmuch as provision will have to be made for Mr. Bate who is bringing out a translation of the Old Testament in Hindoo. We remember Mr. Bate as a Regent Park classmate. He was then very proficient in Hebrew and Syriac and we shall expect to hear that he is making his mark as a faithful translator.

Dr. Culross, G. H. Rouse L. L. B., E. C. B. Hallam of Allahabad and J. T. Briscoe addressed the meeting. The Missionary Society held an Annual Soiree at Cannon St. Hotel, under the presidency of Lord Justice Lush, at which Dr. Wayland was present and made one of his inimitable speeches. We shall have to defer further notice of these meetings and commend to our readers the interesting letter of our English Correspondent on this subject.

THE CROZIER LECTURES.

We adverted last week to the Course of Lectures being delivered on "the Crozier foundation" by Principal Dawson. We have obtained a list of them and they are as follows:

Agnosticism; as related to natural Science. Monistic Biology; Its methods and results. Evolution; in relation to Paleontology. Results of Science; as to the Origin and Antiquity of Man. Mind in Nature. Nature and Revelation.

The audience attending these lectures has been very select and large; the best minds of the city of brotherly-love have been in constant attendance.

In the second lecture Principal Dawson paid his respects to Hegel the apostle of Monism and made the speculation appear rationally and scientifically ridiculous. He compared many of the statements of the Hegelian theory to the "presto" of the juggler. He adduced the case of the "lancelet" a curious little fish found in the Mediterranean belonging to the lowest class of vertebrates which Hegel affirms is an ancestor of the human race—a connecting link between the vertebrates and the class below. According to Hegel he said, in a vein of irony, we might worship this little creature as a divinity, or at least as a profoundly to be venerated progenitor. The philosopher was shown to be unacquainted with the facts as known to naturalists, and a sorry apologist for a theory based in fiction. A very amusing picture was drawn of the first fish according to Hegel trying the experiment of walking on dry land on five fingers and five toes. Men have been under the name of science listening to and applauding too long the merest twaddle. The development theory either as held by Darwin or by his more extreme German contemporary Hegel wants the support of facts.

In the lecture on Evolution, Principal Dawson said: Displacement seemed to be the order of progression rather than the change of one type gradually into another. Our own period was geologically one of remarkable stagnation.

We shall refer to these lectures again. They will doubtless soon appear in book form and will be eagerly sought after and read. Dr. Dawson is an authority on the subjects he has discussed and he holds the men who advocate speculations rigidly to the inductive process, and proclaims a non probandi where facts are wanting to justify a generalization.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

This Convention met this year in Columbus, Miss., Dr. Mell was chosen President. Among the Vice Presidents we note the name of Dr. J. L. M. Curry. Dr. Dobbs was chosen Secretary.

Dr. Tupper, Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, presented his report which showed receipts \$46,820.43, disbursements \$46,179.43, balance on hand \$641.05. The Rome Chapel has been completed at a cost of \$30,579.72. In Mexico mention is made of the murder of missionary Westrup and the offer of his brother to take his place and carry on the Mission. There are 8 Baptist churches there having a membership of 200, besides material to form two more churches and an inviting field on every hand.

Recently the Convention has entered Brazil and good hopes of great usefulness present themselves. In Africa and China flourishing missions are sustained, and the Foreign Board is contemplating the establishment of a mission in Cuba. We are greatly pleased to see the aggressive action taken in this great work which our Southern brethren now manifest.

Dr. McIntosh for the Home Mission Board presented a report of work prosecuted among the Chinese in California by Dr. Hartwell. In Indian Missions mention is made of the fact that several Indians are now engaged in College study, preparatory to the work of the gospel ministry.

Dr. Buckner is the chief missionary and needs assistants badly. The Board has appropriated \$10,208.92 for establishing a school in the Indian Territory.

Dr. Boyce stated that before June 1st it was necessary to raise \$22,000 in order to complete the \$2,000 en-

dowment for the Theological Seminary. Of this over \$5,000 was pledged at the Convention. There have been 93 students in the Seminary the last year.

Dr Kerfoot as chairman of a committee on raising funds made the humiliating statement that the membership of the Convention did not contribute in the aggregate an average of one cent each to missions. This shows a most lamentable neglect of compliance with divine requirements on the part of many churches. Brethren listen to Jesus, word and give or: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

MRS. J. W. GEROW.

