

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

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

SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 1883.

No. 29.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FRANCE is attempting to imitate England in her foreign policy. She is making trouble with Madagascar. The English Government is asking for explanations. The press of Paris does not speak kindly of England.

ANOTHER Suez Canal is projected. The British Government will loan money to de Lesseps. The amount is £3,000,000 sterling. It will be 84 per cent. The opposition in the House of Commons will challenge it.

ONE of the French Princes has been dangerously ill of late. Count de Chambord, son of Charles X, was born in 1820. His father abdicated in his favor, but the throne was seized by Louis Phillippi. When Napoleon III. fell into disgrace in the Franco Prussian war, in 1870, the Count de Chambord had a good chance to become the ruler of France, but he obstinately refused to recognize the Tri-color and demanded the white flag of Henry IV. For such a trifle he threw away the chance of Kingship for which he had been waiting since childhood.

HORACE WATERS, of piano fame, has added to his \$500 for Bible work, and his church adds to it \$500 more. Thus he is beginning to honor their obligations at Saratoga; but we are sorry to see a little carping on the part of the *Examiner*, which thinks that the Philadelphia Board is likely to concede too much to the friends of the old Baptist Bible Societies.

WE congratulate the Toronto Baptist College on the acquisition of Dr. Burke, of Montreal, to the staff of professors. We know of few men more competent for the work to which he goes. This makes Toronto College really strong, and our young men will do well to consider the advantages it offers when canvassing the question: "Where shall I take my theological course?"

MOUNT ALLISON COLLEGE reports in its catalogue just issued 3 senior students, 1 junior, 9 sophomore, 8 freshmen, 26 special students and 2 graduates. The institution is doing good work but should be more largely patronized by the usually very liberal Methodist body. Such Schools as Mount Allison and Acadia are much more worthy the patronage of Christians than state or Provincial ones.

This year, so far, has been noted for a series of very sad calamities. The floods and cyclones in the West, the catching of 191 children in a death trap in Sunderland, England. The sinking of a newly launched steamer in the Clyde and the drowning of a large number of people, the death of the Brooklyn Bridge are among the latest of these fearful disasters. Now cholera, raging in Egypt, is carrying off its hundreds.

The *Baptist*: The General Synod of England, having a membership of 25,446, "emphasize what is the three grand Universalities. (1) The universality of the love of God to men; (2) the universality of the redeeming work of the Son; (3) the universality of the convincing work of the Spirit—in other words, to maintain that God's saving work in the world is not restricted by any decree, by any foregoing election, and any withholding of the convincing work of the Holy Ghost.

A BILL is introduced into the House of Lords, attaching heavy penalties to the crime of decoying young females to a life of infamy. Mr. Charlton, in the Dominion Legislature, if this law, will have valuable moral effect. A demand is felt for a law of this character. Halifax has been stirred lately with a scandal, involving men from whom other things ought to be expected, in which this prospective law in England will make criminal. The law is for transgressors.

SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED carcasses of sheep arrived a few weeks ago in England from New Zealand. They were stowed away in the ship *Jocelyn*, built for the purpose. The carcasses are packed in ice, and by a steam engine dry cold air is kept in circulation between the walls of the ship and the ice rooms in which the meat is kept. In this way the carcasses bound in cloth when landed in England are covered, with frost and make the unloaders blow their hands for warmth in a summer day. Science is doing wonders for the world.

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THE Nova Scotia Educational Provincial Association, met in Halifax on Wednesday of last week. A large number attended. A High School course of instruction was under discussion. A good course for this department should have been perfected years ago. It is, however, encouraging that of late it has received special attention. Papers were read by Professor Coldwell, of Acadia, Easton, of Truro, and others. Miss Campbell, of Halifax, explained and illustrated the Kindergarten system, to the satisfaction of all present. The Association enjoyed an excursion on the Harbor. Mr. McKay, of Pictou, gave a lecture on Botany to vary the pleasures of the excursion. Mr. Chase, of Portland, Me., one of the Press Party, and an educationist, attended one of the meetings of the P. E. Association.

