

be very great and as County Conventions of that kind are comparatively new it may not be uninteresting to your numerous readers to see some account of the one held at this place on Wednesday, 17th inst.

The day was all that could be desired and at 9 o'clock, A. M. the delegates from the different schools met according to appointment, for the transaction of business. In the absence of the President, Vice President I. Harding took the chair. Prayer by Rev. A. Martell.

After the Minutes of the last Quarterly meeting were read and approved, letters were read from eight schools viz.:—1st. Yarmouth, Hebron, Chegogin, Central Chebogue, Tasket, Ohio, Lake George and Pleasant Valley, which also sent Delegates to represent them, a large proportion of whom were then present.

Statistics of these schools were but recently published in the Minutes of the Western Baptist Association.

The Constitution and Bye laws of the Convention were then read and revised, after which, this being the Annual Meeting, the officers were chosen for the ensuing year, as follows:—

Deacon Joseph Rogers, President. Brethren Israel Harding, Nelson Corning, B. B. Moses, and Jeremiah Vickery, Vice Presidents; S. F. Raymond, Secretary; George Trask, Secretary; and W. Churchill, Treasurer.

A Committee of Arrangements for the evening was appointed.

Adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock.

The assembly in the afternoon was very large.

A general invitation had been given to all the schools to attend, and as this part of the day's exercises was more particularly for the children, the body pews of the large meeting-house were appropriated to them; while their teachers, parents, and friends filled the side pews and gallery. While the congregation was assembling the choir sang an appropriate piece of music.

Opening Prayer, by Rev. Jas. Stubbert.

The Rev. A. Martell then read an able Essay on Sunday Schools, in which he alluded especially to their origin; their objects; the relation of the church to the school; the necessity of the officers and teachers being pious and faithful, well-grounded in the essential doctrines of the New Testament, and who have an "aptness to teach." He drew the attention of the teachers to the priceless value of the material upon which they worked—the young mind—its susceptibility of first impressions; the indehibility of wrong ones, when made in youth; and encouraged them to aim at the highest point of intelligence and to lead their scholars upward with them.

From these topics he deduced some reasonable conclusions and closed with an eloquent appeal to all, to strive for higher attainments in piety, that they might be better fitted for usefulness in life and greater happiness hereafter.

The lecture was followed with appropriate Addresses from Revs. H. Angell, W. Burton, Jas. A. Stubbert, Brethren W. Churchill, N. Corning, B. B. Moses, Richard Crosby, Josiah Raymond, I. Harding and others, but the limited space of this report forbids even a summary of their sayings. Suffice it to say, they were all well received and will, no doubt, be productive of much good.

It was agreed to hold the next Quarterly Convention at Lake George, and Rev. W. Burton was appointed to prepare an Essay on "The relation of parents to the Sunday School."

Adjourned till 7 o'clock in the evening.

At the hour appointed for the evening exercises to commence the house was again filled with an attentive audience.

After singing and prayer by Rev. W. Burton the letters from the different schools were again read for the benefit of the public, followed by interesting remarks from Rev. W. Burton, Israel Harding, Esq., and Revs. Joseph H. Saunders and Jas. Stubbert respectively on the following subjects, viz.: the relation of the church to the Sabbath School, the relation of the teacher, the scholars, and of the parents to the Sabbath School.

It was resolved to forward a report of the day's proceedings for publication in the Christian Messenger.

Adjourned to meet the 3rd Wednesday in December, at Lake George.

S. F. RAYMOND, Secretary.

Hebron, Sept. 20th, 1862.

For the Christian Messenger.

Acadia College Agency.

Lakeville, Sept. 24th, 1862.

DEAR MESSENGER,—

I have somewhere read of a young ministerial aspirant, on making his first grand effort, went firmly up to the stand, and passed through the preliminaries with much apparent self-compla-

ency, and took his text. Then came the tug of war,—his skeleton, body and bones, life and soul, (if it had any,) had quietly withdrawn, without giving its proprietor timely notice, he raised his eyes as if in search of the absconding runaway; he looked downward thoughtfully, he pressed his brow to start an idea; but all resources failing, he addressed his audience with very much less confidence in himself than when he began to ascend. "Friends," says he, "if any of you think it an easy matter to preach, just step up here and try."

