

The Family Treasury.

"THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD."

BY REV. HORATIO KEATIS. O Christ, Thou art my all! I fear not Satan's thrall...

AN ENCOURAGING VIEW.

The remark was recently made in a morning paper that "Christianity is not a dying faith while a thousand men can be found in a church at the head of Wall Street in the middle of the day, as was the case yesterday."

Still, Christianity is not the power in the world that every Christian should live and pray to make it, and hope to see it become. Agnosticism and Skepticism lay claim to an ever-increasing number of victims.

PICTURES AND THEIR LESSONS.

Read "Boswell's Life of Johnson," "Lockhart's Life of Scott," and "Lord Macaulay's Life and Letters," and you will have a compendium of all English literature.

they had, and all the pleasure they have given to others, and then I wonder where they are now. Where are the bright minds that flashed like diamonds, and the genial hearts that had so much of human love...

WOMAN'S INFLUENCE ON SOCIAL LIFE.

Men, as a rule, are easily attracted by a beautiful face, but it is an internal beauty of character by which a woman can exert the greatest amount of influence.

SCOTCH PROVERBS.

We have often thought that if we were called upon to give the proverb which reflects most completely the Scottish character, we should go to that old house in the West Bow in Edinburgh, if it be still standing...

THE IDLENESS OF GIRLS.

Another great mistake that many of our girls are making, and that their mothers are either encouraging or allowing them to make, is that of spending their time out of school in idleness or in frivolous amusements...

who will thus consent to devote all her time out of school to pleasuring, while her mother is bearing all the heavy burdens of the household. And the foolish way in which mothers themselves sometimes talk about this, even in the presence of their children...

A HIDDEN DANGER.

The following passage is from a discourse by Buckminster, in the year 1811, at the burial of a clergyman. The important thought, here so strikingly expressed, must sometimes have occurred, we may presume, to most clergymen who have been long in the ministry.

UNDER FIRE.

Wherever you can find a soldier who, under fire, aims low and shoots to make every bullet wound or kill, you will find fifty men who are nervously throwing away ammunition...

A FANTASTIC PAIR.

The Figaro states that two phenomenal specimens of humanity are now in Paris: one is a giant and the other a dwarf. The giant, named Nicolai Simonoff, seven feet five inches high...

A CURIOUS FACT.

Bands of music are forbidden to play on most of the large bridges of the world. A constant succession of sound-waves, especially such as come from the playing of a band, will excite the wires to vibration.

WE ARE HANGING UP PICTURES EVERY DAY.

Love to our neighbor assumes divers forms. In a family, it is tenderness and care; in a neighborhood, courtesy; in friendship, sympathy; in business, integrity; in distress, mercy; in our country, patriotism; to the world, benevolence; to the Church, brotherly kindness.

munition. It fired away at least twelve thousand bullets, and yet only killed two rebel skirmishers.—Detroit Free Press.

READING MANUSCRIPT.

Suppose our boys and girls were taught to read manuscript a little? They are taught to read print, but manuscript is not print, or very little like it, and they are left to pick up the power of reading it the best way they can; they never devote half an hour a day for six months to manuscript reading.

DANGEROUS COMPANIONS.

When a young man has made up his mind to walk on the edge of a precipice for the sake of seeking prospects, he always finds plenty of company. There are abundance of people with strong heads, who, having walked these paths until they are quite certain of their foothold, are ready to go out with new beginners.

BEING COURTEOUS AT HOME.

The first essential for learning to be courteous to others is to pay a loyal courtesy to one's own self. This duty implies the traits of high-mindedness, purity and unblemished self-respect.

BOYS AND CIGARETS.

The Philadelphia Times makes a vigorous assault on cigars, and tells the boys who indulge in them: "The cheap cigar is a modern invention, and a peculiarly vicious one. Twenty years ago, when the cigars all came from Cuba, and were wrapped in rice paper, smoking them did no great harm."

Good Words for the Young.

HONESTY REWARDED.

George and Harry worked in the same shop; but as the working season was almost over, and there would be little work to do during the summer months, their employer informed them as they settled up on Saturday evening that he could only give one of them work hereafter.

THREE TRAVELLERS.

