The Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, N. S., SEPTEMBER 2, 1874

THE BAPTIST CONVENTION

We intended and expected that somewhat more extended report of our Convention would have appeared in our columns last week, but by some means one of our letters did not arrive as early as it should, and was consequently too late to appear.

Although we gave a brief summary of the report of the Committee on the state of the Denomination, yet our readers will prefer the full text of so interesting a document. Here it is :-

STATE OF THE DENOMINATION.

The statistics furnished by the Minutes of the Associations give the following results : NOVA SCOTIA.

41 W T KA	SIN THE NOON AREA.		
Western Association, Central " Eastern	67 47 57	Baptms. 1124 975 283	Membs. 9469 6593 3843
	171	2,382	19,905
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Western Association, Eastern "	-72 -66	146 389	4982 5846
	138	485	10,828
P. E. Island,	14	154	960
Total	323	3,024	31,693

The nett increase this year is nearly 8 per cent, a higher rate than has been ever before attained since the formation of the Convention. This is principally owing. no doubt, to the wave of revival which passed over the Churches of the Western and Central Associations of Nova Scotia, at the beginning of the year. The baptisms reported by the churches represented in the Convention far exceed in number the reports of any preceding year. The high est number reached before was in 1859 when it was 2 576, while this year it was 3,021; the lowest was in 1853, when it had sunk down to 585. The Committee observe, that in the progress of the revival in Nova Scotia the conversions took place among persons of all ages, from the child of ten years to the old man of almost eighty; that among the converts were many who had passed through previous revivals unmoved, and after having withstood the influences of the gospel for twenty years or more, at length yielded themselves to the Lord and to his church; and that a goodly number from our Sunday Schools have consecrated their youth to Christ, and thereby brought into the churches an amount of fervid vigour, which may be expected to tell powerfully on their luture prosperity.

Twelve brethren have been ordained during the year: [The names of these brethren were given in our last.]

Four new churches have been instituted -at Upper Queensbury, N. B.; Kentville, N. S.; Cambridge, King's Co., N. S.; River De Bute, N S.

New meeting houses have been opened at Onslow West, N. S.; Upper Aylesford, N. S.; East Woods Harbour, N. S.; Kentville, N. S.; Caledonia, Queens Co., N. S.; Shelburne, N. S., and probably in other

It is manifest that this has been " a year of the right hand of the Most High." God has graciously blessed the efforts of His servants, and quickened the life of many of the churches. Responsibility follows blessing. The young converts will require tender and judicious care, wise instruction, and practical training. If they are not fitted for usefulness, and continuously employed in Christian work, their accession to the churches may prove to be a loss rather than a gain. The pastors will see that a weighty burden is laid upon them, and will doubtless be anxious to show that they are equal to the occasion. And the members of those churches which have received the spiritual benediction will be desirous of improving the opportunities presented to them by the revival of spiritual energy and the increase of their numbers. redeeming the time, that the weeds may be rooted out of the Saviour's vineyard, and that all the trees may appear to be indeed " trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord."

Nor must it be overlooked that we have reason to hope for a large addition to the ranks of the christian ministry. The paucity of candidates has been long lamented. Destitute churches have inquired, and negotiated, and prayed, seemingly in vair. But God himself has now come to our help Many young men, recently converted, have declared their desire to spend their lives in proclaiming the gospel. This calls for thankfulness and at the same time imposes fresh obligations. These brethren are at present in the position of young recruits. They require to be disciplined and drilled, that they may become, by the divine blessing, effective soldiers in the Lord's army. The Committee rejoice to learn that arrangements are in contemplation by which suitable instruction will be imparted to them, and such measures adopted as will tend to prepare them for the warfare with ignorance and sin.

But why may not the blessing which has been enjoyed by some churches be experienced by all? Why may we not hope for a clear increase of five thousand or more in the ensuing year? Has not God promised that he will " pour water upon him that

is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground," (Isaiah xliv. 3-5)? Has not the promise till now? Does not the Saviour present the subject to us in a most interesting and attractive manner, when he says, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to had increased his interest in our work istry. them that ask him," (Luke xi 5 13)? Is there not an ascertained connection, illustrated by innumerable facts in the history of the church, between prayer and success, as between holy living and the enjoyment of God's presence? Is it not on account of ill-health, but expected now true that " if we ask anything according to His will, he beareth us." (1 John his wife and two clildren at home .v. 14)? And is it not also true, that notwithstanding the scripture doctrine of the sovereignty of God's good pleasure towards men, if the asking and the giving are " according to His will," the bestowment of mercies will certainly follow, though ma, before which he had no doubt of Rev. D. M. Welton as Theological always in His time, and in His way? | thousands of heathens had paid their | Professor to be sustained by funds colfor God with "one heart and one soul," failed for any lengthened period to receive tokens of divine approval? Let us hear the Lord's voice, "Awake! awake! put on thy strength O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem," (Isa. lii. 1). Let us put away the worldliness, the negligence, the sleepy idleness which have so often deprived the churches of blessing, and let us " seek the Lord and His strength " with united, persevering fervour. Then will he "return" and bless us.

