

the rivalry so hot between the two principal lines,—the "Bristol" and the "Newport," that the whole distance, upwards of one hundred and fifty miles is passed for one dollar, equal to seventy-five cents N. S. currency.

Between 5 and 6 A. M., on Saturday, we were called from our state rooms by the announcement that the Steamer was proceeding up N. Y. Harbor, and we hastened on deck. The scene was magnificent. On the right hand was Jones' Wood, where are to be seen some of the most beautiful residences of New York; on the left was Blackwall Island, on which are built the city asylums, reformatories, and prison houses; in front as far as the eye could reach nothing could be seen, but the tops of houses and lofty church spires, while the harbor was alive with ferry boats, tug boats, river boats and ocean Steamships.

I must reserve my remarks on New York City until a future occasion.

Yours, &c., E. D. K.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mr. Editor,—

One thing in the report of the Western Association, given by the Rev. Mr. Armstrong in the *Christian Visitor*, surprises me, for it is so unbaptist in its character.

In alluding to the attention which was given to the *Christian Messenger* by the Association, Mr. A. says: "The honest expression of disapproval was feared, and it was determined, it would seem, that all discussion on that paper must be shut out; and it is with regret we must add, the Moderator gave the weight of his position and influence in that direction."

If this be correct, it is unjust to the *Messenger*, a reflection on the Moderator, and an act for which the whole body should blush with shame.

A BAPTIST.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JULY 8, 1868.

Association Work.

The London *Freeman* under above caption makes some statements which show how much our brethren on the other side the Atlantic are in harmony with ourselves in the work to which we are called, and have given ourselves as a denomination. The editor says:—

Our columns for the last week or two have borne abundant and emphatic testimony to the utility of our county associations. The churches, which have banded themselves together, are not content with psalm singing and united prayer, with sermons and speeches, with letters from themselves to the Association and the circular letter from the Association to them, but address themselves with peculiar earnestness and zeal to the evangelization of the districts in which they located. And in proportion to their efficiency in extending the kingdom of the Redeemer is the interest taken in them by the churches. Baptists are rapidly becoming a "body fitly framed together, and compacted by that which every joint supplieth;" and this year's Association meetings happily prove that the denomination has one of the notes of Christ's church, for "according to the vital working in the measure of each individual part" it "promoteth the increase of the body," we trust, "for the building up of itself in love."

It is almost impossible to judge correctly of the progress of the denomination from the returns which have reached us. As yet the data are insufficient to justify any general remarks; but from the reports to hand it is evident that Baptists have reason "to thank God and take courage."

The Northern Association, with Newcastle as its ecclesiastical capital, and under the guidance of its able and spirited secretary, the Rev. W. Walters, has in ten years nearly doubled its church members, while the churches in fellowship have increased from seventeen to twenty-six. With equal success it has cultivated the Home Mission field, and this year rejoices in an income as large again as that received six years since. We notice that every association has its fund, from which it supplements the incomes of the pastors of the smaller and poorer churches, and which supplies the monetary support needed in the effort to plant new churches. Yorkshire reports an income for this purpose of £434 2s. 7d., and Lancashire is not less liberal in its response to the claims of the weak upon the strong. One of the most important features of Association work is this mutual helpfulness, which promises to weld our churches into a real and loving unity, and which has already issued, alike in London and in the country, in a considerable increase of the body."

"Several of the associations have, we see, taken into their consideration the question of the Pastors' Income Augmentation Fund. Lancashire, very properly, while sympathizing with the object, refrains from passing judgment on the scheme submitted by the Baptist Union, and refers it to its committee. "Gloucestershire and Herefordshire" approves of the formation of a fund, thinks with us the term of membership too high, and is of opinion that some of the rules should be modified. The Northern Association deprecates the formation of a new society, but at once sets about the needful work, £50 being subscribed at the meeting. Bristol somewhat curtly declares that the scheme "is not satisfactory," and refers the general subject to the association committee. All this is full of promise. Good works are of slow growth; and the proposals of the Union are so fraught with consequences that we gladly hail this reluctance to assent to them, coupled, as it is, with the resolve to consider how best we can augment the income of the pastors of our poorer churches. Better and higher work awaits the associations, and we greatly mistake the signs of the times if the Baptists are not beginning to take a position worthy of a denomination whose motto is, "Attempt great things for God; expect great things from God."

