

Baptist Meeting-house, Wolfville, shortly after the occurrence of the melancholy disaster.

Benjamin Rand—was ever diligent in his studies, well prepared, ready, and accurate in recitation. I do not recollect having had any occasion to find fault with him.

Anthony E. Phalen, aged 25, was a member of the church at Rawdon. He was an excellent student—industrious, addicted to close inquiry, influenced by high aspirations.

William Henry King—was the youngest of our number, not having completed his 17th year. His attention to study was uniformly praiseworthy, and his acquirements were in some respects beyond his years.

He was baptized at the age of twelve. The loveliness of his temperament and his tendency to the sportive exposed him, as is usual in such cases, to temptation, and perhaps led some to misconceive his character; but it is gratifying to learn that his conversation and correspondence during the last few months of his life indicated a renewal of spiritual strength and an habitual experience of the value and power of religion.

William E. Grant—was "strong in the Lord"—a consistent, spiritually-minded christian. As a student he was unexceptionable in all respects and greatly improving. Fond hopes were entertained of his future usefulness in the church; for his love to the word of God, his known devotional habits, and his readiness to every good work, together with his general acceptableness as a preacher of the gospel, were encouraging tokens, leading us to anticipate a career of no ordinary interest.

Our young friend would not leave the house on that sad morning till he had read the customary portion from his New Testament. The precious volume was found on his person, and will be preserved as a memorial of the owner.

His last letter was addressed to one of his fellow students, and was written two days before his death. Though a brief and hurried composition, it contained affectionate exhortations to a religious life, and proved the writer's dying testimony for Christ.

June 9, 1863. Yours truly, MENNO.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JUNE 17, 1863.

Missionary Work.

NATIVE AGENCY.

In our last we gave some of the further particulars concerning the death of the missionary Gordon and his wife, obtained from "Missions in Western Polynesia," by Rev. A. W. Murray.

The following additional extract will have peculiar interest for many of our readers as it bears directly on the means lately and at present employed by the Baptist churches of these provinces.

By the death of our former missionary Rev. R. E. Burpe and the failure to obtain suitable successors, we have been driven to the employment of Native Agency. Whilst we acknowledge our indebtedness to our excellent brother Rev. R. R. Crawley, for the appropriation of our friends in Burmah, it is gratifying to find that this mode of reaching the masses of the heathen—by their own countrymen,—with the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ, is found, by all denominations, to be the great desideratum in evangelizing the nations.

Mr. Murray remarks:—

"From what we have said it will be seen that the enemies of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon would not in all probability have succeeded in their designs against them had they been nearer their friends in the Bay. There was another peculiarity in the course adopted by our brother, which had very serious bearings on the safety of himself and Mrs. Gordon, and on the interests of the Mission, to which we must refer. The following extract from a letter addressed by Mr.

Geddie to the Secretary of the Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church in Nova Scotia, with which Mr. Geddie is connected, and to which Mr. Gordon belonged will explain our meaning. Mr. Geddie says:—"As Mr. Gordon was a public man, his plans and operations form a lawful subject of remark. I would gladly avoid allusion to the subject, but it would not be just to the cause. I speak the honest sentiments of my heart when I say that our late brother was a good man, an earnest minister of Christ, and in certain circumstances would have been "a burning and shining light." But his views of the noble enterprise in which he was engaged were peculiar. It is already known to the Church that he had adopted strange views about native agents, and that he carried on the work without the aid of that valuable class of men. He lived long enough to see his error, but not long enough to correct it. He was earnestly in search of the agency—which at one time he so lightly esteemed—at the time of his death. The question in favour of native agency in the Pacific Isles has been settled by the experience of nearly half a century; and the extent to which God has blessed the labors of native teachers, shows that the system has the sanction of heaven. It is true that these good men have their shortcomings and imperfections, and could not, as a general rule, be exhibited as models of Christian excellence. But it is equally true that their simple faith, their self-denial, and their readiness to endure all things for Jesus' sake and the Gospels, often excite admiration and gratitude to God. It was a dangerous experiment which Mr. Gordon tried, when he set his views and practice on the subject of native agency in opposition to those of almost every Missionary in the South Sea Islands. Instead of striking out any new course, he puts himself in the position of the first Missionaries to Polynesia, who from necessity, laboured unaided and alone; most of whom were either killed or driven from their work; and the result has not been different on Erromanga. He needed help to scatter the seed of divine truth throughout the length and breadth of the island, and to meet the evil influences against him. Had he placed himself at the head of the native teachers whom he found on Erromanga a few years ago, guided them in their labours, and increased their numbers, as new openings presented themselves, there is much reason to believe, that that sad catastrophe which has befallen the Mission would not have taken place."

