

as much, and they should not be deprived of their corporate existence and the management of their own funds. He for one was beginning to get immensely tired of this everlasting fighting, and thought the time had come when these churches should be told to manage their own affairs. He did not wish to speak offensively, but he would say that if they could not manage their own affairs without the interference of this house they had better split into two or more bodies. Anyway the members of this house were not the people to settle their differences, as they did not know enough about them. As the matter now stood one Board was protesting most earnestly against this house repealing its act of incorporation. He (Mr. B.) did not deny that Judge McCully had explained some of these matters to him, but no man had changed his opinion that this was no place for churches that quarrelled among themselves to settle their differences. The Presbyterians did not come here to ask these heretics of Episcopalians and others to settle their difficulties. He had been instructed to say they were willing to let it go, provided they were not struck out of the category of existing corporations without their consent.

Mr. Landers said he handed in the petitions against the passage of that bill, and it had been laid on the table. He thought with the hon. leader of the Opposition, that Episcopalians and Baptists should keep their differences out of this house.

Mr. Freeman agreed with the leader of the Opposition that church quarrels should be kept out of this house but begged to inform him that there was no quarrel but perfect agreement in this matter. In support of this assertion he could refer to the annual report of the three associations in reference to the measure. He had been astonished when he examined the bill and compared it with the resolution he had under his hand in the annual report of the Home Missionary Society. The petition stated that this Society represented one hundred churches, and it gave an important resolution passed by the Society, namely:—“Resolved, That the officers of the Board of last year be re-appointed, substituting the name of B. H. Eaton for that of T. H. Rand,” &c. The petitioners in stating this resolution, had left out certain very important and material words. The resolution as passed was, “That the officers and Board of Managers be re-appointed, &c. This Board of Managers consisted of twenty-four persons. The constitution, of which he would read a little, provided that the officers of this society shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and auditor, who shall be annually appointed by the society from among its members;” also, that “the Society shall annually appoint a board of management, consisting of 24 members, members of Baptist Churches, some of whom shall reside in the place designated from year to year, as the location of the Board or in its neighborhood, and five shall constitute a quorum.” The constitution also defined the duties of this Board of which the officers were *ex officio* members, such as meeting, appointing missionaries, collecting and expending funds, and furnishing an annual report of their proceedings. Now the petitioners say, “the undersigned petitioners being the Board referred to” in this resolution, “have not seen their way clear to take action” in this matter. This Board of Management was to have conferred with the Board of the Union, and these three gentlemen had made a mistake as they were not this Board, which consisted of 24 members, besides the 6 officers. The petition also referred to the “so-called Convention.” The fact was that the churches had resolved to hold a Convention at Berwick in reference to the subject of a Missionary Union. No doubt all the churches appointed delegates, but as only those attended who found it convenient to do so only sixteen delegates were present. They had met and organized just as Baptist Conventions always did. They had disagreed on the form of constitution for the proposed union, and appointed a committee who went out and next day reported a series of resolutions, which were passed unanimously forming a basis for the constitution of this Union. Two of the petitioners had helped to form that constitution. He (Mr. F.) had introduced the bill, being a member of the denomination, and he did not see why persons should object to this bill passing. To accept the amendments suggested would split the bill altogether. The denomination had been looking for this union of Missionary enterprise for years. He would read a letter he had received from a gentleman, a member of this Board, but who had never been consulted with reference to this petition. [The letter stated that the writer had examined the bill, and the petition against it, that he regarded the petition as “frivolous and vexatious,” that he considered that the bill could not possibly do any harm to the (Home Missionary) Society, as it provided means for amalgamation, but the amalgamation was not compulsory; that the deferring of the bill or changing it to suit the petitioners would cause a year’s delay; and that modifying the bill so that it should not interfere with the Society,” conditionally or provisionally would cause that the union should not have power to provide for the proposed amalgamation, and therefore it could not take place; that he thought the fairest way would be to pass the bill, and then the way would be clear for union if the parties chose, but if they unwilling, the bill so far would be a dead letter.] He (Mr. F.) concluded by saying that they did not come here asking the house to settle their

