

in our breasts, a fire like that which always burnt in David Brainerd, in answer to his faith's constant cry, "Oh that I might be a flaming fire in the service of my God!"

(To be continued.)

For the Christian Messenger.

BOSTON CORRESPONDENCE.

With a promptness and regularity that have been truly surprising, the Christian Messenger has made to me its weekly visits for more than a decade of years; and as I have welcomed each successive number and read its excellent variety of general information and religious instruction, the thought has often come to my mind "How can a Baptist in the Provinces—to say nothing of other places—afford to dispense with the regular visits of so genial and communicative a friend."

Any one of the interesting letters of the Hon. Dr. McN. Parker are worth a full year's subscription, while the current news, discussion of moral and religious questions, information in regard to the progress of evangelical truth at home and abroad, comprised in the fifty-two numbers of each year, furnish a Library of the most useful and instructive reading for individuals and families, that cannot be obtained from any other source, and of a value that can hardly be computed in dollars and cents.

DENOMINATIONAL MATTERS.

The annual gathering of our two great Societies, Foreign and Home Missions, and also that of the "Bible and Publication Society," brought together a good number of active, earnest christian men, and the reports of the past year's progress were in every way encouraging. While there has not been any organic union between the Baptists of the North and South, they have met socially, and I believe that on the whole a kinder feeling now exists between the members of this vast family, than has been the case at any time previous during the past twenty years.

NEWTON THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION.

The fifty-seventh anniversary of this Institution was held on the 12th day of June. There was a very large attendance and the exercises in every way were most satisfactory. Sixteen young brethren formed the graduating class, and are now ready to enter upon their chosen life work. The Provinces were nobly represented and it is only voicing the generally expressed opinion to say that the four graduates from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island stood in the very front rank of this band of christian disciples and give promise of occupying positions of importance and wide influence in the future.

SABBATH SCHOOL WORK.

is prospering all over our country as never before. The uniform series of lessons have been almost universally adopted, and with the best results. Those who have given attention to the subject are convinced that the Bible is now more thoroughly studied and better understood than ever before. The conversions in our Sabbath Schools, have been most encouraging, and call for praise and thanksgiving, and for a more complete consecration to this great work.

OUR TRIENNIAL NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

held the last of April, in Indianapolis, Indiana, was a true representative

gathering, bringing together earnest and able workers, both ministers and laymen, of all denominations, and from all parts of our country.

The harmony and christian spirit manifested through the sessions of three days and evenings were delightful to witness, while the practical common sense views presented, in regard to the work to be done and how to do it, was precisely those which Sabbath School Superintendents and Teachers—Pastors and Families,—everywhere desire most to know.

"IN CHRIST."

Have you read the work recently issued by Gould and Lincoln in this city, with the above title? The author is Rev. A. J. Gordon, Pastor of Clarendon Street Church. The book has attracted unusual notice from all denominations and from the secular press. Its subject is so important, its style so simple, clear and comprehensive, its adherence to the scriptures so marked, and it is pervaded by such an earnest devotional spirit, that every christian disciple will find it just the companion he needs to aid in the work of complete consecration to the service of Him who said "abide in me and I in you," adding "for without me ye can do nothing."

It may seem strange that a letter can be written at this time from this City without some attempt to describe the "World's Peace Jubilee," but as you had a correspondent present, I gladly leave to him a task so pleasant, and yet which is above and beyond any descriptive powers of mine adequately to portray to those who were absent.

I note with interest your discussions of Home Missions and Educational matters. It is one of the mysteries of the present age to me, why the Baptists of the Provinces do not at once endow Acadia College—some by giving there "mites" and others their thousands and tens of thousands—so that this Institution should rank first in the Dominion, and not second to any other on this Continent. What an interest—pride if you please—every Baptist should feel in a united effort to secure a fund of five hundred thousand dollars—for it should be that amount, and nothing less would be worthy of a church membership of over twenty-eight thousand! Agitate! agitate! "cry aloud and spare not" until parsimonious professors wake up and invest a portion of their capital where it will bring the richest returns, and live and act, and represent them long after they, and generations after them, shall have passed away!