We on this continent have a somewhat different work to do. Our strength is not required or secured our freedom from a church establishment, or the deliverance of education from a dominant sect. But we have no less an important position to fill. It is supposed by some that Baptists exist simply as the defenders of the ordinance from which the name given them is derived. If this were the work for which we are combined it would not be without its value,—with us that ordinance preaches Christ and his resurrection. But this we regard as the mere shell or outward work which presents itself to the more superficial observer. The principle which is involved in the New Testament idea of a christian church is of infinitely more value than a mere ceremonial.

The spirit embodied in Baptist Churches is that of individuality and personality in a profession of religion only in Christ and his Work. Other systems may give some countenance to a personal profession of religion, and in this we heartily rejoice, but then known standards are often set up in their appeals, personal responsibility is weakened, and a confession of faith in Christ is rendered less distinct by the supposition that grace is communicated by some other means than simple faith and trust in the Lord Jesus. Whilst men are by nature the children of wrath—dead in trespasses and sins, there will be work for christians to do as individuals, as churches, and as Associations. May we have wisdom to see what is required of us, and grace to stand firm in every time of difficulty and trial.

By the last English mail we have the speeches delivered in the Imperial Parliament on the motion of Mr. Bright in favor of Repeal. The House of Commons had but a comparatively small attendance of members. 270 voted on the division, 87 for a commission of enquiry, and 183 against. The vote does not appear to have been according to the parties in the house-ministerial and opposition,—judging by the names of the members.

We have also the despatch from the Duke of Buckingham to Lord Monck in reply to the address from our House of Assembly. We copy this somewhat important document in another column.

The attention of our readers is invited to the notice in another column of the Bazaar at Truro. We regret that it did not arrive in time for our last. The railway facilities from Halifax, and from Pictou to Truro, will doubtless induce many to visit that Central town on the occasion. Halifax friends could go up by the train at 11.30 a. m., have several hours there and return in the evening, or stay till the following day for one fare. We hope to hear of many from Halifax endeavouring by this means to encourage the Truro friends in their laudable efforts.

EPISCOPAL.—The Synodical gathering of the Church of England clergy, and lay delegates, assembled at St. Luke's on Tuesday, the 30th ult.

The great divergence between the views of Episcopalians on a number of subjects in connection with that church, will probably cause some difficulty in their action. These differences have not been lessened by the deliverances of the late Pan-Anglican Council and recent decisions of their courts.

THE PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD closed its session on Thursday last; matters of the deepest interest to the body had kept the members in close attendance for 10 days.

Each Kirk session is allowed to send one minister and one lay delegate. The number of the latter in attendance, was not so large as of the former. There were present 102 ministers, and 47 lay delegates.

Reply of the British Government to the N. S. House of Assembly Address.

From the Royal Gazette.

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM TO LORD MONCK:
CANADA, No 107.

Downing Street June 4, 1868.