difficulties, but to ask, as they had a right to do, to be incorporated. Mr. Gayton said that, as the petition for the bill had come from residents of the county he represented, perhaps he should say something about it. He had seen the bill before it was presented, and as he understood it, he considered it to be of a permissive nature. It seemed that there were three Home Missionary Societies in the provinces, all under charters. This bill contemplated bringing into existence a Baptist Home Missionary Union, giving the other societies a right to amalgamate with it whenever they saw fit. If they did not choose to amalgamate it left them as they were. He agreed with the hon. leader of the opposition about religious denominations coming to this house to settle their difficulties, but he would state that the Baptists made their own regulations about church matters, and these parties were simply coming here to ask for an act of incorporation, with the provision that other societies might unite with them. Mr. Rennie said that as he represented a number of Baptists he did not wish to give a silent vote. He could not see his way clear to support this bill until the matter was unanimously settled amongst the denomination, or at least until the three associations asked for it by a majority vote. A controversy had sprung up in reference to the matter in the “Messenger” immediately after the convention held at Berwick and most decided objections had been taken particularly in the Eastern Conference. Mr. Freeman said it was evidently necessary for him to read the reports of the Associations showing that this decision to unite had passed unanimously. At the Western Association, held at Brooklyn on the 17th June, 1872, after some discussion, the following preamble and resolution was adopted unanimously:—“Whereas, The consolidation of our Home Missionary organizations, both French and English, would in our estimation tend to the more rapid advancement of the Redeemer’s kingdom in this Province. “Therefore Resolved, That if the delegates from the Churches to the Provincial Convention to be held at Berwick should agree on terms by which these organizations can be united we agree to acquiesce in the arrangement.”

The French Mission Board reported to the same Association the following resolution as having passed unanimously:—“Resolved, That in the opinion of this Board the consolidation of our Home Missionary organizations, both English and French, would be more conducive to the advancement of the Redeemer’s reign in the Province.” At the Central Association, bro. Selden, one of the petitioners, moved the following resolution, which passed unanimously:—“Resolved, That in the judgment of this Association, the consolidation of Home Missionary operations of this Province in one Institution, is very desirable, and this Association will co-operate in such movement when the organization shall be perfected to the satisfaction of the Eastern Association, and of the members of the Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society.”

The Report of the Committee of that Association on Missions contained the following paragraph:—“Your committee look with interest and hope upon the recent formation of the N. S. Baptist Home Missionary Union, and trust that this movement will meet the hearty approval of this Association, as it has already of the Western. They are sanguine in their belief that the “new departure” in our Home Mission work will be owned of God in the more destitute portions of this favored Province.”

The resolution of the N. S. Home Missionary Society to which the petition referred, and which passed unanimously, was as follows:—

“Resolved, That the officers, and Board of Managers of the last year be re-appointed, substituting the name of B. H. Eaton for T. H. Rand, removed from the Province, and that the Board be instructed to enter into arrangements with a view to such an arrangement of means as may lead to the consolidation of our Home Missionary efforts in our Institution on just principles and in a safe and satisfactory manner.”

A resolution was also adopted by the society providing that a special meeting of the society might be called by the Board upon the requisition of 15 members, stating the reasons for calling the meeting, one month’s public notice to be given.

At the Eastern Association Judge McCully and brother Selden were invited to take seats, and they would not have allowed the following resolution to pass unanimously as it did, if they had objected to it. “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 Missionary operations and has taken measures to bring this subject of the desirability of such union before the Western Association, and whereas the 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 the Association desires to have sufficient time, both to enable it to diligently 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 Report of the Delegate from the Eastern to the Western Association, and also the Report of the Eastern Association Committee on Missions, both spoke favorably of the proposed union.

The Board of Managers of the Home Missionary Society in their annual report made in 1872, also says that “the movement to have the whole province united in one missionary field, under the care of one Board is in the opinion of the Board a subject of great importance, and should engage the earnest attention of the Association.