One day, Freddy, Minnie, and Little Tot came into the house together. They went up to nurse and told her that they were three great travellers.

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your parents, if their own self-denying love does not prompt you to that already?

When parents have the means, and desire to give their children some accomplishment, such as music lessons, drawing, etc., a willing spirit of service on the latter's part will give far more pleasure to their elders than they can conceive of, and be fruitful of good to themselves in the mysterious future.

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All Letters containing payment for the Christian Guardian, The Sunday Magazine, S. S. Banner, P. Cassant Hours, and other publications, or for Books, should be addressed to the Book-Store, Rev. WILLIAM BRIGGS, Toronto.

All Communications intended for insertion in the Christian Guardian should be addressed to the Editor, Rev. E. H. DEWART, D.D., Toronto.

CHRISTIAN GUARDIAN.

TORONTO, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 2, 1881.

THE OUTLOOK.

When somebody like the Rev. Mr. Darling informs us that it is a matter of conscience with him to deny that other denominations are true Christian Churches, or their ministers true ministers, it is gratifying to note that men of greater gifts and higher position in the Church manifest no sympathy with this narrowness.

The United States Government sent a commissioner to China to negotiate a treaty between the two countries. He has completed his work, and the treaties arranged have been given to the press, contrary to the wish of the Government which is now endeavoring to discover the party guilty of a breach of trust.

The Irish question has during last week occupied the absorbed attention of the British Parliament. The Ministry has a very difficult task to satisfy so many widely different views. The Parnell party pursue a policy of persistent obstruction, and threaten that they can prevent the Coercion Bill from becoming law.

Mr. Gladstone closed the debate on the burning question of Ireland with an eloquent speech. He reviewed the whole case, denying that he intends to legislate against the land agitation, but against the abettors and perpetrators of outrages, who care nothing for remedial measures, and are sensible only to fear, being political successors of the Fenians and Whiteboys.

We notice in the reports of the Ontario Legislature that Mr. Lander has moved for fuller information respecting University College, Toronto. This is not unnecessary. The whole business of the University has, in past years, been conducted too much as if it were a close corporation that belonged to its managers, rather than an institution belonging to the country, and existing for the people.

Schools of the country; and no advantage would result from placing one, not exceptionally efficient, on a vantage ground above all others.

Montreal has been rather noted for some time for its unlicensed groggeries. No city in the Dominion has had more drunkenness. In 1874 the Recorder stated that nine-tenths of the cases that came before him were caused by drink, and last week that official publicly stated that in four years 45,850 persons were brought into the local criminal courts through drink, and 95 per cent. of all cases coming before the Superior Court for separation by wives from their husbands was caused by the same evil.

THREE SPECIAL REQUESTS.

In view of the importance to every department of our work of the extensive circulation of our Church paper among the adherents and members of our Church, we make three special requests: 1. That every minister arrange for the canvass of his circuit, either by himself or some suitable agent to whom he can allow commission.

We give one out of many such testimonies: One of our ministers writes that a gentleman, not a Methodist, but a man of more than ordinary intelligence, in renewing his subscription said to him, "If I could see the Editor, I would congratulate him on his ability and success as an editor of a religious paper, steering clear of all partyism, he treats with a masterly hand the various questions which agitate. His selections are admirable. The whole paper is full of stirring and instructive matter for young and old."

PASTORAL VISITING.

The value of faithful pastoral visitation is indisputable. All visits of a pastor, however, are not, in the technical sense, pastoral visits. We recently met with the following instance. In some of the American cities it is customary for some person to act as guide for the new minister until he becomes acquainted with his people.

Pastoral visiting never fails of doing good. A pastor who endeavors to make his visits tell on the spiritual life of his people by personal conversation, finds that visiting is one of the most effective forms of Christian work. A minister who never learns the feelings and state of the people by personal conversation is very apt to preach over the heads of his congregation; and if he does not follow up his sermons by personal application, he leaves his work incomplete.

