

villages, which, during the rains, are little islands. The people are showing increased readiness to help themselves. Notwithstanding the unhappy influence of mission rivalries, they last year contributed Rs. 450 in aid of Christian work. Under the Rev. J. Smith of Delhi the native churches for the most part conducted their own services, managed their own affairs, and paid their own expenses. Twenty converts were added to them by baptism, and a large number of enquirers are being instructed. Another church has been added at Subzi Munde a suburb of Delhi, where the native Christians have with their own money purchased a building for a chapel and have had it registered in their own name.

ZENANAS.—In Calcutta the Baptist Society superintends 90 Zenanas, with about 200 pupils, and four girls' schools comprising 150 children. At Baraset, about 14 miles from Calcutta, the work is being carried on, as well as in the city itself. The Zenanas are chiefly among the middle or lower orders. Some pupils belong to the first families in Calcutta, but these are less ready to receive Christian teaching than their poorer sisters. Three ladies, with native assistants, are engaged in the work; and two scripture-readers labour among the Portuguese and poor Christian families in Lal Bazar, and visit the female wards of the European and Native hospitals. One of the ladies testifies her belief that "thirteen persons in the Zenanas have received Christ. Four are now bearing testimony for Christ and leading others. Several more are under conviction, but they have a deep-rooted idea that they must do some works of righteousness for their salvation."

AMERICAN BOARD.—Last year the American Board for Foreign Missions, now mainly consisting of members of the Congregational churches, had 19 Missions, 70 stations and 466 out-stations. The ordained missionaries from America amount to 145, of whom 5 are physicians; physicians not ordained, 7; other male assistants, 3; female assistants, 202; total American agents, 357. Native pastors, 104; preachers and celebrants, 270; school teachers, 406; other native helpers, 134. The press, during the year, printed nearly six million pages. The number of churches was 197 and of church members, 9,435. The Board had 12 theological schools and 496 common schools attended by 17,126 pupils.

RECEIPTS OF ENGLISH MISSIONARY SOCIETIES for 1873-4:—
Church Missionary Society.....£281,221
Wesleyan Missionary..... 167,995
London Missionary Society..... 115,909
Society for Propagation of Gospel... 110,259
Baptist Missionary Society..... 40,255
Moravian Missions..... 18,017
Small Societies..... 24,311
TOTAL £737,967=3,591,439 dollars.
The receipts of the American Baptist Missionary Union were \$261,530-91.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mr. Editor,—

Returning from a short visit to Moncton, while at Amherst, on my way to Halifax, I was favoured with the perusal of a copy of the *Christian Messenger* of the 15th Inst.

After some opening remarks in a letter signed by Dr. Day, I find him writing thus:

"We are told that this letter"—referring to my communication published in the *Messenger* of the 8th, "was written just before the Judge was leaving Halifax to preside at the Spring Circuit of the Supreme Court for the Shore District." Then follows quite a disquisition, as to when and where it was written, and if written in June, why kept back, &c., &c.

But who are the we, that figure so prominently in this and the succeeding paragraphs? The Doctor or the Board, or the Union? Assuming the learned Doctor himself entitled to use the Royal pronoun, and when he writes, and repeats it in the next paragraph "we are told, &c." may I be so bold in such a presence, as to ask, who told this Royal personage, that my "letter was written in June just before leaving Halifax, &c."?

If the Doctor means, as his letter is evidently intended to impress the reader, that I told any one so, or that the article published over my signature states or conveys the idea that it was written before going on Circuit and published in July, his Majesty greatly errs.

I said nothing of the kind. I wrote nothing of the kind. What I did

write and which is strictly and literally true, the mean insinuation to the contrary notwithstanding—and you Mr. Editor are cognizant of the fact, is this—"About leaving Halifax to preside in the Shore Circuit as stated; I prepared as you are aware, a formal act of resignation as Treasurer, which with my annual account, and the Debenture Bonds I held, I placed in your possession."

And yet this plural personage—venturing out with a lofty air, thus opens the first and second paragraphs of his letter. "We are told &c., &c."

If the other portions of the learned Doctor's article, are as much lacking "in the essential element" as this, and upon it I pass no opinion at present, it is not worth my while to enter upon a controversy, with one the very first paragraph of whose communication is specially and abortively devoted to proving me capable of dissimulation, if not of something more.