The Committee repeat the recommendation of former years, that the churches set apart a day for humiliation, thanks giving and prayer.

Respectfully submitted, J. M. CRAMP, Chairman.

The election of six givernors of Acadia College, to fill the places of six who had been elected in 1865, who where to retire this year, resulted as

Rev. George Armstrong, A. M. Rev. S. W. DeBlois, A. M. Rev. E. M. Saunders, A. M. Mark Curry, Esq. Rev. I. E. Bill.

Rev. Edw. Hickson, A. M. and Avard Longley, Esq., was elected to fill the place of the late Hon. Judge Johnson, to retire in 1877.

After prayer by Rev. Geo. Armstrong the Convention adjourned to Monday.

THE LORD'S DAY SERVICES,

took place according to the arrangement made, with a few changes and additions, Rev. I. R. Wheelock of Worcester, Mass., preached in the large Centenary Wesleyan Church, and Rev. Dr. Cramp in Germain Street in the evening .-The weather being so fine all the churches were well filled, and we saw the city under the most favorable aspect. We availed ourselves of the opportunity to visit the Sabbath Schools of three of the Baptist Courches, participated in the public worship of three churches, and attended the evening public missionary meeting in the Academy of Music.

In St. John the evening services commence at 6 o'clock and are over about 1 past 7. In consequence of this there has of late been a large meeting held afterwards in the Music Hall-usually on Temperance-and a large number attended Prayer Meeting in the Y. M. C. Association Hall at 8 o'elock.

It was decided to hold a

MASS MISSIONARY MEETING on Sunday night.

As soon as the various churches had concluded their services the people in all directions went direct to the meeting, and soon that immense structure with two tiers of galleries, was crowd- | the endeavour to save some by direct-If they have slumbered, it must now be ed by not less than 1500 or 2000 perevident that they are awake. If they have sons. About a hundred members of Rev. Dr. Cramp said it was now been slothful, they must now be earnest in the Convention were on the platform | 62 years ago since he first attended a together with a large union choir .-Rev. J. F. Norris from Tavoy, Burmah, and Miss De Wolfe were also there of the occasion.

by prayer, after which the choir-John March E-q., presiding at the organ-

" Lord send thy servants forth."

Mr. Pope spoke briefly on this, the largest idea of modern times-combining to send forth men and women into all the world, in obedience to the Saviour's last command.

Dr. T. H. Rand gave an animated speech on the spirit that should characterize the missionary work. Regarding Christ as king and all as his servants, we go forth with his message to those who know him not. He noticed some of the great political convulsions, especially in the East, as preparatory to a fuller recognition of Christ in this his kingly character, by all the nations of the earth.

sionary from Tavoy, said, about three | was " The necessity of living witnesses | tions of the Baptist people that their years ago the brethren Crawley and to the truths of salvation, for spreadbeen in course of fulfilment from Pentecost George in Burmah had greatly inter- ing the Gospel and building up the ested him by telling him of the intention of the churches of these provinces to establish an Independent Mission. The arrival of Miss Norris in Burmah Christian Church on behalf of its min- your Board on this proposition, as and he was glad now to meet those who had sent her out, whilst he was there. resumed the chair, and the business feet the favorable influence of the value He had learned to value her very highly. He had been obliged to return Report of the Governors of Acadia which we deem of more importance shortly to return to Burmah, leaving He said the Budhists numbered above one-third of the human race. They possess Burmah and Siam. He exhibited one of their images of Guada-When was it known that a holy, active, devotions. He described the women lected by the Agent of the N. S. Home praying church, conscientiously working of Burmah and Siam as entirely desti- Missionary Union. It also referred to tute of any idea of virtue, as under- the President's report as shewing that stood by Europeans. The result of during the past year there had been their worship is to produce vice and greater thoroughness of training and ignorance. Yet some have received breadth of culture secured, and that 37 the truth and learned to bow to the students had partaken of its advantages name of Jesus. Where Satan formerly | during the year. Another section reigned supreme twenty thousand have | gave expressions of thankfulness for become humble followers of Jesus-a | the revival influences which had been number equal to all the Baptists of so bountifully enjoyed during the past Maine. The conditon of woman is year at Wolfville. Another section of brutalized by the practise of buying the report referred to a correspondand selling them as cattle. Even ence with the Governors of Dalhousie women carry on trade in women, and College. As our readers will underare not considered degraded in so do- stand more clearly our position on this ing. Women in those lands have no question by reading the correspondtrue source of joy till they receive the ence for themselves, we obtained copies gospel of Christ. This being so, chris- of the letters, as follows:tian women are required to go to women with the gospel, and rescue them from degradation and sin. We have in our hands the pardon of those who are already condemned and if we fail to carry it to them, on our heads must rest the guilt. The cause of Foreign and Home Missions he described as partners in a business firmone cannot prosper without the other being equally benefitted. The second hymn-