Very truly yours, N. P. KEMP.

Boston, July 1872.

For the Christian Messenger.

DEAR MESSENGER,—

Your valuable columns are read with growing interest. In the course of my travels I meet with Nova Scotians and I am happy to state that they enjoy the esteem of the natives of America—where they settle. A few weeks since being on a visit into a beautiful region in Wisconsin after preaching I was introduced to a family from your Province, one had been baptised by Father Chipman, and spoke in terms of endearment of the good man. A young man spoke in terms of appreciation of his Alma Mater—the noble Acadia. The young men that Institution has sent out are a credit to it, I hear of them again and again. There is one in Illinois—two in Maine—and a young man from Nova Scotia—a recent graduate of Chicago Theological Seminary is occupying an important position as pastor of the Baptist Church at LaCrosse, Wisconsin. Others I might mention, so you see your portion of the world is helping to benefit other portions by sending out agencies of no mean order. Have attended some meetings of Associations and have been pleased with their spirit and earnestness, many of the churches of Wisconsin have enjoyed unusual prosperity. May that State be soon permeated by Bible truth. Not a few Baptists in the States watch with growing interest, the Baptist cause in your noble Nova Scotia. May God bless the honored brethren and greatly prosper them is the prayer of Yours truly, WANDERER.

July 4, 1872.

For the Christian Messenger.

Dear Brother,—

I learn by report that the formation of the "Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Union" is yet in abeyance—the Central and Eastern Associations not, at present, endorsing the proceedings at Berwick.

It is well perhaps to have it so, until from mature consideration a permanent union shall be established. The importance of the work contemplated demands this and should forbid any premature judgment or hasty decision.

So far as the avowed object of this Union is concerned, there can be but one opinion. But there are certainly questions of some magnitude involved.

Why there should be a new organisation for the purpose of Union, is, by many warm friends of Home Missions, not easily perceived. We have in Nova Scotia proper a "Baptist Home Missionary Society," a "Home Missionary Board of the Western Baptist Association" and also a "French Missionary Board," or Society, all corporate bodies. In view of these facts the question arises, why form a new body? Is it said that the work of these separate organizations can better be performed by one body? Granted. Why not then unite the Western Boards with the "Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society" and thereby preserve one, at least, of the already corporate bodies? Cannot every contemplated object of the proposed Union be accomplished thereby? It will be remembered that provision is made in the constitution for alterations or amendments if necessary.

While there cannot be any reasonable objection to the brethren chosen as the Board of the "Union"—there is nevertheless strong objection to its locality, and it is presumed that this objection is not becoming less. The high esteem in which the Baptists of Yarmouth are held by the denomination generally, for their christian zeal, liberality and devotedness, may account, as was in part stated by a brother at the Association in Berwick, for the casting vote in locating the Board. But surely the brethren of Yarmouth would rejoice in its location at any other place where in the opinion of their brethren the general interests of the Society required.

Again, the propriety of selecting the members of the Board entirely in the vicinity of the location admits of some doubt. That a decided majority of the number should be thus chosen is reasonable—say of thirteen let nine reside within a convenient distance for frequent consultation, and the remaining four be so chosen that all the Baptist Associations of the Province shall be represented at the Board.

In looking over the Home Missionary field the writer would, with deference to the opinion of others, suggest Truro as a more suitable place for the location of the Board. There are reasons for this suggestion arising out of the work contemplated. English, French and Gaelic, by their need of the Gospel, send up the "Macedonian cry," and if the French are more numerous in the west, the English and Gaelic are far more numerous and needy in the east.

That this matter may receive all that calm, prayerful consideration its importance demands, is the desire of A LIFE MEMBER OF THE B. H. M. S.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., July 17, 1872.