When premises are false, and such are these referred to, the argument founded upon them requires no confutation.

Has every body who pleases, a right to address a letter, on any subject he chooses to select, to the Editor of the *Christian Messenger*, though not entitled to prefix *We* to his utterances? Or is it to be understood henceforth, that one is liable in such case to be met with mean coarse insinuation,—and that he subjects himself to unmerited insult, if he publicly expresses views differing from those, even of a majority, headed by a doctor who writes himself *We*.

The writer is old enough to remember, when in the history of the denomination, a few words of "caution," timely administered, might possibly have saved as many thousands of dollars, and a great calamity to boot, which has long weighed heavily upon the Churches.

The logic which, charges the author of a letter, published since the date of the meeting of an Association, with having thereby checked "the spirit of benevolence and decreased the liberality of the Churches represented, is characteristic of the "Cor. Sec. of the Union."

Among the achievements of the year, I observe enumerated—"built or carried to completion, 4 new meeting houses." Why, the debt incurred and remaining unpaid on one meeting house alone, would more than absorb all the balance claimed to be in hand.

I have no desire to belittle the labours, or undervalue the operations of the Union. But I claim the right of expressing my own views publicly, and of criticising the policy and proceedings of every organization in connection with the denomination to which I belong, when and as often, I choose. When I do so, however, I hope I shall be found exercising this privilege in the spirit of a gentleman, and a christian, and as I have no time or taste for indulging in a personal controversy characterized by such spit-fire sentiments as Dr. Day's letter breathes—such a dearth of that "charity," which ought ever to obtain when persons disagree, I shall pursue this subject no further for the present.

Time will develop the real success achieved, and to be achieved by the Church and its Board. But they who put off the armour and they who are but putting it on, be it remembered, occupy widely different positions.

J. McCULLY.

Amherst, July 17, 1874.

For the Christian Messenger.

EASTERN NEW BRUNSWICK ASSOCIATION.

This Association held its 27th Session with the 1st Baptist Church in Elgin, Albert Co., which County, many of your readers will recollect, formed, until about thirty years since, a portion of Westmorland, a County which contains the parish on which was conferred the honor and blessing of being the first locality in the Dominion where a duly constituted Baptist Church was established. The Baptist historian Backus, in one of his volumes, presents a brief account of the origin and materials of this church which was constituted April 21, 1763. In some particulars, this body presented unique features of an interesting type, but to which, so far as I am aware, no historian nor writer has directed particular attention. But the character and design of this communication will not admit of my presenting these features or any further reference to the history of this first church planted in Sackville

N. B. Perhaps ere long I may occupy a brief space in the *Messenger* in stating the facts alluded to above.

We found the journey to Elgin both agreeable and quite easy and rapid. That comparatively small portion of it, the dozen miles, which was accomplished by private carriage was decidedly delightful. Diversified by a variety of alternating hills and valleys, cultivated farms and deep forests, deep-rolling rivers and noisy, leaping brooklets and frequent gurgling springs; grazing herds of splendid bovines, and flocks of sheep of various hues, the scenery was simply charming. More than 25 years had elapsed since we passed painfully and with toil through this section, which was then not much more than a rough clearing, and now we were delighted at the signs of progress, prosperity and comfort visible on every hand.

The session of the Association opened with a Conference meeting intended to call out the relation of experience from brethren and sisters generally, but the time was largely, and almost entirely, though I believe, reluctantly, occupied by the ministers. Within a few years, there has been a departure from the older style and character of this preliminary conference, which in the opinion of not a few, is no improvement; but seems to be one of the indications of the tendency of the laity to allow, if not to force, the ministry to do all the talking and praying as well as the preaching.

After an hour thus spent in conference, the Association proceeded to a formal organization. About thirty churches out of nearly seventy were declared as represented by about sixty delegates.

This number in the course of an hour or two was largely augmented. The Association elected Rev. J. H. Hughes to preside, and the brothers Corey were re-elected to officiate as scribes. The reading of the letters was commenced and continued during the succeeding session, imparting the usual information of revival influence and spiritual exultation in some churches, and of dearth, declension and discouragement in others. Taken as a whole, however, the letters indicated a healthy state of the churches represented, and to the Book of Lamentations not many new chapters were added. About 330 baptisms were reported during the year in connection with 24 churches, the balance of nearly 30 churches having received no additions in that way. Among the churches receiving the largest additions were Moncton 65, 1st Harvey 33, and another whose name I have forgotten, 46.