Now, dear Messenger, if among all your numerous readers, any of them think it an easy matter to be a College Agent, let him take my place and try.

Now, sir, it was not by way of complaint after all, that I commenced this short note, but rather to let my numerous friends know something of my whereabouts and what has befallen me.

The Pastors very generally claim a lift from me, as I pass along. Some will only ask for half a day's work, others insist on the whole. I don't say I dislike these brethren any the less for this,—perhaps a little more; indulging the thought, that perhaps they in some way appreciate the labour. Be that as it may, all pastors like a little slackening of the bow-string, and perhaps that is the principal ingredient in the matter.

I consented to take a small part of Brother Hunt's labour on sabbath before last,—our Bro. cultivates a large, interesting and fruitful field very successfully. My lot was to preach at Lower Canard late in the afternoon; I did so, under embarrassment, from circumstances not worth naming here. After service, I drove across the marsh, as far as Church Street, perceiving, as I rode, a sensible change in the atmosphere, inclining to cold.

I accompanied Bro. John Lyons and family to their comfortable home, where dwell his wife's parents, far advanced in years, true Christmas Evenites. The evening was spent devotionally, in which I took an active part. These worthy old pilgrims being, from their age and feebleness, deprived of public worship, always appreciate the visits of God's servants; and I felt it my duty and privilege to do what, under the circumstances, I could, to comfort the people of God. We sang, read, commented, and prayed. While we spoke the fire kindled, and we were all happy.

The following day I began to feel a slight sensation of pain in my throat; I winked at it, and only first mentioned it on Tuesday evening at Bro. Lyons, but waved an application,—(I dislike, Sir, the fussy propensity I have seen in some people, and I have consequently frequently declined somewhat necessary courtesies.) In this I carried my peculiarities too far, and was forced at last to make application. It was too late to arrest the progress of disease: It had become a settled fact, that I had an attack of sore throat, of what type,—whether diphtheria, or putrid, or a milder form,—I could not tell. This began to be a grave question with me. I was about 300 miles from home, unable to travel. I had heard of the devastation made by the diseases of the throat. A family a few miles from me were suffering therefrom; the father and some children were borne to the grave as its trophies. My affairs were not in every particular as I could wish to leave them. The doctor was talking of using a sharp instrument to my disease, what I had not been used to before on that part. I had got so bad, and that so rapidly, that the doctor said I must have watchers. They were soon provided. The brevity of space in which this disease does up its work, left me but little time to reflect, if it should prove fatal.

When I first came to the place, and told Bro. J. Parker my trouble, he replied, in his brief and frank way, "Bro. Thomson come here, we will nurse you while you are sick, and take care of you when you die." I thought it all might come out somewhat so,—and then my family! To die and be buried away from them! I will cease this tale of woe, by telling you that the Lord has turned our sorrow into joy. In the midst of all this distress, my complaint took a turn; the affected part broke, and I am rapidly recovering, and will (D. V.) soon be at my work again.

Before closing, I wish to say here that I consider it among the mercies of God, that I was, in my trouble, within the reach of my worthy and skillful Brother Doctor Payzant, formerly of Hantsport and Wolfville. His knowledge of the fearful malady, and strict attention, under God, has brought me out of trouble, I would from my experience of his skill, confidently and cheerfully recommend the afflicted, to seek his aid. I had occasion between 4 and 5 years ago to apply to him in Hantsport, for relief from pain in the side and breast, the application was the most sovereign remedy of any thing I ever applied.

Yours, ADAM D. THOMSON.

C. Visitor please copy.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notice.

MR. JOSEPH RALSTON

Of Greenville, "departed to be with Christ," at Horton Academy, Sept. 13th, in the 26th year of his age.

It is about eight years since our esteemed young brother experienced hope in Christ and united with the Baptist Church in Greenville, of which he was a highly valued member until his death. "The path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." Such was his. Those who knew him best, will long remember him as one who

truly loved, and faithfully served his God. His was a humble, daily, walk with God. Everywhere, and under all circumstances he exhibited a christian demeanour. The Bible was his constant companion, and God his most intimate friend.