"I need offer no comment on the above remarks. They read solemn lessons to those on whom it devolves to send forth Missionaries to the field, and equally solemn ones to Missionaries themselves, especially to those who feel disposed to set at nought the dearly bought experience of the past fifty years, and venture on experiments full of danger to themselves, and hazard to the interests of the sacred cause."

Temperance.

NATIONAL DIVISION AT HALIFAX.

THE Delegates to the National Division of Sons of Temperance arrived in this city on Wednesday last. Those of them who came from the United States and Canada received a public welcome on Tuesday at St. John, New Brunswick. Their number was augmented in New Brunswick by the Delegates from that province, and arrived by the steamer Emperor, at Windsor, about 6 o'clock on Wednesday evening. Here they were met by a deputation of Nova Scotia brethren, and were brought by railway to the city about 10 o'clock.

PUBLIC BREAKFAST.

On the following morning, Thursday, a Public Breakfast was given to the Delegates and the ladies accompanying them, at the Halifax Hotel. About 200 sat down to table. Avard Longley, Esq., Grand Worthy Patriarch of Nova Scotia, presided. After the breakfast, an Ode of Welcome was sung with fine effect. The following are the first two and last stanzas:

Welcome from Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island strand, New Brunswick, Maine, Capé Breton, Canada, And Massachusetts, free, Vermont, New Hampshire; We Welcome again.

Rhode Island small, yet great, New York, the Empire State, New Jersey too, Connecticut, we greet, And joyfully meet, In sympathy complete, Your sons so true.

Then welcome to our cheer, Welcome from far or near: And may this day, In love and purity, Truth and fidelity, Last long in memory, When far away.

The chairman then briefly addressed the company present and congratulated them on the happy auspices under which they had met. He expressed his own pleasure and believed the feeling was common to all in meeting brethren from so many places and from such great distances. He considered it a great triumph of philanthropy, for the common

sentiment of brotherhood to bind together those of such diverse sentiments in other respects those who seek to exterminate the vice of intemperance from the world. He then called on the Most Worthy Patriarch S. L. Carleton, Esq., who with great vivacity and pleasantness, described the reception they had received at St. John—being taken possession of, led captive and placed before an audience of 12 or 1500 people. He described the mission on which he and his brethren had come; they were engaged in a war with the author of all mischief, especially against the demon intemperance.

Hon. Mr. Tilley was then called upon and proceeded to speak of the benefits derived by a community from the practice of the principles of the order of Sons. He thought that the fact of men coming two thousand miles and paying their own expenses, showed them to be sincere in their benevolent feelings. He had never known before of legislators working for the public good without pay.

The chairman remarked that we were just inaugurating that era!

Mr. R. G. Gantt of Maryland, in homely but true eloquence referred to the effect which the kind reception they had received, had on his mind. He could never forget his visit to Halifax. He had seldom seen the name Halifax in the south, except on the fish barrels sent there, and had always associated the city with those small fish. He loved England and did not think there need be any apprehensions of war between the two countries, represented by those now together. He himself had a son in the army and hoped that in any case when he met an Englishman, it he must fire, he would draw the bullet from the gun before firing. He thought a more intimate union between the two countries, would be beneficial to both, and recommended the formation of unions between the young men and women, as an effectual barrier against war between the two countries.