THE Press Association of the State of Maine visited St. John and Halifax last week. There were about sixty in the company, including a number of ladies. Among them we (N. S. Ed.) found the Rev. Dr. H. S. Burrage, editor of *Zion's Advocate*, the Baptist paper of Maine, published at Portland.

THE Press of Halifax gave the excursionists a sail on the Harbor. The flag ship, *Northampton*, was visited. Mr. Gayton, Chairman of the Board of Charities, gave the party a lunch at Mt. Hope. No part of the Harbor seemed to please the visitors so much as the North West Arm. All seemed delighted with their visit, although the weather on the Harbor was too cold for comfort. The party arrived at Halifax on Wednesday and left on Friday morning.

THE Rev. H. S. Burrage, Editor of *Zion's Advocate*, left the excursionists at Wolfville. He remained over the night, and, in the morning, before starting for Halifax, took a drive over the hills, looked upon the Gaspereaux Valley, the Grand Pre, Blomidon, the Minas Basin, Cornwallis, and all the extensive and beautiful surroundings. He expressed himself well pleased with all he saw.

WE had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Burrage among the excursionists while they were in Halifax.—N. S. Ed.

THE attention of all who have not renewed their subscriptions for this year is requested. Our terms are Two Dollars a year in advance. Please remit. Those who owe on former years are especially exhorted to pay, and save us the burden of carrying a large indebtedness.

OUR MANITOBA LETTER.

To the Editors of the *Visitor*:—

IT is some little time since the *Visitor* has had word from its North West correspondent, as nothing of very special interest was going on among the Baptists here, till lately, since my last. But now several incidents of note and changes of importance having transpired, a report is demanded. Some of these changes point in the direction of forward progress, and some are of an opposite character. Most of our churches, especially in the towns and cities, have suffered from the tremendous financial crisis through which the country has been passing during the last year or two. Other influences were doubtless at work also, in adverse directions, but the reaction after the unnatural excitement was a powerful factor in crushing the interest in the good work. The churches in Emerson, Rapid City and Brandon, in a marked way, have been affected; all three of them having ceased to hold their regular meetings for preaching on the Lord's day for a time. The last mentioned, though it began with fair promise, has now no meetings of any kind. Emerson church holds a prayer meeting and Sabbath school, but has no regular preaching in its neat and commodious chapel. Rapid City church, for a few months without preaching services, is now rejoicing in the good work, under the leadership of George Sale, one of the young students of McMaster Hall. He is, although only a few weeks in the work, already gaining a warm place in the affections of the Baptists in Rapid City and vicinity.

BRO. Wm. Murdin, the earnest and arduous pastor of the little church in Gladstone, and missionary there and in surrounding country for the last three or four years, is now laboring with good acceptance in and about Stonewall, and acting as pastor of the little church there. Bro. C. H. Phillimore, student from Rapid City Academy and Prairie College, is holding the fort at Gladstone and vicinity, and expects to be there for four or five months more. Winnipeg church is still rejoicing in the convincing and converting presence of the Divine Spirit in their midst. During the last eight months, under the pastoral charge of its new and gifted pastor, A. A. Cameron, something over one hundred names have been added to the church roll, by letter, experience and baptism. Most of those by baptism were from the Sabbath school and Bible classes. Four or five students from Prairie College are at work in the mission field, in various localities, and some of them with very cheering results. At Strathclair, where Brethren M. Van Sickle and J. Millard of the College have been holding special meetings, some ten or twelve have professed an interest in the Saviour, and of the number Dr. Crawford baptized six or seven into the fellowship of the Strathclair church.

THE Dr. also, about the same time, assisted in the organization of two churches not many miles from the same locality, one at Birdie Village and the other at Oakburn. Both these infant churches are under the care of Bro. John Millard, of the college, who for the last two years has proved himself an efficient workman in the Lord's vineyard, in other fields.