Bro. Ralston had, almost from the time of his conversion to God, felt a desire to preach the Gospel, but a deep sense of unfitness for the work prevented him from making it known until about a year ago, when the impression that it was his duty to devote himself wholly to the service of God became so strong, that he was constrained to make known his feelings to the writer, who not doubting that God had called him to preach his Gospel, encouraged him to commence a course of preparation for it. For this purpose he went to Horton Academy to study, hoping in due time to enter College, and avail himself of all the advantages it affords for a thorough education. But his course of study was short, in just six weeks and a day, the cars that bore him away full of health and hope, brought back his body to his friends in its shroud and coffin, and his spirit had gone to engage in the pure and more exalted service of heaven. From the time he resolved to engage in the Ministry, until his death, it became the object of his deepest devotion; all other things were trivial in comparison with it. His talents were of a superior order, and his piety of the deepest character. He had preached with good acceptance, a few times, and christian friends formed high expectations of his future usefulness. God saw it was better for him not to remain here, and took him to himself; but, many will long mourn for him as a Brother beloved, for "the memory of the just is blessed."—Communicated by the Rev. J. E. Balcom.

Religious Intelligence.

CANNING, CORNWALLIS.—Rev. D. Freeman writes Sept. 22, "Yesterday I baptized two brethren, heads of families, and received two others by letter to our little church. Let us magnify the Lord together and pray for the prosperity of Zion, for they shall prosper that love her."

JAMAICA.

The Rev. Walter Dendy a Baptist missionary, with whom we had some personal acquaintance about 25 years ago, in giving the annual report of his labors, published in September Missionary Herald of the London Baptist Missionary Society, remarks:—The number baptised at the two stations are, at Salter's Hill, 138, and at Maldon, 85, making a total of 223, nearly as large a number has had been baptised in the nine previous years.

At a time when so many have been gathered into the Church, an analysis may not be uninteresting. There were 18 married couples; of other married persons, there were 37 men and 31 women; the partners of life of many of these were already members of the Church, and others are inquirers. There were two widows, and of persons in a single state of life, 51 are men, and 66 women. Ninety-four of the number have been prostrated, leaving 129, the larger proportion who had not thus been visited. The advantages of education, when combined with the public services of the sanctuary, will be seen from the fact that 156 had been in day-schools, and 143 were Sun ay scholars. There were also 14 Sunday-school teachers baptised. 141 can read the Scriptures, and 55 are able to write. Parental example and training have also had their influence. 140 of the new members now have or have had a father or mother, and in many instances both parents, who were members of a Christian Church. The age of 156 range from 14 to 25 years, the remaining 77 are above 25 years old. Of those baptised, there has been no occasion for the exercise of church discipline, except in two cases.

It was not to be expected, neither could it be expected, neither could it be desired, that the excitement should be continued, as to cause, as was the case in many instances, the common occupations of life to be suspended; but it is hoped that those recently admitted into the Church of Christ will make steady progress in religious attainments, and "be living epistles, known and read of all men."

The attendance upon the places of worship is not so great as in the early part of the year. Many who evidently were only awe-stricken have ceased to come to the House of God, or do not attend so regularly as they did during the period of excitement; but at the public services there is apparently great attention paid, and it is hoped that the good work is going on, and like leaven, is silently pervading the hearts of many.

During the year, including the names on the books in 1860, the number of inquirers in the two districts enrolled was 684; of this number, 223 have been baptised, and united with the Church. The present number of inquirers is 648, leaving 113 to be accounted for. Of this number, 17 have left the district, 6 have left to join other societies, and 3 have died, the remaining 87 have been erased, some for immoral conduct, and others for neglect in attending the means of grace. Thus, it will be seen, that about one in eleven have relapsed, or, in other words, under nine per cent. of the number enrolled. It is expected that many now on the roll will ere long be prepared to follow the great example set by Jesus, and agreeably to His command, submit to the ordinance of Christian baptism.

