

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, AUGUST 31, 1864.

BEECHER, SPURGEON, AND HIGH-CHURCHISM.

The two most popular preachers on either side the Atlantic—Henry Ward Beecher, of New York, and Charles H. Spurgeon, of London,—have each recently preached and published a sermon in reference to Baptism, the former on "Infant Baptism," and the latter on "Baptismal Regeneration."

Spurgeon presents the subject in quite another aspect, and with similar boldness attacks the great error of Baptismal Regeneration, as taught by the Church of England.

We must say that we do not pity those who have truckled to Mr. Spurgeon for this sharp chastisement, administered, too, in the presence of two or three thousand people on Sunday, June 5, and since more widely made known by the press.

The Clerical editor appears not to remember that schism is rather division in a body than the separation of one body from another.

THE BAPTIST CONVENTION AT ST. JOHN, N. B.

In our last we addressed our readers from Fredericton, N. B.—Having but a few hours there, we could only pay a flying visit to "the lions," and therefore devote but a few lines to

WHAT WE SAW THERE.

Finding Professor Bailey on board the Anna Augusta, returning home from a geological excursion in some of the N. B. counties, we received from him a cordial invitation to the University.

The portico is of one story supported by two pillars, raised above the basement by several steps. The entrance hall is spacious, and shews that no expense is spared in keeping it in order. Corridors run from this to either end, into which the various class rooms open; also the Professor's laboratory, Library, Museum, and, in the upper story, the students' rooms.

The Baptist Church bell sounded a call to prayer at eight o'clock, which we readily accepted, and found there a number assembled, with Dr. Spurden officiating at the desk.

The military band discoursed its enlivening strains opposite the officer's quarters, and attracted a number of the inhabitants and visitors to promenade the street till quite late in the evening.

Learning that the Cathedral would be open for a quarter of an hour in the morning, we were up and on hand before the verges made his appearance. The trim clerical looking residences, the quiet which reigned around, and the lovely morning seemed all in keeping with a devotional spirit.

A visit to the garden belonging to Judge Wilmot is perhaps one of the greatest treats to be had in Fredericton. We gladly embraced an invitation to spend the short time left at our disposal among the gay parterres and blushing beauties which filled every corner of this lovely spot.

The Exhibition Building is quite an ornamental structure, drawing near its completion. It will doubtless be the centre of attraction to thousands in October when it is to be opened.

Returning to St. John the scenery comes into view in different order from that on going up the river, so that there is no monotony, but a constant succession of interesting features, to admire in the landscape.

LEINSTER STREET CHURCH.

Before commencing our account of the business of the Convention, we must mention that the edifice in which it was held is a new one, finished but a few weeks since.

beautiful exhibitions of taste in the way of church architecture we have ever seen—a perfect gem. The front is enclosed by a substantial ornate iron fence, having a smooth free stone base, and steps.

THE CONVENTION

assembled at the appointed time. The President of last year, Rev. E. E. Bill, occupying the chair. After singing, and prayer by Rev. Dr. Tupper, the names of Delegates and members were taken as follows:—