On the 14th inst., at the residence of George W. Gerow, Esq., Coburg St., Mrs. Minnie Gerow, wife of Captain James William Gerow. She was the daughter of William J. Morrison, Esq., of this city. She accompanied her husband during many sea voyages, and with him was mercifully preserved amidst many dangers. They had come home with the intention of abandoning sea-faring life, and hoped soon to settle in the neighboring republic in a pleasant home. She was a lady of warm religious sympathies, of ardent love and tender solicitude for her family. She worshipped at Brussel Street Church on Sunday, was taken ill on Wednesday, and on Saturday she left a sorrow-stricken husband and four little children, and many dear friends to go to the home on high where the weary are at rest. Her sudden death has been a great blow to her family, and the destruction of cherished plans for long and happy earthly life. To the home in the better land where no partings come, may all at length be gathered, and share the wealth of a Father's care and a Saviour's love. She was buried in the Rural Cemetery on the 16th inst. Many a tear marked the tender place she held in the esteem and love of the large company who followed her to the house appointed for all living.

"With us her name shall live, Through long succeeding years. Embalmed with all our hearts can give, Our praises and our tears."

We are in receipt of a pamphlet containing an enumeration of the Munro exhibitions and bursaries in connection with Dalhousie College. They form a tempting bait, but we must mistake the animus of Baptist fathers and mothers if they yield the religious and literary advantages afforded by Acadia, for the pecuniary considerations which a school without a religious history and influence, such as Dalhousie, has to proffer.

REV. H. C. MABLE, pastor of the First Church, Indianapolis, where the National Anniversaries are to be held this year, and known to many of our brethren in this Province and the Island, is having a gracious revival in his church. Some twenty persons have been baptized.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of our correspondents.

ONTARIO CORRESPONDENCE.

DEAR EDITOR.—I wonder if your part of the country can boast of such exquisitely delightful weather as it has been ours to enjoy for some weeks past. The most fastidious could surely not ask for anything pleasanter. But after all our present feelings and our future interest do not always agree even in such an ordinary thing as the weather. Since our last snow fall in the former part of April we have had only one slight sprinkling of rain and though a few warm suns have poured their genial rays upon us yet we have longed for the green grass, the bursting bud, the freshness and loveliness of spring. As I write a big black circle surrounds the moon giving promise of that which we desire. May it be soon.

You have already noted the appointment of Dr. Castle to the presidency of the Theological College at Toronto and that of Prof. Torrance to a chair in the same institution. No appointments have given more general satisfaction. Dr. Castle has shown himself to be just such a man as is needed at the head of a College. He will always be winning and kind-

ly, able to teach, to plan, and to execute, and capable of guiding affairs with a steady hand. He brings to his work a cultured mind, a refined nature, a large heart and a rich experience in pastoral work.

Prof. Torrance has won the esteem and confidence of the denomination by the able manner in which he has discharged his duties in Woodstock. The tribute paid to him by the theological students at the closing exercises, a couple of weeks ago is the best criterion of his worth as an instructor in theology. May the Great Teacher ever guide both of them and give them wisdom and discernment in their great life-work. The appointment of a third professor is still a matter of speculation. Probably we shall hear more soon.

Meanwhile the Literary Institute is absorbing the attention of its friends, Prof. Torrance retains the Principalship only for a few weeks more and Prof. Wolverson takes it pro. tem. We understand the Trustees are scenting Mr. MacVicar a Michigan educationalist of some note. From all we hear of this gentleman it will be well if he can be secured. Expense of course is a great factor in determining these affairs and that must be incurred if the best material is to be secured. The Endowment Fund is now nearing \$80,000, but that will not furnish salaries such as will tempt first class men from lucrative positions. Even in these un-sordid matters the dollar is very mighty. A new canvass is looming up in the near future for the Toronto College. Mr. McMaster has generously endowed the Presidency—but a few thousands must annually be raised to keep things going. Some may begin to shrug their shoulders and imagine that the burden is getting too heavy but if these enterprises should be the means of so drawing out the purses as to show what the denomination really can do and thus reveal to its strength they will have achieved a grand result. Very few of those whom I meet seem to be impoverished by any liberality they have shown to brother Dyke, and I dare say they might double or treble the allowance and still live in comparative ease, if not luxury. If 27,000 church members cannot contribute as many dollars to educational work then verily the gospel must have reached only the poor in this our province. Giving until we feel it by no means too common an experience now-a-days. Would that it were more common! We look forward with interest to the development of our Literary and Theological Colleges.