N. S. EASTERN ASSOCIATION.

The discussion of Home Missionary matters occupied a larger than usual portion of the time of the Association. Several resolutions were before the body in the form of motions and amendments during the discussion. On Saturday, on the reception of the report of the delegate sent last year to the Western Association, exception was taken by Rev. G. F. Miles and others to the removal of the Board to Yarmouth, considering that the H. M. Convention at Berwick was not a fair representation of the denomination throughout the province. The question was then laid on the table. On Monday afternoon it was resumed by a motion from the Hon. Judge McCully;

That in the opinion of the Association the subject of the proposed H. M. Union had not been sufficiently under consideration to justify its immediate organization,

Therefore Resolved, That each of the churches be requested to express its opinion in its next year's letter on the desirability of such union.

Addresses of more or less length were given by Judge McCully, Revs. Dr. Cramp, H. Eagles, D. W. C. Dimock, D. A. Steele, G. F. Miles, D. McKeen and others. The discussion was adjourned from the afternoon with the hope that in the interval a resolution might be prepared which should be unanimously adopted. In the evening session the following was presented by Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, and adopted:

Whereas, This Association is convinced of the desirability of the union in christian effort of the entire Baptist body in this province, especially in concentrated effort in our Home Mission operations, and has taken measures to bring this subject of the desirability of such union before the Western Association, and whereas that body responded, in general, to that view,

Therefore Resolved, That while this Association accept the principle most cordially, and meet with mutual and fraternal feelings such wish on the part of the Western Association, yet this Association desires to have sufficient time, both to enable it intelligently and formally to enter the newly formed organization, as well as to enable the present incorporated bodies to successfully arrange for the adjustment of the legal disabilities to a present full consolidation of the bodies whose union is anticipated.

The Association then suspended its sitting to allow the Missionary Society to hold its Annual meeting.

THE N. S. BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY was then organized by the President, S. Selden, taking the chair, and Rev. D. W. C. Dimock offering prayer.

The Annual Report was read by the Secretary, R. N. Beckwith, which showed that there had been a growing increase in the work of the Society for the past six years. The confidence of the churches had been manifested by enlarged contributions, and in many places there had been evidence given of Divine approval of the labors of the missionaries. The usual action with respect to the report was taken, and subsequently the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the officers and Board of the past year be re-appointed, substituting the name of B. H. Eaton for that of T. H. Rand, and that the Board be instructed to confer with the Board of the Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Union with a view to such an arrangement of measures as may lead to the consolidation of our Home Missionary efforts in one institution, on just principles and in a safe and satisfactory manner.

Whilst there was much earnest debate and great anxiety to adopt such measures as would best promote the work of carrying the Gospel into "the regions beyond," he session was one of great harmony and kind feeling.

The next year's session is to be held with the Pugwash Church.

By the last mail from England we were informed of the death of James Johnston Parker, eldest son of Hon. Dr. Parker, in the 20th year of his age. The friends of the family will deeply sympathize with them in this sad affliction. The Dr.'s removal hence to Edinburgh, for a time, was largely on account of his son, that he might enjoy the comforts of home whilst pursuing his medical studies. He had received the highest educational advantages to be obtained in this province, and had just been admitted to the University of Edinburgh after the required preliminary studies and passing a successful examination; and the brightest hopes presented themselves of his securing the highest advantages in the profession he had chosen, when hemorrhage of the lungs occurred and soon developed into rapid consumption.

A stop was thus put to all his preparations for a life of usefulness; and the prospect of an early exchange of worlds called for his attention and preparation. In this respect too our young friend had in his father and Mrs. Parker the best and wisest of counsellors. Messages had been sent to the church of which Dr. Parker is a valued member, from his son, and concerning his son's state of mind during his sickness. Being assured that other friends in the exercise of their sympathies would wish to learn some particulars of his last hours, we ventured to request, and have been permitted, to copy a few lines from a letter written by Dr. P. to the pastor of the church during his son's last moments. These will shew how he received the call from this world of sorrow and death to the glories of the heavenly state. After referring to a letter sent by the previous mail he says:—

"Since then our dear boy has been steadily and gradually weakening. And now we expect each day to be his last,

Great debility and an impaired voice prevent him from speaking more than two or three words at a time. He wanders occasionally, but when himself, he speaks of heaven as his future home with great assurance. I do not think a doubt, in reference to his soul's salvation, now crosses his mind. While exempt from pain, he has suffered much from thirst and other uncomfortable symptoms, but he has endured it all with a patience and silence, not his own, God has given him the spiritual strength to bear it all without a single murmur. A day or two ago while his mother was cooling his parched mouth with iced water—looking up heavenward, he said to her, "There will be no thirst there." I told him a few minutes since that I was writing to you and Frank, and asked him if he had any message for you. He could not speak, but faintly whispered, "Tell them that the end is very near, and that I shall be rejoiced when all is over." And this is the last message he will ever send you. It is more than probable that ere I mail this short letter, he will be in heaven.