"Yes we trust the day is breaking." was then sung.

Whilst the collection was being taken Mr. Norris gave the audience an idea of the language by repeating in Burmese the Lord's Prayer, sentence by sentence; Dr. Cramp giving the Eng-

Mr. Norris and Miss De Wolfe then sung, also in Burmese-

"Sweet hour of prayer."

that the office he now held as Secretary | ble results the gathering together of of Foreign Missions was a most res- students in large numbers. The ponsible position for a minister of the Governors of Dalhousie College in gospel. He was not working for the making the proposal are firmly Missionary Union alone, but for the persuaded that a frank discussion of millions of perishing beathen. He this important question by those most drew a vivid picture of the missionary | deeply interested and best qualified to leaving his wife and sacrificing all that | judge of the present state and efficiency was most dear; he heard two voices of our existing Colleges, and also to speaking to him, and calling louder | suggest improvements, would tend to than the sobs of his children—the voice | produce some useful measure; and they of his Master, and the voice of the now respectfully invite your Board to millions of heathen. The grace of name a committee of six for the purpose God alone could enable him to follow above mentioned, and further request these calls. Being but stewards we that a reply be sent as soon as convenmust know no call above the will of ient, in order that if favorable a day the Master. He shewed the condition | may be named by mutual agreement of the world in millions and the great | for such meeting. wide doors now open for christian work in foreign lands. We have not now to pray for openings-all the barriers are down and the world is waiting to hear the gospel message.

Rev. W. B. Boggs expressed in a few words his readiness to spend the rest of his days among the heathen in ing hem to Christ the Lord.

missionary meeting-two years before the battle of Waterloo. The great power then opposing gospel labour in and largely contributed to the interest India was the East India Company Now, that Company is no more-dead Rev. Mr. Pope occupied the chair | and buried-but Christian missions are Rev. G. F. Miles opened the meeting flourishing there, and Dr. Carey's name is venerated by millions. Idolatry has still much power but Christ must reign. In Siam Budhism costs \$25,000,000 a year-\$3.50 for every man, woman and child. Christians do not yet-on an averagegive that sum to their better Master and in return for his greater blessings.

The vast audience then joined together in singing.

" From Greenland's icy mountains,"

This was a great and successful meeting and presented effectually to the St. John people the cause of Missions in the hands of the Baptist Convention.

ON MONDAY MORNING

Dr. Sawyer preached the Convention Sermon from Acts viii. 29-31. The

Christian church."

exhibition of the work demanded of the

of the Convention was resumed by the College being read by the Secretary, Rev. S. W. DeBlois.

In the afternoon session the report was taken up and its several departments discussed at length in order and adopted. One of these was the Anniversary exercises; another the appointment

> DALHOUSIE COLLEGE CORRES-PONDENCE.

To the Board of Governors of Acadia College.

Gentlemen, The Governors of Dalhousie College being convinced that your honorable Board is as deeply interested in the subject of University Education and in the condi ion of the several Colleges in this Province as themselves, have thought that a Conference of Committees appointed by each Board might bring about valuable results. It has therefore been proposed to ask the several Boards of the different College corporations if they would kindly nominate some of the gentlemen composing such Boards to meet and confer together on the advisibility of endeavouring to form one general University for education in the Arts, by the concentration of the talents of Rev. W. S. McKenzie said he felt the different Faculties and its invaria-

> We have the honor to be, Yours respectfully, W. Young, Chairman,

GEORGE THOMSON, Secretary, to the Governors of Da'housie College. Halifax, May 14th, 1874.