Sermons were delivered by Revs. A. W. Barsa, A. B. Macdonald, and J. H. Hughes, all of them able, instructive and impressive. The Annual discourse by Bro. McDonald, from the text "Ye are Christ's," was especially acceptable, and noted for its comprehensive scope, its orthodox views, its simplicity of structure, its apt illustrations, and truly devout spirit, as well as for its felicity of diction, and modest, but manly style of delivery.

Quite a lively discussion was elicited on the subject of a proposed consolidation of the Home Missionary Societies of N. S., N. B., and P. E. I. What the prospects are for such a Union, I do not feel prepared to state, but it is the impression of many that had not the discussion occurred, the prospect would have been decidedly more favorable.

The presence of Rev. Isa. Wallace at the Association, and his presentation of the recent remarkable work of grace in your Province, and the prosperity which has attended the efforts of your Home Mission Union, added much to the interest of the occasion, and called forth expressions of deep gratitude to God and of hearty sympathy for your noble band of workers in the Home Mission field. The Association voted to request the Home Mission Board to convene a meeting of the N. B. H. M. Society that a committee might be appointed to confer with a committee which it is reported your H. M. Union has elected to consider the matter of Union.

On Wednesday evening a Missionary meeting was held, which was largely attended. Stirring speeches were made by Brethren Boggs, Isa. Wallace, T. Todd, J. H. Hughes, G. F. Miles, J. Murray of Hantsport, W. P. Everett, and others. Reports highly commendatory of Education in general and of Acadia College, in particular, of our Home Missionary Society, and its Agent, of Foreign Missions, of the Christian Visitor the New Brunswick Baptist Tract Society, and the American Baptist Publication Society were adopted. Very good are all such

commendations, but if they do not mean actual pecuniary assistance and moral support they are worse than valueless. Time will prove their true value and influence. We will hope for the most favorable results and responses.

The Circular Letter written by Rev. F. Beattie, on the subject of "Union," was an able production, and after some slight verbal alteration, to meet the views of those of us who are ultra adherents to the Congregational view of church order, it was unanimously and enthusiastically adopted and ordered to be published.

The good people of Elgin did not forfeit their fair fame of being hospitable, but did all they could to entertain their guests and make them comfortable.

The next session of the Association is to be held at Butternut Ridge, Bro. T. A. Blackadar, is to preach the Annual Sermon, and Rev. A. W. Barsa to write the Circular Letter.

Yours &c.,
SEEWUS.

The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., JULY 22, 1874.

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION AT CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I.

Since the formation of a separate Baptist Association in Prince Edward Island in 1868, there has not been an Annual Session held in Charlottetown. The church in the capital does not form so large a portion of the community as in some other parts of the Island. Rev. Dr. Tupper, we believe, was the first of the Baptist ministers of this province, who preached there. Other ministers have since made preaching tours through the Island, and have remained for longer or shorter periods. It has at present fourteen churches; Bedeque, North River, and Belfast, are the largest of these. Our Island brethren have always been remarkable for their public spirit, and readiness to sustain the cause of Foreign Missions and Acadia College, and have, perhaps, contributed more men for the ministry in proportion to their numbers than any other part of the provinces. And yet they are now sadly needing more ministerial help. Rev. John Davis of Charlottetown, is pretty much laid aside from public service, and the younger brother, Haynes, has the pastoral work of the church largely devolving upon him. Rev. John Shaw of East Point, too, is also well advanced in years. The brethren Bradshaw, Haynes, and Simpson, are doing good service, but would feel strengthened by the addition of a few more to the staff of laborers with the churches on the Island.

The brethren who went on as Delegates from the Nova Scotia Associations, and the Home Missionary Union, on Saturday last, were gladly received, and met with a hearty welcome from Brethren Desbrisay, Davies, McLeod, and others, who were waiting the arrival of the steamer, *Prince of Wales*, from Pictou. A number of others were to come by the *St. Lawrence* from Shediac, N. B.