The amount of money allotted to the minister from the fund for the employment of Scripture

readers was found very valuable, and is being economically employed. Suitable time and weather is chosen for a visitor, to go into a particular district, and after a season the district is again visited. The visitors have worked well; several backsliders have been induced to seek a place again among the people of God; some persons have united themselves to the inquirers' classes, and several have entered the Sunday morning and evening schools. As a general rule the visits of the Scripture readers have been appreciated, and only in a few instances have they met with opposition, or even with an indifferent reception.

An inquiry has recently been made as to the number of prayer meetings held in class-houses during the week, and it is found there are twenty-three places where the classes meet. Forty-three prayer meetings are held in the morning of the day, and sixty-nine in the evening during the week; so that, independently of the Lord's-day services, there are 112 distinct prayer meetings held in the week, in connexion with the Church. Surely the God that heareth prayer will answer, although not for much speaking, yet for the sake of His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and to fulfil His own promise, "that before they call, I will answer, and while they are yet speaking I will hear."

Colonial and Foreign News.

Prince Edward Island.

Major Pollard was welcomed home from Treuro, by the people of Charlottetown. They formed a procession, with a band of music at their head and promenaded the streets. His Excellency congratulated Major Pollard on his success, he also passed a eulogium on Mr. McLaren, and presented him with a Highland broadsword. In addition to this the lady of Major Pollard presented McLaren with a handsome silver cup worth \$20.

MR. POPE AND THE R. CATHOLIC PRIESTS.—A despatch from the Duke of Newcastle is published in the Island papers in reply to a letter from the Rev. Angus McDonald, complaining of some language used by Mr. POPE, Colonial Secretary, respecting the R. C. Church. The Duke says:

"How far it is fitting that a member of the Local Government and of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island should be allowed to apply to a Church, which is an object of reverence to a large number of his fellow-colonists, such language as Mr. Pope has not scrupled to employ, is a question which I leave to the constituency which elected that gentleman, and to the Legislature whose confidence he is presumed to retain. I leave it in the same way to Mr. McDonald's Ecclesiastical superiors to consider the propriety of the language in which he has assailed Mr. Pope.

The Civil and Ecclesiastical constitution of the Colony is happily, such as to relieve the Secretary of State from involving himself in so distasteful a controversy."

New Brunswick.

RAILWAY ARITHMETIC.—We find the following in the Head Quarters of last week:

"The account of the Railway receipts for August, published in the Government organ, was as follows:—

Table with 3 columns: Item, Aug. '62, Aug. '61. Rows include Passengers, Freight, Mails and Sundries, and Totals.

This we copied on Thursday without sufficiently examining it. A moment's glance at the first column of figures will show that there is an error in the addition of a thousand dollars, that the gross receipts were only \$11,013.13, and consequently that the falling off for the month was \$3,330.79—an extraordinary deficit.—Freeman.

Last week we copied the account of the Railway receipts for August, from the Globe, without examination. The Freeman, as will be seen, discovered an error of \$1000 in the account. In making its correction, however, the Ereeman made a mistake of \$10.

As given by the Globe, the August receipts amounted to \$12,013.13; it ought to have been \$11,093.13."

The St. John Globe states that it is probable the Colonial Legislatures will be called together earlier than usual, to consider the subject of the Inter-Colonial Railway.

FIRES.—Two large fires have taken place in St. John, N. B., during the week—supposed to be work of incendiaries. The one on Monday was the most extensive the city has been visited with for some time. Five large buildings were destroyed, besides a number of workshops. On Wednesday another fire broke out, consuming three houses, which were principally occupied by poor families.

Two large bears have lately been killed at Port Elgin, which had destroyed several sheep and did other damage.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

CARRIBOO GOLD DIGGINGS.—The St. John Colonial Empire contains a letter from Mr. H. E. Seelye, dated Lightning Craek July 24 1862, giving a very unsatisfactory account of the prospects there. He says:—"The prices of provisions are now enormously high and there is very little probability of their being much change before it is very late in the season. At present flour is from \$1.00 to \$1.25 cents per lb.; Bacon, \$1.50; Beans, \$1.00; Sugar, \$1.50; Tobacco, \$3.00; Tea, \$2.00; nails, \$3.00;