To the Honorable Board of Governors of Dalhousie College. Gentlemen:

dressed to the Governors of Acadia College has received their earnest and mature consideration. They are indeed as you suggest deeply interested in the subject of University education and rejoice in its success in the hands of others as well as their own; and there was a time when as this Board has reason to be assured, the Baptist community would nave cheerfully united in a scheme of higher Education in Nova Scotia embracing all classes of the population without distinction of religious belief. The indisposition of others, however, to such union at that time drove them to the necessity of founding first a Higher Academy and pointed. then afterwards to add thereto a College of their own. These institutions have so far succeeded as greatly to change the intellectual condition of the people connected with their body, as well as to exert a weighty influence in the promotion of religion in their churches, as well as on missions to the benighted in heathen lands. This interest is daily increasing in width and intensity, and gives to the Academy and College at

consent to any measure proposing to merge Acadia College into any other institution must in the judgment of this It was a most able and appropriate Board be hopeless. The appointment even of a committee to consult with seeming to announce a design of adopt-After the collection, the President ing such measure, must injuriously afof which we speak and the value of than can easily be estimated.

Under these considerations the Board of Governors of Acadia College feel constrained with all courtesy and respect to your Honorable body to decline appointing a committee to meet with you in consultation.

We have the honor to be D. MCN. PARKER, Chairman. S. W. DEBLOIS, Secretary to Board of Governors of Acadia College. Wolfville, June 3, 1874.

Another section of the report paid respect to the memory of the late Judge Johnston, who for a long period was one of the Governors of the College. It also directed attention to the election of six new governors and one in place of Judge Johnston.

The report of the Treasurer was also read by the Secretary, Rev. S. W. De-

Dr Sawyer read an interesting report from the Committee on Eudowment, shewing the labors and results on this behalf as follows:-

Received on Endowment, year * 1873 4-Legacies \$1,249 35 Collected on Notes of Hand and Pleages..... 3,649 23

Total received \$4,898 58 Amount invested in Mortgages....\$32 461 02 Toronto Deb's. 4 000 00 Provincial do. 6813 33 Cash in hand......

Amt. endowment paid, Aug 1, 1874.\$43,351 22 Amount of Old Notes and Pledges, Amount New Notes..... 1.643 00

Notes probably good .. \$21 854 25 Interest received, Aug. 1, 1873, to Aug. 1, 1874...... \$3,443 46 Rec'd from Ch. Appeal, '74,#697 32

Total received \$4,431 07 Annual Income owes Endow. Fund \$1,500 00 " Notes of Hand " Sundry Bills .. 100 00

The list of sums received from the Churches in response to the Appeal

Nova Scotia Eastern Association \$149 36 186 94 Western

New Brunswick, Eastern & Western .. \$58.25. From Appeal of 1872, received too late for Minutes..... \$49 49

Discussion arose on the several sections of the report as they were read and were subsequently adopted. It was contended by several brethren that the smallness of contribution from New Brunswick arose from temporary causes and not from want of interest in the College when its claims were

fully and fairly presented. The position of Horton Academy was freely discussed, and it was ascertained that the Managers should have reported their proceedings annually to the Governors of the College. The following resolution was unanimously

adopted :-

Resolved, That the Board of Governors of Acadia College be instructed to petition the Legislature of Nova Soutia to repeal the section of the amended Act of Incorporation, which provides that the Governors of Acadia College resident in Nova Scotia Your letter of the 14th May, ult., ad- be a committee to take charge of Horton Academy; and that the manageme it and control of Horton Academy be hereafter in the hands of the Board of Governors of Acadia College.

After a lengthy discussion the following resolution was moved by Dr. Parker, seconded by Wm. Faulkner, E-q., and adopted:

Whereas, There appears to be an immediate and pressing necessity of providing an enlarged boarding accommodation for Horton Collegiate Academy.

Therefore Resolved, That this Convention give their approval to the plan of raising \$10,000 or thereabouts for such purpose; said sum to be expended by a judicious building committee duly ap-

Monday Evening was devoted to A PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL MEETING.

Rev. Dr. Cramp, chairman of the committee on Public Education, presented the report on that subject, specifying the action taken in defence of Public Schools, and against Separate Sectaian Schools, especially in New Brunswick, by replies to the Roman Catholic "Pastoral" being published and circu-Rev. J. F. Norris, a returned mis- subject he derived from the passage Wolfville so great a hold on the affec- lated widely. The report concludes

by sayin Our opp ties-DC subvert Act of Local I to make and it is guard, ever su The lowing viz.: 1. Re its heart

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