It would be premature,” they say, “for this Board to give its views in detail on this important undertaking, but in general it may be said that the movement is regarded favorably by most, if not all the members of our body.”

Now, there was evidently no doubt that all those brethren felt satisfied that this amalgamation should take place. Then where was the difficulty? At the convention held at Berwick three locations for the Board of the Union were put, and the selection fell upon Yarmouth. This he thought was the only trouble in the whole matter.

Mr. Rennie said that the Eastern Association had asked for time before joining the union. When they came unanimously into the scheme, he would be willing to vote for the bill.

Mr. Freeman said the bill was permissive, and the other societies need not come in unless they agreed to do so by a two-thirds vote.

Mr. Landers believed from the petition that there was an objection to the bill, and he did not think the bill would tend to the union of the Baptist denomination until all were agreed to it.

Mr. Ryerson said he could not agree with the hon. member for Annapolis. The promoters of the bill wanted to have it pass now, so that they would be able to get their measures all ready when the Associations met next year. If the other societies decided then not to join there would be no harm done. There were only three names to the petition against the bill, and he thought it was due from the house to incorporate the body.

Mr. Blanchard said there was no way of making people fight like uniting them. He felt that this bill would sow the seeds of discord for the next twenty five years.

It must be remembered that every Baptist Church was independent of every other. They were not like the Presbyterian, Catholic, Methodist, and English Churches. He agreed that no church could carry on missionary operations effectually without union, but he thought that a union that existed only on paper, if a law were passed to make such, would cause discord. He thought that if this bill were allowed to drop now, a year’s delay would be of no great consequence, and he would assist them in carrying the bill. If the bill were carried now they would never have a Home Missionary Union.

Mr. Landers agreed with the hon. leader of the Opposition. All knew how great a fire a little matter kindled.

Mr. Kirk did not see how he could vote for the measure unless the churches were unanimous in asking for it. The Eastern Association had advocated delay, and he thought, wisely, and when he found a whole association cautioning delay he did not feel that they were asking what was unreasonable. He did not see, indeed, why they could not unite without an Act as well as with one. However, let them ask for an Act when they have perfected their whole plan of union.

Mr. Woodworth agreed with the hon. member for Guysboro’. He had perused the petition and bill, and the counter petition, and he thought that members were called upon as such, either to appoint a committee to investigate the whole matter, or else leave it alone.

Hon. Prov. Secretary suggested that members were discussing the principles of the bill, which should have been done upon the second reading.

Mr. Blanchard said it had been allowed to pass a second reading with the understanding that a full discussion upon it should take place in committee. Baptists of the highest position had been beseeching him not to allow this bill to pass if he could help it. He would therefore move that the further consideration of the bill be deferred to this day three months.

Mr. Freeman thought the hon. leader of the Opposition was not quite correct as to the understanding on the second reading. There had been ample time for petitions against the bill since it was introduced, but none had been presented except this one signed by three persons in the City of Halifax.

Mr. Landers said that he had received a letter from clergymen that was rather against the bill.

Mr. Woodworth moved in amendment to the motion to defer for three months that the bill go before a Special Committee, who should hear both sides and report.

Mr. Ryerson said that there would be no chance of the bill passing if it went to a committee at this stage as the people interested in its passage resided at some distance.

Mr. Blanchard said his real feeling was a desire to avoid discord in the Baptist body. He was afraid that instead of reconciliation, discord would result from speeches that would be made by the advocates for and against the bill. He would suggest that a conference be held before attempting to pass the bill.

Mr. Freeman said he threw the responsibility on the house.

The amendment not having been seconded, the motion to defer was put and passed 12 voting for, and 8 against it. The committee then adjourned.

Mr. Freeman gave notice of a motion to rescind. The house adjourned to 2.30 p. m. tomorrow.

H. M. S. “Challenger,” now on a cruise round the world, for scientific discovery, arrived here on Friday last, from Bermuda. Much interest is attached to the results of her soundings and dredging of the deep sea. She is on a three years’ voyage for this sole purpose.

For the Christian Messenger.

IN MEMORIAM.