Mr. J. R. Winchell of Missouri, referred to the pride of the American people, over their great country and free institutions, as arising from the fact that they are children of John Bull, and have British blood in their veins.

Mr. S. W. Hodges, the M. W. Scribe, noticed the perfect harmony that existed in the tunes to which the Ode was sung. The British subjects had sung it to their National Anthem, but the Americans had sung it to the tune America and curiously they both blended exactly so as to produce the most perfect harmony. This he believed would always be the character of the two peoples, when they came together and understood each other.

Mr. Jackson, the American Consul, Hon. C. Young, of P. E. I., Rev. Dr. Cramp, of Wolfville, E. Carswell and R. D. Wadsworth of Canada West, severally addressed the meeting.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE SESSION.

After these intellectual portions of the report, had been brought to a close—about eleven o'clock—the Delegates adjourned to the Province building and commenced the Session.

The following is a list of the gentlemen in attendance:—

Massachusetts.—S. W. Hodges, (M. W. S.) H. D. Cushing, J. W. Stodder, C. Freeman, D. S. Tarr, C. Brooks, F. H. Henshaw, Rev. C. L. McCurdy, S. A. B. Bragg, W. B. Hastings, T. Chubbuck.

Maine.—S. L. Carleton, (M. W. P.), J. S. Kimball, B. E. Thorndike, Hon. S. Perham, Hiram K. Morrell.

Eastern New York.—A. Campbell, A. C. Flanagan, J. N. Stearns.

New Jersey.—Dr. S. L. Condict, J. L. Khees, S. B. Ransom, B. B. Doremus.

Rhode Island.—J. F. Smith, Thos. E. Brown.

Kentucky.—Dr. J. J. Bradford, (M. W. A.)

Connecticut.—Geo. Stone.

Maryland.—B. C. Gantt.

Missouri.—J. R. Winchell.

Illinois.—A. G. Warner.

New Hampshire.—S. S. Davis, True Osgood.

Vermont.—J. Fassett, L. Sheldon.

Ohio.—H. V. Horton, D. W. Gage.

District Columbia.—Rev. E. W. Jackson, R. G. Green.

Newfoundland.—Wm. Bulley.

Canada West.—R. D. Wadsworth, E. Carswell, (M. W. Con.)

Canada East.—J. C. Beckett, J. S. Hall.

New Brunswick.—Hon. S. L. Tilley, W. H. A. Keans, (M. W. T.), R. Salter, John Fraser, O. D. Wetmore, C. A. Everett, Rev. S. Robinson, Rev. J. C. Hurd, M. D., Hon. J. Steadman, S. D. McPherson, J. S. Wetmore.

P. E. Island.—Hon. Charles Young, J. P. Tanton, Wm. Sarrderson, W. C. Trowan, J. Scott, J. W. Morrison, J. B. Cooper, Geo. W. Millner.

Nova Scotia.—A. Longley, (Annapolis.) Rev. Dr. Cramp, (Wolfville.) Donald Johnston, (Cap Breton); John Heenan, Rev. J. McMurray, Wm. M. Brown, J. S. Thompson, Geo. Mathison, L. E. Van Buskirk, Robert Noble, Rev. N. Gunnison, Patrick Monaghan, Hon. J. W. Johnston, (Halifax); W. Burrell, (Yarmouth.) Rev. A. MacArthur, (Colchester.)

PUBLIC RECEPTION.

On Thursday evening a Public Reception was given to the National Division in Temperance Hall, by the N. S. Grand Division. The following address was read by Grand Worthy Patriarch A. Longley, who presided on the occasion.

To the Members of the National Division of the Sons of Temperance, assembled in Annual Session at Halifax, N. S., June 11th, 1863.