I referred to Mr. Hammond's work in my last. Let me here simply state that 2500 professed to be converted during the meetings in Toronto. Allowing for dross, &c., yet we must need confess that a blessed work was done. I feel like going into a dissertation on Evangelists but must refrain to-night. Perhaps I may express my opinions on that subject in some future communication. At present no more. H.

For the Visitor.

"THE MANLINESS OF CHRIST."

BY THOS. HUGHES, Q. C.

Mr. Hughes is very favourably known as a writer. His "Tom Brown's School Days at Rugby" is one of the most popular books of its class in the language. Other works from his facile pen have made his name still more widely and scarcely less favourably known.

Among Mr. H's later writings is one which bears the title of "The Manliness of Christ." This too, has been very much admired, and has been published in numerous editions. It is one of the works which the "American Book Exchange" has considered worthy of a place among its widely-spread publications. And it is doubtless entitled in several respects to the distinction, as well as to the commendations which accompanied its issue from the press. But the work is not, as I conceive, free from blemishes. The subject with which it deals, is an interesting one, and the style is masterly, but some of the sentiments expressed are far from being unobjectionable. With your permission I will make a few citations, accompanied with such comments as they shall suggest.

Speaking of Christ's power as displayed in the "wonderful works" which he wrought, Mr. H. employs the following language: "It seems to me to be going quite beyond what can be proved, or even fairly assumed, to speak of his miracles as supernatural, in the sense that no man has ever done, or can ever do the like. The evidence is surely all the other way, and seems rather to indicate that if we could only have lived up to the standard, which we acknowledge to be the true one—could only have obeyed every motion and warning of the voice of God speaking in our hearts—if in other words our wills had from the first been disciplined, like the will of Christ, so as to be in perfect accord with the will of God, I see no reasons to doubt that we too should have gained the power to show signs, or, if you please, to work miracles, as Christ and his apostles worked them."

It would have been satisfactory if Mr. H. had stated what was the "evidence" for such a belief as he entertains. To most persons "the evidence is surely all the other way" from that indicated by the writer. They will hold, in opposition to Mr. H. that no "evidence" of the kind exists, and that we have no grounds for the belief, but gratuitous assumptions, based on a number of unwarranted hypotheses, all destitute of foundation alike in Scripture and the condition of our race. Why introduce hypothesis, which philosophy does not justify, and which experience and observation conspire to condemn? The whole series of "ifs," expressed or implied, are vain and delusive.

To quote again. Our author, still dealing with the subject of miracles, puts the question, "Did Christ exercise supernatural powers before his baptism?" and replies to it in this wise—"Here we get not the slightest direct help from the gospel narrative. We are therefore left to our own judgment and reason." And what "our own judgment and reason" teach, is, according to Mr. H. as follows: "I think it is impossible to resist the conclusion that he must have had all these powers from his childhood."

To this it may be replied that there are many who do not find it "impossible to resist the conclusion" to which our author has arrived, and who are of opinion that, if we have no "direct evidence" to aid us in coming to the conclusion which Mr. H. reached, it is possibly the case that "from the narrative we receive indirect help in arriving at a different one. But whatever may be the truth as to the point in question, it is certainly not all who will hold with him, that "it is the most convincing testimony to the perfect sonship of Christ. That he never tested those powers during the thirty years" previous to his public ministry. The exhibition of miraculous power was to be the Divine attestation to his doctrine, and his claims as the Messiah and Son of God. His "mighty works" were the credentials of his mission, and that they were not wrought previously to his ministry does not necessarily prove anything respecting his "sonship."

But however irreconcilable it may be with the view of our author, last considered, he holds that Christ was, up to the time of his baptism, quite unconscious of his Messiahship and the peculiar relation he sustained to God. The sentiment is conveyed in the following language. "As the humblest and most guileless of men he could not have assumed that no other Israelite had been able to render that perfect obedience of which he was himself conscious. And so he may well have hurried to the Jordan in the hope of finding there in John, the prophet of the wilderness, 'Him who should come,' the Messiah, the great Deliverer! and of entering under his banner, and rendering him true and loyal service, in the belief that, after all, he himself might only be intended to aid and hold up the hands of a greater than himself."

From the above extracts, and particularly from the last, it is manifest to what school of thought Mr. H. belongs! but there is a confusion of ideas which we would not have expected from a writer so intelligible on other matters than those which pertain to spiritual religion. Wherever Christ is regarded as a mere man, however wise and holy and devoted, however different from all other men, there will be the difficulty with which Mr. H. had to contend in attempting a delineation of his character and work.