People frequently make complaints against their ministers because they do not visit more. Sometimes, however, the complainants are the scantiest supporters of the church, seldom at the social means of grace, and niggardly in their givings. But they do not all belong to this class. Do the good people, however, who complain, ever consider that the reason why a hard-working pastor (we have no excuse for any other) does not visit more, is because of cares laid upon him which should be borne by the members of the Church? A minister has plenty of work to do in looking after the spiritual interests of his charge, and he should not be unfitted for his work by the worry and distraction of financial interests.

work to bring up the finances, a minister not only loses his time, but he is unfitted for the proper discharge of his spiritual duties. It is unfortunate that this kind of work so largely devolves upon ministers. It frequently gives them the reputation of caring more for money than for souls, and their influence is thereby injured. Many duties now put upon the pastor might be borne by the laymen, and the result would be more efficient pastoral work, with no deterioration in pulpit work.

In no other respect, however, are some people so unreasonable as in this matter of visiting. They expect the minister to carry the burdens of the church, and yet want him to be ubiquitous as a visitor. If they are sick for a few days they think he should know it, and call on them, although they take no steps to make their sickness known to him. A gentleman complained to his pastor that he had not visited him when he was sick. "I was not aware of your sickness," was the reply. "But," answered the gentleman, "Mr. B. was sick at the same time, and you visited him. How did you know he was sick?" "Mr. B.," he replied, "is a regular attendant at all the means of grace, and if I ever miss him from the prayer-meeting, I know that something must be wrong, and I inquire about him; but you are so irregular in your attendance that your absence never suggests that anything unusual has occurred." Some people never make allowances. We heard recently of a pastor who is engaged in special services, preaching and conducting the after-meeting himself, night after night for weeks, against whom the complaint was made that he was not visiting. These complaints are exceedingly painful to a sensitive man who is earnestly laboring for the salvation of souls, and must be a source of discouragement.

OUR PUBLIC SCHOOL-TEACHERS.

The teachers of the young are engaged in an important work, the intimate relation of which to national well-being is not generally fully understood. They are, for the most part, silent workers, building the part of the pier which is under water—on which the whole structure of society rests. All the people of the country pass through their hands, at the time of life when they are most susceptible of receiving impressions that will permanently affect their character.

There is something very significant in the way that advertisements for teachers in country sections are frequently framed. The candidates are requested to send testimonials, and "state salary." This request to the teacher to "state salary" is practically putting up the school to auction, to be knocked down to the lowest bidder. This is not right. The Trustees of every school section must have a pretty clear idea of how much they can afford to give. Why not state the salary, and let the teachers who are willing to teach for that amount apply? The candidate, if from a distance, is in the dark as to the character of the school, or the amount it has been in the habit of paying; and until he is fully tested and has taken his rank as a teacher, he can hardly be a judge of what he is worth.

instilled in the office. The matter has been recently decided against Thornton; on the ground that his offer was a bribe. Is not the offer of a candidate to take \$50 less than the school has been accustomed to pay really offering a bribe of \$50 to get the school? Let school trustees offer the highest salary they can afford, and then make the best choice they can out of those who apply.

DEARTH OF REVIVALS.

It is not only in Canada, or within the bounds of our own Church, that reports of revivals are few. The same complaint is made by the religious press of the United States. The year thus far has been distinguished by a great dearth of extensive revivals. This has led many to infer that there is a prevailing want of spiritual power in the Church. There can be no doubt that God has in the past largely extended the boundaries of his kingdom in the world by means of seasons of refreshing, which have quickened the religious life of communities and gathered many newly-converted sinners into the fold of Christ.

At the same time, it would be a hasty judgment to conclude that the temporary paucity of revival intelligence is a sure sign of widespread spiritual death. There may be growth of religious character, increasing completeness of organization, and even steady accessions to the Church, with few revivals on an extensive scale. This is largely a question of method, rather than of results. Other Churches have their gatherings in different forms, without anything that could be called a revival. Indeed, it may be that the different branches of Methodism have sometimes depended too much on occasional special services of this kind; and, as a consequence, have failed to use as effectively as they might have done faithful pastoral visitation, earnest individual effort, and other unobtrusive but fruitful methods of leading the young to enlist in the service of Christ.