NOVA SCOTIA CHURCHES AND SOCIETIES.—Ancherst—Rev. G. F. Miles. Bridgewater—Rev. S. March. Cornwallis, 1st.—Brethren Chas. Eaton, William Cogwell, and H. K. Eaton—Cornwallis, 3rd.—Brethren Jas. Bligh, and H. Porter. Great Village—Dea. H. Fountain. Horton, 1st.—Prof. R. Von. C. Jones. Horton, 2nd.—Rev. E. O. Road. Horton, 3rd.—Rev. S. B. Kempton. Lower Granville—Rev. I. Wallace. Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot—Brethren A. T. Baker, and J. E. Pearson. Nicotaur—Rev. W. G. Parker, J. M. Parker (Lic.), and Dea. Daniels. Port Medway—Rev. J. E. Goucher. Rausdon—Brother H. C. Creed. Yarmouth—Rev. H. Angell. South Yarmouth—Rev. W. L. Parker. Hebron—Rev. R. D. Porter. Halifax—Granville Street—Dr. D. McN. Parker. N.S. Baptist Education Societies—Rev. A. S. Hunt. Ministerial Education Board—Rev. A. H. Munro. Acadia College—Rev. J. M. Cramp, D. D. Members in their own Right—Rev. Dr. Pryor, J. E. Balcorn, D. W. C. Dimock, Jas. Parker, J. Davis, R. Morton, Dr. Tupper, C. Randall, Geo. Armstrong, James Spencer, T. H. Porter, D. McKen, J. Chase, Jas. Newcomb, L. B. Gates, S. W. DeBlois, N. Vidito, Wm. Hall, J. L. Read, R. R. Philp, A. Chipman, J. F. Kempton, D. McKee, J. A. Moore, and brethren D. Moser, J. W. Bays, S. W. Curry, T. A. Blackador (Lic.) N. S. Western Association—S. L. Chipman, Jos. Shaw, A. Longley. N. S. Central Association—Mayhew Beckwith, S. Selden, R. D. Eaton, N. S. Eastern Association—W. F. Cullen, W. Cummings.

NEW BRUNSWICK CHURCHES AND SOCIETIES.—Leinster Street—Dea. KUSMAN, and Bro. J. March. Leinster Street—Union Society—R. Sears—Portland—J. M. Eaton, J. S. May, J. S. Gray. Carleton—Rev. Geo. Sully, Dea. G. Christopher. St. George—Rev. B. N. Hughes. Hopewell—Brethren J. Calkin, W. A. Calhoun. Baptist Education Society—Rev. D. Spurden. N. B. Eastern Association—Rev. D. Crandall. In their own right—Revs. W. V. Garnor, A. D. Thomson, W. F. Corey, W. A. Coleman, I. E. Bill, H. Vaughan, J. Lawrence, G. W. Springer, J. Herritt, J. M. Curry, W. A. Corey, E. C. Cady, J. Ring, A. B. McDonald, J. Rowe, and brethren N. S. DeMill, C. G. Berryman, Jas. E. Masters, F. A. Cosgrove, A. W. Masters, T. Brundage, J. F. Masters, J. H. Harding, Asa Coy, Hon. A. McL. Seely, P. M. McLeod (Lic.), P. O. Rees, A. Fowler, A. Estabrooks, D. V. Roberts, G. A. Garrison.

Resolved—That the following Brethren be invited to a seat:—Rev. Dr. Warren, Sec. A. B. M. Union; W. H. Wyckoff, J. L. De. Cor. Sec., and Rev. C. A. Buckbee, Rev. Sec. A. Bible Union; Bro. N. P. Kamp, Treas. of the N. E. Branch A. Tract Society; Rev. A. W. Sawyer; Rev. Chas. Corey; W. McKenzie, and J. A. Smith.

The following are the officers of the Convention, elected for the present year:

President.—Rev. J. Davis. Vice Presidents.—Hon. Judge Johnston, Reids, N. Vidito, D. W. C. Dimock, J. A. Smith, W. A. Coleman, and Hon. W. B. Kinneer. Secretary for Nova Scotia.—Rev. S. B. Kempton. Do. for New Brunswick.—Rev. E. C. Cady. Treasurer.—F. A. Cosgrove.

The Board of Foreign Missions remains as last year, except that Ansel T. Baker is Treasurer.

THE LORD'S DAY SERVICES.