MR. NATHANIEL PARKER WELTON, of Tremont, Aylesford, obtained hope in Christ, and was buried with Him in baptism, above 40 years ago. It may be said, without the fear of contradiction, to the praise of Divine grace, that he was invariably a serene, prudent, and justly esteemed member of a Baptist Church to the close of his life. Those most intimately acquainted with him testify, that he was remarkably cautious never to utter anything injurious to others, or injudicious. He was not only a kind and affectionate husband and father, but absolutely pacific, both in the church and in the world. Family prayer was constantly maintained by him. In this, as in other respects, his pious example is well worthy of imitation. Persons destitute of experimental and vital piety in some instances allege, that those who profess it are deficient in honesty; but it is not known that any one ever asserted this with regard to brother Welton. He was ready to every good work. One of the last he performed—while much indisposed—was that of laying, as a mason, a good foundation for the New Baptist Meeting house in Tremont. To him, as to many of the Lord’s dear children, it was allotted to suffer much from sickness in his own person, and in his family. His last illness was protracted and distressing. All these afflictions, however, were borne with quiet submission, and frequent acknowledgement that all was right: On the 28th day of April our dear brother’s sufferings were terminated, at the age of 61 years. He has left an affectionate and sorrowing widow, and eleven children. At the time of his interment a consolatory discourse was delivered by the writer (assisted by Rev. H. Boal) from Luke vii. 13. “And when the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her, and said, Weep not.” —Com. by Rev. C. Tupper. Aylesford, May 2, 1873.

A DAUGHTER’S TRIBUTE.

TO THE MEMORY OF THE REV. THOS. BLEAKNEY, OF WOODSTOCK, N. B., ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH. One year the sods have lain Above my father’s head, One year his soul has been with God, His body with the dead.

One year since he, in peace, Laid earthly armor down, And at the summons from his King Went to receive his crown.

One year this midnight hour Since the death-angel came, Laid on my father’s brow his hand, And gently spoke his name.

“Servant, thy work is done, No more on earth thou’st roam, Thy master has commanded me To bring thee quickly home.

“But for the sorrowing ones Who’ll weep and mourn for thee, This comfort I am told to bring Thy passage smooth shall be.

“Gently thou shalt depart And reach the heavenly port, Thy Master’s rod and staff shall be Thy comfort and support.

“No waves shall thee assail, No stormy winds arise, But borne by angels bright, thou shalt Be carried to the skies.”

One year since he with joy The summons did obey, Quitted this dark and sin-stained earth For realms of endless day.

One year since thro’ his church The sorrowing tidings spread, “Your pastor’s sufferings now are o’er, His weary spirit fled.”

One year since to us all The solemn words were spoken: “The silver cord of life is loosed, The golden bowl is broken.

“Thy loved one’s spirit’s gone Up to the Throne of God; Dare not to murmur at the blow It is the Father’s rod.

“And tho’ your bleeding hearts Are now by anguish riven, This heavy blow was sent in love, For your own good ’twas given.”

But though one year has fled Since we were thus bereft, The mention of that cheris’d name Opens the wound afresh.

And tho’ we know that now He kneels at Jesus’ feet, And joining in the Heavenly choir Doth songs of praise repeat,

’Tis hard to be resigned, And while the awful blow Still leaves its crushing weight, to say: “God wisely willed it so.”

Saviour, we ask thine aid; Oh, help thou us to bear The deep affliction Thou hast sent; In meekness, not despair.

Help us to live by faith, And when this life is o’er May we with Thee, our Father, meet On Canaan’s happy shore.

Dominion & Foreign News.

HALIFAX, N. S., MAY 14, 1873.

A fire at the Tanneries, between Montreal and Lachine, last week, destroyed the greater portion of the village. About 100 families are houseless.

On Friday in the House of Commons at Ottawa, Mr. Killam, of Yarmouth, asked if any steps had been taken to counteract the evil effects of Mr. Pimmsoll’s Bill, got up by the English Lloyds to injure a rival institution, the Bureau Veritas, in which most Canadian ships were classed. The great objection to Mr. Pimmsoll’s Bill was its discriminating against wooden ships. He hoped steps would be taken to prevent the bill becoming law.