My Lord,—I duly received the address to the Queen from the House of Assembly of the Province of Nova Scotia, contained in your Lordship's despatch, No. 42, of the 14th of March, representing that they object to the measure of confederation by which the province has been joined with Canada and New Brunswick, and praying that, so far as regards Nova Scotia, the Act of the Imperial Parliament effecting the union may be repealed. I have also had an interview with Mr. Joseph Howe, Mr. William Annand, Mr. Troop, and Mr. Smith, being the deputation who were appointed by the Executive Council of Nova Scotia to visit this country in order to explain and support the representations offered against confederation. I have the honor to inform you that I have laid the address of the House of Assembly before the Queen, and that Her Majesty received with much satisfaction the assurances which it contains of their unabated loyalty and attachment to her person and government. The Queen regrets to learn that any dissatisfaction should have been caused among her faithful subjects in Nova Scotia by the measure of confederation adopted by the Imperial Parliament and assented to by the Crown; but Her Majesty trusts that the objections which have been expressed may admit of removal. I can assure your Lordship that the subject of the address has engaged the earnest consideration of her Majesty's confidential advisers. They are well aware that the inhabitants of Nova Scotia have always been distinguished by a sentiment, honorable alike to the colony and to this country, of attachment, to the British Crown and Government, and they are anxious to promote the contentment of a people so justly entitled to consideration. But the magnitude of the interests at stake renders it a duty not to shrink from examining fully the grounds of the complaints which have been adduced; and if it should prove that some of them are mistaken and others removable, I should indulge the hope that a different view of the subject will be ultimately taken. The leading complaints appear to be reducible to two: First, that confederation was accomplished without properly consulting the province; and, secondly, that the results may be prejudicial to some of its special interests. Now, as far as regards the second of these topics, Her Majesty's Government feel that they need only draw the attention of yourself and of your government to the points raised in the address relative to taxation, the regulation of trade and the fisheries, as they are confident that it will be equally the wish of your Government and of the Parliament of the Dominion to relax or modify any arrangements on those subjects which may prejudice the peculiar interests of Nova Scotia and of the maritime portion of the Dominion. No doubt can be entertained that the Parliament of the Dominion will be fully alive to both the justice and the expediency of consulting all the various interests of the territory over which its jurisdiction extends. With respect to the evidences of the opinion of the province, I observe that Nova Scotia was on several occasions the first of the provinces to move the project of confederation. In 1854 it was proposed in the Legislature of Nova Scotia. In 1857 it formed one of the topics entrusted to some delegates from the Government of Nova Scotia to Her Majesty's Government. The plan was moved in Canada in 1858, but, being subsequently dropped, was revived in Nova Scotia in 1861, and made the subject in 1862 of a circular address from Nova Scotia to all the other provinces. In 1864 delegates were appointed by the Government of Nova Scotia to attend the conference at Quebec that framed the scheme on which the Act of Confederation now in force is based. As soon as that scheme was unanimously adopted by the delegates from the several provinces, the Secretary of State remarked that the project should be submitted to the several Legislatures. Prince Edward Island declined, both in 1865 and 1866, and Newfoundland never adopted the proposal. But in 1866 both Houses of the Legislature in Nova Scotia, and both Houses of the Legislature in New Brunswick, passed resolutions (of which copies are annexed to this despatch) requesting the Governor to name delegates to arrange with the Imperial Government a scheme of union, whilst Canada had previously passed similar resolutions, of which also copies are annexed. Such were the proceedings which attested to the Government of this country, on the highest authority, the wish of the Legislatures in those Provinces. I am advised that the Act of Confederation was duly and lawfully passed by the Imperial Parliament. It is objected that no previous appeal was made to the people in the Provinces; but this has not been thought necessary in parallel cases. There was none, for instance, in uniting the two Canadas in 1840, although much difference of opinion existed, and in upper Canada much close conflict in the debates. An appeal to the country was proposed in the Assembly of Upper Canada at that time, and rejected by a large majority. The same proposal was made in the late debates on confederation in Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, but in all of them was thrown out by a large majority.

Again, it has been objected that the union was not made subject to legislative ratification by the several Legislatures. But no such course has been followed in the numerous modifications of colonial Constitutions, and in the separations and unions of colonies, which have been effected by Imperial legislation. It does so happen, however, that after the present measure had been introduced into the Imperial Parliament and its terms made public, it was cordially approved of by both Houses of the Legislature in Nova Scotia in their address to the Governor at the opening of the Session in 1867. And the same took place in New Brunswick, where the Session opened after the Imperial measure had become law.—Copies of the passages to which I refer are annexed. The Provincial Governments and Legislatures in the present case, after the terms had been substantially settled, with the knowledge and approval of all, looked to the Imperial Parliament to accomplish their union. This has been done exactly in the manner requested; the neighbouring province of New Brunswick has entered into the union, in reliance on having with it the sister province of Nova Scotia, and vast obligations, political and commercial, have been already contracted on the faith of a measure so long discussed and so solemnly adopted.