Most Worthy Patriarch and Brothers:—

Receive the hearty welcome of the Grand Division of Nova Scotia. We regard your visit to this Province as a distinguished honour. We entertain the hope that it will materially advance the progress of the good cause among us. Be assured of our anxious wish to co-operate with you in the endeavour to secure a fuller development of the principles and a more extensive display of the power of our noble Institution.

This Grand Division, we may inform you, is now fifteen years old. Its efforts were preceded by the zealous labours of good men of various religious denominations, who had battled with intemperance for nearly twenty years before the introduction of our Order, and had been rewarded by very considerable success. And now, looking at the entire results of the Temperance enterprise in this country and comparing the state of society at the present time with what it was five and thirty years ago, we see great cause for congratulation and encouragement. The old drinking customs, then almost universally prevalent, have to a great extent disappeared. Our medical men, generally, confess that we are in the right. A large number of the clergy, of nearly all denominations, are practical abstainers. Adherents to our cause are found among all classes of the community—although but few of the wealthy and influential have joined us—and total abstinence from intoxicating drinks, instead of being assailed with ridicule, as in former years, is treated with respect.

It will be interesting to the members of the National Division to learn that though our efforts to obtain a Prohibitory Liquor Law for the Province have hitherto failed of success, there are some districts in which, on account of the sturdy resistance of the inhabitants, the poison is not allowed to enter; and in nine Counties (the whole number is eighteen) no licenses to sell liquor are granted this year; while by an Act passed in the last Session of our Legislature—and introduced by our present Grand Worthy Patriarch—the majority of the rate-payers in any polling district may by petition to the General Sessions prevent the grant of licenses within their limits. These are gratifying approaches to a prohibitory policy.

But on the other hand we are compelled to acknowledge, and we grieve to do so, that notwithstanding the improvements to which we have referred, and the pleasing changes that have taken place, the consumption or traffic in intoxicating liquors is still so great that nearly one-fifth of the provincial revenue is derived from that source, and our police reports exhibit the usual amount of disorder and crime as the natural and necessary fruit.

We have mentioned these facts, Most Worthy Patriarch, that the National Division may have a clear view of our position and prospects and also in the hope that we may be aided by your counsels in the future prosecution of our efforts.

Adverting now to more general considerations, we cannot refrain from the expression our regret that we are deprived on this occasion of the presence of brothers, whose advocacy of this great cause used to be characterised by warm appeals and impassioned eloquence, and whose now untimely separation from us. Permit the utterance of our earnest desire that all hindrance to re-union may be speedily removed, and that the Sons of Temperance of North America may once more appear to the world an undivided band—firm in purpose—bold in action—and "terrible as an army with banners."

Allow us to remind you that the friends of Temperance, and especially the members of this Order, have abundant work before them. The race of drunkards still numerous, powerful, and mischievous. Intemperance ruins its millions every year. Missionaries in heathen lands bear witness that it is one of the greatest obstacles in their way. In christianized countries, on both continents, it continues to be the fruitful source of poverty, wretchedness, and crime. Even the popular literature of the day is largely infected by it. Among men of talent and influence there are too many who stand aloof from our movement—or look upon it with contempt—or appear in the ranks of our enemies. Even the religious portion of the community is not yet sufficiently awake to the call of duty in this respect.—In short, our work is only beginning. It will not be completed till the whole world is converted to Temperance. That is a consummation which we doubt not will one day be accomplished; for when "the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea," men will be far too wise and too good to be enslaved by strong drink.

Nova Scotia welcomes you, Most Worthy Patriarch, and Honoured Brothers. May Heaven's richest benedictions descend upon you! May your deliberations be harmonious—your plans comprehensive—your labours crowned with success!

On behalf of the Grand Division of Nova Scotia. AVARD LONGLEY, G. W. P.

Most Worthy Patriarch S. L. Carleton made a suitable verbal reply, Dr. S. L. Condict, E. Carswell, and O. D. Wetmore addressed the assembled brethren composing the National, Grand and Subordinate Divisions, shewing the great evils resulting from intemperance and the great benefits of the Order of Sons.