Hon. Mr. Mitchell said he had observed the course public opinion was taking in England with regard to losses of life occurring from unseaworthy vessels. Before the discussion of Mr. Pimmsoll’s Bill he feared some legislation might be adopted operating unfavorably to Canadian shipping. The Government had sent a cable despatch respecting Canadian views. He did not believe Pimmsoll’s Bill could become law; if it did Canadian shipping interests must suffer. Meanwhile he proposed introducing a bill establishing a Canadian Lloyds, and Her Majesty’s Government would be asked to give Canadian Lloyds the same privileges with regard to registration as English Lloyds enjoyed.

Dr. Tupper’s bill for the inspection of Gas Meters passed a third reading. In Committee on Banking and Commerce, Messrs. Tobin and Savary’s bills respecting interest were discussed, and a compromise made between the two. It was decided that the rate of interest should not exceed 7 per cent on real estate, and 10 per cent on other securities.

On Thursday Mr. Mackenzie brought up a question of a letter written by Inspector Griffin to the Postmaster, preventing him from taking part in the late elections. Mr. Mackenzie thought the Postmaster should be left to exercise his own opinion, and moved a resolution to that effect.

Dr. Tupper replied, defending the management of the Post Office Department. Numerous applications had been made to discharge officials for opposing the Government, but none were removed for that cause. He moved as an amendment that the House proceed to the order of the day. Dr. Tupper’s amendment was carried by a vote of 103 to 70.

In discussing the indemnity of members for their services in parliament. Mr. Domville moved the following amendment:—“Inasmuch as it is of vital importance that the independence of Parliament should be maintained,

Resolved, that no money be paid members of the House beyond an amount necessary to defray travelling expenses.”

The amendment was seconded by Donald A. Smith.

The Pacific Railway Committee have adjourned until the 2nd of July, when it will meet at Montreal.

The House in Committee on Hon. Mr. Mitchell’s bill respecting Pilotage, Mr. M. said he had consulted with numerous delegations interested in Pilotage, and had given much time to the consideration of the question; while personally in favor of free competition, he found the bill in its present form was the only arrangement possible to effect a compromise between the two interests. The argument against the measure was conducted by Quebec members. Their only objections were to that portion of the bill which does not allow competition among Quebec Pilots.

In Committee of Supply, on Thursday, the subsidies to the several provinces of the Dominion were passed, as follows:—Ontario and Quebec of \$1,825,000—increase, \$98,670; Nova Scotia, \$475,000—increase, \$7,282; New Brunswick, \$343,000—increase \$1,380; Manitoba \$67,205; British Columbia, \$217,000—increase, \$3,000.

A Bill to incorporate the Canadian and West India Royal Mail Steamship Company, passed on Wednesday.

THE DOMINION MILITIA.—Of the total strength of the reserve militia of the Dominion, there are enrolled as belonging to the 1st class, that is unmarried or widowers without children from 18 to 30 years, 222,079; 2nd class, the same, but from 30 to 45 years, 33,351; 3rd class, married or widowers with children, 18 to 45 years, 287,586; 4th class, including all from 45 to 60 years, 150,992. Total, 694,008.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

IMMIGRANTS FROM SCOTLAND.—The steamer *Castalia*, with five hundred and thirty-six new Kincardineshire colonists on board, arrived at St. John, on Saturday. All the emigrants were in excellent health and spirits, and speak in the highest terms of the handsome treatment received on the voyage at the hands of Capt. Butler and officers, to whom they presented a very feeling and flattering address. The address of welcome was delivered by the Chaplain of the St. Andrew’s Society.

At ten the steamer *Olive*, took two hundred and thirty with their effects through the Falls to Indian Town, where they took the up-river Steamer *David Weston*, for Fredericton. They are the best appearing and most cleanly and intelligent lot of immigrants ever seen in St. John, and perhaps anywhere.

LEWIS CARVELL, Esq., also arrived from England in the *Castalia*, having his health greatly improved.