I had just written the above sentence at his bed-side, when on looking from my paper into the dear child's face, I noticed a marked change. He was making an ineffectual effort to cough, blood gushed from his mouth, and in a very short time his soul took its flight to a happier land—his heavenly home.

We are left to mourn, but, thank God, not as those without hope. The children were at school when death appeared in his countenance, but they were all able to reach the house and impress the last kiss on his dear brow, and to give utterance amid tears and sorrow to the last earthly farewell, ere he became unconscious and ceased to breathe.

Throughout his brief life I have prayed that the Lord would make him a christian, and a labourer in His vineyard. The first portion of my daily prayer has been answered, but in wisdom and in love our kind Father did not see fit to grant the other part of my petition, for ere he had commenced the christian's work he caused him to cease from his labour.

My dear boy's love for the Bible continued to the end. He had never read the Pilgrim's Progress, and about three weeks since I commenced to read aloud to him and he was delighted beyond measure with it, and often would say when I asked him how he liked it, "It is glorious—it is splendid." My daily question to him was—what shall I read to you—latterly he would reply "the Bible first and then the Pilgrim," and now like Christian, he too has crossed the river."

NOVA SCOTIA BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY UNION.

The formation of this society was reported in the Christian Messenger of the 26th ult. It took place at Berwick, June 21.

The following is a list of the Officers, &c.:

President—Rev. J. M. Cramp, D. D.

Vice-Presidents—Rev. George Armstrong, A. M.; Rev. D. M. Welton, A. M.; Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, A. M.

DIRECTORS—For the Western Association, Revs. W. H. Richan, W. G. Parker, G. D. Cox, J. C. Morse, J. M. Parker, J. Williams; and brethren S. L. Chipman and W. Miller.

For the Central Association—Revs. S. W. DeBlois, A. M., D. Freeman, A. M., E. M. Saunders, A. M., S. B. Kempton, A. M., James Parkon, E. O. Read, A. W. Sawyer, D. D.; and brother J. W. Barss.

For the Eastern Association—Revs. D. A. Steele, A. M., O. Chute, A. M., A. Chipman, A. M., J. Neilly, G. F. Miles, D. McKeen; and Brethren C. Jost and W. Faulkner.

BOARD OF MANAGERS—(located this year at Yarmouth) Revs. G. E. Day, M. D., Isa. Wallace, A. M., W. H. Porter, A. M., J. Rowe, J. H. Saunders, P. R. Foster, W. L. Parker, J. A. Stubbart; and brethren Samuel Brown, J. H. Haley, A. C. Robbins, P. D. Kenny, W. R. Doty.

Members:—The pastors of Baptist Churches, in this Province, and delegates appointed by the Churches, not exceeding three from any church.

Secretaries—Revs. S. March and M. P. Freeman, A. B.

Auditor—R. N. Beckwith.

Notices, &c.

WESTERN HOME MISSIONARY BOARD.

There will (D. V.) be a meeting of the Western Baptist Home Missionary Board, at the Baptist Meeting-house in Bridgetown, on Tuesday, 23rd July, at 2 o'clock, P. M. A full attendance is requested.

M. P. FREEMAN, Sec'y.

Nictaux, June 27th.

All persons who intend being present at the Convention, to be held at St. Stephen, N. B., on the 24th August, are requested to send their names immediately to the Secretary of Committee, and state whether they will be accompanied by ladies, in order that arrangements may be made for their accommodation.

W. VAUGHAN,

Sec. of Committee.

St. Stephen, N. B., 1st July, 1872.