The arrangements for preaching on Lord's Day were as follows:—

BAPTIST CHAPELS.—Leinster Street, 11 a. m., Rev. Dr. Cramp, President of Acadia College; 3 p. m., Rev. C. A. Buckbee, of Am. Bible Union, New York; 6 p. m., Dr. Wyckoff, do. Germain Street, 11 a. m., Rev. Mr. McKenzie, A. M., of Providence, R. I.; 6 p. m., Rev. Dr. Cramp. Brussels Street, 11 a. m., Rev. A. W. Sawyer, of Saratoga; 6 p. m., Rev. Dr. Warren, Sec. of Am. Bap. Miss. Union, Boston. Portland, 11 a. m., Rev. H. Angell; 6 p. m., Rev. S. W. deBlois, A. M., Carleton, 11 a. m., Rev. J. Wallace, A. M.; 3 p. m., Rev. C. Randall; 6 p. m., Rev. Willard G. Parker. Marsh Bridge, 3 p. m., Rev. E. O. Road. Bethel, 3 p. m., Rev. J. Kempton.

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHAPELS.—Carleton, 11 a. m., Rev. John Goucher; 3 p. m., Rev. N. Vidito. Waterloo Street, 11 a. m., Rev. D. W. C. Dimock.

WESLEYAN CHAPELS.—Carleton, 11 a. m., Rev. Geo. Armstrong, A. M.; 6 p. m., Rev. Jas. Spencer. Centenary, 6 p. m., Rev. Dr. Pryor. Germain Street, 11 a. m., Rev. Dr. Tupper. Portland, 6 p. m., Rev. A. H. Munro.

These services had many features of peculiar interest, but want of space forbids our noticing them. The presence of brethren from Boston, New York, and other parts of the U. States, with those of our two provinces, rendered it more than ordinarily a season of refreshing. The discourses will, we doubt not, be long remembered, and we trust a means of good to many.

Morning Prayer meetings at 1/2 past 6 o'clock were held during the session.

The following brethren were appointed a Committee on Credentials and Correspondence:—Rev. G. F. Miles, Dr. Tupper, Wm. Hall, C. Randall, H. Angell, W. A. Coleman, Dr. Cramp, Dr. Spurden, J. Parker, Geo. Armstrong, and Bro. S. Selden. This arrangement had the effect of saving the time and promoting the harmony of the session.

THE INTRODUCTORY SERMONS.

On Monday morning, in consequence of the absence of the Rev. D. Freeman, appointed last year, the Convention Sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Warren, of Boston. He took for his text, 2 Cor. ii, 14, and delivered a most comprehensive and instructive Foreign Missionary discourse. He enquired first: Have our Missions been successful? or Have they been attended by such a measure of success as to enable us to use the language of the text?

In answering this question, he referred to the origin, progress, and present condition of Foreign Missions under the American Baptist Missionary Union. To five faces of mankind has the gospel been sent by that organization—the North American Indians, the Chinese, several tribes of Asia,—in Burmah and Siam, and to Europeans in France and Germany; and in Western Africa. In all these places have there been converts gathered into churches on the New Testament pattern, and held together by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The first church was organized of Burman converts by Judson about 45 years ago. There are now increased to about 200, but that is only a small part of the success which has followed the ministry of the gospel by the missionaries under this Board. The list of churches is now about 400, and of members about 85,000. These are formed into 18 Associations, which are fast becoming missionary bodies. The first convert became a preacher of the gospel, and was set apart to the work by Dr. Judson. About 600 are Teachers and Native Preachers. Fifty of these are ordained to the ministry, and 70 are being trained in the Theological School, under Dr. Binney. With these facts before us, we may answer the question proposed,—Have the Missions been successful? and may we not also take up the sentiment of the text: "Thanks be to God who always causeth us to triumph?" In addition to all these results thousands have been turned from darkness to light, who have gone home to glory. Then there are the translations of the Scriptures, books, and tracts. If such has been the result of the past fifty years' labor, what may we not suppose will follow the next half-century's work. [Here the preacher told some touching incidents, shewing the influence of the gospel on the heathen; after which he went into a calculation of what had been expended in bringing about these glorious results.] In all it had not reached \$4,000,000, and not quite 400 men. What a contrast to the blood and treasure lavished on the present war. Not only had this vast amount of good been done, but every contribution made had also conferred a blessing on the donors, in enlarging their hearts, and making them the happier, because they were