

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

LETTER FROM REV. A. D. THOMSON.

Hillsborough, N. B., July 25th, 1864.

DEAR EDITOR,

I wish through your widely circulating Messenger to apprise my friends in Nova Scotia, that I am now engaged in endeavouring to liquidate the debt that has retarded progress in our educational affairs at Fredericton, New Brunswick.

I consider your province the more highly favoured inasmuch as they are in advance in this particular, and still increasing interest. It is a little over seven years since I became associated with the educational affairs of Nova Scotia Baptists.

Take fast hold of instruction, let her not go; keep her; for she is thy life. Prov. iv. 13.

A. D. THOMSON.

P. S.—I miss from my stationery a small morocco covered pamphlet or note book, in which I kept the names and amounts of subscribers, and what they subscribed to the Seminary at Fredericton.

A. D. T.

For the Christian Messenger.

LINES FOR THE TIMES.

These are exciting and eventful times; The world, in all its long and hoary years, Has never seen such days as now it sees.

But there is something that progresses not, And changes not amid the world of change; While days and years roll by, and empires wane,

The world, with all its specious moral show, Is hollowhearted and delusive still; And men by nature—and by practice—oft Are selfish as the beasts that roam the field;

The everlasting gospel's loudly preached, And many deem it but an idle tale, And many call it truth, and laud it high,

Let's turn our eyes unto a neighboring land, And see the nation sin has made. A wondrous nation, scarce a century old,

The victims fall by thousands, and the cry For brother's blood is ringing loud and high.

Virginia! how thy soil drinks in the blood— The heart grows faint and sickens at the thought,

A nobler warfare should be yours, and ye Should wield a stronger and a brighter sword. A great Commander waits to lead you on,

Kentville, July, 1864.

S. S.

For the Christian Messenger.

HAPPINESS.

Happiness is a treasure which we all seek, but alas! few, very few, find. Why is it that so few find it? Is it not because they search for it in the wrong path?

Many think that happiness is to be found in riches. They accordingly barter the best feelings of their natures for pelf; they labour and toil and deprive themselves of the comforts and almost of the necessities of life that they may hoard up money which they know not how to use.

Some seek for happiness in the path of fame. They rush into the battle field where amid the clattering of musketry and the roll of artillery they perform deeds of valour in order that they may have their names blown on "the trumpet of Fame," to the ends of the earth.

Others seek for happiness in the fashionable world. They spend their time in an endless round of folly and dissipation. They drink deeply of the poisonous bowl and at last fill drunkards' graves.

It then happiness is not to be found in wealth, fame, or fashion, where shall we find this priceless pearl? Let us visit the lowly cot of the honest labourer. See him and his "loved ones" seated round the cheerful fireside.

Let no one then vainly imagine that happiness is to be found in wealth, fame or in the transitory pleasures of this world.

MAUDE WILLOUGHBY.

Laurelton, July 15th, 1864.

For the Christian Messenger.

CONSTITUTION OF WESTERN N. S. BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

We received the copy of the Revised Constitution, &c., of the Western Association, after the Minutes were finished. We had reserved a page and the cover for them and waited as long as possible, without delaying the Central Minutes.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This body shall be called the Western Baptist Association of Nova Scotia.

2. It shall be composed of delegates appointed by the Churches of which they are members, together with delegates from the Corresponding Associations.

3. The objects of the Association shall be, the collection of statistical and other information from the churches; the cultivation of mutual acquaintance and fraternal union; the promotion of individual godliness and the spiritual prosperity of the churches; and, in the use of scriptural means, the enlargement of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

4. The Association shall meet annually on the

second Saturday in June, at 10 o'clock, A. M., at such place as it may appoint, and the services shall be commenced with public worship.

5. The officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk, and a Treasurer, all of whom shall continue in office until the election of their successors.

The Moderator shall preside in all the meetings; nominate all committees of not more than three, unless otherwise provided for; take the direction of all the religious services, and call special meetings pursuant to requisition.

The Clerk shall record all the transactions and prepare the Minutes for publication.

The Treasurer shall receive all monies and other property contributed for any of the purposes of the Association and dispose of the same according to the will of the donors, or, when the will of donors is not expressed, according to the votes of the Association.

6. Each church connected with the Association shall send annually a letter, containing an account of its history during the year preceding, specifying the number added by baptism, by letter, and by restoration; the number removed by dismission, by exclusion, and by death; and the whole number then in fellowship.

7. The Association may receive any church which shall apply for admission by sending a letter and delegates, and shall give satisfactory evidence as to its faith and order.

8. The Association shall not, in any case, interfere with the internal concerns of the churches, but it may dissolve its connection with any church which, after proper examination, shall be judged by the Association to have departed essentially from the Baptist faith and practice.

9. The religious sentiments of this Association are those expressed in the "Declaration of faith and practice of the Baptist churches in Nova Scotia."

10. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the number present at any annual meeting.

RULES OF ORDER.