Neither should we make the number of conversions reported in any particular year the standard of comparison as to success in another year. There is always some degree of reaction after an extensive religious awakening. In a year that has no special revivals to report, there may be steady growth in religious knowledge, the adoption of comprehensive plans for future usefulness, and extensive seed-sowing for harvests yet to be. It is well said in a recent article on the subject by the Northern Christian Advocate: "There are other fruits than mere accessions to the Church which must be considered in estimating the Church's spiritual life and efficiency. There is a work of moral and spiritual culture which, though not less dependent than the revival upon the faithful ministry of God's Word and the presence and power of the Holy Ghost, is not so manifest in results which may be published to the world as reported in the columns of statistics."

THE NEW TRANSLATION.

The new revision of the New Testament is now completed and printed. Though not yet offered to the general public, advance copies have been sent to leading English journals. This is an event of profound interest to the whole English-speaking world. The London Record of January 7th has a review of the work from which we condense some particulars, as we know that the readers of the GUARDIAN are anxiously looking for the earliest information. The Record commends with pleasure the evident desire of the translators to show respect in great extent to the wording and rhythm of the old version; and expresses the decided judgment that "the work" has "been executed with judicious cautiousness and conscientious care."

Of course, the changes in the text are very numerous, though few of those given by the Record materially alter the meaning in the Authorized Version. The grand and fundamental truths of the precious gospel are unassailed. As far as we can judge from the examples given, the new revision presents strong evidence of the substantial accuracy of our present translation. Indeed, the Record goes so far as to say: "We feel, then, that we may express the opinion that our Authorized Version will retain its hold on the confidence and affection of the majority of readers, and that they will be content to place the changes to which they attach importance in the margin of the dear old Book." In every instance in which the Authorized Version contains an inaccurate rendering, the true meaning is enforced. Care is shown to preserve consistency in the renderings. When the best meaning of a word has been adopted, the same meaning retains its place throughout the volume. In this particular, though it is not

very important, the Authorized Version contains some notable faults. In a few instances some expressions which may be regarded as obsolete are supplied by terms in more familiar use; but most readers will be thankful that the old Saxon for the most part retains its predominance.

We submit a few specimens of the more striking changes which occur in the work:

Matthew vi. 1.—Take heed that ye do not your righteousness before men. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so on earth. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. (The Doxology is omitted.)

WHAT A S. S. TEACHER'S CLASS SHOULD DO.

A few weeks ago we referred to the importance of normal classes for the training of Sunday-school teachers. To complete the purpose of that article, we would add a few words as to the specific work to be accomplished in such classes. As usually conducted, the work of such classes is a rehearsal of the lessons of the following Sabbath. With the aid of one or more "Lesson Helps," the teachers prepare the particular subject in hand; and by the recitation conducted by the superintendent or the pastor, their memories are stored with the materials which are to be reproduced before the children.

The most important objection is that this method does not furnish original, but only secondary knowledge. By original knowledge we do not mean original truth, either in substance or in form. To discover this is the rare privilege of very few men. In religious truth especially, there may be new forms, but there can be no new substance. But by original knowledge we mean that which one has made thoroughly his own. Mere memoriter knowledge is never original. The subject must be thought out for oneself, and the conclusions arrived at must be the result of personal exercise of reason and judgment.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

QUESTION.—Is it part of the ministers' duties to make pastoral visits without invitation from the members of their churches? If so, what would you suggest to pastors who are reserved and diffident in this matter, but who at the same time are losing members? ANSWER.—It is universally assumed by ministers and people, that a pastor is not to wait for an invitation. If any minister, through diffidence, has neglected to do his duty, he should devote himself more faithfully to this part of his work. A little forethought, and reading books on judicious pastoral visitation, will help him. Diffidence can scarcely be considered a disqualification for this work, as when a man whose heart is in the work braces himself, in spite of his diffidence, to speak soul to soul with his people about their spiritual condition, he is likely to be more effective than one who can speak flippantly on such themes without feeling it to be a cross.