The weather was fine for crossing the Straits, the water having scarcely a ripple on its surface. The land was in sight nearly the whole distance. Here they have no fog. The atmosphere is perfectly clear and transparent. The appointments and management of the fine steamers of this line are all that can be desired.

The Association commenced its session on Saturday morning last, according to appointment. The officers elected were: Rev. W. B. Bradshaw, Moderator; Bro. Jacob Schurman, Clerk; Brother Douglas Simpson, Assistant Clerk; and Brother James Desbrisay, Treasurer. The letters from the churches contained cheering intelligence. During the year there had been one hundred and fifty four added to the churches by baptism. This gives an average of about eleven to each church, and an increase of sixteen per cent. The Revs. W. B. Boggs, M. A., D. A. Steele, M. A., and Isa. Wallace, M. A., occupied pulpits in Charlottetown on the Sabbath day. The Association Sermon was preached by the Rev. John Shaw, from Hebrews xi. 6; and the Circular Letter was read by the Revd. John Davis, M. A. The subject of this able and interesting letter is the importance of Baptist history.

On Monday evening, a Missionary meeting was held of a most impressive and deeply interesting character. It is evident that the cause of missions is growing in interest among the churches

on P. E. I., as it has been among the churches in Nova Scotia.

Further accounts of this very pleasant meeting of the churches must be reserved, on account of time, for our next issue.

The Western Association documents have come to hand. Some portions of these we regard as having a deep interest for other churches and brethren beyond the bounds of that Association; we have therefore, made some extracts from them for our readers. The Report of the Committee on Education says:—

Your committee believe that we should as a denomination give more earnest support to the free Non-Sectarian School System, that we should watch and resist all ultramontane efforts for its overthrow, and that we should give our sympathy, and as far as possible, our aid, to those who are struggling in defence of a like system.

Your committee learn that there has been a fair attendance at the Academy during the past year. Eleven young men have applied for Matriculation in the college. The retirement of the Principal has created a vacancy which, it is hoped, the committee who have the matter in charge will spare no pains to fill with an efficient man.

The opening of the Academy to young ladies, has been so far successful; but more and better accommodation is needed, if anything respectable is to be done in that direction. Your committee therefore learn with pleasure, that a plan for the erection of a Female Seminary received the sanction of the Board of Governors at its last meeting; and trust that the undertaking will receive that support from the denomination which its importance demands.

Under the able superintendence of Dr. Sawyer, the college is becoming every year more and more efficient. He desires the hearty support of the denomination. Your committee hail with pleasure the appointment of a professor to the chair of Natural Science, and the proposed appointment of an additional professor in the Theological Department. In view of these things, your committee regret that the contributions to Acadia College have fallen below those of last year.

In conclusion your committee would with gratitude record the fact that the institutions have again been visited by a powerful work of grace. Nearly all the students have embraced the Saviour, and many of them will make the proclamation of the gospel their life work.

On Questions in Letters the Committee report as follows:

The attention of your Committee has been called by the letter from the church at Milton, Queens, to the question of non-resident church members and to the desirability of correcting this evil. Your Committee therefore suggest:

1st. That it be imperative upon members on removal to ask for letters of dismission when practicable, and that it be incumbent upon pastors to see that letters are sought and obtained.

2nd. That in cases where this is neglected, undesirable, or impossible, a half-yearly correspondence be held with absentees.

3rd. That those who neglect to reply for a year, be considered as no longer deserving church fellowship, and that their names be transferred to a separate list marked "Cancelled," and considered "Decrease," also marked "Cancelled," be inserted in the statistical tables of the Letters and Minutes.

The Committee on Religious Literature report:—

Your Committee advert with pleasure to the fact, that during the year, there have been marked improvements in the *Christian Messenger*. In the departments of Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and of Education, much of interest to the lovers of the Kingdom of Christ has appeared.

Your Committee are pleased to learn, that the circulation of this periodical has considerably increased, and they recommend that the Denomination should circulate it still more extensively, and give its Editor the aid of their sympathies and prayers.

The Temperance Report says:

It is with pleasure that your committee report the steady progress of the great temperance reform in our Province, and throughout the Dominion. Through the earnest and untiring efforts of faithful men, a deep temperance

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