RULE 1st. At each annual meeting the Letters from the churches shall be at once handed in, from which the clerk shall immediately make out a list of Delegates.

2nd. After religious worship the officers shall be chosen. The choice of the Moderator shall be made by ballot.

3rd. At every sitting business shall be opened and concluded with prayer.

4th. Brethren invited to a seat with us, may speak on all subjects under consideration but vote on none.

5th. No subject shall be discussed without a motion thereon being first made and seconded.

6th. Every speaker shall address the chair and no person shall speak oftener than twice on the same subject, unless by permission of the body.

7th. When a church is received into the Association the Moderator shall give to one of its delegates the hand of fellowship.

8th. At the commencement of each session the Minutes of the last one shall be read and corrected, and of the last before the final adjournment.

9th. All resolutions shall be presented in writing.

10th. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded unless so ordered at the time.

11th. No delegate shall be allowed to leave the Association before the business is finished, without permission of the body.

12th. These rules shall be distinctly read from the chair at the opening of the Session.

For the Christian Messenger.

OUR FOREIGN MISSION.

MESSRS. EDITORS.

It is known to many of your readers, that it was my delightful privilege to introduce to the Eastern Baptist Association Rev. Joseph F. Kempton, an esteemed Brother disposed to labor as our Missionary in Burmah; and that the proposal was unanimously approved by that body, and its adoption strongly recommended to the Foreign Missionary Board and the Convention.

On the 19th inst., Bro. Kempton met with the Board, and was cordially and unanimously received as our Foreign Missionary subject to the approval of the Convention, and the favorable decision of medical advisers.

A letter has come to my hand this day from Rev. A. R. R. Crawley, dated April 26th.

Referring to a statement formerly made by me, he says, "I am deeply disappointed to observe, from what you say, that there is some doubt about Brother Kempton's coming. But I hope he has, before this, fully decided that duty calls him to Burmah. I am watching the proceedings of your Board with the deepest interest."

This is known to be accordant with the ar-

dent desires of our intended Missionary. It is evidently desirable that there should be no avoidable delay in this matter.

All who are in any measure acquainted with the subject must be aware, that a large outlay is indispensable at the commencement of such an undertaking; and a considerable sum will be required annually to sustain a Mission family, and to retain the services of our native preachers, which are highly requisite; as also to support our very useful Mission School.

As the Convention will undoubtedly concur in this measure, it is obviously incumbent on all our Ministers, Deacons, Churches, and individual members in these three Provinces, to take hold of this matter in good earnest at once, and to do all in their power toward furnishing the needed fund immediately.

Yours in gospel bonds,

C. TUPPER, Secretary.

Aylesford, July 22nd, 1864.

For the Christian Messenger.

Extracts from Associational Letters.

MR. EDITOR,

At the meeting of the Central Association at Chester, a committee was appointed to prepare for your columns extracts from the letters of the churches, read at that Association.

Respectfully,
On behalf of the Committee.

A. H. MUNRO.

GRANVILLE STREET CHURCH, HALIFAX.—Rev. Dr. Pryor, Pastor, "Though as a church and people we have manifold cause for thankfulness to the great head of the church for tokens of his favor, yet we are unable to report so great numerical accessions as we have sometimes heretofore been able to do.

It also reports an increase of congregation and renewed christian activity and liberality developed in the church; also that several of the male members having been engaged in laboring in the county. The Bible classes and Sabbath School are in a satisfactory state.

UPPER AYLESFORD.—Pastor, Rev. James L. Read, "We can report no large addition to our numbers as we have had the pleasure of doing on previous occasions. Yet God's people are living in the exercise of christian duty and are apparently advancing in the path of holiness.

NORTH BAPTIST CHURCH, HALIFAX.—Pastor, Rev. A. H. Munro, "Our list of church members has been again examined and the discipline of the church faithfully maintained. Members being absent and over whom the church has ceased to exercise control we have removed from the list and such as walk disorderly we have dealt with according to the rules laid down in the gospel."

2nd HAMMONDS PLAINS, (colored).—Pastor, Rev. R. R. Philp, "Thankfully acknowledges renewing influences and speaks gratefully of the missionary labor bestowed upon it in addition to the labor of the pastor. Also refers to and solicits aid in behalf of efforts to build a new place of worship.

GASPEREAUX CHURCH.—Pastor, E. O. Read, "We cannot report such large additions as in some former years, but still we think some progress has been made. All the ordinances of God's house have been kept up, and no doubt have tended to increase the faith, enlarge the desires, and strengthen the hope of the people of God."

3rd HORTON CHURCH.—Pastor, Rev. S. B. Kempton, "In presenting some report of ourselves since the meeting of our association last year, we feel pleasure in being able to state that our prospects are encouraging as well as that the year has not been spent without a measure of success. During the winter we observed the request of the Evangelical Alliance and held the first week of the new year as a Week of Prayer. The meetings proved so interesting in our section of the church that by unanimous