ledge, would make the Sunday-school teacher's desk a centre of power in the Christian Church, and a training school for the Church's future ministry. No "Lesson Helps" or special preparations can take the place of this fundamental preparation; and if to any extent they supplant it, or lead to neglect, they are a source of serious mischief rather than of good. The normal class, partly by systematic instruction and study, partly by guiding the private studies of all the members, should aim first of all at laying a thorough foundation in all these fundamentals. Another important work of the normal class is the study of methods of teaching. The world to-day enjoys the advantage of very wide experience in the art of teaching. Experiments in almost every form have been tried, and improved methods devised. The best thought of wise and experienced men has been employed in the collation of results, and the deduction of broad and certain principles; and the literature of the science of teaching is becoming rich and varied. Surely our Sunday-schools should have the advantage of the important aid thus placed within reach. But we have not space to extend this topic. Above all, the Normal class should infuse into all its members the spirit of the work. There must be cultivated the love of truth for the soul's sake, and the love of souls for Jesus' sake. The teacher must love his work and delight in it. He must love his class. Love will be the mainspring of his power, and will assure him of success. A few moments spent in interchange of teachers' experience, the sorrows of failure, the trials of patient effort, the joys of success, will be time well spent, and will prepare the way for that union of faith and prayer which cannot fail of a blessing.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

QUESTION.—How many constitute a quorum in Trustees and Quarterly Boards? ANSWER.—We think there is no law covering this point, though in some other Church Committees a majority is required.

ALCOHOL DESTRUCTIVE.

The deleterious effect of alcohol upon the human system has been established by the most unimpeachable scientific testimony. It has not only been contended as useless as a food, but medical testimony proves its continual use to be incompatible with good health and physical soundness.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

The Population of Utah.—The Philadelphia Public Ledger points out that the census returns of Utah show what is superficially at least an unexpected result.

Medical Missions.—At the last meeting of the Guild of St. Luke (England), a paper was read by Dr. Alfred Meadows (the Provost) on Medical Missions.

A Sign of the Times.—It may be taken as a sign of the times, that the Guardian (High Church) has thrown open its columns to a discussion of the question of Disestablishment.

Canon Farrar on Disestablishment.—Canon Farrar delivered to a crowded congregation in Westminster Abbey on the 15th January, the second of his series of sermons in defence of the Establishment.

Education in Japan.—The report of the Japanese Minister of Education shows that there are now in Japan 25,450 elementary schools, with 69,826 teachers and 2,036,566 scholars, out of a school population of 5,251,907, being a percentage of about 89.3.

Education in Japan (continued).—The report of the Japanese Minister of Education shows that there are now in Japan 25,450 elementary schools, with 69,826 teachers and 2,036,566 scholars, out of a school population of 5,251,907.

BRIEF CHURCH ITEMS.

TORONTO CONFERENCE.—The Rev. R. Walker sends this good news: We have a most glorious revival of God's work going on at the Bethel appointment on this circuit.

SPADINA AVENUE (Toronto).—Anniversary services of the Spadina Avenue Methodist Sunday-school were held on Sunday, January 30th.

BRAMPTON REVIVAL.—The revival services in the Methodist church during the past week have, of anything, increased in interest, and people of all Churches flock there every evening to witness for themselves the good work that is going on.

URBANTON MISSION.—Bro. Marvin writes: We have just closed our two months' revival here. As a result, ten persons have professed conversion at St. Paul's appointment; twenty at Bush's, and twenty at Ullington.

RICHMOND HILL.—Bro. Addison writes: According to announcement, the church-opening at Victoria Square came off on Thursday, January 13th.

LONDON CONFERENCE.—The President did us grand service on Tuesday evening at our church anniversary.

GUELPH.—In the Norfolk Street Methodist church, Guelph, anniversary services were held on the 23rd and 24th of January.

WELLAND.—Bro. W. W. Shepherd sends the following note of progress: Welland has satisfactorily settled the vexed question of a site for a new church by the purchase of what is allowed to be the most central and suitable spot in the town.

which nearly five hundred people partook of tea and refreshments. From the financial statement we learn that the new church cost \$12,716.08. Before the erection of the church was undertaken \$7,850 had been subscribed, which was to be paid in four instalments.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE.—A very successful musical and literary entertainment was given in the Williamsville Methodist church by the Ladies Aid Society on the 17th ult.

FRANCOVILLE.—During the past four weeks we have been holding special services at the Wesley Church appointment.