I should do injustice to the character which Nova Scotia has always conspicuously borne as a faithful member of the general British community, if I did not add as a consideration sure to have weight with it that the measure is believed by Her Majesty's Government to be not merely conducive to the strength and welfare of the Provinces, but also important to the interests of the whole Empire. I have already said that any practical regard which may be due to the special position and interests of the province will, Her Majesty's Government are confident, be cheerfully given by the Parliament of the Dominion; but, after the foregoing explanations, I trust that the Assembly and the people of Nova Scotia will not be surprised that the Queen's Government feel that they would not be warranted in advising the reversal of a great measure of State, attended by so many extensive consequences already in operation, and adopted with the previous sanction of every one of the Legislatures concerned, and with the subsequent approval of the Legislatures of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

"I have, &c.,

BUCKINGHAM AND CHANDOS,
Governor the Right Hon. Viscount Monck,
&c. &c.

Notices, &c.

Received for Foreign Mission.

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| 1868. | April 8. | Nictaux Church..... | \$2.05 |
| | 18. | Working Society of Wolfville Bap. Sab. School, to support Native Preachers..... | 50.00 |
| | May 5. | Rev. G. F. Miles, do..... | 25.00 |
| | 26. | A Friend in Anherst..... | 1.00 |
| | June 2. | Miss R. Downing, New Annan..... | 2.50 |
| | 20. | Granville St. Sab. School, for n. p. 51.32 | |
| | 23. | Pine Grove Church, do..... | 35.00 |
| | | Rawdon Church..... | 4.00 |
| | | Miss Elizabeth Jane Carter..... | 4.124 |
| | | Western Association..... | 318.17* |
| * Of this amount \$50 are from Lower Granville Church, to support a n. p. (with Brigetown Church), and \$40.83 from 1st Yarmouth Church, for do. | | | |
| | | To support Miss De Wolfe. | |
| | June 22. | Pine Grove Church (including \$20 subscribed at Convention by Miss Isabella Dodge)..... | 55.00 |
| | | 1st Yarmouth Church..... | 6.00 |
| | | Lower Aylsford and Upper Wil- mot Church..... | 29.64 |
| | | Kempt Church..... | 1.00 |
| | | Lower Granville Church..... | 10.00 |
| | | Received on subscription at Con- vention..... | 1.00 |
| | | A Friend, per P. R. Foster..... | 1.00 |
| | | A Friend..... | 1.00 |
| | | Mr. Peter Starratt..... | 1.00 |

French Mission Board.

The new Board met and organized, by appointing Rev. J. H. Sanders, President; B. B. Moses, Secretary, and William Churchill, Treasurer for Mission fund, and W. R. Doty, Treasurer for Mission premises.

It was voted, That Rev. Charles Randall, Bro. Charlton Saban and Wm. Lent be a Committee to secure from the Legislature an Act of incorporation of this Board.

On motion of Rev. C. Randall, seconded by Samuel Brown, Rev. M. Normondy was appointed to meet with the Eastern Nova Scotia and Eastern New Brunswick Associations to present the claims of the Mission.

Voted, That the Minutes of this meeting be published in the *Christian Messenger*.

On motion, adjourned to the call of the President.

Prayer by Rev. M. Normondy.

B. B. MOSES, Secretary.

Freeport, June 23rd, 1868.

NOTICE.—All letters and papers sent to the undersigned, please direct to Mr. Brine's Post Office, East side of Margaret's Bay

THOMAS C. DELONG.

THE FOREIGN MISSIONARY BOARD will meet (D. V.) in Tremont, Aylesford, on the last Tuesday in July, (28th) at 2 P. M. A full attendance is requested.

C. TUPPER, Secretary.
N. B.—As a remittance must be made immediately after this meeting, donors, and all persons having monies in charge for our Foreign Mission, will please forward them by that time, with definite statements.

C. T.

Rev. R. E. Philip will preach (D. V.) at North West Lunenburg Co., on Sabbath morning, 12th July.

ERRATUM.—In the article "Our Foreign Mission," C. M., June 24, 1st par., for "American Board" read, Board, without American.

The New Brunswick Eastern Association will meet with the 2nd Sackville Church, commencing on Thursday the 9th of July.