THE anniversary meetings of both the Manitoba and North West Missionary Society, and the Association, were held on Thursday and Friday of last week with the church in Portage la Prairie, when a most enjoyable and profitable season was enjoyed. Much of the enjoyment was due to the kindness and active energy of Jesse Gibson, the esteemed pastor of the Portage church, and his people. One of the marked events of the Conventional day was the hearty and unanimous acceptance of the resolu-

tions in reference to Prairie College, and our educational interests in Manitoba and the North West, as follows:

Whereas, John Crawford, D.D., principal of Prairie College, has submitted to the directors of said institution residing in Winnipeg, a carefully prepared statement in which he indicates the course God in His providence would have him follow in the future, in the following terms: "Since I first devised Prairie College scheme the entire circumstances of the country have changed. Providence has made wonderful developments in this new land and in your city of Winnipeg. I have been carefully observing the working of Divine Providence in its bearing on the work in which I am engaged, and this is the conclusion at which I have slowly, but I hope prayerfully arrived. I believe the city of Winnipeg to be the proper location for Prairie College, and I have the strongest convictions that the time has come when steps should be taken in this direction, and that you, dear brethren, are strongly called upon in Divine Providence to take hold of the work and to consecrate of your worldly substance to the accomplishment of this important end."

And whereas the said directors in Winnipeg have taken the said communication into careful consideration, and notwithstanding Dr. Crawford's subsequent letter to the pastor of the Winnipeg church, in which he states that he will not be considered as committing himself to the foregoing change, until further consultation with the friends of the college in Ontario, have unanimously concurred in the Doctor's proposal in his official letter;

Be it resolved: (1) That we fully recognize and appreciate Dr. Crawford's earnest, faithful, and self-sacrificing labors in connection with this institution, and his singleness of aim, seeking to promote God's glory by means of the school of which he was the esteemed head; and we would therefore kindly suggest some remuneration from the lands held in the interest of the institution. We also regret to learn that his health has been greatly impaired through overwork and anxiety, and trust he may have such a season of recreation as will fully restore him to his wonted vigor.

(2) That, in view of the changed condition of the country, since the establishment of Prairie College, as is pointed out by Dr. Crawford, it is the mature opinion of the Convention that Dr. Crawford's suggestion with reference to the removal of the college should be carried into effect at as early a date as possible.

(3) That this Convention fully acknowledges the claims of the directors and subscribers to Prairie College in Ontario and Quebec to decide upon its future policy and location, and hence we earnestly ask these directors and subscribers to consider carefully the changed conditions of the college in view of the peculiar development of this country, and to co-operate with the friends of the college in Manitoba in carrying out the views expressed in these resolutions.

4. That it is the mature judgment of this Convention that the rapid development of this country, the intelligent and enterprising classes who make their home here, the impetus given to education by the excellent school system of Manitoba, the establishment of a university and denominational colleges in Winnipeg, demand of the Baptist denomination to keep pace with the spirit of the times, and the aggressive views and actions of other denominations, the establishment of a college in the city of Winnipeg—for which Prairie College has already laid the foundation—at as early a date as is financially practicable; hence this Convention recommends that Trustees of Prairie College take at once the steps necessary to bring about this result.

5. That in view of the large endowment necessary to conduct a theological college which can give the instruction and training demanded by the times and the special condition of the population that is rapidly filling up Manitoba and the Northwest Territory, in the opinion of this convention it is unwise to spend our money or our energies at present in attempting to provide a theological school for the instruction of young men among us who may consecrate themselves to the work of the ministry; hence we earnestly recommend such men to take advantage of the excellent and ample provision made in the Toronto Baptist College to give first class instruction in all the departments of a theological education.

6. That it is the mature judgment of the convention in view of the intelligent and enterprising classes from the eastern Provinces and from other countries that make their home here the immediate and urgent demand of our denomination is the large addition among us of well trained, able, and consecrated ministers of Christ, who will organize and build up churches in the rapidly former centres of population; hence we earnestly ask our brethren in Ontario and Quebec to render us such help as will enable us to secure such men and support them until the churches are self supporting. We would especially ask that the generous contributions given in the past to Prairie College be for the coming year given for this all important work.

Rev. Dr. Crawford in speaking to the resolution wished to be considered as taking a neutral stand. Personally he believed that it would be better to have the college at Winnipeg, and was quite willing to resign the position he held. His intention was to proceed to Ontario and set the matter fairly before the people there and leave it in their hands.