Speculations may be indulged in, hypotheses may be devised, but apart from the teachings of the New Testament no consistent or satisfactory representation of the Son of Man and the Son of God is possible; and this we are painfully conscious of as we read the otherwise admirable treatise entitled, "The Manliness of Christ." It is to be hoped that Mr. H. has carried with him and his fellow-colleagues to his new home in Rugby, Eastern Tennessee, a truer and a better gospel. C. D. R. Wolfville, May 9, 1881.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND. NO. 30.

YORK TOWN, SURREY.

May 2, 1881.

BAPTIST UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The Spring meetings of the Baptist Union might be said to commence on Monday morning April 25th. The meeting of the Baptist Building Fund had been held the previous Thursday, and the Welsh annual meeting on Friday. The former is steadily pursuing its satisfactory work of helping to build chapels by advancing money free of interest; the latter was evidently of special interest to those who could understand the language

which it is always very undesirable to find fault with in the presence of the Welsh of either sex.

MONDAY, APRIL 25th.

After the devotional services, thanks passed to the retiring agent, Dr. Trestrail, the Chair taken by Rev. Henry Downson, early of Bradford, who during his life has been the well known, and consistent advocate of strict union.

The subject of the Chairman's address was "Our Union in connection with the First Principles of the Bible Truth";—the various important subjects on which the Union based were clearly set forth, among these "belief in the nature of the Divine Ordinances, as to the of their observance"; that Christian baptism is, and can only be, the mission of believers. The sight of our venerable friend in the reading of his paper some difficult but evidently called forth deepest sympathy of all present.

The Rev. John Jenkyns of Birmingham was appointed vice agent. A resolution embodying petition to parliament against the Opium Traffic was unanimously passed. In the afternoon the and claims of the augmentation were discussed. In the evening meeting of the "Bible Truth Society" was held. The report special reference to the loss of the society sustained in the death of Wenger. This society is to be highly commended for the immense vice it has rendered the cause of by the correct translation of "Bible." Like the "American Society," which thus translate following passage "In those came John the Immerser."

TUESDAY.

The former part of the day occupied by the member's meeting of the Baptist Missionary Society the Evening by a Missionary Society under the presidency of Lord Justice Lush. The first speaker was Wayland from Philadelphia, Pa. of the National Baptist. It is peculiar pleasure to welcome the excellent brother. His presence tributed materially to the interest of our meetings. His manly address, the vein of humor that pervaded his speeches, characterized as wise and homely counsel; and all rejoice in the privilege of being the honored son of the author of Wayland's Moral Philosophy. Among other speakers at this meeting was the Rev. G. H. Rouse from Cutta. Speaking of dangers and difficulties, he said "our duty is our duty" and related with good effect the remark of the ship-captain who when asked by the passenger there was any danger, replied that is not my business, that captain's business, I am only the penter." It is ours as servants of a great vessel of the Church, to raise confidence in our Captain simply attend to our duty.

The Baptist Total Abstinence Association also met on Tuesday, gave an encouraging report of done. The meeting was addressed by several friends including members of parliament, W. S. M. P. for Scarborough, and J. M. P. for Durham.

WEDNESDAY.

The Annual meeting of the Baptist Mission in the form of a broad was held on Wednesday morning. The association comprises two three European lady agents, and five teachers and Bible women has sixteen girls' schools in operation. Receipts for the year £3,000. event of Wednesday morning the Sermon by Mr. Spurgeon in the Hall for the Missionary Society. Of course hundreds were unable to get into the crowded building, rejoiced to see our honored brother looking better, though bearing the visible signs of suffering and illness. His magnificent voice is as clear and strong as ever. Sermon was from Isaiah 51:2-3, characterized by all the fervour, and power usually attendant upon his words. On Wednesday afternoon the annual dinner of former students was held at Regents Park. In the evening the meeting of Baptist Tract Society. This Society is thoroughly Baptist and the meeting is generally the rallying point of some of the most outspoken of Baptist brethren. From the movement the Society has consistently advocated strict communion. Chair was occupied by Mr. J. S. Solicitor, supported by I. S. M. P. the treasurer, and one of the oldest friends of the Society. One feature of special interest the presence of Dr. Wayland and Rev. I. Gibson. Both of whom addressed the meeting. At the close Rev. Cricknell, of York Town, in presenting a vote of thanks expressed warm welcome to these brethren, and privilege all had enjoyed of listening to them.