

and all I do attribute to that book-mark and the grace of God. O, my reader, "despise not the day of small things." A word spoken in season, a simple Christian act, a sincere, simple prayer, may turn a poor wandering sinner from the error of his ways.—Tract Journal.

For the Christian Messenger.

Acadia College.

As Treasurer of Acadia College I feel it necessary to remind the churches, embraced by the Baptist Convention, that many of them have not yet responded to the appeal made for pecuniary aid by the board of Governors.

It was hoped, as the Circulars were sent in April, that time enough would be given to raise and remit the sums apportioned by 1st June.—But July is nearly half gone and less than one third of the Churches applied to have been heard from, and from many of these a less sum has been received than was asked for. It is not my place nor is it my wish to dictate in this matter, but till some other mode is adopted for supplying the annual deficiency of the treasury, I must look to the Churches for the necessary funds.—At the late Association's strong expressions of a growing interest in the College were frequently made, but unless individual churches act in contributing to our financial wants, the passing of unanimous resolutions at the associated gathering will avail but little, I would therefore urge upon such of the Churches as intend collecting funds for our empty treasury, to delay doing so no longer. Our accounts for presenting to the Convention will be closed 1st August, and monies not received by that time cannot be reported; and the Balance sheet for the year will appear favourable or unfavourable in proportion to the sums contributed forthwith.

J. W. BARSS, Treasurer Acadia College. Wolfville, July 13, 1863.

For the Christian Messenger.

Opening of the Poplar Grove Meeting House, Newport.

This house was dedicated to the worship of Almighty God on Lord's day, the 28th ult. The opening sermon was preached by the writer from Haggai ii. 7: "And I will fill this house with glory." In the afternoon, Rev. James Stevens preached from Galatians vi. 14: "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ." After which appropriate addresses were given by Rev. Geo. Dimock, Rev. David Shaw, and Bro. Weathers; Licentiate, who is now engaged in preaching, and to good acceptance, to the West Newport church. The meetings, both morning and afternoon, were largely attended. Many could not enter for want of room.

The house, which is beautifully located in the midst of a thickly settled and thriving community, is thirty-six by forty-six feet on the ground, and has a tower.

The interior is finished with end gallery. The pulpit approaches the modern style, and is furnished with an elegant sofa. Its best adornment, a handsomely-bound Bible, was presented by Dr. Parker, of Halifax. The building, in brief, is nicely finished and painted inside and out, and reflects much credit on the taste and liberality of those who have labored to secure its erection. Its whole cost is something less than £600, all of which, with the exception of less than £100 is paid for. The pews are not to be sold, but rented; and the proceeds will go towards the minister's salary. When the Lord counts up his people, may it be said of this and that man that he was born there.

D. M. WELTON.

For the Christian Messenger.

Ordination at Bedeque.

At the request of the Churches of Christ at Bedeque and Tryon, communicated to the ministers and brethren from neighbouring and other churches, assembled at Bedeque for the purpose of attending the Eastern Baptist Association, a meeting for counsel with members of the above churches was held at Bedeque, on Saturday morning, July 4th, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of ordaining Mr. Maynard P. Freeman, A. B., to the work of the gospel ministry. The Council was formed by Rev. Dr. Cramp being appointed Moderator, and D. A. Steele, Clerk.

Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, of Truro, opened the meeting by prayer.

The following are the names of the brethren present:

Revs. Dr. Cramp, Geo. Armstrong, John Davis, D. Freeman, D. W. C. Dimock, G. F. Miles, S. W. deBlois, Samuel McLeod, Malcolm Ross, and John Shaw; Brethren R. V. Jones, S. Selden, D. Blair, J. McDonald, D. A. Steele, A. Melnlay, Fairbairn, Nicholson, Hooper, Howitt, A. S. Blenkhorn, Baker, John Schurman, S. Schurman.

Bro. Freeman was then requested to relate

his Christian experience, and to inform the Council what he deemed his call to the ministry.—This he did,—briefly, clearly, and satisfactorily.

After some further enquiries by the brethren, it was resolved,

That the statements of Bro. Freeman, being deemed satisfactory, the Council recommend his public ordination to the work of the Christian Ministry, on Lord's day afternoon, commencing at 4 o'clock.

After arranging the order of the exercises, the Council adjourned.

On Lord's day, at the hour appointed, a large congregation having assembled, the Ordination proceeded as follows:

Singing.

Prayer, and reading of the Scriptures, by Rev. M. Ross, of North River, P. E. I.

Ordination Sermon, from 1 Tim. iv. 16, by Rev. J. M. Cramp, D. D., of Wolfville.

Relation, by Brother Freeman, of his Christian experience and call to the ministry.

Questions, concerning Doctrine, Church order and discipline, were proposed by Rev. John Davis, of Charlottetown.

The ordaining Prayer, by Rev. John Shaw, of Three Rivers, P. E. I.

The Right hand of fellowship, by Rev. D. Freeman, A. M., of Canning, N. S., brother of the candidate.