Rev. Dr. McVicar strongly supported the proposed change. He had watched with great interest the development of the North-west. He believed it would ere long wield a wonderful influence in the Dominion. Of pioneer work such as had been done in Ontario forty years ago there was really none here. The country was already in a high state of development; and here were wanted the best men. Hence our modes must be in accordance with facts. When Prairie College was devised this country was expected to develop in the usual way, but such was not in God's Providence, and the fact must be accepted. With regard to the work to be done, we should take possession of the land spiritually. There was a tendency to fritter away time planning about minor places, like a man searching for gold dust in the sand, while mines of nuggets lie beside untouched. We should take possession of the focus. Let our energies, prayers and money be directed to taking the central fort, and from that soldiers could be sent to take the rest. To the outposts could be sent young men with a fair literary training, if not trained in theoretical theology. He therefore strongly favored the establishment of a literary college, to be followed in time by a theological one. And by all means they should be sure of a good endowment. Young men who consecrate themselves to church work with very little expectation as to salary are already giving more than many who count their contributions by hundreds or thousand of dollars. They should therefore not be asked to spend a single dollar in getting their education for the work.

It is to be hoped that with the practical carrying out of these resolutions, the missions here will receive a greater impulse forward than by any change it has experienced heretofore. Among the other steps in advance taken at our anniversaries were the organization of a S. S. Con-

vention, and also a Central Board of Ladies' Mission Circles. The Portage la Prairie church has followed the example of the Winnipeg church, in forming a circle, and some more of the churches are expected to get in line soon too. The annual sermon of the Convention was preached by pastor Cameron, of the Winnipeg church, on the evening of the first day. Suffice it to say that it was an appropriate discourse, given in Bro. C.'s own peculiarly clear and forcible style. It was much appreciated for its evangelical and missionary spirit, as well as the amount of information it contained as to the work in the North West.

The second evening of the anniversary was occupied by a missionary platform meeting, when the wives of pastors Cameron and McDonald read interesting papers, and addresses were delivered by the chairmen, lawyer J. B. McArthur, of Winnipeg, and two of the missionary students—C. H. Phillimore and George Sale.

The Board of the Manitoba and North West Missionary Convention had several active and interesting sessions, and laid out a greater amount of work for the ensuing year than ever performed before in any one year. Evidently, "Forward" is the watchword with this growing and important mission.

Brethren of the east, we want your prayerful and hearty continued co-operation in this great and glorious work. —BORREALIS.

GOD'S PROMISES.

Some people say, "O, we know we are saved, because we are so happy." It is by no means a sure evidence, for joy may be carnal, unfounded, unspiritual. Certain Christians are afraid that they cannot be in a saved state because they are not joyous, but we are saved by faith not by joy. I was struck with the remark of Ebenezer Erskine when he was dying, and some one said to him: "I hope you have now and then a blink to bear up your spirit under affliction;" he promptly replied, "I know more of words than of blinks;" that is to say, he had rather trust a promise of God than his own glimpses of heaven; and so would I. The word of God is a more sure testimony to the soul than all the raptures a man can feel. I would sooner walk in the dark, and hold to a promise of my God, than trust in the light of the brightest day that ever dawned. Precious as the fruit is, do not put the fruit where the root should be. Please to recollect that. Joy is not the root of grace in the soul; it is the fruit, and must not be put out of its proper position.—*Spurgeon*.

The great French writer, De Tocqueville, wrote, "The fatal malady of the soul is cold." Certainly very many people are suffering from cold in the soul. Such colds are as prevalent as influenza in March. Unfortunately they are likely to extend through the year, and to be the most severe in the hot months. The atmosphere of the world is a frigid one for Christian graces, even at the best. What are some of the ways of taking cold spiritually? Getting a chill is a very natural and common one. Some churches have an icy atmosphere, in which earnest piety soon becomes congealed. Or the Christian may live in the atmosphere of worldliness, among associates whose whole thought and planning is for pleasure or business success. Two things are necessary to preserve one's warmth in a chilly atmosphere—food and exercise. Those who feed upon Christ, the living Bread, and "exercise themselves unto godliness," may hope to keep their spiritual glow. Have you had a chill in your soul? Then come close to the Sun of righteousness, that you may be thawed out, and rejoice in a summer of bountiful fruitfulness.—*Ex.*