SPENCERVILLE.—Bro. J. Scanlon writes: The blessings of God bestowed upon us on this circuit during the last six months call for public thanksgiving.

OTTAWA.—The anniversary services of the Dominion Methodist Church were held on Sunday, January 23rd, and were attended by a far larger concourse than could find room within the walls.

MONTREAL DISTRICT.—Lachine, Rev. W. J. Joliffe, pastor. An interesting educational meeting was held on the 20th ult., at which the amount raised last year was more than tripled.

MONTREAL DISTRICT (continued).—The annual meeting of the Lachine Methodist church was held on the 18th ult., and was a decided success.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES.—There were 105 new Congregational Churches organized in the United States during 1880, and 206 ministers ordained or installed.

Lord Russ, says the London Truth, fancies himself a Roman Catholic; as a matter of fact he is an English Puritan, believing very strongly in certain truths of revealed religion.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The King of the Sandwich Islands has arrived at San Francisco, on a tour to the Eastern States and Europe.—The Boer losses in the engagement with Sir George Colley's force are reported to have amounted to 500 killed and wounded.

FROM THE MISSION ROOMS.

MISSIONARY OUTLOOK.—Sample copies of our new Missionary Periodical have been sent to all our ministers preachers, Sabbath-school superintendents, and missionary collectors (the latter to the care of the superintendent minister).

JUVENILE COLLECTORS' PRESENTS.—In answer to numerous requests for these to be sent immediately, we beg to say that until the requisitions which have been sent to every circuit shall have been returned to the Mission Rooms full filled up, it is impossible to know how many books of each grade to order.

MISSIONARY REPORTS.—According to promise last week, the parcels of Reports, etc., were all despatched from the Mission Rooms on or before the 27th ult., freight prepaid in every case.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.—GUELPH DISTRICT (London Conference).—Galt, Elora, and Ferguson are likely to go ahead of last year.

CASH RECEIPTS—ORDINARY FUND.—Listowel, per Rev. Dr. Fowler, \$25.28; Newmarket, per W. L. Scott, \$2.00; Chesley, per Chairman, \$2.00.

CASH RECEIPTS—RELIEF AND EXTENSION FUND.—Port Stanley, per Rev. J. Whitting, \$30.00; Rev. James Whiting, 2nd inst., \$5.00; Sarnia, per Rev. T. M. Deacon, \$20.00.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

The Hon. Luc Letellier St. Just, ex-Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec, died at his residence at Riviere Ouellet, P.Q., on the 28th ult.

Mr. George B. Carpenter, formerly one of the editors of the Interior, died in Chicago on the 7th ult., aged 35. The Interior says concerning his death: "It is startling that a hearty, vigorous, fine young man like Mr. Carpenter should be smitten down so suddenly."

LITERARY NOTICES.

Choir Anthems: A Collection of New Anthems, Chants, etc. By T. Martin Towne.

A Book of Rhymes and Tunes. By Margaret Peasbain Osgood; Translations by Louisa T. Craig. Price \$1.50. Published by Oliver Ditson & Co.

This is a nursery singing book, acceptable not only to mothers and children, but to Kindergarten, and to all of the new faith who believe in making school children happy.

Spiritual Struggles of a Roman Catholic: An Autobiographical Sketch. By Rev. Louis N. Beaudry. Toronto and Montreal: Methodist Book and Publishing House.

This is a Canadian edition of this work, which was published some years since in the United States. Mr. Beaudry gives the story of his conversion from Romanism in the course of a series of conversations with his family.

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Commemorative Notices.

APPOINTMENTS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY. Monday, January 27, Colong, 10:30 a.m. - Sermon.

Book-Steward's Notices.

NOTICE TO MINISTERS. Statements of Hymn-Book accounts will be rendered on the first of each month.

Miscellaneous.

THE FINANCIAL ASOCIATION OF ONTARIO.

HEAD OFFICE, LONDON, CANADA. PRESIDENT. JOSEPH D SAUNBY, ESQ.

Subscribed Capital - \$220,000 Reserve Fund and Surplus 6,000 Number of Shareholders 160

The first financial year of the Company ended September 30, 1890. With the exception of the first dividend, which was at the rate of EIGHT per cent.

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