The Charge to the candidate, was given by Rev. Geo. Armstrong, A. M., of Bridgetown.

The Charge to the Church, by Rev. G. F. Miles, of Amherst, N. S.

The whole proceedings were characterized by deep solemnity. The house was densely crowded, and the weather exceedingly warm, yet the interest of the people was sustained till the last. The statements of Bro. Freeman, and his answers to the questions were highly satisfactory to all. The young pastor enters on his work with encouraging prospects, and with the best wishes and prayers of his ministering brethren.

D. A. STEELE, Clerk.

Bedeque, July 7th, 1863.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JULY 15, 1863.

Eastern Baptist Association.

Prince Edward Island, by some curious coincidence, was chosen as the place for holding the Annual Session of four different religious bodies, whose operations are partially in Nova Scotia. It has been matter of speculation as to what would be the result. The comparative difficulty of reaching a place so far distant it was conceived would be a barrier which might prevent many of those ordinarily attending these gatherings from being present. In the case of the Presbyterian and Wesleyan bodies, a fund is provided, we believe, which pays the travelling expenses of their ministers, this would, therefore, in their case, not be so likely to operate. Moreover, their meetings being in Charlotte, town, could be more easily reached than the rural district of Bedeque, the place appointed for the Annual Session of the Eastern Baptist Association. Against these difficulties were placed the warm fraternal feeling existing towards the Prince Edward Island brethren, by those on the western side of Northumberland Straits, and the desire on their part to see the beauties of that fertile island.

Believing that the brethren there were not behind in their interest in denominational affairs, quite a number of delegates wended their way to the two points on the eastern shore, Pictou, N. S., and Shediac, N. B., where the steamer Westmoreland forms the connection between the three provinces. A number of the brethren proceeded by their own carriages to Pictou, and left them there until they returned.

Passing by railway to Truro, we took one of the 17 seats in the accommodation coach belonging to Mr. H. Hyde. Although we were so large a company yet the fine teams provided made it far more pleasant travelling thus, than it is in some other directions in this province.—For the credit of the country we wish all our coach lines were as well supplied with horses as this eastern one. We had to endure, as philosophically as we were able, the clouds of dust which attended us on our way. The beauties of the scenery on the road, especially around West River, were, by this means, partially obscured. Arriving in good time at Pictou we were refreshed by finding a number of friends, on the same errand as ourselves, on their way to the same destination. Here were also a goodly number of the Presbyterian ministers just returned from Prince Edward Island, where, on the same day, they had concluded the session of their Synod.

We soon retired to the steamer and took possession of our shelf—yelept berth—and saw nothing

further—the boat leaving at one o'clock, A. M.,—till going on deck early in the morning, Point Prim lighthouse had become a prominent object in our view of the island scenery. Passing St. Peter's, and Governor's Islands, on either side, we shortly found ourselves in the spacious and beautiful harbor, at the mouth of the Hillsborough River, and discovered a number of familiar faces at the wharf, who took possession of us in a most acceptable manner. After being kindly entertained in the city of Charlottetown, we were able only to take a glance at its fair proportions in consequence of a slight shower of rain. At 9 o'clock, A. M., we were again under weigh and on our course towards Summerside, which we reached soon after 3, p. m. The rich scenery of West River, Crapaud and Salutation Cove, with their beautiful undulations covered with verdure, except where the shore had been washed away and shewed its red loamy soil, supplied us with objects of interest and admiration. Having taken on board a number of new passengers, including Delegates from Charlottetown to the Association, the Colonial (Provincial) Secretary, Queen's Printer and several of the Methodist ministers, returning to their fields of labor in New Brunswick, we were regaled by a fresh supply of material for rendering the voyage an occasion of much real enjoyment.—Were we to touch on the various matters of public interest discussed with these gentlemen, respectively, we might fill our pages. What, with the readiness to converse, and call up reminiscences of the past, amongst the pioneers Temple, Snowball, &c. &c., the time seemed to have passed far too quickly when we entered the port of Summerside. Here were several large ships on the stocks, in various stages, in course of construction, and signs of enterprise and rapid growth in a small town of very recent date. On landing, we found a few well-known friends and a number of others with whom we were soon to become better acquainted, with carriages all in readiness to convey the fraternal invaders to the place of meeting—Bedeque—about eight miles into the interior. We soon formed the cavalcade and proceeded up by the banks of Dunk River, passing the rich farms on either side, and admiring as we advanced the beautiful foliage and bright verdure of the rich rolling pastures. With all the modern improvements in agriculture, there is perhaps no part of the lower provinces which could be made more productive than this neighbourhood.—Oats, wheat, potatoes and flax were the principal crops. These all looked in prime order and promised an abundant harvest. We were soon allotted our places among the kind families of Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians, and made to feel that we were really "at home."

Our bishop of the church at Charlottetown was entertained by the venerable Moderator of the Presbyterian Synod. Although religious services were held on Friday evening and Saturday morning, yet

THE ASSOCIATION

proper commenced at 2 o'clock, p. m., by the Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, the retiring Moderator, after religious exercises, calling for the Letters and a vote of the Delegates for a new Moderator. The choice fell upon the Rev. John Davis, of Charlottetown.

The Rev. Alfred Chipman and Bro. D. A. Steele were chosen Secretaries, and John King, Esq., Treasurer.

Brethren G. F. Miles, D. W. C. Dimock and S. Selden were appointed the Committee to examine and read the Letters. From these we learned something of the progress of the churches—136 being added by baptism and 70 by letter,—but they told much more of the vast destitution prevailing, and the wide field which presents itself here for missionary labor. The Delegates from the Central and Western Associations—Brethren Armstrong, deBlois and Selden—were called upon for statements of what had been witnessed at the meetings of those bodies. With a few items of routine business, the afternoon was thus occupied.

On Lord's Day morning the various congregations in the neighborhood were supplied by the Baptist ministers in attendance. In the morning Rev. G. F. Miles preached in the Baptist Meeting-house, Rev. S. W. deBlois in the Methodist, and Rev. J. Davis in the Presbyterian. Besides these, Revs. G. Armstrong, D. Freeman, N. Vidito, B. Scott and Bro. J. E. Hopper preached in places adjacent.

ORDINATION SERVICE.

In the afternoon, according to arrangements made previous to the opening of the Association, an Ordination service was held, as officially described in another column. As may be supposed, this was to many quite a novel proceeding, and to all a most intensely interesting occasion.

The chapel was filled with a densely packed congregation. The seats were in many places doubly filled, and in both aisles every foot of standing room was occupied. Dr. Cramp preached from "Take heed to thyself and unto the doctrine, for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee," and shewed that our Lord had made provision for a continuance of the ministry of the gospel by "faithful men able to teach others" till "the end of the world." The true apostolic succession is one not of persons but of character. His promise has thus far been fulfilled. He also shewed that whilst ordination does not confer qualifications it recognizes them in such as Christ has called to the work. These qualifications were described,—first the minister must take heed to himself: he must be qualified by having experienced the power of religion; and to the doctrine, by preaching the truth as it is in Jesus. He must know what is revealed in the Word of God and be able to instruct others.

The Questions asked by Rev. J. Davis, and replied to by the candidate, were a very searching examination into his experience and views, and afforded the most entire satisfaction to all present. The charge given to the Church and the candidate were full of sound motives and affectionate exhortation. Each minister engaged seemed to realize the solemn position he occupied, and gave counsel and instruction the most valuable and momentous. The service, abbreviated as it was, occupied three hours, and but for the number of persons present and the heat of the day, might have been much prolonged without weariness.

On Monday morning the Committees met at 1/2 past 8, and the Association at 1/2 past 9 o'clock. The Rev. J. E. Balcorn preached the Introductory Sermon, from John i. 42, "And he brought him to Jesus," shewing the character of those who are suitable for, and consistent members of, Christian churches—those who, under the conviction of Jesus being the true Messiah, have themselves come to him for salvation, and are desirous of bringing others that they may participate in the same blessings. This is not the work of ministers only, but of Christians generally. This he also conceived to be the work of individual churches, as well as when they are combined into Associations.

Two new churches, one at Uigg, P. E. I., and the other at Pictou, N. S., were received into the Association by their delegates respectively—Rev. Samuel McLeod and Rev. Alfred Chipman—receiving on their behalf, the right hand of fellowship from the Moderator.

An interesting discussion arose on the Report of the Committee concerning Denominational Literature. In addition to a warm eulogium on the Christian Messenger, the report recommended the publication of a Memoir of Father Harris Harding, by Rev. J. Davis; the "Memento" Letters on Nova Scotia Baptist History; and a Manual of Theology for the use of the younger members of our Churches and Congregations.

In the afternoon Session the Circular Letter was read by Rev. G. F. Miles. After which

THE HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY

held its Annual Meeting. John King, Esq., Vice President, occupied the chair.

The Secretary, R. N. Beckwith, read the Report and the Treasurer's Account. Some remarks were made as to the essential missionary character of the Baptist Associations, from the earliest period of their history in these provinces, and the necessity that the ministers, if they would show themselves worthy successors of their pioneers, exhibiting themselves as missionaries as much as laid in their power.

Rev. J. Davis spoke of the urgent necessity for the employment of more labor in Prince Edward Island. Great openings presented themselves in many places. Some of these would be already able to do much towards the support of ministers, if they had the men; and would shortly be able to do so fully, if not also contribute towards the mission funds.

Rev. N. Vidito believed that every minister should strive to make his people fully acquainted with the benevolent objects of the body. He found men occupying their attention with various subjects—the war in the United States, the politics of Nova Scotia, business and Temperance—but he believed this work of far more interest and importance than any or all of them. If more piety existed at home, he believed, there would be more of a missionary spirit prevailing in the churches. The former condition of the denomination, when the three provinces were one association, they afforded better opportunities for all obtaining information concerning the state of the provinces. He gave a highly interesting account of a missionary tour taken many years since in company with Prof. Chipman. His recollections of it were amongst the most precious of his life.

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